

Modified Enlarged 18pt

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

Monday 16 June 2025 – Afternoon

A Level Latin

H443/04 Verse 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.

BLANK PAGE

SECTION A

Answer ONE question from this section.

- 1 Read the following passages and answer the questions.

ecce, manus iuvenem interea post terga revinctum
pastores magno ad regem clamore trahebant
Dardanidae, qui se ignotum venientibus ultro,
hoc ipsum ut strueret Troiamque aperiret Achivis,
obtulerat, fidens animi atque in utrumque paratus,
seu versare dolos seu certae occumbere morti.
undique visendi studio Troiana iuventus
circumfusa ruit certantque inludere capto.
accipe nunc Danaum insidias et crimine ab uno
disce omnes.

namque ut conspectu in medio turbatus, inermis
constitit atque oculis Phrygia agmina circumspexit,
‘heu, quae nunc tellus,’ inquit, ‘quae me aequora possunt
accipere?’

Virgil, ‘Aeneid’ II. 57–70

5

10

4

- (a) Translate 'ecce ... obtulerat' (lines 1–5). [5]**
- (b) 'fidens animi ... occumbere morti' (lines 5–6): what do we learn about Sinon here? [2]**
- (c) 'accipe nunc ... disce omnes' (lines 9–10): explain what Aeneas means by these words. [1]**
- (d) 'namque ut ... accipere' (lines 11–14): how does Sinon seem vulnerable? [3]**

'vix tandem, magnis Ithaci clamoribus actus,
 composito rumpit vocem et me destinat arae.
 adsensere omnes et, quae sibi quisque timebat,
 unius in miseri exitium conversa tulere. 5
 iamque dies infanda aderat; mihi sacra parari
 et salsae fruges et circum tempora vittae.
 eripui, fateor, leto me et vincula rupi,
 limosoque lacu per noctem obscurus in ulva
 delitui dum vela darent, si forte dedissent.
 nec mihi iam patriam antiquam spes ulla videndi 10
 nec dulces natos exoptatumque parentem,
 quos illi fors et poenas ob nostra reposcent
 effugia, et culpam hanc miserorum morte piabunt.
 quod te per superos et conscia numina veri,
 per si qua est quae restet adhuc mortalibus usquam 15
 intemerata fides, oro, miserere laborum
 tantorum, miserere animi non digna ferentis.'

Virgil, 'Aeneid' II. 128–144

(e) 'composito ... destinat arae' (line 2): whose actions are described here? [1]

(f)* 'adsensere omnes ... non digna ferentis' (lines 3–17): what makes this such a powerful and emotional section of Sinon's speech?

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

2 Read the following passages and answer the questions.

conventum tamen et pactum et sponsalia nostra
tempestate paras iamque a tonsore magistro
pecteris et digito pignus fortasse dedisti?
certe sanus eras. uxorem, Postume, ducis?
dic qua Tisiphone, quibus exagitare colubris. 5
ferre potes dominam salvis tot restibus ullam,
cum pateant altae caligantesque fenestrae,
cum tibi vicinum se praebeat Aemilius pons?
aut si de multis nullus placet exitus, illud
nonne putas melius, quod tecum pusio dormit - 10
pusio, qui noctu non litigat, exigit a te
nulla iacens illic munuscula, nec queritur quod
et lateri parcas nec quantum iussit anheles?
sed placet Ursidio lex Iulia: tollere dulcem
cogitat heredem, cariturus turture magno 15
mullorumque iubis et captatore macello.

Juvenal, 'Satire' 6. 25–40

(a) What has Juvenal just said about the Silver Age? [1]

(b)*How do these lines convey Juvenal's outrage and disbelief that Postumus is getting married?

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

sed cantet potius quam totam pervolet Urbem
audax et coetus possit quae ferre virorum
cumque paludatis ducibus praesente marito
ipsa loqui recta facie siccisque mamillis. 5
haec eadem novit quid toto fiat in orbe,
quid Seres, quid Thraces agant, secreta novercae
et pueri, quis amet, quis diripiatur adulter;
dicet quis viduam praegnatem fecerit et quo 10
mense, quibus verbis concumbat quaeque, modis quot.
instantem regi Armenio Parthoque cometen
prima videt, famam rumoresque illa recentes
excipit ad portas, quosdam facit.

