

GCE

Latin

H443/02: Prose Composition or Comprehension

A Level

Mark Scheme for June 2025

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This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and students, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which marks were awarded by examiners. It does not indicate the details of the discussions which took place at an examiners' meeting before marking commenced.

All examiners are instructed that alternative correct answers and unexpected approaches in candidates' scripts must be given marks that fairly reflect the relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and the report on the examination.

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MARKING INSTRUCTIONS

PREPARATION FOR MARKING

RM ASSESSOR

- Make sure that you have accessed and completed the relevant training packages for on-screen marking: *RM Assessor Online Training: OCR Essential Guide to Marking*.
- Make sure that you have read and understood the mark scheme and the question paper for this unit. These are available in RM Assessor
- Log-in to RM Assessor and mark the **required number** of practice responses (“scripts”) and the **required number** of standardisation responses.

MARKING

1. Mark strictly to the mark scheme.
2. Marks awarded must relate directly to the marking criteria.
3. The schedule of dates is very important. It is essential that you meet the RM Assessor 50% and 100% (traditional 40% Batch 1 and 100% Batch 2) deadlines. If you experience problems, you must contact your Team Leader (Supervisor) without delay.
4. If you are in any doubt about applying the mark scheme, consult your Team Leader by telephone, email or via the RM Assessor messaging system.

5. Crossed-Out Responses

Where a candidate has crossed out a response and provided a clear alternative then the crossed-out response is not marked. Where no alternative response has been provided, examiners may give candidates the benefit of the doubt and mark the crossed-out response where legible.

Rubric Error Responses – Optional Questions

Where candidates have a choice of question across a whole paper or a whole section and have provided more answers than required, then all responses are marked and the highest mark allowable within the rubric is given. Enter a mark for each question answered into RM Assessor, which will select the highest mark from those awarded. *(The underlying assumption is that the candidate has penalised themselves by attempting more questions than necessary in the time allowed.)*

Multiple-Choice Question Responses

When a multiple-choice question has only a single, correct response and a candidate provides two responses (even if one of these responses is correct), then no mark should be awarded (as it is not possible to determine which was the first response selected by the candidate).

When a question requires candidates to select more than one option/multiple options, then local marking arrangements need to ensure consistency of approach.

Contradictory Responses

When a candidate provides contradictory responses, then no mark should be awarded, even if one of the answers is correct.

Short Answer Questions (requiring only a list by way of a response, usually worth only one mark per response)

Where candidates are required to provide a set number of short answer responses then only the set number of responses should be marked. The response space should be marked from left to right on each line and then line by line until the required number of responses have been considered. The remaining responses should not then be marked. Examiners will have to apply judgement as to whether a 'second response' on a line is a development of the 'first response', rather than a separate, discrete response. *(The underlying assumption is that the candidate is attempting to hedge their bets and therefore getting undue benefit rather than engaging with the question and giving the most relevant/correct responses.)*

Short Answer Questions (requiring a more developed response, worth two or more marks)

If the candidates are required to provide a description of, say, three items or factors and four items or factors are provided, then mark on a similar basis – that is downwards (as it is unlikely in this situation that a candidate will provide more than one response in each section of the response space).

Longer Answer Questions (requiring a developed response)

Where candidates have provided two (or more) responses to a medium or high tariff question which only required a single (developed) response and not crossed out the first response, then only the first response should be marked. Examiners will need to apply professional judgement as to whether the second (or a subsequent) response is a 'new start' or simply a poorly expressed continuation of the first response.

6. Always check the pages (and additional objects if present) at the end of the response in case any answers have been continued there. If the candidate has continued an answer there, then add the annotation 'SEEN' to confirm that the work has been seen and mark any responses using the annotations in section 11.

7. There is a NR (**No Response**) option. Award NR (No Response):
- if there is nothing written at all in the answer space
 - OR if there is a comment which does not in any way relate to the question (e.g., 'can't do', 'don't know')
 - OR if there is a mark (e.g., a dash, a question mark) which is not an attempt at the question.
- Note: Award 0 marks – for an attempt that earns no credit (including copying out the question).
8. The RM Assessor **comments box** is used by your Team Leader to explain the marking of the practice responses. Please refer to these comments when checking your practice responses. **Do not use the comments box for any other reason.**
9. *Assistant Examiners will send a brief report on the performance of candidates to their Team Leader (Supervisor) via email by the end of the marking period. The report should contain notes on particular strengths displayed as well as common errors or weaknesses. Constructive criticism of the question paper/mark scheme is also appreciated.*
10. For answers marked by levels of response: Not applicable in F501
- To determine the level** – start at the highest level and work down until you reach the level that matches the answer
- To determine the mark within the level**, consider the following

Descriptor	Award mark
On the borderline of this level and the one below	At bottom of level
Just enough achievement on balance for this level	Above bottom and either below middle or at middle of level (depending on number of marks available)
Meets the criteria but with some slight inconsistency	Above middle and either below top of level or at middle of level (depending on number of marks available)
Consistently meets the criteria for this level	At top of level

11. Annotations

Annotation	Meaning of annotation
	Point credited
	Good style point (for use in Prose Composition responses only)
	Incorrect (use sparingly)
	Unclear/ dubious point
	Omission
	Major error
	Slight error
	Benefit of doubt
	Consequential error
	Used to divide responses into marking sections
	Blank Page: this must be used on all blank pages within an answer booklet and on each page of an additional object where there is no candidate response.

