2009 FJCL State Latin Forum
Reading Comprehension – Prose

N.B. There are no macrons on this test.

Cornelius Nepos XXIV.iii – A description of Cato

In omnibus rebus singulari fuit industria : nam et agricola sollers et peritus iuris consultus et magnus imperator et probabilis orator et cupidissimus litterarum fuit. Quarum studium etsi senior arripuerat, tamen tantum progressum fecit, ut non facile reperiri possit neque de Graecis neque de Italicis rebus, quod ei fuerit incognitum. Ab adulescentia confecit orationes. Senex historias scribere instituit. Earum sunt libri vii. Primus continent res gestas regum populi Romani, secundus et tertius unde quaeque civitas orta sit Italica, ob quam rem omnes Origines videtur appellasse. In quarto autem bellum Poenicum est primum, in quinto secundum. Atque haec omnia capitulatim sunt dicta.

1. Which adjective best describes Cato according to the first sentence of this passage?
    a. lethargic   b. dogmatic   c. energetic   d. inquisitive

2. At the beginning of the passage, what figure of speech does Nepos use in noting Cato's accomplishments?
    a. anaphora   b. polysyndeton   c. asyndeton   d. synchesis

3. In which of the following pursuits did Cato NOT engage?
    a. law   b. military service   c. public speaking   d. poetry

4. What are the case and number of *industria* in line 1?
    a. nominative singular   b. ablative singular
    c. nominative plural   d. accusative plural

5. What are the case and use of the word *iuris* in line 1 ?
    a. genitive – possession   b. genitive – special adjectives
    c. dative – reference   d. dative - possession

6. Which of Cato's interests did he take up later in life?
    a. literature   b. pleading cases   c. gardening   d. public affairs

7. What use of the subjunctive is begun by the word *ut* in line 3?
    a. purpose clause   b. indirect command   c. result clause   d. proviso clause

8. What is the subject of the verb *possit* in line 3?
    a. studium (line 2)   b. senior (line 2)   c. progressum (line 3)   d. quod (line 4)

9. To what does *earum* in line 5 refer?
    a. Italicis rebus (line 4) b. orations (line 4)   c. historias (line 4)   d. res gestas (line 5)

10. What is the first book of Cato's histories about according to the passage?
    a. the kingdom of Rome   b. a list of Rome's kings
    c. a list of the deeds of Rome's kings   d. the deeds of Rome's first king

11. Why is the verb *sit* in line 6 subjunctive?
    a. indirect question   b. indirect command   c. deliberative   d. optative

12. *Appellasse* in line 6 is an example of which of these?
    a. syncope   b. synecdoche   c. litotes   d. hyperbole

13. Which book is NOT matched with its subject properly?
    a. 1 - kings   b. 2 – rise of city-states
    c. 3 – rise of the Republic   d. 4 – the First Punic War

14. Which of these best describes Nepos' description of Cato's style?
    a. eloquent   b. succinct   c. detailed   d. labored

Cicero – De Senectute 21

Ego vestros patres, tu, Scipio, tuque, Laeli, viros clarissimos mihique amicissimos, vivere arbitror, et eam quidem vitam, quae est sola vita nominanda. Nam, dum sumus inclusi in his compagibus corporis, munere quodam necessitatis et gravi opere perfungimur ; est enim animus caelestis ex altissimo domicilio depressus et quasi demersus in terram, locum divinae naturae aeternitatique contrarium. Sed credo deos immortales sparsisse animos in corpora humana, ut essent, qui terras tuerentur, quique caelestium ordinem comtemplantes imitarentur eum vitae modo atque constantia. Nec me solum ratio ac disputatio impulit, ut ita crederem, sed nobilitas etiam summorum philosophorum et auctoritas.

15. To whom is Cato speaking?
    a. Scipio and Laelius' parents   b. Laelius
    c. Scipio   d. Scipio and Laelius

16. Which of the following is NOT true about Scipio and Laelius' fathers according to lines 1 – 2?
    a. that they are very famous men   b. that they are alive
    c. that they live their lives alone   d. that they are very friendly to Cicero

17. What is the best translation for *arbitror* in line 2?
    a. I think   b. I am judged
    c. I should think   d. as a mediator

18. Which of these best describes the word *nominanda* in line 2?
    a. an adjective   b. a gerundive   c. a gerund   d. a noun

19. What is the case and use of the word *munere* in line 3?
    a. ablative of description   b. ablative of specification
    c. ablative with special verbs   d. ablative of means

20. According to Cato, what is the spirit's origin?
    a. heaven
    b. earth
    c. family
    d. the depths of the body

21. What case is *naturae* in line 4?
    a. nominative
    b. genitive
    c. dative
    d. vocative

22. What is the best translation of *sparsisse* in line 5?
    a. to scatter
    b. to have scattered
    c. scattered
    d. were scattered

23. How is u*t* in line 5 best translated?
    a. as
    b. for example
    c. when
    d. so that

24. Which is not part of our human purpose, according to the passage?
    a. taking care of the earth
    b. contemplating the heavens
    c. emulating a divine pattern
    d. living in moderation

25. What convinces Cato of these beliefs?
    a. his ability to reason
    b. his reason and careful consideration
    c. the reason and logic of great philosophers
    d. his thoughts and philosophers' influence

Hirtius – Book VIII, <u>De Bello Gallico</u>

His copiis coactis ad Bellovacos proficisitur, castrisque in eorum finibus positis equitum turmas dimittit in omnis partis ad aliquos excipiendos ex quibus hostium consilia cognosceret. Equites officio functi renuntiant paucos in aedificiis esse inventos atque hos, non qui agrorum colendorum causa remansissent – namque esse undique diligenter demigratum – sed qui speculandi causa essent remissi. A quibus cum quaereret Caesar quo loco multitudo esset Bellovacorum quodve esset consilium eorum, inveniebat Bellovacos omnis qui arma ferre possent in unum locum convenisse.

