

Modified Enlarged 18pt

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

Monday 2 June 2025 – Morning

A Level Latin

H443/02 Prose Composition or Comprehension

**Time allowed: 1 hour 15 minutes
plus your additional time allowance**

YOU MUST HAVE:
the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet

DO NOT USE:
a dictionary

READ INSTRUCTIONS OVERLEAF



INSTRUCTIONS

Use black ink.

Write your answer to each question in the Answer Booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.

Fill in the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.

Answer EITHER the questions in Section A OR the question in Section B.

INFORMATION

The total mark for this paper is 50.

The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].

ADVICE

Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

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Answer Section A OR Section B.

SECTION A

Comprehension and Grammar

Read the passage.

After the discovery of a plot, the Senate debate what should be done with the arrested conspirators. Cato's proposal of the death sentence is accepted and the executions are carried out that very day.

ita locutus est Cato: 'cum res publica consilio
scelestorum hominum in maxima pericula venerit
eique confessi sint se caedem, incendia aliaque
crudelia facinora in cives patriamque paravisse,
more antiquo supplicium est sumendum'.

5

postquam Cato consedit, consulares omnes
magnaue pars senatus sententiam eius laudant,
virtutem animi ad caelum ferunt, alii alios
accusantes timidos vocant. Cato clarus atque
magnus habetur; senatui constitutum est sicut
ille suaserat.

10

tum consul, ratus ante noctem agendum
esse, ne quid mali eo spatio temporis fieret,
carnifices ea quae res postulabat statim parare
iubet. ipse praesidiis dispositis Lentulum in

15

carcerem deducit; idem fit ceteris per praetores.
 est in carcere locus qui Tullianum appellatur,
 ubi paulum ascenderis ad sinistram, circiter
 duodecim pedes humi depressus. eum muniunt
 undique muri validi; incultu, tenebris, odore 20
 terribilis est eius facies. in eum locum postquam
 demissus est Lentulus, carnifices, ut imperatum
 erat, laqueo collum fregerunt. ita ille nobilis ex
 gente clarissima natus, qui consulare imperium
 Romae habuerat, dignum moribus factisque suis 25
 exitium vitae invenit. de ceteris captivis eodem
 modo supplicium sumptum est.

Sallust, 'Bellum Catilinae', 52–55 (adapted)

NAMES

Cato, -onis (m)	Cato (a senator)
Lentulus, -i (m)	Lentulus (one of the conspirators)
Tullianum, -i (n)	the Tullianum

WORDS

supplicium, -i (n)	punishment
consularis, -e	consular, of consular rank
carnifex, -icis (m)	executioner
incultus, -us (m)	filth
laqueus, -i (m)	rope, noose

- 1 'cum res ... sumendum' (lines 1–5):
 - (a) what accusations did Cato make against the conspirators? [5]
 - (b) what course of action did he suggest? [2]
- 2 In lines 6–11 ('postquam ... suaserat'), what indications are there that Cato's speech received a positive reaction from the Senate? [6]
- 3 'tum ... praetores' (lines 12–16): what does Sallust mention which shows fear and urgency? [5]
- 4 'est in carcere ... facies' (lines 17–21): what details does Sallust give about the prison to which the prisoners were taken? [6]
- 5 Translate 'in eum locum ... invenit' (lines 21–26). Please write your translation on **ALTERNATE** lines. [10]
- 6 'de ceteris ... est' (lines 26–27): what happened to the other conspirators? [1]

7 State and explain the case of the following:

- (a) 'cives' (line 4) [2]**
- (b) 'spatio' (line 13) [2]**
- (c) 'ceteris' (line 16) [2]**
- (d) 'eodem modo' (lines 26–27) [2]**

8 Give the present infinitive of the following:

- (a) 'locutus' (line 1) [1]**
- (b) 'dispositis' (line 15) [1]**
- (c) 'fregerunt' (line 23) [1]**

9 Explain why the following verbs need to be subjunctive, using a translation if you think it is helpful:

- (a) 'venerit' (line 2) [1]**
- (b) 'fieret' (line 13) [1]**

10 In lines 12–13, 'ratus ante noctem agendum esse', which parts of the verb are:

- (a) 'ratus'? [1]**
- (b) 'agendum'? [1]**

SECTION B

Prose Composition

Do NOT answer this section if you have already answered Section A.

11 Translate this passage into Latin prose.

You are reminded that marks will be awarded for the style of your translation.

Please write your translation on ALTERNATE lines. [50]

Severus hoped to conquer the whole island and gradually advanced through Caledonia. The troops put great effort into cutting down forests and bridging rivers, but for a long time they fought no battle and saw no enemy. The inhabitants had left in the fields many herds of cattle, which the soldiers tried to seize until they suddenly came under attack. So weak that they could hardly walk, around fifty thousand men were killed by their own side to avoid capture.

But Severus, carried in a litter to conserve his strength, demanded to reach the very end of land. There he observed how the length of the days and nights changes between

summer and winter with the course of the sun. He eventually forced the Caledonians to surrender the greater part of their territory, then returned to his fortress at York, where shortly afterwards he died, worn out by illness.

NAMES

Severus

Severus, -i (m)

Caledonia

Caledonia, -ae (f)

Caledonians

Caledonii, -orum (m pl)

York

Eboracum, -i (n)

WORDS

I cut down

excido, -ere, -cidi, -cisus

herd of cattle

pecus, -oris (n)

a litter

lectica, -ae (f)

length

longitudo, -inis (f)

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