Section A: Comprehension and grammar

Question		Answer	Marks	Guidance
1	(a)	by the plan of wicked men [1] the republic/state has come into (very) great danger [1] they have prepared/planned ... [1] slaughter and fires/burning [1] and other cruel crimes [1] against the citizens and the country [1]	5	Any five of these points x 1 mark each.
	(b)	they should be punished [1] in the ancient manner/ according to ancient custom [1]	2	
2		all those of consular rank [1] and a great part/ majority of the Senate [1] praised Cato's suggestion/ opinion/ speech [1] carried/praised his courage of mind to the skies/ heaven [1] they called/ accused each other of being timid [1] Cato was considered fine and great [1] the Senate decided/agreed exactly what he had proposed [1]	6	Any six of these points x 1 mark each Accept: 'each accused others'; not 'some accused others' Accept: 'was hailed as a great celebrity' – or sim. paraphrase

Question		Answer	Marks	Guidance
3		the consul thought he should act before night [1] lest some crime might take place in that period/ time [1] executioners were ordered to make immediate preparations[1] guards were stationed [1] he himself/ the consul escorted Lentulus to the prison [1] while the praetors did the same for the others [1]	5	Any five of these points x 1 mark each
4		this section is called the Tullianum [1] you go up a little to the left [1] the cell is about 12 feet down in the ground [1] strong walls all around [1] it has a grim appearance [1] with/because of the filth + darkness + smell [1]	6	6 points x 1 mark each (all three of these are needed: the first is already glossed)

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
<u>Marking Unseen Translation: 'major' and 'slight' errors</u> The distinction between a 'major' error and a 'slight' error only becomes crucial when it is the only error in a section; this distinction will then determine whether a mark of 5 or 4 is appropriate. Where marks of 4,3,2 or 1 are applicable, the overall proportion of meaning conveyed in the section is the only consideration. The classification below should be seen as only a general guide, the intention of which is to maintain standards from year to year. Lead markers will consider each instance on its merits, in the context of the passage and the length and difficulty of the section. Some errors may be categorised as 'major' if they appear in a relatively short and straightforward section, while in a longer or more complex section they are likely to count as 'slight'. • Errors of syntactical construction are always major. • Omission of words is generally major, unless the word has been effectively taken care of by idiomatic rephrasing, or the word is of little significance – in which case it may be considered a slight error. • Insignificant variation in past tenses (e.g. imperfect for perfect) is generally a slight error and may sometimes be ignored altogether. • Errors in number are usually slight, but where the difference is crucial to the sense they are major. • Change from active to passive is allowable if the agent is expressed, or if the agent is omitted without compromising the sense. If the agent is omitted and the sense is compromised, it is a slight error. • Paraphrasing that conveys most of the required sense is generally a slight error, but any wording that distorts the sense is a major error. Final categorisation of debatable instances will be made after considering a wide range of candidates' responses. These decisions will be communicated to examiners as part of the standardisation process and captured in the final mark-scheme for examiners and centres.			

Question		Answer	Marks	Guidance												
5	(i)	<i>in eum locum postquam demissus est Lentulus, <u>carnifices</u>, ut imperatum erat, <u>laqueo</u> collum fregerunt. ita ille nobilis ...</i> After Lentulus was/ had been lowered into this place, the executioners, as had been ordered, broke his neck with a rope. Thus that nobleman ... Accept: <i>imperatum erat</i> : as they had been ordered	5	Using (/) symbol, divide the translation into 2 sections. Award up to 5 marks per section according to the grid: below: <table><tr><td>5</td><td>Accurate translation – with one slight error allowed.</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>Mostly correct.</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>More than half right.</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Less than half right.</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Little recognisable relation to the meaning of the Latin.</td></tr><tr><td>0</td><td>No response, or no response worthy of credit.</td></tr></table> There are many ways of turning the passage into acceptable English. One approach for each sentence is given but examiners should assess the extent to which any approach satisfactorily conveys the meaning of the Latin. The general principle in assessing each section should be the proportion (out of 5) of sense achieved, in comparison with the damage caused by the accumulation of errors.	5	Accurate translation – with one slight error allowed.	4	Mostly correct.	3	More than half right.	2	Less than half right.	1	Little recognisable relation to the meaning of the Latin.	0	No response, or no response worthy of credit.
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(ii)	<i>ex gente clarissima natus, qui <u>consulare</u> imperium Romae habuerat, dignum moribus factisque suis exitium vitae invenit.</i> born from a (very) distinguished family, who had held consular power in Rome, found an end to/of his life appropriate to his character and deeds/actions. Accept: <i>dignum</i>: worthy/ fitting (or sim) <i>habuerat</i>: had had <i>consulare ... habuerat</i>: who had been consul in Rome Slight error: <i>moribus</i>: customs/ habits	5														

