

Modified Enlarged 24pt
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.

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SECTION A

Answer ONE question from this section.

- 1 Read the following passages and answer the questions.

4

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.

5

undique visendi studio Troiana iuventus
circumfusa ruit certantque inludere capto.
accipe nunc Danaum insidias et crimine ab uno
disce omnes.

10

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

(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. 10
 nec mihi iam patriam antiquam spes ulla videndi
 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, 15
 per si qua est quae restet adhuc mortalibus usquam
 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 exagitere 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.

haec eadem novit quid toto fiat in orbe, 5

quid Seres, quid Thraces agant, secreta novercae
et pueri, quis amet, quis diripiatur adulter;
dicet quis viduam praegnatem fecerit et quo
mense, quibus verbis concumbat quaeque, modis quot.
instantem regi Armenio Parthoque cometen 10
prima videt, famam rumoresque illa recentes
excipit ad portas, quosdam facit.

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.

12

aedibus in mediis nudoque sub aetheris axe
ingens ara fuit iuxtaque veterrima laurus

5

incumbens arae atque umbra complexa penates.

hic Hecuba et natae nequiquam altaria circum,
praecipites atra ceu tempestate columbae,

condensae et divum amplexae simulacra sedebant.

10

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 longaevum 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 vocis 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]**

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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**

16

mergere ficedulas didicit nebulone parente

10

**et cana monstrante gula. cum septimus annus
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.**

15

**quid suadet iuveni laetus stridore catenae,
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, 20
 an saevire docet Rutilus, qui gaudet acerbo
 plagarum strepitu et nullam Sirena flagellis
 comparat, Antiphates trepidi laris ac Polyphemus,
 tunc felix, quotiens aliquis tortore vocato
 uritur ardenti duo propter lintea ferro? 25
 rusticus expectas ut non sit adultera Largae
 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 secubuerunt 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 praeferat 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

turbatum viso rettulit angue pedem.

inde tori qui iunctus erat velamina tangit 15

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 Tirynthus 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,

30

ridet amatorem Lyda puella suum.

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]

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