

FJCL REGIONAL LATIN FORUM 2011
PROSE COMPREHENSION

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

- I. Questions 1-10 refer to the following passage from Book 5 of Caesar's Bellum Gallicum where Caesar gives a description of the island of Britain.

Insula natura triquetra, cuius unum latus est contra Galliam. Huius lateris alter angulus, qui est ad Cantium, quo fere omnes ex Gallia naves appelluntur, ad orientem solem, inferior ad meridiem spectat. Hoc pertinet circiter milia passuum quingenta. Alterum vergit ad Hispaniam atque occidentem solem; qua ex parte est Hibernia, dimidio minor, ut aestimatur, quam Britannia, sed pari spatio transmissus atque ex Gallia est in Britanniam. In hoc medio cursu est insula, quae appellatur Mona: complures praeterea minores subiectae insulae existimantur, de quibus insulis nonnulli scripserunt dies continuos triginta sub bruma esse noctem. Nos nihil de eo percontationibus reperiebamus, nisi certis ex aqua mensuris breviores esse quam in continenti noctes videbamus. 5
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triquetrus, a, um, triangular

1. According to Caesar, on what side of Britain is Cantium?
a. North b. South c. East d. West
2. What is the best translation for *quo* (line 2)?
a. from which b. to which c. by which d. wherever
3. What case and use is *passuum* (line 4)?
a. accusative of measure b. partitive genitive
c. epexegetical genitive d. accusative of respect
4. Caesar also states that one side of Britain faces Spain. Which?
a. North b. South c. East d. West
5. What case and use is *dies* in line 8?
a. nominative, subject b. nominative, appositive
c. accusative subject in indirect statement. d. accusative of duration of time
6. What does Caesar say about the Ireland?
a. that it is half as big as Britain
b. that it is about the same distance from Spain as Gaul is from Britain
c. that it is not as heavily populated as Britain
d. that as many Gauls travel there during the winter festivals as Britons.
7. What, according to Caesar, is Mona?
a. The chief island of an island kingdom
b. An island halfway between Ireland and Britain
c. An important port between Spain and Ireland
d. An island on which exiles from Gaul had settled

8. What does Caesar say some writers had said about the nighttime in the northern islands?
- that the nights were longer in Britain than in Rome.
 - that on the winter solstice the sun did not rise.
 - that the winter solstice in Britain occurred thirty days later than in Rome.
 - that it was night for thirty days at the time of the winter solstice.
9. What did Caesar's tests on this subject reveal?
- that the nights were actually longer in Britain than in Rome.
 - that the nights were actually shorter in Britain than in Rome.
 - that there was no measurable difference.
 - that the tides were particularly low during the winter solstice.
10. What use of the infinitive is *esse* in line 10.
- complementary
 - objective
 - gerund
 - indirect statement

- II. Questions 11-22 refer to the following passage from Book 5 of Caesar's Bellum Gallicum where Caesar gives a description of the people of Britain.

Britanniae pars interior ab eis incolitur quos natos in insula ipsi memoria proditum dicunt, maritima ab eis, qui praedae ac belli inferendi causa ex Belgio transierunt (qui omnes fere eis nominibus civitatum appellantur, quibus orti ex civitatibus eo pervenerunt) et bello illato ibi permanserunt atque agros colere coeperunt. Hominum est infinita multitudo creberrimaque aedificia fere Gallicis consimilia, pecorum magnus numerus. Utuntur aut aere aut nummo aureo aut taleis ferreis ad certum pondus examinatis pro nummo.

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Ex his omnibus longe sunt humanissimi qui Cantium incolunt, quae regio est maritima omnis, neque multum a Gallica differunt consuetudine. Interiores plerique frumenta non serunt, sed lacte et carne vivunt pellibusque sunt vestiti. Omnes vero se Britanni vitro inficiunt, quod caeruleum efficit colorem, atque hoc horridiores sunt in pugna aspectu; capilloque sunt promisso atque omni parte corporis rasa praeter caput et labrum superius. Uxores habent deni duodenique inter se communes et maxime fratres cum fratribus parentesque cum liberis; sed qui sunt ex his nati, eorum habentur liberi, quo primum virgo quaeque deducta est.

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vitrum, vitri,, n. the blue dye called *woad*

11. Where do the people who live in the interior of Britain say they are from?
- Across the sea
 - Belgica
 - Warlike tribes from Germany
 - Britain
12. What form and use is *inferendi* (line 2)?
- gerundive, purpose
 - gerund, subject
 - gerundive, passive periphrastic
 - genitive gerund with *causa*
13. What CANNOT be said about the people who live on the coast of Britain?
- They had emigrated from the continent
 - They kept flocks instead of farming
 - Their houses were very close together
 - They had a large population.