26. How many ablative absolutes are in the first sentence?
    a. one
    b. two
    c. three
    d. four

27. In what case is *omnis* in line 2?
    a. nominative
    b. genitive
    c. accusative
    d. ablative

28. According to the first passage, where was the camp pitched?
    a. in the lands of the Bellovaci
    b. in all parts of the land
    c. at the posted borders
    d. in lands with plenty of resources

29. Which of these Latin words best describes or is most equivalent to the *aliquos* in line 2?
    a. milites Romanos
    b. equites
    c. Bellovacos
    d. captivos

30. *Ad* in line 2 indicates which of these?
    a. direction
    b. proximity
    c. purpose
    d. time

31. What does Caesar desire to learn?
    a. how many enemies he faces   b. if there are spies among his men
    c. how scattered his men are in the area   d. what plans the enemy has

32. What would be the best translation of *esse inventos* in line 3?
    a. to be found   b. are found   c. were found   d. are finding

33. Why had a few Bellovaci stayed at home?
    a. to pack up and move   b. to tend their crops
    c. to spy on the Romans   d. to hunt for food

34. Which of these is true about the words *colendorum* and *speculandi* in lines 3-4?
    a. The first is a gerundive and the second is a gerund.
    b. The first is a gerund and the second is a gerundive.
    c. Both are gerunds.
    d. Both are gerundives.

35. What does Caesar ask?
    a. where the Bellovaci are and what they plan to do
    b. how many of the enemy there are and where they are
    c. where the assembly is and what they are deliberating
    d. who the allies of the Bellovaci are and how many of them there are

36. Who has gathered together?
    a. all of the Bellovaci   b. the leaders who had made the plan
    c. the fighting men of the Bellovaci   d. the local peoples' non-combatants

Livy - Ab Urbe Condita XXII.9

Hannibal recto itinere per Umbriam usque ad Spoletium venit. Inde, cum perpopulato agro urbem oppugnare adortus esset, cum magna caede suorum repulsus, coniectans ex unius coloniae minus prospere temptatae viribus quanta moles Romanae urbis esset, in agrum Picenum avertit iter, non copia solum omnis generis frugum abundantem sed refertum praeda, quam effuse avidi atque egentes rapiebant. Ibi per dies aliquot stativa habita refectusque miles hibernis itineribus ac palustri via proelioque magis ad eventum secundo quam levi aut facili adfectus. Ubi satis quietis datum praeda ac populationibus magis quam otio aut requie gaudentibus, profectus Praetutianum Hadrianumque agrum…

37. *Recto itinere* in line 1 is an example of which of these?
    a. ablative of time   b. ablative of means
    c. ablative of place from which   d. ablative of description

38. Which of the examples of the word *cum* in the first two lines is translated as "with"?
    a. the first   b. the second   c. both   d. neither

39. To whom does *suorum* in line 2 refer?
    - a. Umbrians
    - b. citizens of Spoletium
    - c. Romans in general
    - d. Hannibal's men

40. What is the object of the preposition *ex* in line 2?
    - a. prospere
    - b. viribus
    - c. quanta
    - d. urbis

41. Which of these best explains why *esset* in line 3 is subjunctive?
    - a. relative clause in indirect discourse
    - b. result clause
    - c. indirect question
    - d. relative clause of characteristic

42. What leads Hannibal to go to Picenum?
    - a. the slaughter he has inflicted
    - b. the promise of reinforcements
    - c. fear of Rome's resistance to attack
    - d. some of Pompey's old soldiers

43. What does Hannibal find in Picenum?
    - a. a lot of wheat
    - b. fertile land
    - c. all sorts of food
    - d. food and property to take

44. Which of these does Livy NOT say exhausted Hannibal's army?
    - a. swamp
    - b. long marches
    - c. winter
    - d. difficult battle

45. Which of these does NOT describe the battle fought by Hannibal's men?
    - a. successful
    - b. difficult
    - c. costly
    - d. extremely lengthy

46. What is the best translation of the word *ubi* in line 6?
    - a. when
    - b. where
    - c. how
    - d. since

47. Which of these is the best description of the word *quietis* in line 6?
    - a. dative of reference
    - b. partitive genitive
    - c. ablative of means
    - d. dative of purpose

48. How is *quam* best translated in line 7?
    - a. whom
    - b. that
    - c. how
    - d. than

49. Which of these best describes Hannibal's men at the end of the passage?
    - a. desiring more time to rest
    - b. lounging and resting
    - c. settling in with the population
    - d. restless and wanting to plunder

50. What is the subject of the participle *profectus* in line 7?
    - a. miles
    - b. ager
    - c. Hannibal
    - d. quies