9

Juvenal, 'Satire' 6. 398–409

- (c) 'sed cantet ... mamillis' (lines 1–4): give TWO examples of the woman's outrageous behaviour. [2]
- (d) 'haec eadem ... adulter' (lines 5–7): how do these lines show that the woman is a gossip who knows too much? [4]
- (e) Translate 'dicet quis ... facit' (lines 8–12). [5]

SECTION B

Answer ONE question from this section.

- 3 Read the following passage and answer the questions.

arma diu senior desueta trementibus aevo
circumdat nequiquam umeris et inutile ferrum
cingitur, ac densos fertur moriturus in hostes.
aedibus in mediis nudoque sub aetheris axe
ingens ara fuit iuxtaque veterrima laurus
incumbens arae atque umbra complexa penates.
hic Hecuba et natae nequiquam altaria circum,
praecipites atra ceu tempestate columbae,
condensae et divum amplexae simulacra sedebant.
ipsum autem sumptis Priamum iuvenalibus armis
ut vidit, 'quae mens tam dira, miserrime coniunx,
impulit his cingi telis? aut quo ruis?' inquit.
'non tali auxilio nec defensoribus istis
tempus eget; non, si ipse meus nunc adforet Hector.
huc tandem concede; haec ara tuebitur omnes,
aut moriere simul.' sic ore effata recepit
ad sese et sacra longaeuum in sede locavit.
ecce autem elapsus Pyrrhi de caede Polites,

unus natorum Priami, per tela, per hostes
porticibus longis fugit et vacua atria lustrat
saucius. illum ardens infesto vulnere Pyrrhus
insequitur, iam iamque manu tenet et premit hasta.
ut tandem ante oculos evasit et ora parentum,
concidit ac multo vitam cum sanguine fudit.
hic Priamus, quamquam in media iam morte tenetur,
non tamen abstinuit nec voci iraeque pepercit:
'at tibi pro scelere,' exclamat, 'pro talibus ausis
di, si qua est caelo pietas quae talia curet,
persolvant grates dignas et praemia reddant
debita, qui nati coram me cernere letum
fecisti et patrios foedasti funere vultus.'

Virgil, 'Aeneid' II. 509–539

- (a) 'arma diu ... in hostes' (lines 1–3): which aspects of Virgil's description create sympathy for Priam? [4]**
- (b) 'hic Hecuba ... sedebant' (lines 7–9): what makes this an appropriate simile? [2]**
- (c) 'ipsum autem ... inquit' (lines 10–12): how does Virgil show the foolishness of Priam's actions? [2]**
- (d) Translate 'non tali auxilio ... locavit' (lines 13–17). [5]**
- (e)* 'ecce autem ... funere vultus' (lines 18–31): how does Virgil make this a dramatic and emotional passage?**

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

BLANK PAGE

4 Read the following passage and answer the questions.

plurima sunt, Fuscine, et fama digna sinistra
et nitidis maculam haesuram figentia rebus,
quae monstrant ipsi pueris traduntque parentes.
si damnosa senem iuvat alea, ludit et heres
bullatus parvoque eadem movet arma fritillo. 5
nec melius de se cuiquam sperare propinquo
concedet iuvenis, qui radere tubera terrae,
boletum condire et eodem iure natantes
mergere ficedulas didicit nebulone parente
et cana monstrante gula. cum septimus annus 10
transierit puerum, nondum omni dente renato,
barbatos licet admoveas mille inde magistros,
hinc totidem, cupiet lauto cenare paratu
semper et a magna non degenerare culina.
quid suadet iuveni laetus stridore catenae, 15
quem mire afficiunt inscripta, ergastula, carcer?
mitem animum et mores modicis erroribus aequos
praecipit utque animas servorum et corpora nostra
materia constare putet paribusque elementis,
an saevire docet Rutilus, qui gaudet acerbo 20
plagarum strepitu et nullam Sirena flagellis
comparat, Antiphates trepidi laris ac Polyphemus,
tunc felix, quotiens aliquis tortore vocato
uritur ardenti duo propter lintea ferro?
rusticus expectas ut non sit adultera Largae 25
filia, quae numquam maternos dicere moechos
tam cito nec tanto poterit contexere cursu
ut non ter deciens respiret? conscia matri
virgo fuit; ceras nunc hac dictante pusillas
implet et ad moechum dat eisdem ferre cinaedis. 30

