



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Monday 9 June 2025 – Afternoon

A Level Latin

H443/03 Prose Literature

Time allowed: 2 hours



You must have:

- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet

Do not use:

- a dictionary

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 (*).
- This document has **12** pages.

ADVICE

- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

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.

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Cicero, *Pro Caelio* 61

- (a) Translate *sed ... traditurum* (lines 1–4). [5]
- (b) In lines 4–8 (*hic ... visus esset*), how does Cicero raise doubts about the prosecution's version of events? [5]
- (c) *sin autem ... criminum* (lines 8–10): 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 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 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, alia subselliorum ratio, alia lectorum; non idem iudicium commissatorumque conspectus; lux denique longe alia est solis, alia lychnorum.

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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 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 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 remanendo impudentiam paupertati adicerent.

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Tacitus, *Annals* XII.52

- (a) *Fausto Sulla ... scrutaretur* (lines 1–2): why was Scribonianus exiled? [1]
- (b) In lines 2–3 (*adnectebatur ... impatiens*), what do we learn about Scribonianus' mother, Vibia? [2]
- (c) Translate *pater ... vulgavere* (lines 3–7). [5]
- (d) *laudati ... adicerent* (lines 8–10): 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.

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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 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 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 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.

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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 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 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.

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Cicero, *Pro Caelio* 48–50

(a)* *hic ego ... dixi* (lines 1–12): 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 13–14): what do the accusers say about Clodia? [2]

(c) Translate *si quae mulier ... obiciant Caelio* (lines 14–18). [5]

(d) In lines 18–19 (*sin eam ... pertimescamus*), how does Cicero undermine the prosecution case? [3]

(e) *aut enim pudor ... dabit* (lines 20–22): 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 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 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 imperaret matremque occideret; atque illa 'occidat' inquit, 'dum imperet.'

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sed a Caesare perfecto demum scelere magnitudo eius intellecta est. reliquo noctis modo per silentium defixus, saepius pavore 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 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 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 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.

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Tacitus, *Annals* XIV.9–10

- (a) In line 1, what is Tacitus referring to by 'these events' (*haec*)? [1]
- (b) How do lines 1–4 (*aspexeritne ... humus*) show Nero's lack of respect towards his mother? [5]
- (c) *mox ... accepit* (lines 4–5): how does this show a more respectful response to Agrippina's death? [2]
- (d) Translate *accenso ... imperet* (lines 6–10). [5]
- (e)* *sed a Caesare ... paravisset* (lines 11–24): 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 perdidit), 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.

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Pliny, *Letters* 8.16

- (a) Translate *confecerunt ... custodio* (lines 1–5). [5]
- (b) *mandant ... domus est* (lines 5–7): in what ways is Pliny's treatment of his slaves unusual? [3]
- (c) Lines 7–9 (*sed quamquam ... induxit*): what contrast does Pliny make here? [2]
- (d) In lines 9–12 (*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 ambiguus, qui tamen posset recta sectari, si patrem non referret. hunc Regulus emancipavit, ut heres matris exsisteret; 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 luscinijs psittacos merulas: omnes Regulus circa rogum trucidavit. nec dolor erat ille, sed ostentatio doloris. convenitur ad eum mira celebritate. 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.

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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]

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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