

Prose Comprehension

N.B. There will be no macrons on this test.

I. Questions 1-16 are based on Caesar, De Bello Gallico, V, (17-18)

Postero die procul a castris hostes in collibus constiterunt rarique se ostendere et lenius quam pridie nostros equites proelio lacesere coeperunt. Sed meridie, cum Caesar pabulandi causa tres legiones atque omnem equitatum cum Gaiio Trebonio legato misisset, repente ex omnibus partibus ad pabulatores advolaverunt, sic uti ab signis legionibusque non absisterent. Nostri acriter in eos impetu facto reppulerunt neque finem sequendi fecerunt, quoad subsidio confisi equites, cum post se legiones viderent, praecipites hostes egerunt magnoque eorum numero interfecto neque sui colligendi neque consistendi aut ex essedis desiliendi facultatem dederunt. Ex hac fuga protinus, quae undique convenerant, auxilia discesserunt, neque post id tempus umquam summis nobiscum copiis hostes contenderunt. 5 10

Caesar cognito consilio eorum ad flumen Tamesim in fines Cassivellauni exercitum duxit; quod flumen uno omnino loco pedibus, atque hoc aegre, transiri potest. Eo cum venisset, animum advertit ad alteram fluminis ripam magnas esse copias hostium instructas. Ripa autem erat acutis sudibus praefixis munita, eiusdemque generis sub aqua defixae sudes flumine tegebantur. His rebus cognitis a captivis per fugisque Caesar praemisso equitatu confestim legiones subsequi iussit. Sed celeritate atque eo impetu milites ierunt, cum capite solo ex aqua exstarent, ut hostes impetum legionem atque equitum sustinere non possent ripasque dimitterent ac se fugae mandarent. 15

pabulor- to forage                      omnino-only                      lacesere-provoke  
 confestim=statim                      essedum,i- a Celtic chariot

1. When did the enemy attack Caesar's men?
  - a. before noon
  - b. after noon
  - c. at daybreak
  - d. at noon
2. Who led the Roman cavalry?
  - a. Caesar
  - b. Casivellaunus
  - c. Trebonius
  - d. Tamesim
3. What was the purpose of the expedition that Caesar sent out?
  - a. to gather grain
  - b. to rout the Britons
  - c. to explore
  - d. to recapture the lost standards
4. What was the result of the British attack on the Romans?
  - a. the Britons routed the Romans
  - b. Britons jumped down from their chariots to fight
  - c. cavalry regrouped because they had no support from the legions
  - d. the Romans defeated the Britons
5. In consequence of this skirmish, how did the enemy proceed with future attacks?
  - a. never attacked with full strength again
  - b. attacked each time with full strength
  - c. used only chariots in future battles
  - d. never used chariots again
6. Where could the river be crossed on foot?
  - a. anywhere, it was very shallow
  - b. only in Casivellaunus' territory
  - c. at only one place, with great difficulty
  - d. near the Tamesim

7. The words *animus advertit* (line 14) are an example of what figure of speech?  
 a. tmesis                      b. syncope                      c. litotes                      d. euphemism
8. What case is required with *causa* (line 3)?  
 a. nominative      b. genitive                      c. dative                      d. accusative
9. When Caesar learned the Briton's plans, he:  
 a. understood the Britons were stronger than his legions  
 b. sought advice from Cassivellaunus  
 c. had Cassivellaunus join his army  
 d. led his army to the Tamesis
10. What did Caesar notice near one bank of the river?  
 a. a small force was arranged for battle  
 b. a plain suitable for battle  
 c. a large force arranged for battle  
 d. foot soldiers deserting the enemy camp
11. As a result of what he saw and learned, what two things did Caesar do?  
 a. sent the cavalry ahead and ordered the legions to follow immediately  
 b. sent the legions ahead with orders for the cavalry to follow  
 c. divide the forces and sent half out, reserving the rest for later  
 d. brought all the forces into the battle simultaneously and watched
12. What did the Britons fortify?  
 a. the walls of their town                      b. a nearby hill  
 c. the land around Cassivellaunus' territory                      d. the river bank
13. How did Caesar find out about the fortifications?  
 a. he could see them from across the river  
 b. from spys                      c. from prisoners and deserters  
 d. from the escaping women and children
14. What did the fortifications consist of?  
 a. sharpened stakes fixed on the bank and in the water  
 b. wooden palisades around the area  
 c. piles of stones obstructing the path  
 d. trenches dug around the town
15. What hindered Caesar's men in their attack?  
 a. the fortifications                      b. the speed of the enemy  
 c. the fleeing enemy                      d. deep water, right up to their chins
16. What figure of speech is exemplified by *animus...alteram* (line 14)?  
 a. alliteration                      b. anaphora                      c. anastrophe  
 d. asyndeton