14. What case is *Gallicis* (line 5)?
a. nominative b. genitive c. dative d. ablative
15. What did the Britons use for money?
a. gold, silver and iron b. gold, silver and bronze
c. gold, bronze and iron d. gold, silver, bronze and iron.
16. What use of the ablative is *aere* (line 6)?
a. with special verbs b. price c. origin d. specification
17. How do the customs of the people of Cantium compare to the Gauls?
a. there was almost no difference.
b. they were more civilized.
c. their government was a kingship instead of a tribal system.
d. they were so different there was almost no comparison.
18. What kind of clothing did the people of the interior wear?
a. Almost none b. animal skins c. woolen d. linen cloth
19. According to Caesar, for what purpose did the Britons use *woad*?
a. to dye their clothing b. to make themselves more fearsome in battle
c. to glaze their pottery d. to dye themselves blue for the marriage ritual
20. What part of their body does Caesar say that the Britons did not shave?
a. neck b. legs c. upper lip d. chest
21. What family custom does Caesar comment upon?
a. That a woman would take ten or twelve husbands.
b. That brothers would share wives.
c. That the children were raised by the women alone.
d. That the female children were raised separately until they were married.
22. What kind of numerical adjective is *deni* (line 13)?
a. ordinal b. multiplicative c. distributive d. proportional

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III. Questions 23-36 refer to the following passage from Cicero's *Pro Sex. Roscio*.

Credo ego vos, iudices, mirari, quid sit, quod, cum tot summi oratores hominesque nobilissimi sedeant, ego potissimum surrexerim, is, qui neque aetate neque ingenio neque auctoritate sim cum his, qui sedeant, comparandus. Omnes hi, quos videtis adesse in hac causa, iniuriam novo scelere conflatae putant oportere defendi, defendere ipsi propter iniquitatem temporum non audent. Ita fit, ut adsint propterea, quod officium sequuntur, taceant autem idcirco, quia periculum vitant. Quid ergo? Audacissimus ego ex omnibus? Minime. An tanto officiosior quam ceteri? Ne istius quidem laudis ita sum cupidus, ut aliis eam praereptam velim. Quae me igitur res praeter ceteros impulit, ut causam Sex. Rosci reciperem? Quia, si qui istorum dixisset, quos videtis adesse, in quibus summa auctoritas est atque amplitudo, si verbum de re publica fecisset, id, quod in hac causa fieri necesse est, multo plura dixisse, quam dixisset, putaretur. Ego autem si omnia, quae dicenda sunt, libere dixero, nequaquam tamen similiter oratio mea exire atque in vulgus emanare poterit. Deinde quod ceterorum neque dictum obscurum potest esse propter nobilitatem et amplitudinem neque temere dicto concedi propter aetatem et prudentiam. Ego si quid liberius dixero, vel occultum esse propterea, quod nondum ad rem publicam accessi, vel ignosci adulescentiae meae poterit; tametsi non modo ignoscendi ratio verum etiam cognoscendi consuetudo iam de civitate sublata est.

23. What kind of emotion does Cicero believe the judges are likely to be feeling?
 a. conviction b. doubt c. fear d. wonder
24. What form and use is *surrexerim* (line 2)?
 a. future perfect indicative, future most vivid conditional
 b. future perfect indicative, temporal cum clause
 c. perfect active subjunctive, concessive cum clause
 d. perfect active subjunctive, quod clause in indirect statement
25. Why does Cicero believe this?
 a. Because the greatest orators have already presented such a strong case.
 b. Because the most noble men sitting there are clearly pressing for a specific verdict.
 c. Because the person about to speak is the least experienced member of the defense.
 d. Because it is so difficult to compare the two different stories that are being presented.
26. What use of the subjunctive is *sedeant* (line 3)?
 a. relative clause of purpose b. relative clause of characteristic
 c. relative clause of fear d. relative clause in indirect statement
27. Which statement most clearly reflects the opinion of the defense team?
 a. that the unfavorable times make it dangerous to speak
 b. that it is difficult to speak in this case without seeming unjust
 c. that to be silent would be reprehensible because they would be avoiding their duty.
 d. that to follow their duty they must listen to unjust charges made against them.
28. What use of the subjunctive is *taceant* (line 6)?
 a. hortatory b. indirect command
 c. substantive clause of result d. deliberative subjunctive

