

Modified Enlarged 18pt

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

Monday 9 June 2025 – Afternoon

A Level Latin

H443/03 Prose Literature

**Time allowed: 2 hours
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 ONE question in Section A, ONE question in Section B and ONE question in Section C.

INFORMATION

The total mark for this paper is 75.

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

Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).

ADVICE

Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

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SECTION A

Answer ONE question from this section.

- 1 Read the following passages and answer the questions.

sed tamen venenum unde fuerit, quem ad modum paratum sit, non dicitur. datum esse aiunt huic Publio Licinio, pudenti adulescenti et bono, Caeli familiari; constitutum esse cum servis ut venirent ad balneas Senias; eodem
Licinium esse venturum atque eis veneni pyxidem traditurum. hic primum illud requiro, quid attinuerit ferri in eum locum constitutum, cur illi servi non ad Caelium domum venerint. si manebat tanta illa consuetudo Caeli, tanta
familiaritas cum Clodia, quid suspicionis esset, si apud Caelium mulieris servus visus esset? sin autem iam suberat simultas, exstincta erat consuetudo, discidium exstiterat, 'hinc illae lacrimae' nimirum, et haec causa est omnium
horum scelerum atque criminum.

Cicero, 'Pro Caelio' 61

- (a) Translate 'sed ... traditurum' (lines 1–7). [5]**
- (b) In lines 7–12 ('hic ... visus esset'), how does Cicero raise doubts about the prosecution's version of events? [5]**
- (c) 'sin autem ... criminum' (lines 13–16): what is Cicero suggesting here? [2]**

praegestit animus iam videre primum lautos
 iuvenes mulieris beatae ac nobilis familiares,
 deinde fortes viros ab imperatrice in insidiis
 atque in praesidio balnearum collocatos; ex
 quibus requiram, quem ad modum latuerint 5
 aut ubi, alveusne ille an equus Troianus fuerit,
 qui tot invictos viros muliebri bellum gerentes
 tulerit ac texerit. illud vero respondere cogam,
 cur tot viri ac tales hunc et unum et tam
 imbecillum, quam videtis, non aut stantem 10
 comprehenderint aut fugientem consecuti sint;
 qui se numquam profecto, si in istum locum
 processerint, explicabunt. quam volent in
 conviviis faceti, dicaces, non numquam etiam ad
 vinum disertis sint, alia fori vis est, alia triclinii, 15
 alia subselliorum ratio, alia lectorum; non idem
 iudicum comissatorumque conspectus; lux
 denique longe alia est solis, alia lychnorum.

Cicero, 'Pro Caelio' 67

(d)*How does Cicero ridicule the young men in this passage?

You should refer BOTH to the content AND to the language of the passage. [15]

2 Read the following passages and answer the questions.

**Fausto Sulla Salvio Othone consulibus
Furius Scribonianus in exilium agitur, quasi
finem principis per Chaldaeos scrutaretur.
adnectebatur crimini Vibia mater eius, ut casus
prioris (nam relegata erat) impatiens. pater 5
Scriboniani Camillus arma per Dalmatiam
moverat; idque ad clementiam trahebat Caesar,
quod stirpem hostilem iterum conservaret.
neque tamen exuli longa posthac vita fuit:
morte fortuita an per venenum extinctus 10
esset, ut quisque credidit, vulgavere. de
mathematicis Italia pellendis factum senatus
consultum atrox et inritum. laudati dehinc
oratione principis qui ob angustias familiares
ordine senatorio sponte cederent, motique qui 15
remanendo impudentiam paupertati adicerent.**

Tacitus, 'Annals' XII.52

- (a) **'Fausto Sulla ... scrutaretur' (lines 1–3): why was Scribonianus exiled? [1]**
- (b) **In lines 4–5 ('adnectebatur ... impatiens'), what do we learn about Scribonianus' mother, Vibia? [2]**
- (c) **Translate 'pater ... vulgavere' (lines 5–11). [5]**
- (d) **'laudati ... adiciere' (lines 13–16): why did Claudius praise some senators but punish others? [4]**

ripas et colles montiumque edita in modum theatri multitudo innumera complevit, proximis e municipiis et alii urbe ex ipsa, visendi cupidine aut officio in principem. ipse insigni paludamento neque procul Agrippina chlamyde aurata praesedere. pugnatum quamquam inter sontes fortium virorum animo, ac post multum vulnerum occidioni exempti sunt. sed perfecto spectaculo apertum aquarum iter. incuria operis manifesta fuit, haud satis depressi ad lacus ima vel media. eoque tempore interiecto altius effossi specus, et contrahendae rursum multitudini gladiatorum spectaculum editur, inditis pontibus pedestrem ad pugnam. quin et convivium effluvio lacus adpositum magna formidine cunctos adfecit, quia vis aquarum prorumpens proxima trahebat, convulsis ulterioribus aut fragore et sonitu exterritis. simul Agrippina trepidatione principis usa ministrum operis Narcissum incusat cupidinis ac praedarum. nec ille reticet, impotentiam muliebrem nimiasque spes eius arguens.	5 10 15 20
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Tacitus, 'Annals' XII.56–57

(e)* How does Tacitus sustain our interest in this passage?