Question		Answer	Marks	Guidance
6		punishment was carried out on them in the same way [1]	1	or equivalent (e.g. 'they were punished in the same way')
7	a	Accusative [1] : aggression towards/against [1]	2	or suitable translation : e.g. 'against the citizens' * If both explanation and translation are offered and these contradict each other, no mark should be awarded. Case name wrong, explanation/translation of correct case = 1
	b	Ablative [1] : time when/ within which [1]	2	* or suitable translation : e.g. 'in/during that space of time'
	c	Dative [1] : of (dis-)advantage	2	* or suitable translation : e.g. 'the same was done to the others'
	d	Ablative [1] : instrumental/ manner/ means [1]	2	* or suitable translation : e.g. 'in the same way'
8	a	<i>loqui</i>	1	
	b	<i>disponere</i>	1	Also accept <i>disponi</i> .
	c	<i>frangere</i>	1	Also accept <i>frangi</i> .
9	a	after <i>cum</i> , meaning 'since' [not 'when']	1	or acceptable translation of <i>cum ... venerit</i> [1]
	b	purpose clause [also accept fearing clause]	1	or acceptable translation of <i>ne ... fieret</i> [1]
10	a	<i>ratus</i> : past/perfect participle	1	Deponent/Active not needed.
	b	<i>agendum</i> : gerundive	1	Do not accept gerund.

Section B: Prose Composition

Divide the response into 9 sections as shown, using the (/) symbol. Award up to 5 marks per translated section according to the 5-mark marking grid shown below. The general principle in assessing each section should be the **proportion** (out of 5) of sense achieved.

There are many acceptable ways of turning a piece of English into correct Latin. One approach for each sentence is given. Acceptable alternatives will be illustrated during Standardisation, but examiners should assess on its own merits any approach that satisfactorily conveys the meaning of the English.

Words given in brackets in the model answers are optional and may be omitted without penalty.

Deciding whether an error is 'major' or 'slight' is only necessary when it is the only error in a section; this will then determine whether a mark of 5 or 4 is appropriate. Where marks of 4, 3, 2, 1 and 0 are applicable, the **overall proportion of meaning conveyed** in the section is the only consideration. The term 'major' error has been used here to indicate an error which is more damaging to overall sense than a 'slight' error.

The principles given below should be seen only as a general guide, the intention of which is to maintain standards from year to year. Lead markers will consider each instance on its own merits in the context of the section and the passage. It is likely that some errors will be regarded as 'major' if they appear in a relatively short and straightforward section, whereas in the context of a longer or more complex section they may count only as a 'slight' error. Final decisions on what constitutes a 'slight' or 'major' error will be made after general consideration of candidates' responses and will be communicated to assessors during the standardisation process; these decisions will then be captured in the final mark scheme for examiners and centres.

- Any error specifically indicated in the mark-scheme by a ✕ symbol is regarded as **major**.
- Fundamental errors of construction are always **major**.
- All other errors are generally regarded as slight.
- Change from active to passive is allowable if the agent is expressed or if the agent is omitted and the sense is not compromised. However, if the agent is omitted and the sense is compromised, it is a 'slight' error.
- Paraphrasing that idiomatically conveys the required sense is acceptable; any wording that distorts the sense is a **major** error.
- Any wording which is especially apt for the context should qualify for an additional 'style' mark.

Marking grid for translation into Latin

Marks	Description
5	Accurate translation – with one slight error allowed
4	Mostly correct
3	More than half right
2	Less than half right
1	Little recognisable relation to the meaning of the English
0	No response or no response worthy of credit.

Additional marks for style

Additional marks (to a maximum of 5) should be awarded for individual instances of stylish Latin writing. Some examples are given in the mark scheme below, but these are by no means the only permissible points. Other attempts at connection and subordination, good choice of words and Latinate word order should also be rewarded, and deserving examples may be rewarded even in places where some slight error has occurred. Each word or phrase credited with an additional mark should be indicated in the script with the + symbol.

In general, each *type* of improvement (e.g. promotion of subject to first word; *igitur* as 2nd word) should be rewarded once only. Exceptions to this rule include *different* methods of subordination to link clauses together, and the insertion of *different* words (*enim*, *itaque*, etc.) to aid continuity.

