WESTMINSTER SCHOOL
THE CHALLENGE 2016

LATIN

Tuesday 26 April 2016

Time allowed: 2 hours

Answers to each of the three sections should be written on the headed sheets of paper provided.

You should answer all questions in Sections A and B, but please note that in Section C there is a choice between a comprehension and a prose composition, and you should only answer ONE of these.

Please write in black or blue ink.

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Section A – Unseen Translation (40 marks)

Translate the following passage into English.

Romulus ensures the increase of the population of Rome.

olim Romulus, rex Romanorum, gentem Romanam augere cupiebat. nam Romani, quamquam fortes, pauci erant. itaque feminas ex omnibus oppidis quaerebat ut viri uxores haberent. tum sperabat has feminas maritis suis multos liberos daturas esse. Romulus igitur Romanis imperavit ut ludos facerent et Sabinos invitarent. sperabat enim Romanos feminas eorum capturos esse.

Sabini Romanis crediderunt et Romam advenerunt ut ludos spectarent. Sabinis in sedibus sedentibus, viri Romani feminas pulcherrimas legere coeperunt. deinde eas subito ceperunt. postea Romulus, qui facta defendere volebat, "feminae Sabinae" inquit "feliciores quam omnes aliae sunt. nunc enim Romanae erunt! mariti eorum milites fortissimi virique optimi sunt. itaque uxor Romana vitam meliorem habebit quam Sabina." etiam Sabinae ipsae se contentas esse dicebant. ita gens Romana aucta est.

Vocabulary:

augeo, augere, auxi, auctum	– increase
spero, sperare, speravi, speratum	– hope
maritus, -i, m.	– husband
ludus, -i, m.	– game
Sabini, -orum, m.	– the Sabines, the Sabine people (an Italian tribe)
sedes, -is, m.	– seat
lego, legere, legi, lectum	– *(here)* choose
Sabinus, -a, -um, *adj*.	– Sabine
ita	– so, in this way

Section B – Comprehension (50 marks)

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. The questions will help you to work your way through the passage. Do not translate unless asked to do so.

The Romans drive out their royal family, the Tarquins, and replace the monarchy with a republic. But the Tarquins persuade the king of the Etruscans, Porsenna, to help them regain power. Porsenna's consequent attack on Rome meets with deadly resistance.

cum Romani reges Tarquinios ex urbe pepulissent, laetissimi erant. nam illi adeo crudeles et superbi fuerant ut gens omnis liberari voluisset. sed civibus iam necesse erat principem novum invenire; nolebant autem ducem saevum iterum habere. itaque non unum sed duos viros claros legerunt ut patriam regerent. hi, qui consules vocabantur, debebant et in pace civium libertatem custodire et in bello eis imperare.

interea Tarquinii propter iram suam multa et pessima principi Porsinnae locuti sunt. monuerunt salutem regum a Romanis deletam esse; hortati sunt ut statim cum optimo exercitu ex oppido proficisceretur. ei autem celeriter persuaserunt quod credebat se copias maiores militesque audaciores ducere et Romanos facile vinci posse.

mox igitur multis in proelio interfectis hostes prope Romam in ripa fluminis castra posuerant; consules dicebant spem minimam sibi manere. sed iuvenis quidam nobilis, Gaius Mucius nomine, hos rogavit ut nocte sine comitibus, pauca arma portans, trans flumen tranaret ut Porsinnam necare conaretur.

itaque prima luce Mucius cum in media hostium turba staret sibi inquit, "nescio quis sit rex. o dei, iuvate me!" deinde spe auxilii deorum gladioque stricto procurrit et pro Porsinna scribam frustra interficit. militibus omnibus clamantibus tandem intellegit se multum erravisse.

Vocabulary:

Tarquinii, -orum, m.	– the Tarquins
necesse, *indeclinable*	– necessary
consul, -is, m.	– consul
libertas, -atis, f.	– liberty
Porsinna, -ae, m.	– Porsenna
salus, -tis, f.	– safety
Roma, -ae, f.	– Rome
ripa, -ae, f.	– bank (of a river)
castra, -orum, n. pl.	– camp
trano, tranare, tranavi, tranatum	– I swim across
nescio, nescire, nescivi, nescitum	– I do not know
stringo, stringere, strinxi, strictum	– *(here)* I draw, unsheathe
scriba, -ae, m.	– scribe, secretary
intellego, intellegere, intellexi, intellectum	– I understand, realise