You should refer BOTH to the content AND to the language of the passage. [15]

SECTION B

Answer ONE question from this section.

- 3 Read the following passage and answer the questions.

hic ego ipsam rem definiam, mulierem nullam
nominabo; tantum in medio relinquam. si quae
non nupta mulier domum suam patefecerit
omnium cupiditati palamque sese in meretricia
vita collocarit, virorum alienissimorum 5
conviviis uti instituerit, si hoc in urbe, si in
hortis, si in Baiarum illa celebritate faciat, si
denique ita sese gerat non incessu solum,
sed ornatu atque comitatu, non flagrantia
oculorum, non libertate sermonum, sed etiam 10
complexu, osculatione, actis, navigatione,
conviviis ut non solum meretrix, sed etiam
proterva meretrix procaxque videatur: cum hac
si qui adulescens forte fuerit, utrum hic tibi,
Lucii Herenni, adulter an amator, expugnare 15
pudicitiam an explere libidinem voluisse
videatur? obliviscor iam iniurias tuas, Clodia,
depono memoriam doloris mei; quae abs te
crudeliter in meos me absente facta sunt,
neglego; ne sint haec in te dicta quae dixi. 20

sed ex te ipsa requiro, quoniam et crimen
accusatores abs te et testem eius criminis
te ipsam dicunt se habere. si quae mulier sit
eius modi, qualem ego paulo ante descripsi,

tui dissimilis, vita institutoque meretricio, cum	25
hac aliquid adulescentem hominem habuisse	
rationis num tibi perturpe aut perflagitiosum	
esse videatur? ea si tu non es, sicut ego malo,	
quid est, quod obiciant Caelio? sin eam te	
volunt esse, quid est, cur nos crimen hoc, si	30
tu contemnis, pertimescamus? quare nobis da	
viam rationemque defensionis. aut enim pudor	
tuus defendet nihil a Marco Caelio petulantius	
esse factum, aut impudentia et huic et ceteris	
magnam ad se defendendum facultatem dabit.	35

Cicero, 'Pro Caelio' 48–50

- (a)* 'hic ego ... dixi' (lines 1–20): what makes this passage a powerful attack on Clodia?**

You should refer BOTH to the content AND to the language of the passage. [15]

- (b) 'sed ex te ipsa ... habere' (lines 21–23): what do the accusers say about Clodia? [2]**
- (c) Translate 'si quae mulier ... obiciant Caelio' (lines 23–29). [5]**
- (d) In lines 29–31 ('sin eam ... pertimescamus'), how does Cicero undermine the prosecution case? [3]**
- (e) 'aut enim pudor ... dabit' (lines 32–35): explain how Cicero here presents an unchallengeable defence of Caelius. [3]**

4 Read the following passage and answer the questions.

haec consensu produntur. aspexeritne
matrem exanimem Nero et formam corporis
eius laudaverit, sunt qui tradiderint, sunt qui
abnuant. cremata est nocte eadem convivali
lecto et exequiis vilibus; neque, dum Nero 5
rerum potiebatur, congesta aut clausa humus.
mox domesticorum cura levem tumulum
accepit, viam Miseni propter et villam Caesaris
dictatoris quae subiectos sinus editissima
prospectat. accenso rogo libertus eius 10
cognomento Mnester se ipse ferro transegit,
incertum caritate in patronam an metu exitii.
hunc sui finem multos ante annos crediderat
Agrippina contempseratque. nam consulenti
super Nerone responderunt Chaldaei fore ut 15
imperaret matremque occideret; atque illa
'occidat' inquit, 'dum imperet.'