## II. Questions 17-31 are from Cicero, *De Officiis*, I

Quamquam te, Marce filii, annum iam audientem Cratippum idque Athenis abundare oportet praeceptis institutisque philosophiae propter summam et doctoris auctoritatem et urbis, quorum alter te scientia augere potest, altera exemplis, tamen, ut ipse ad meam utilitatem semper cum Graecis Latina coniunxi neque id in philosophia solum, sed etiam in dicendi exercitatione feci, idem tibi censeo faciendum, ut par sis in utriusque orationis facultate. Quam quidem ad rem nos, ut videmur, magnum attulimus adiumentum hominibus nostris, ut non modo Graecarum litterarum rudes, sed etiam docti aliquantum se arbitrentur adeptos et ad dicendum et ad iudicandum.

Quam ob rem disces tu quidem a principe huius aetatis philosophorum et disces quam diu voles; tam diu autem velle debebis, quoad te quantum proficias non paenitebit. Sed tamen nostra legens non multum a Peripateticis dissidentia, quoniam utriusque Socratici et Platonici volumus esse, de rebus ipsis utere tuo iudicio--nihil enim impedio--orationem autem Latinam efficies profecto legendis nostris plenior.

censeo-to be of the opinion    proficias-progress    rudis,e- unskilled  
 abundo-to abound, be rich

17. The general purpose of this excerpt is to encourage:  
 a. entering public service    b. the joint study of Greek and Latin  
 c. travel to Athens    d. respect for teachers
18. Cicero's tone in this selection may be described as:  
 a. angry    b. persuasive    c. passive  
 d. resentful
19. The word *utilitatem* (line 4) seems to refer to:  
 a. useful study of Greek    b. useful study of Latin  
 c. study of oratory    d. combined study of Latin and Greek
20. *non modo.. sed etiam* (line 7-8) is best translated:  
 a. either.. or    b. therefore    c. not only.. but also  
 d. so often...as
21. *Oportet* (line 2) requires another word to acquire meaning. What word?  
 a. audientem (line 1 )    b. abundare (line 2)  
 c. augere (line 3 )    d. coniunxi (line 4 )
22. To whom does this great advice seem to be addressed?  
 a. his son Marcus    b. Cratippus    c. Athenian philosophers  
 d. uneducated Romans
23. What case is *Marci filii* (line 1)?  
 a. nominative    b. genitive    c. ablative    d. vocative
24. How long has Marcus been in Athens?  
 a. since his birthday    b. a year    c. two years  
 d. six months
25. According to Cicero, what particular areas of study will benefit from the study of languages?  
 a. oratory & science    b. public service & oratory  
 c. philosophy & oratory    d. natural philosophy & science
26. What kind of clause is *ut... facultate* (line 6 )?  
 a. result    b. time    c. purpose    d. relative
27. What case is *Athenis* (line 1 )?  
 a. genitive    b. locative    c. accusative    d. nominative
28. Who does Cicero think is the best philosopher of his generation?  
 a. Plato    b. Socrates    c. Cratippus    d. Peripatetic

29. How does Cicero describe his own philosophy?

- a. the best of the age
- b. very Roman
- c. learned
- d. similar to Peripatetic

30. What would be a good translation of *te...non paenitebit* (line 11-12)?

- a. he will not be ashamed of you
- b. you will not regret
- c. he will be tired of you
- d. he will not pity you

31. The term for such verbs as *oportet* (line 2) and *paenitet* (line 12) is:

- a. verb of remembering
- b. epistolary
- c. impersonal
- d. verb of fearing

### III. Questions 32-41 are from Livy, *Ab Urbe Condita*, II.62-63

Eodem anno consul Valerius cum exercitu in Aequos profectus, cum hostes ad proelium adducere non posset, suos castra oppugnare iussit. Tanta tempestas orta est ut eius imperium conficere non potuissent. Signo ad redeundum dato tanta tranquillitas reddita est ut aliquis deus castra, defendere videretur. Cum hoc tempore oppugnare nollent, agros vastare coeperunt. Alter consul Aemelius in Sabinis bellum gessit. Et ibi, quod hostes intra moenia manebant, agri vastati sunt. Incensis domibus vicisque, Sabini incitati ad proelium cum eis pugnaverunt et postero die castra in meliora loca rettulerunt. Qua de causa consul se hostes relinquere posse existimavit; itaque ipse discessit et ad urbem profectus est.

