ST EDWARD'S
OXFORD

13+ SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION

2016

LATIN

Time: 1 hour

Candidate Name: ……

Instructions to Candidates:

Answer all the questions. Translate only where asked.

Underlined words are glossed beneath each passage.
N.B. words given for one passage are not given again if repeated.

After Nero banished his mother's favourite, Pallas, she supported his rival to the throne, Britannicus, Nero's stepbrother: this does not go down well!

1. Study the following passage (do **NOT** write a translation), and answer the questions below in English. Complete sentences are requested.

1 postquam Nero libertum Pallantem expulit, Agrippina, mater imperatoris,
2 iratissima erat. statim filium minari coepit. 'Britannicus,' inquit, 'cuius
3 pater erat imperator Claudius, iam quattuordecim est. ille, non filius meus,
4 imperator esse debet.' Nero, his verbis territus, Britannicum interficere
5 constituit. hoc aperte facere nolebat, quod cives Romani Britannicum
6 maxime amabant; itaque militi cuidam imperavit ut venenum in cibum
7 Britannici poneret. iuvenis tamen, consumpto veneno, non mortuus
8 est.

Names		***Vocabulary***	
Nero, Neronis	Nero	*expello, -ere, expuli, expulsus* (3)	I get rid of
Pallas, Pallantis	Pallas	*minor, minari, minatus sum* (1)	I threaten
Agrippina, Agrippinae	Agrippina	*debeo, -ere, debui, debitum* (2)	owe, ought
Britannicus, Britannici	Britannicus	*aperte*	openly
Claudius, Claudii	Claudius	*venenum, veneni* (n)	poison

(a) *postquam … coepit* (lines1-2):

(i) how did Agrippina feel? [2]

……

(ii) what did she do as a result of feeling this way? [2]

……

(b) *Britannicus … debet* (lines 2-4):

(i) what **two** facts does Agrippina give here about Britannicus? [2]

……

(ii) these two facts led Agrippina to express an opinion about the two boys' destiny. What was her opinion? [2]

……

(c) *Nero … constituit* (lines 4-5): why did Nero decide to kill Britannicus? [1]

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(d) Why did Nero not wish to kill Britannicus openly? [2]

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(e) *itaque … mortuus est* (lines 6-8): describe Nero's attempt to kill Britannicus and its outcome. [4]

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[15 marks]

PTO

Nero's second attempt was more successful…

2(a) **Translate** the next section of the story which follows straight on from the previous section. [30]

Britannicus cum familia et amicis sedebat ut cenam consumeret. unus ex servis omnem cibum et omne vinum semper gustavit, priusquam Britannico datum est, ne aliquis eum interficere posset. cum servus poculum vini calidissimi, in quo nullum venenum erat, ei dedisset, Britannicus iussit servum aquam frigidam in vinum addere. in hac aqua fuit venenum, validius quam antea, quod per totum corpus tam celeriter pervasit ut vox spiritusque statim raperentur.

omnes Neronem spectabant: ille tamen dixit Britannicum morbum comitialem saepe pati, et mox iterum locuturum esse. aliis convivis ad cenam reversis, Agrippina sola quae filium suum bene cognoverat, intellexit Britannicum iam mortuum esse.

Vocabulary

familia, familiae (f)		family
gusto, gustare, gustavi, gustatus (1)		I taste
poculum, poculi (n)		cup
calidus, calida, calidum		hot, scalding
venenum, veneni (n)		poison
frigidus, frigida, frigidum		cold
addo, addere, addidi, additus (3)		I add
validus, valida, validum		strong (N.B. the ending *-ius* here)
pervado, pervadere, pervasi (3)		I spread
spiritus, spiritus (m)		breath
rapio, rapere, rapui, raptum (3)		I seize, carry off, snatch away
morbus comitialis (m)		epilepsy
locuturus esse	=	fut. act. infin. of *loquor*
conviva, ae (m)		dinner guest

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2(b) Using this second section as a guide, put the following phrase into Latin: [3]

"The slaves always gave hot wine to their dinner guests."

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Agrippina tried unsuccessfully to build up opposition to Nero. [23]

3. Do **NOT** translate, but answer the **2** sets of questions that follow this final section of the story.

mors Britannici Agrippinam ad tantam iram movebat ut Nero donis eam placare non posset. Agrippina amicos ad se vocavit, ut pecuniam ab eis peteret. multa pecunia accepta, inter tribunos et centuriones ibat, viros quaerens qui manus militum ducere vellent. hoc cognito Nero matrem transtulit in aliam domum, ne turba nobilium, quae saepe domum imperatoris ut eum salutaret veniebat, matrem quoque visitaret. Agrippina, iam ab omnibus amicis relicta, credebat neminem se amare. denique cum libertus eam accusavisset coniurationis, Nero tribunis imperavit ut mortem matri pararent.

freely based on Tacitus, *Annals* XIII

Vocabulary

donum, i (n)	gift, present, bribe
placo, placare, placavi, placatus (1)	I soothe, win (someone) over
tribunus, tribuni (m)	tribune (an army officer)
centurio, centurionis (m)	centurion
nobilis, nobilis (m)	nobleman
visito, visitare, visitavi, visitatus (1)	I visit
accuso, accusare, accusavi, accusatus (1)	I accuse
coniuratio, coniurationis (f)	conspiracy

(a) *Agrippina … poterat* (lines 1-2):
(i) what made Agrippina angry? [1]

……

(ii) in what way did Nero try to win back his mother's favour? [1]

……

(iii) how do we know that Nero was unsuccessful? [2]

……...

(b) Why did Agrippina call her friends to her? [1]

……....

(c) What, in line 3, tells us she was successful in this aim? [2]

……

(d) Why did Agrippina visit tribunes and centurions? [4]

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(e) *hoc cognito … visitaret* (lines 5-7):
when Nero found out about his mother's plans, what did he do, and why? [4]

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(f) *Agrippina … amare* (lines 7-8):
(i) what was the immediate result of Nero's actions? [2]

……

(ii) how did this make Agrippina feel? [2]

……

(g) *denique … pararent* (lines 8-10):
describe fully how Agrippina's situation now became much worse. [4]

……

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Grammar and Syntax Questions (from section 3) [14]

(h) From this last passage, give **one** example of: [2]

(i) an imperfect subjunctive verb

……

(ii) a present participle

……

(i) In what case & number are the following? [2]

(i) *donis* (line 2)

……

(ii) *manus* (line 4)

……

(j) Write out **and** **translate** complete examples of the following: [10]

(i) **1** purpose/final clause

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(ii) **1** ablative absolute

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(iii) **1** result/consecutive clause

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(iv) an indirect/reported statement

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(v) an indirect/reported command

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TOTAL FOR PAPER: **85 Marks**

EXTENSION QUESTION – Only answer this if you have time and have completed everything else to the best of your ability.

(Additional credit for good ideas may be added to your score.)

With what problems, do you think, are modern historians confronted when reading sources like this one by Tacitus?

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