



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

**Tuesday 21 May 2024 – Afternoon**

**GCSE (9–1) Classical Civilisation**

**J199/22 Roman city life**

**Insert**

**Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes**



#### INSTRUCTIONS

- Do **not** send this Insert for marking. Keep it in the centre or recycle it.

#### INFORMATION

- The questions tell you which source you need to use.
- This document has **8** pages.

#### ADVICE

- Read this Insert carefully **before** you start your answers.

**SECTION A: Culture****Source A:** The House of Menander, Pompeii**Source B:** The shrine (lararium) from the House of Menander, Pompeii

**Source C:** The emperor Augustus has dinner with a friend named Vedius Pollio

One of Vedius' slaves happened to break a crystal wine-cup. Vedius ordered him to be led away to die, and in an unusual way too. He ordered him to be thrown as food to the lampreys. These were eels of great size which he kept in a tank. The boy slipped through the hands of those who tried to seize him, and flung himself at Augustus' feet and begged that he might die in some different way, and not be eaten.

Augustus was shocked at this novel form of cruelty, and ordered him to be spared, and instead that all the crystal cups in the house should be broken, and that the tank should be filled up.

Seneca, On Anger 3.40

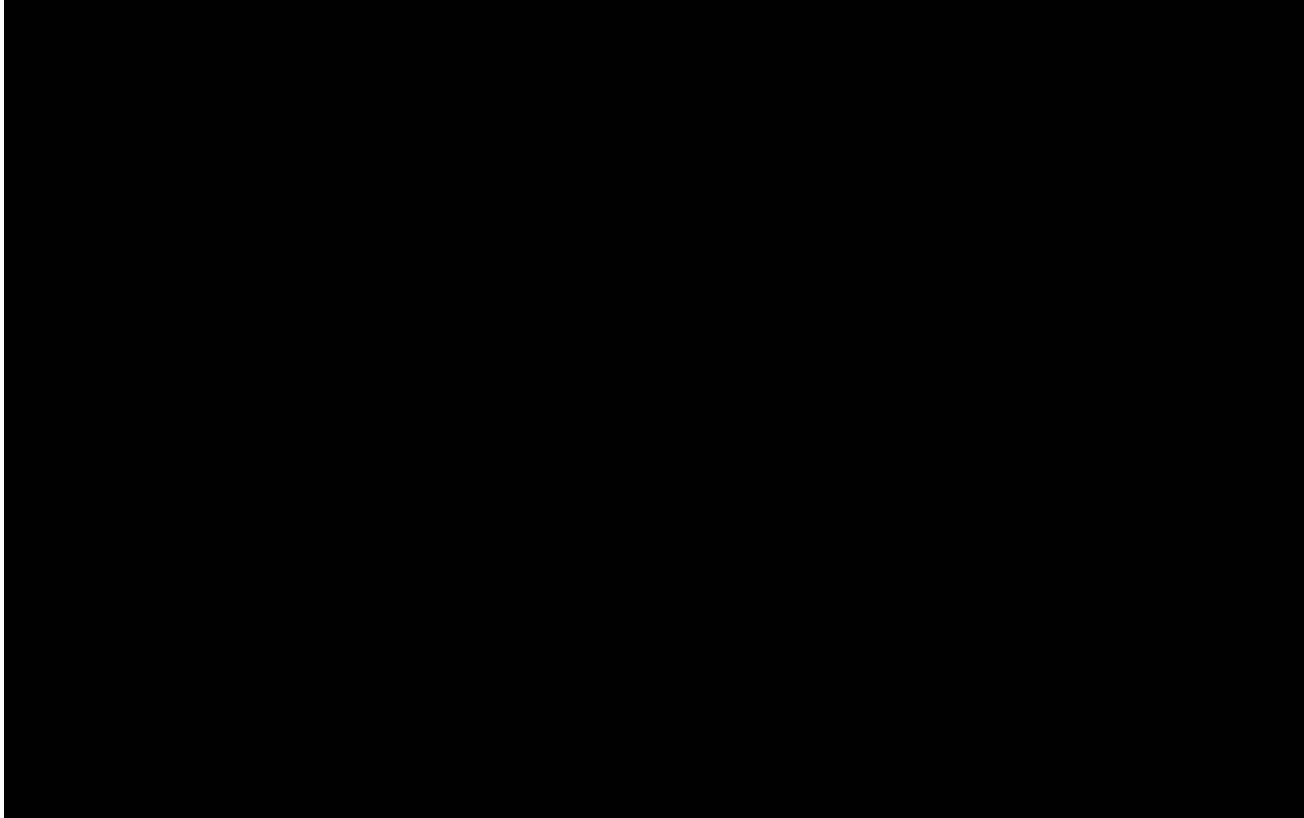
**Source D:** Inscription commemorating the career of Pliny, a senator from Comum, Italy