1. *cum Romani … erant* (line 1). How did the Romans feel? [1]
2. *nam illi … voluisset* (lines 1-2). What had the Romans wanted, and why? [3]
3. *sed civibus … habere* (lines 2-3). What did they now have to do? What did they not want? [3]
4. *itaque … regerent* (lines 3-4). What was the key feature of the new government? [2]
5. *hi, qui … imperare* (lines 4-5). What two duties of the new officials are we told about? [2]
6. Translate from *interea Tarquinii* to *vinci posse* (lines 6-9). [20]
7. *mox igitur … posuerant* (lines 10-11). What happened before the enemy pitched camp? [1]
8. *sed iuvenis … conaretur* (lines 11-13). Who was Gaius Mucius? What request did he make, and why? Give full details. [4]
9. *itaque … inquit* (line 14). Where was Mucius, and at what time? [2]
10. *"nescio quis … me!"* (lines 14-15). What did he ask the gods, and why? [2]
11. *deinde spe … interficit* (lines 15-16). Explain why Mucius's action was *frustra*. [2]
12. *militibus … erravisse* (lines 16-17). What are we told that Mucius realised? [2]
13. Write down one example from the passage of each of the following:
    a. a present participle;
    b. an imperfect subjunctive;
    c. a perfect infinitive;
    d. a perfect passive participle;
    e. a comparative adjective;
    f. a result clause. [6]

Section C – You should answer EITHER the comprehension OR the prose composition.

Comprehension (60 marks)

The Latin here is difficult: it is only very lightly adapted from the original Pliny text. Try to make sensible deductions about the meaning: you should use the questions to help you work your way through the passage. Many words in the passage will be unfamiliar to you; we have given the meanings for some of these, but you should use the overall sense of the passage and your knowledge of English derivations to help you work out the others.

Pliny reflects on a fellow writer's premonition of death in a dream in which the dead Emperor Nero looked over that writer's work; Pliny considers the implications of sudden death for all those engaged in writing.

mihi autem videtur acerba semper et immatura mors eorum, qui immortale aliquid parant. nam, qui voluptatibus dediti quasi in diem vivunt, vivendi causas cotidie finiunt; qui vero posteros cogitant et memoriam sui operibus extendunt, his nulla mors non repentina est, ut quae semper inchoatum aliquid abrumpat. Gaius quidem Fannius, quod accidit, multo ante praesensit. visus est sibi per nocturnam quietem iacere in lectulo suo compositus in habitu studentis, habere ante se scrinium (ita solebat); mox imaginatus est venisse Neronem, in toro resedisse, prompsisse primum librum, quem de sceleribus eius ediderat, eumque ad extremum revolvisse, idem in secundo ac tertio fecisse, tunc abiisse. expavit et sic interpretatus est, tamquam idem sibi futurus esset scribendi finis, qui fuisset illi legendi, et fuit idem.

quod me recordantem miseratio subit, quantum vigiliarum, quantum laboris exhauserit frustra. occursant animo mea immortalitas, mea scripta. nec dubito te quoque eadem cogitatione terreri pro istis, quae inter manus habes. proinde, dum suppeditat via, enitamur, ut mors quam paucissima, quae abolere possit, inveniat.

Pliny, *Letters* v.5

Vocabulary:

voluptas, -tatis, f. – pleasure
dedo, -ere, dedidi, deditum – I surrender
quasi, *adverb* – just as if
posteri, -orum, m. – future generations
repentinus, -a, -um – sudden
inchoatus, -a, -um – started, begun
lectulus, -i, m. – couch
habitus, -us, m. – manner
scrinium, -i, n. – writing-desk
soleo, -ere, solitus sum – be accustomed
torus, -i, m. – couch
promo, -ere, prompsi, promptum – I fetch
edo, -ere, edidi, editum – I publish
tunc – then
expavesco, -ere, expavi – I grow terrified
tamquam, *adverb* – as if
miseratio, -onis, f. – pity
vigiliae, -arum, f. – sleepless nights
exhaurio, -ire, exhausi *(here)* I work hard at
occurso, -are *+ dat.* – I rush into
pro *+ abl*. – for, on behalf of
proinde, *adverb* – therefore
suppedito, -are – I am present
enitor, -i, enixus sum – I strive

1. *acerba ... aliquid parant* (lines 1-2). Who are the people whose death always appears to Pliny to be bitter and premature?