The following code applies to examples listed in the Guidance column of the mark scheme:

+ = specific 'improvement' credited with a 'style mark' (see above)

✓ = acceptable alternative

✗ = major error → maximum mark = 4 for that section

Part	Answer	Mark	Guidance
(i)	<i>Severus hoped to conquer the whole island and gradually advanced through Caledonia.</i> Severus sperabat se totam insulam victurum esse et per Caledoniam paulatim progressus est.	5	✚ subordination, using <i>cum/ quod/ participle</i> etc. ✓ gradually: <i>lente, gradatim</i> ✗ <i>sperabat vincere</i>
(ii)	<i>The troops put great effort into <u>cutting down</u> forests and bridging rivers ...</i> copiae diligenter laboraverunt silvas <u>excidentes</u> et pontes trans flumina aedificantes	5	✚ <i>magnam operam ... dederunt</i> (+ gerundive/gerund) <i>laboraverunt ut</i> + subjunctive <i>magno cum labore ...</i> ✓ <i>silvas exciderunt et pontes ... aedificaverunt/ fecerunt</i> ✗ omission of <i>trans flumina</i>
(iii)	<i>but for a long time they fought no battle and saw no enemy. The inhabitants had left in the fields many <u>herds of cattle</u> ...</i> sed diu nullam pugnam pugnaverunt et nullos hostes viderunt. incolae multa <u>pecora</u> in agris reliquerant ...	5	✚ <i>pugnam/ proelium commiserunt</i> <i>neque ... neque/ neque ... ullos/ omission of et</i> ✓ no enemy: <i>nullum hostem</i> ✗ <i>non pugnaverunt</i> (omitting 'battle')

	Answer	Mark	Guidance
(iv)	<i>which the soldiers tried to seize until they suddenly came under attack. So weak that they could hardly walk ...</i> quae milites capere conabantur dum subito oppugnati sunt. tam infirma ut ambulare vix possent ...	5	✚ <i>infirmiora/-es quam ut ambulare possent</i> ✓ came under attack: <i>impetus in eos factus est</i> weak: <i>invalidi</i> (masc.pl), <i>infirmi</i>, etc. ✗ <i>sub impetum venerunt</i>
(v)	<i>around fifty thousand men were killed by their own side to avoid capture.</i> circa quinquaginta milia militum a suis (viris) necata sunt ne caperentur.	5	✚ by their own side: <i>a suis</i> (without <i>viris</i>)/ <i>a suis sociis</i> ✓ around fifty: <i>ad quinquaginta</i> <i>necati sunt</i> – but only if consistent with (iv) ✗ fifty: L by their own side: <i>suo latere</i> <i>ut captionem vitarent</i> (or sim.)
(vi)	<i>But Severus, carried in a <u>litter</u> to conserve his strength, demanded to reach the very end of land.</i> Severus tamen, in <u>lectica</u> portatus ut vires servaret, imperavit ut ad ipsum finem terrae adveniret.	5	✚ <i>Severus, tamen ...</i> carried: <i>vectus</i> to conserve his strength: <i>ad vires conservandas</i> demanded: <i>postulavit/poposcit</i> (+ either infin. or ut/subj.) <i>ad extremam terram</i> ✓ to reach: <i>procederet/ progredederetur</i> <i>ad extremum/-a terrae</i> ✗ to conserve: <i>conservare</i>

Part	Answer	Mark	Guidance
(vii)	<i>There he observed how the <u>length</u> of the days and nights changes between summer and winter with the course of the sun.</i> ibi conspiciebat quomodo <u>longitudo</u> dierum noctiumque inter aestatem et hiemem cum cursu solis mutaretur.	5	✚ course: <i>itinere</i> ✓ observed: <i>spectabat/ perspiciebat/ animadvertit longitudinem ... mutatam esse mutetur/ mutet/ mutaret</i> [active rare, but possible] ✗
(viii)	<i>He eventually forced the Caledonians to surrender the greater part of their territory ...</i> tandem Caledonios coegit maiorem partem terrae eorum dedere;	5	✚ <i>Caledoniis maiorem partem suae terrae dedere coactis</i> ✓ forced ... to: <i>coegit ut ... dederent</i> etc. surrender: <i>tradere/ cedere/ prodere</i> territory: <i>terrarum /finium</i> ✗
(ix)	<i>then returned to his fortress at York, where shortly afterwards he died, worn out by illness.</i> tum ad castra Eboracum revenit, ubi paulo post morbo defessus mortuus est.	5	✚ worn out: <i>confectus/ consumptus</i> <i>haud multo post</i> ✓ returned: <i>regressus est/ se recepit</i> etc. shortly afterwards: <i>brevi tempore</i> worn out: <i>fessus</i> ✗ [<i>mox</i> : treat as slight error]

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