29. What is the best translation for *quam* (line 7)?
a. than b. whom c. which d. how
30. What use of the subjunctive is *fecisset* (line 11)?
a. Quia clause b. subordinate clause in indirect statement
c. contrary to fact conditional d. unattainable optative wish
31. What delicate matter was it necessary to speak about in this case that might be misunderstood and made more of than was actually being said?
a. An extramarital affair that involved the wife of a member of the prosecution team.
b. Roman politics.
c. some imprudent things which the accused did in his youth.
d. some things that the accused said carelessly when he was drunk.
32. What form is *concedi* (line 15)?
a. present passive infinitive b. 1st singular perfect active indicative
c. perfect passive participial d. present active imperative
33. What is the best translation for *quid* (line 16)?
a. something b. somehow c. whatever d. what
34. What was the deciding factor in choosing Cicero as the spokesman for the defense?
a. his greater experience in court cases. b. his greater sense of duty.
c. his youth. d. his sense of daring and desire for praise.
35. What two things does Cicero say have been abolished from the Republic?
a. the idea of pardon and a political career
b. learning and pursuit of knowledge
c. learning and a political career
d. the idea of pardon and pursuit of justice in a lawsuit.
36. How does *poterit* (line 17) fit into the grammatical construction of its sentence?
a. protasis of a future most vivid conditional
b. apodasis of a future most vivid conditional
a. protasis of a future less vivid conditional
b. apodasis of a future less vivid conditional

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IV. Questions 37-50 refer to the following passage from Livy.

The consuls Fabius and Manlius have hesitated to lead the army into battle.

Fabius deinde ad crescentem tumultum iam metu seditionis collega concedente, cum silentium classico fecisset: "ego istos, Cn. Manli, posse vincere scio: velle ne scirem, ipsi fecerunt. Itaque certum est non dare signum nisi victores se redituros ex hac pugna iurant. Consulem Romanum miles semel in acie fefellit: deos nunquam fallat." Centurio erat M. Flavoleius, inter primores pugnae flagitator. "Victor" inquit, 5
 "M. Fabi, revertar ex acie"; si fallat, Iovem patrem Gradivumque Martem aliosque iratos invocat deos. Idem deinceps omnis exercitus in se quisque iurat. Iuratis datur signum; arma capiunt; eunt in pugnam irarum speique pleni. Nunc iubent Etruscos proba iacere, nunc armati sibi quisque lingua promptum hostem offerri. Omnium illo die, qua plebis, qua patrum, eximia virtus fuit; Fabium nomen maxime enituit; 10
 multis civilibus certaminibus infensos plebis animos illa pugna sibi reconciliare statuunt. Instruitur acies, nec Veiens hostis Etruscaeque legiones detractant. Prope certa spes erat non magis secum pugnaturos quam cum Aequis; maius quoque aliquod in tam inritatis animis et occasione ancipiti haud desperandum esse facinus. Res aliter longe evenit; nam non alio ante bello infestior Romanus proelium iniit. 15

classicum, -i, n. trumpet signal
 probum, probri, n. abuse, insult

37. Why did Fabius call for silence?
 a. because he was afraid that a mutiny was coming.
 b. because his co-consul was about to give in to the army.
 c. because the tide was rising.
 d. because the rising noise was causing fear among the men.
38. What use of the ablative is *concedente* (line 1)?
 a. place where b. separation c. means d. absolute
39. What does Fabius say that he knows? .
 a. that Manlius could lead the men to a victory.
 b. that the soldiers could bind Manlius.
 c. that he and Manlius could bind the men with an oath.
 d. that the army was capable of winning the battle.
40. What use of the subjunctive is *scirem* (line 3)?
 a. jussive b. indirect command c. purpose d. fear
41. What does Fabius want the soldiers to swear to?
 a. not to return from battle unless they were victorious.
 b. not to give the signal until they have defeated the enemy.
 c. to be certain to give the signal when they return as victors
 d. to struggle for victory until they return from the fight.

42. What did Fabius believe that Romans would never do?
a. deceive the consul more than once. b. deceive the gods
c. break an oath sworn to both consuls d. line up in battle without swearing an oath
43. What mood is *fallet* (line 5)?
a. indicative b. subjunctive c. imperative d. optative
44. What does Flavoleius swear should happen to him if he broke his oath?
a. that he would pray to angry gods.
b. that he should not ever return from the battle.
c. that the consuls should have him flogged first
d. that he should be called back to the battle until he fulfilled his oath.
45. How does the rest of the army react to Flavoleius' oath?
a. They follow his example reluctantly.
b. Only some swear as Flavoleius did.
c. They swear one by one, but it is against their will.
d. They enthusiastically swear the same oath.
46. What is the best translation of *iacere* (line 9)
a. to throw b. to lie down c. to take back d. to reject
47. What use of the ablative is *illo die* (line 10).
a. instrument b. manner c. time when d. cause
48. Why did Fabius want to show particular courage at this battle?
a. He wanted to prove to the nobility that he was able to win a military victory
b. He wanted to improve his family's reputation with the plebs
c. He wanted to make up for the cowardice that he had shown in a previous battle
d. He wanted to prove that he was an even better leader than his father had been.
49. How did the Etruscans behave at this battle?
a. They were hesitant at first but then fought bravely.
b. They fought bravely at first, but were driven back by the attack of the Romans.
c. They did not hold back, hoping that the Romans would not fight more than they had against the Aequi.
d. They fought with doubtful desperation
50. What is the best translation for *prope* (line 12)
a. near b. towards c. against d. nearly