Juvenal, 'Satire' 14. 1–30

- (a) Translate ‘plurima sunt ... fritillo’ (lines 1–5). [5]**
- (b) Explain the reference to ‘bullatus’ (line 5). [1]**
- (c) ‘nec melius ... gula’ (lines 6–10): how does the young man behave as a result of his father’s influence? [3]**
- (d) ‘cum septimus annus ... culina’ (lines 10–14):**
- (i) why might you expect a Roman boy’s behaviour to change at the age of seven? [1]**
 - (ii) what, according to Juvenal, actually happens? [3]**
- (e)* ‘quid suadet ... cinaedis’ (lines 15–30): how does Juvenal draw attention to the negative effects of bad parenting in this passage?**

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

5 Read the following passage and answer the questions.

sic epulis functi sic dant sua corpora somno,
et positis iuxta secubuere toris:
causa, repertori vitis quia sacra parabant,
quae facerent pure, cum foret orta dies.
noctis erat medium. quid non amor improbus audet? 5
roscida per tenebras Faunus ad antra venit:
utque videt comites somno vinoque solutos,
spem capit in dominis esse soporis idem.
intrat et huc illuc temerarius errat adulter,
et praefert cautas subsequiturque manus. 10
venerat ad strati captata cubilia lecti,
et felix prima sorte futurus erat;
ut tetigit fulvi saetis hirsuta leonis
vellera, pertimuit sustinuitque manum,
attonitusque metu rediit, ut saepe viator 15
turbatum viso rettulit angue pedem.
inde tori qui iunctus erat velamina tangit
mollia, mendaci decipiturque nota.
ascendit spondaque sibi propiore recumbit,
et tumidum cornu durius inguen erat. 20
interea tunicas ora subducit ab ima:
horrebant densis aspera crura pilis.
cetera temptantem subito Tirynthius heros
reppulit: e summo decidit ille toro.
fit sonus, inclamat comites et lumina poscit 25
Maeonis: inlatis ignibus acta patent.
ille gemit lecto graviter deiectus ab alto,
membraque de dura vix sua tollit humo.
ridet et Alcides et qui videre iacentem,
ridet amatorem Lyda puella suum. 30
veste deus lusus fallentes lumina vestes
non amat, et nudos ad sua sacra vocat.

Ovid, 'Fasti' 2. 327–358

- (a) Translate 'sic epulis ... audet' (lines 1–5). [5]
- (b) 'utque videt ... soporis idem' (lines 7–8): explain Faunus' reasoning here. [2]
- (c)* 'intrat ... acta patent' (lines 9–26): how does Ovid make this passage vivid and entertaining?
- You should refer BOTH to the content AND to the language of the passage. [15]
- (d) 'ille gemit ... humo' (lines 27–28): how do these lines show Faunus' discomfort? [2]
- (e) 'ridet et ... puella suum' (lines 29–30): explain the references to 'Alcides' AND 'Lyda puella'. [2]
- (f) 'veste deus ... vocat' (lines 31–32): what were the consequences of this incident? [2]

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* ‘There is nothing positive in ‘Aeneid’ Book 2.’

To what extent do you agree? [20]

7* ‘Juvenal’s view of humanity is overwhelmingly pessimistic and negative.’

From your reading of ‘Satires’ 3, 14, and 15, how far do you agree with this statement? [20]

8* To what extent do you think that crime and immorality are Ovid’s main focus in ‘Fasti’ 2? [20]

END OF QUESTION PAPER

BLANK PAGE



Copyright Information

OCR is committed to seeking permission to reproduce all third-party content that it uses in its assessment materials. OCR has attempted to identify and contact all copyright holders whose work is used in this paper. To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced in the OCR Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download from our public website (www.ocr.org.uk) after the live examination series.

If OCR has unwittingly failed to correctly acknowledge or clear any third-party content in this assessment material, OCR will be happy to correct its mistake at the earliest possible opportunity.

For queries or further information please contact The OCR Copyright Team, The Triangle Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA.

OCR is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.