2. a. *voluptatibus dediti ... vivunt* (line 2). Explain in your own words why the people described here are said to complete their reasons for being alive each day.
   b. Suggest a good translation for *in diem*.

3. *qui vero ... extendunt* (lines 2-3). A contrasting group of people are described in this phrase: explain fully what the **two** actions which characterise these people are.

4. *his nulla ... abrumpat* (lines 3-4). Pliny here says that death is always untimely for these people. Give **two** ways in which Pliny, by his choice of words in this phrase, stresses this.

5. *visus est sibi ... (ita solebat)* (lines 5-6). In the premonition experienced by Gaius Fannius, all at first appeared quiet and peaceful: give **three** elements of Pliny's description which build this atmosphere.

6. *mox imaginatus est ... abiisse* (lines 6-8). These lines contain the repeated use of the same form of different verbs:
   a. Which form of the verb is used each time?
   b. Explain why this form of the verb is used.
   c. Suggest what effect Pliny is looking to achieve by this repetition.

7. *prompsisse ... abiisse* (lines 7-8):
   a. How many books does Nero look at?
   b. What does the first book contain?
   c. *revolvisse* (line 8). What does this verb tell you about the format of the books that Nero looked at?

8. *expavit ... fuit idem* (lines 8-9). Upon waking, Fannius interpreted the terrifying vision that he had had:
   a. *tamquam idem ...* (**NB: at start of line 9**). What two things does he consider to be the same?
   b. *sibi ... illi* (line 9). Who are referred to respectively by these two pronouns? How do you know?
   c. How does the choice, form and position of words in this sentence stress that what Fannius interpreted would happen really did happen?

9. *quod me recordantem ... frustra* (lines 10-11). What is it that particularly prompts Pliny's pity as he contemplates the experience of Fannius?

10. *nec dubito te ... habes* (lines 11-12). Pliny expects that the person he is writing to will share his own anxieties:
   a. In your own words, explain what those anxieties are.
   b. Give a good translation of *quae inter manus habes* (line 12) in this context.

11. *enitamur, ut ... inveniat* (lines 12-13). What conclusion does Pliny draw from his reflections?

12. Explain the use of the subjunctive mood of the following:
   a. *abrumpat* (line 4);
   b. *exhauserit* (line 10);
   c. *enitamur* (line 12);
   d. *inveniat* (line 13).

13. According to this passage, what motivated people such as Pliny to write? What do you think of this point of view?

Prose Composition (60 marks)

Translate the following passage into Latin. The words given underneath are for your guidance only – you do not have to use them if you do not wish to.

The story of Tarpeia and the Sabines

Once upon a time, the citadel of Rome was being attacked by the Sabines. Spurius Tarpeius, whose army was defending the citadel, had a daughter, Tarpeia by name, very greedy for gold. Her father thought that she was remaining with her mother. But her mother had asked Tarpeia to seek water.

Outside the city, Tarpeia caught sight of the leader of the enemy, sitting on a horse. This man said, "O beautiful Roman girl, do not fear. For I am the king of the Sabines. We Sabines ask you to help us. We will give you much money and precious gifts. You will see my soldiers carrying your gifts in their left hands."

The king showed the girl where the golden rings of the soldiers were.

Tarpeia, happily trusting the king's plan, returned to the citadel in order to wait for the soldiers. But when they arrived, their left hands were not decorated with rings but were armed with very big shields. So many Sabines attacked the citadel that it was immediately captured. Therefore, with the city betrayed, Tarpeia was killed, crushed by the shields.

Names:

Sabine	– Sabinus, -i, m.
Spurius Tarpeius	– Spurius Tarpeius, Spurii Tarpeii, m.
Tarpeia	– Tarpeia, -ae, f.

Vocabulary:

citadel	– arx, arcis, f.
greedy for	– cupidus, -a, -um *+ gen.*
gold	– aureum, -i, n.
outside	– extra *+ acc.*
I catch sight of	– conspicio, conspicere, conspexi, conspectum
precious	– pretiosus, -a, -um
left	– sinister, -tra, -trum
golden	– aureus, -a, -um
ring	– anulus, -i, m.
plan	– consilium, -i, n.
I decorate	– orno, ornare, ornavi, ornatum
I crush	– opprimo, opprimere, oppressi, oppressum