Gaius Pliny, consul, governor of the province of Pontus and Bithynia, was sent to that province by the emperor Trajan; curator of the bed and banks of the Tiber and sewers of Rome; praetor; tribune of the plebs; quaestor of the emperor; commissioner of the Roman knights; tribune of the Third Gallic legion; magistrate on the Board of Ten; he left money for public baths in his will, and an additional 300 000 sesterces for furnishing them. He also left to his city the sum of 1 866 666 sesterces to support a hundred of his freedmen, and then to provide an annual dinner for the people of the city. Also during his lifetime he gave 500 000 sesterces for the maintenance of boys and girls of the city, and also 100 000 for the upkeep of the library.

CIL 5.5262 extracts

**Source E:** A mosaic showing animal shows in an amphitheatre

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## SECTION B: Literature

**Source F:** Pliny writes about his wife to her aunt, Calpurnia Hispulla

Outstanding is her intelligence, outstanding her careful budgeting. She loves me which is an indication of her virtue. Besides she studies literature which has come out of love for me. She has copies of my books, reads them again and again, and learns them by heart even. With what great anxiety is she affected when she knows I am about to plead in court, with what great joy when I win! She posts people to report to her what approval and what cries I excite, and what is the result of the trial I achieve. The same girl, if ever I recite, sits nearby screened by a curtain, and she listens to my praises with the most eager ears. Indeed, she even sings my poems, and sets them to music on the lyre with no one tutor instructing but love which is the best teacher.

For these reasons I have the most certain hope that marital bliss will be everlasting for us and be greater from day to day. For it is not my age or my body, which are declining little by little and growing old, that she loves but my reputation.

Pliny, Letters 4.19

**Source G:** Trimalchio is brought in to meet his guests

Now everyone was reclined except for one man, Trimalchio, for whom a place was saved at the top, in a new fashion.

Trimalchio himself, brought in to a musical accompaniment and placed among a huge fortification of pillows, drew a laugh from those who weren't expecting it. His shaved head poked out of his scarlet cloak, while around his neck, weighed-down with clothing, he had tucked in a purple-striped napkin with tassels hanging down on both sides. He even had on the smallest finger of his left hand a great ring made of gold plate, a smaller one on the last joint of the following finger, as it seemed to me, of solid gold, but was really set all round with iron cut out in little stars. So that he might show these riches even more, his right arm was bare but adorned with a golden armband and with an ivory bangle fastened with a gleaming sheet of metal.

While he then dug out his teeth with a silver toothpick he said, "Friends, it was not yet agreeable to me to come into the dining room, but so that you might not be delayed any longer by my absence, I have denied myself every pleasure. You will, however, permit me to finish my game.

A boy followed him with a board of terebinth wood and crystal pieces, and I noticed the most luxurious thing of all. For instead of counters of black and white he had gold and silver denarii.

Petronius, Satyricon 31–33 (extracts)

**Source H:** Fundanius tells Horace about Nasidienus Rufus' dinner party

'I was there at the head, and next to me Viscus  
 From Thuri, and below him Varius if I  
 Remember correctly: then Servilius Balatro  
 And Vibidius, Maecenas' shadows, whom he brought  
 With him. Above our host was Nomentanus, below  
 Porcius, that jester, gulping whole cakes at a time:  
 Nomentanus was by to point out with his finger  
 Anything that escaped our attention: since the rest  
 Of the crew, that's us I mean, were eating oysters,  
 Fish and fowl, hiding far different flavours than usual:  
 Soon obvious for instance when he offered me  
 Fillets of plaice and turbot cooked in ways new to me.  
 Then he taught me that sweet apples were red when picked  
 By the light of a waning moon. What difference that makes  
 You'd be better asking him. Then Vibidius said  
 To Balatro: "We'll die unavenged if we don't drink him  
 Bankrupt", and called for larger glasses. Then the host's face  
 Went white, fearing nothing so much as hard drinkers,  
 Who abuse each other too freely, while fiery wines  
 Dull the palate's sensitivity. Vibidius  
 And Balatro were tipping whole jugs full of wine  
 Into goblets from Allifae, the rest followed suit,  
 Only the guests on the lowest couch sparing the drink.'

Horace, Satires 2.8 20–41

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