

Modified Enlarged 24pt
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 10
animi ad caelum ferunt, alii alios
accusantes timidos vocant. Cato
clarus atque magnus habetur;
senatui constitutum est sicut ille
suaserat. 15

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 20
Lentulum in carcerem deducit;
idem fit ceteris per praetores. est
in carcere locus qui Tullianum
appellatur, ubi paulum ascenderis
ad sinistram, circiter duodecim 25
pedes humi depressus. eum
muniunt undique muri validi; incultu,
tenebris, odore terribilis est eius

facies. in eum locum postquam
 demissus est Lentulus, carnifices, 30
 ut imperatum erat, laqueo collum
 fregerunt. ita ille nobilis ex gente
 clarissima natus, qui consulare
 imperium Romae habuerat, dignum
 moribus factisque suis exitium vitae 35
 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 1–7):**
 - (a) what accusations did Cato make against the conspirators? [5]**
 - (b) what course of action did he suggest? [2]**
- 2 In lines 8–15 ('postquam ... suaserat'), what indications are there that Cato's speech received a positive reaction from the Senate? [6]**
- 3 'tum ... praetores' (lines 16–22): what does Sallust mention which shows fear and urgency? [5]**
- 4 'est in carcere ... facies' (lines 22–29): what details does Sallust give about the prison to which the prisoners were taken? [6]**

- 5 Translate ‘in eum locum ... invenit’ (lines 29–36). Please write your translation on ALTERNATE lines. [10]**
- 6 ‘de ceteris ... est’ (lines 36–37): what happened to the other conspirators? [1]**
- 7 State and explain the case of the following:**
- (a) ‘cives’ (line 6) [2]**
 - (b) ‘spatio’ (line 18) [2]**
 - (c) ‘ceteris’ (line 22) [2]**
 - (d) ‘eodem modo’ (lines 36–37) [2]**

8 Give the present infinitive of the following:

(a) 'locutus' (line 1) [1]

(b) 'dispositis' (line 20) [1]

(c) 'fregerunt' (line 32) [1]

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

(a) 'venerit' (line 3) [1]

(b) 'fieret' (line 18) [1]

10 In lines 16–17, '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, -cismus

herd of cattle

pecus, -oris (n)

a litter

lectica, -ae (f)

length

longitudo, -inis (f)

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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