sed a Caesare perfecto demum scelere
magnitudo eius intellecta est. reliquo noctis
modo per silentium defixus, saepius pavore 20
exsurgens et mentis inops lucem opperiebatur
tamquam exitium adlaturam. atque eum auctore
Burro prima centurionum tribunorumque
adulatio ad spem firmavit, prensantium manum
gratantiumque quod discrimen improvisum et 25
matris facinus evasisset. amici dehinc adire
templa et coepto exemplo proxima Campaniae
municipia victimis et legationibus laetitiam
testari: ipse diversa simulatione maestus et

quasi incolumitati suae infensus ac morti 30
 parentis inlacrimans. quia tamen non, ut
 hominum vultus, ita locorum facies mutantur,
 obversabaturque maris illius et litorum gravis
 aspectus (et erant qui crederent sonitum tubae
 collibus circum editis planctusque tumulo 35
 matris audiri), Neapolim concessit litterasque
 ad senatum misit quarum summa erat repertum
 cum ferro percussorem Agerinum, ex intimis
 Agrippinae libertis, et luisse eam poenas
 conscientia quasi scelus paravisset. 40

Tacitus, 'Annals' XIV.9–10

- (a) In line 1, what is Tacitus referring to by 'these events' ('haec')? [1]
- (b) How do lines 1–6 ('aspexeritne ... humus') show Nero's lack of respect towards his mother? [5]
- (c) 'mox ... accepit' (lines 7–8): how does this show a more respectful response to Agrippina's death? [2]
- (d) Translate 'accenso ... imperet' (lines 10–17). [5]
- (e)* 'sed a Caesare ... paravisset' (lines 18–40): what makes this such a vivid description of the reactions to Agrippina's death?

You should refer BOTH to the content AND to the language of the passage. [15]

5 Read the following passages and answer the questions.

confecerunt me infirmitates meorum, mortes etiam, et quidem iuvenum. solacia duo nequaquam paria tanto dolori, solacia tamen: unum facilitas manumittendi (videor enim non omnino immaturos perdidisse, quos iam liberos perdidici), alterum quod permitto servis quoque quasi testamenta facere, eaque ut legitima custodio. mandant rogantque quod visum; pareo ut iussus. dividunt donant relinquunt, dumtaxat intra domum; nam servis res publica quaedam et quasi civitas domus est. sed quamquam his solaciis acquiescam, debilitor et frangor eadem illa humanitate, quae me ut hoc ipsum permitterem induxit. non ideo tamen velim durior fieri. nec ignoro alios eius modi casus nihil amplius vocare quam damnum, eoque sibi magnos homines et sapientes videri. qui an magni sapientesque sint, nescio; homines non sunt.

5
10
15

Pliny, 'Letters' 8.16

- (a) Translate ‘confecerunt ... custodio’ (lines 1–8). [5]**
- (b) ‘mandant ... domus est’ (lines 8–12): in what ways is Pliny’s treatment of his slaves unusual? [3]**
- (c) Lines 12–14 (‘sed quamquam ... induxit’): what contrast does Pliny make here? [2]**
- (d) In lines 15–19 (‘nec ignoro ... non sunt’), what does Pliny say to show his disapproval of other people in such circumstances? [3]**

Regulus filium amisit, hoc uno malo indignus, quod nescio an malum putet. erat puer acris ingenii sed ambigui, qui tamen posset recta sectari, si patrem non referret. hunc Regulus emancipavit, ut heres matris exsisteret;	5
mancipatum (ita vulgo ex moribus hominis loquebantur) foeda et insolita parentibus indulgentiae simulatione captabat. incredibile, sed Regulum cogita. amissum tamen luget insane. habebat puer mannulos multos et iunctos et solutos, habebat canes maiores minoresque, habebat lusciniās psittacos merulas: omnes Regulus circa rogum trucidavit. nec dolor erat ille, sed ostentatio doloris. convenitur ad eum mira celebritate.	10 15
cuncti detestantur oderunt, et quasi probent quasi diligant, cursant frequentant, utque breviter quod sentio enuntiem, in Regulo demerendo Regulum imitantur. tenet se trans Tiberim in hortis, in quibus latissimum solum porticibus immensis, ripam statuis suis occupavit, ut est in summa avaritia sumptuosus, in summa infamia gloriosus.	20

Pliny, 'Letters' 4.2

(e)* In this passage, how does Pliny emphasise his contempt for Regulus?

You should refer BOTH to the content AND to the language of the passage. [15]

SECTION C

Answer ONE question from this section.

You MUST use material from the parts of the text you have studied in English, where relevant, as well as those parts you have read in Latin.

6* How effective do you find Cicero's defence of Caelius in 'Pro Caelio'? [20]

7* 'In "Annals" XIII and XIV, Tacitus shows that power in Rome led only to vice and corruption.'

To what extent do you agree with this statement? [20]

8* 'Pliny's letters show him to be a role model for his times.'

How far do you agree with this assessment? [20]

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