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32. When did Valerius set out for the region of the Aequians?

- a. next year
- b. same year
- c. year after the battle
- d. as soon as they had been attacked

33. Why did Valerius order his men to attack the camp?

- a. because he couldn't induce the enemy to fight
- b. because the enemy began to flee
- c. because the enemy had surrounded the camp
- d. because the enemy had secured reinforcements

34. Why were the soldiers unable to carry out his commands?

- a. the enemy was fierce in battle
- b. a great storm arose
- c. the region proved too difficult to manage
- d. the soldiers began to desert

35. What amazing event occurred?

- a. the enemy surrendered without resistance
- b. the river overflowed its banks
- c. a great calm seemed to protect the camp (sent by a god)
- d. allies appeared and warded off the attack

36. What did they do instead of attacking?

- a. retreated
- b. waited for word from Valerius
- c. burned the forest
- d. laid waste to the fields

37. What was the other consul doing?

- a. surrounding the enemy
- b. waging war in Sabine territory
- c. retreating from battle
- d. had been killed in Sabine territory

38. What were Aemelius' men doing?

- a. destroying fields
- b. crossing the river
- c. attacking the walls
- d. crossing through the fields

- 39. Why were the Sabines justified in fighting ?
  - a. there was no food
  - b. their women had been ravaged
  - c. they received a bad omen
  - d. their homes & villages had been burned
- 40. What happened the next day?
  - a. The Sabines pulled back their camp into a better position.
  - b. The Sabines held their camp because it had a good location.
  - c. The Sabines attacked the enemy camp.
  - d. The Sabines deserted their camp and fled through the fields.
- 41. What did Aemilius do?
  - a. continued the attack
  - b. broke camp
  - c. died as a hero
  - d. withdrew & set out for the city

**IV. Questions 42-50 are from Sallust, Bellum Catilinae, I**

5. L. Catilina, nobili genere natus, fuit magna vi et animi et corporis, sed ingenio malo pravoque. Huic ab adulescentia bella intestina, caedes, rapinae, discordia civilis grata fuere, ibique iuventutem suam exercuit.

Corpus patiens inediae, algoris, vigilae supra quam cuiquam credibile est. Animus audax, subdolos, varius; cuius rei libet, simulator ac dissimulator; alieni appetens, sui profusus, ardens in cupiditatibus; satis eloquentiae, sapientiae parum. Vastus animus immoderata, incredibilia, nimis alta semper cupiebat.

Hunc post dominationem L. Sullae libido maxima invaserat rei publicae capiendae, neque id quibus modis assequeretur, dum sibi regnum pararet, quicquam pensi habebat. Agitabatur magis magisque in dies animus ferox inopia rei familiaris et conscientia scelerum, quae utraque eis artibus auxerat, quas supra memoravi. Incitabant, praeterea, corrupti civitatis mores, quos, quos pessima ac diversa inter se mala, luxuria atque avaritia, vexabant.

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dominatio-dictatorship                      pensum,i-scruple                      inopia,ae-need  
parum-too little

- 42. Catilina was from what class?
  - a. plebian
  - b. equestrian
  - c. patrician
  - d. slave
- 43. When did he begin his infamous career?
  - a. after the civil war
  - b. during Sulla's dictatorship
  - c. after Sulla's dictatorship
  - d. in his youth
- 44. What were his good points?
  - a. strength of mind & body
  - b. genius mentality
  - c. pleasing nature
  - d. friendly personality
- 45. What kind of descriptions are *audax, subdolos, varius* (line 5 )?
  - a. positive
  - b. negative
  - c. understanding
  - d. ambivalent
- 46. How were Catilina's oratory skills?
  - a. highly praised
  - b. really deficient
  - c. satisfactory
  - d. filled with passion
- 47. What was Catilina's sole goal?
  - a. to serve Sulla
  - b. to restore the republic
  - c. to become wealthy
  - d. to gain power
- 48. What impelled him to his excesses?
  - a. sexual desire
  - b. poverty
  - c. lust for power
  - d. megalomania

49. What was **not** a contributing factor to his excesses?  
a. the corrupt morals of the age      b. avarice  
c. extragagance      d. patriotism
50. What kind of clause does *dum...*(line 9) introduce?  
a. proviso      b. relative      c. purpose      d. clause of fearing