

Reading Comprehension - Poetry
FJCL State Latin Forum 2023

For Questions 1-10, see Passage 1.

1. What is the main subject of the poem?
a. a love affair b. a tragic event c. a political revolution d. a religious experience

2. What does line 1 convey?
a. That the speaker is in love b. That the speaker is looking for love
c. That the speaker is traveling d. That the speaker is sad

3. Which figure of speech is at use in line 3?
a. metaphor b. chiasmus c. synchysis d. anaphora

4. Who is responsible for bringing 'illum' in line 3?
a. amor b. Sulpicia c. Camenis d. Cytherea

5. What did Venus do for the speaker?
a. broke a deal b. kept a promise c. made her beautiful d. made her fall in love

6. Based on lines 7-8, we know that the speaker_____.
a. is lonely b. wants everyone to read her poem
c. doesn't want to write it down d. feels overwhelmed

7. Which adjective best described how the speaker feels in lines 9-10?
a. ashamed b. sad c. mad d. happy

8. how many ellisions are in lines 1-4?
a. 1 b. 2 c. 3 d. 4

9. Based on the content of this poem, which genre of poetry is most fitting for it?
a. epic b. invective c. lyric d. comedy

10. Which of the following lines offers the best evidence that the speaker is not ashamed?
a. 1-2 b. 3-4 c. 5-6 d. 7-8

For Questions 11-18, Use Passage 2

11. What is the subject of the poem?
a. Cerinthe's piety b. A sick lover c. Heat exhaustion d. Latin poetry

12. Who is the "puella" mentioned in the first line?
a. Cerinthe b. The speaker c. An unnamed woman d. A goddess

13. What is the "calor" mentioned in the second line?
a. Emotional distress b. A fever c. Physical heat d. A source of light

14. What does the speaker wish Cerinthus wanted?
a. For the speaker to be healthy b. To end the speaker's suffering
c. To be together with the speaker d. To leave the speaker

15. What does the speaker say about their desire to overcome their illness in lines 5-6?
 a. They want Cerinthus to suffer as well b. They want to be healthy for their own sake
 c. They don't care about getting better d. They don't believe they can recover

16. Which figure of speech is at work in line 1?
 a. metaphor b. chiasmus c. synchysis d. anaphora

17. Which figure of speech is at use in line 6?
 a. metaphor b. chiasmus c. synchysis d. anaphora

18. Which best describes the speaker of the poem?
 a. they are happy b. sick with love c. they feel lost d. Reliant on Cerinthus

For questions 19-25, use passage 3.

19. What is the focus of this excerpt of the poem?
 a. The Trojan War b. The fall of Troy c. The return of Odysseus d. The longing of Penelope

20. What is the reason for Penelope sending the message to Ulisses?
 a. To ask him to come back home b. To inform him about the fall of Troy
 c. To express her love for him d. To express her rage at his infidelity

21. Which two words best express the immediacy of Penelope's request?
 a. lento line 1, certe line 3 b. invisa line 3, deserto line 7
 c. utinam line 5, tardos line 8 d. relictas line 8, fallere line 9

22.

What does the phrase "certe Troia iacet" mean?

a. Troy is surely lying b. Troy is surely victorious
 c. Troy is surely defeated d. Troy is surely hidden

23. Based on the words like deserto, frigida, relictas, and viduas, we know that Penelope feels __.
 a. happy b. sad c. lonely d. abandoned

24. How many ellisions are in line 5?
 a. 0 b. 1 c. 2 d. 3

25. What is the subject of the verb lassaret in line 10?
 a. Ulyxes b. manus c. Penelope d. tela

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Passage 1. Sulpicia 1

- 1 Tandem venit amor, qualem texisse pudori
 - 2 quam nudasse alicui sit mihi fama magis.
 - 3 Exorata meis illum Cytherea* Camenis*
 - 4 attulit in nostrum deposuitque sinum.
 - 5 Exsolvit promissa Venus: mea gaudia narret,
 - 6 dicetur si quis non habuisse sua.
 - 7 Non ego signatis quicquam mandare tabellis,
 - 8 ne legat id nemo quam meus ante, velim.
 - 9 Sed peccasse iuvat, vultus componere famae
 - 10 taedet: cum digno digna fuisse ferar.
- *Cytherea- Venus
*Camenae- muses or prophetic deities

Passage 2. Sulpicia 5

- 1 Estne tibi, Cerinthe,* tuae pia cura puellae,
 - 2 quod mea nunc vexat corpora fessa calor?
 - 3 Al ego non aliter tristes evincere morbos
 - 4 optarim, quam te si quoque velle putem.
 - 5 At mihi quid prosit morbos evincere, si tu
 - 6 nostra potes lento pectore ferre mala
- *Cerinthus-A name

Passage 3. Ovid *Heroides* 1

- 1 Haec tua Penelope* lento tibi mittit, Ulixes;*
 - 2 nil mihi rescribas attinet: ipse veni!
 - 3 Troia iacet certe, Danais* invisa puellis;
 - 4 vix Priamus* tanti totaque Troia fuit.
 - 5 O utinam tum, cum Lacedaemona* classe petebat,
 - 6 obrutus insanis esset adulter aquis!
 - 7 Non ego deserto iacuissem frigida lecto,
 - 8 nec quererer tardos ire relictas dies;
 - 9 nec mihi quaerenti spatiosam fallere noctem
 - 10 lassaret viduas pendula tela manus.
- *Penelope- name
*Ulixes-name
*Danaus- Greek
*Priamus- name
*Lacedaemona- acc. Sparta