

Latin

Task Book

VCE Examination – Monday 18 November 2024

- Reading time is **15 minutes**: 11.45 am to 12 noon
- Writing time is **2 hours**: 12 noon to 2.00 pm

Approved materials

- Any printed monolingual and/or bilingual dictionary in one or two separate volumes

Materials supplied

- Task Book of 12 pages
- Answer Book

Instructions

- You may consult dictionaries during reading time and also during the examination.

Students are **not** permitted to bring mobile phones and/or any unauthorised electronic devices into the examination room.

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You may keep this Task Book.

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Section 1 – Translation of an unseen passage

Instructions

- Translate the following Latin passage into English.
 - Clearly number your response in the Answer Book(s) provided.
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Question 1 (45 marks)

A brave woman explains to Dionysius, the tyrant of Syracuse, the reason for her unusual prayer.

senectutis ultimae quaedam cotidie deos, ut Dionysius tyrannus incolumis esset, orabat. quod ubi is cognovit, non debitam sibi admiratus benevolentiam arcessivit eam et quid hoc aut quo merito suo faceret interrogavit. tum illa ‘certa est’ inquit ‘ratio propositi mei: puella enim, cum gravem tyrannum haberemus, carere eo cupiebam. quo interfecto aliquanto taetrius arcem occupavit. eius quoque finire dominationem magni aestimabam. tertium te superioribus importuniorem habere coepimus rectorem. itaque ne, si tu fueris absumptus, deterius in locum tuum succedat, caput meum pro tua salute devoveo’. tam facetam audaciam Dionysius punire erubuit.

Source: Valerius Maximus, *Memorable Doings and Sayings*, Book 6, chapter 2, ext. 2 (adapted)

Section 2 – Comprehension, interpretation and analysis of the prescribed seen text

Instructions

- Answer **all** questions in Part A, Part B and Part C in English in the Answer Book(s) provided.
- Clearly number your responses in the Answer Book(s) provided.

Part A – Comprehension and analysis of the prescribed seen text

Read the following passage and answer Questions 2–9.

- ‘rex tibi coniugium et quaesitas sanguine dotes
 abnegat, externusque in regnum quaeritur heres.
 i nunc, ingratis offer te, inrise, periclis;
 Tyrrhenas, i, sterne acies, tege pace Latinos.
 5 haec adeo tibi me, placida cum nocte iaceres,
 ipsa palam fari omnipotens Saturnia iussit.
 quare age et armari pubem portisque moveri
 laetus in arva para, et Phrygios qui flumine pulchro
 consedere duces pictasque exure carinas.
 10 caelestum vis magna iubet. rex ipse Latinus,
 ni dare coniugium et dicto parere fatetur,
 sentiat et tandem Turnum experiatur in armis.’
 hic iuvenis vatem inridens sic orsa vicissim
 ore refert: ‘classis invectas Thybridis undam
 15 non, ut rere, meas effugit nuntius auris;
 ne tantos mihi finge metus. nec regia Iuno
 immemor est nostri.
 sed te victa situ verique effeta senectus,
 o mater, curis nequiquam exercet, et arma
 20 regum inter falsa vatem formidine ludit.’

Question 2 (2 marks)

- a. Name the speaker in line 1. 1 mark
- b. What appearance has the speaker taken in this passage? 1 mark

Question 3 (1 mark)

To whom does the word *rex* refer (line 1)?

Question 4 (2 marks)

Explain the prophecy in Book 7 to which the words *externusque ... heres* refer (line 2).

Question 5 (2 marks)

- a. To whom does the word *Saturnia* refer (line 6)? 1 mark
- b. What has this individual asked the speaker to do? 1 mark

Question 6 (2 marks)

To what event is the speaker referring with the words *Phrygios qui flumine pulchro consedere duces* (lines 8–9)?

Question 7 (2 marks)

What advice does the speaker give with the words *rex ... armis* (lines 10–12)?

Question 8 (2 marks)

- a. In response, what does the speaker state about Juno in lines 16–17? 1 mark
- b. Identify one point the speaker makes in lines 18–20. 1 mark

Question 9 (2 marks)

Describe **two** things that occur immediately after this passage.

Part B – Interpretation of the prescribed seen text

Read the following passage and answer Questions 10–17.

tum vero ad vocem celeres, qua bucina signum
dira dedit, raptis concurrunt undique telis
indomiti agricolae, nec non et Troia pubes
Ascanio auxilium castris effundit apertis.
5 derexere acies. non iam certamine agresti
stipitibus duris agitur sudibusve praeustis,
sed ferro ancipiti decernunt atraque late
horrescit strictis seges ensibus, aeraque fulgent
sole lacessita et lucem sub nubila iactant:
10 fluctus uti primo coepit cum albescere vento,
paulatim sese tollit mare et altius undas
erigit, inde imo consurgit ad aethera fundo.
hic iuvenis primam ante aciem stridente sagitta,
natorum Tyrri fuerat qui maximus, Almo,
15 sternitur; haesit enim sub gutture vulnus et udae
vocis iter tenuemque inclusit sanguine vitam.
corpora multa virum circa seniorque Galaesus,
dum paci medium se offert, iustissimus unus
qui fuit Ausoniisque olim ditissimus arvis:
20 quinque greges illi balantum, quina redibant
armenta, et terram centum vertebat aratri.

Question 10 (1 mark)

What is striking about the placement of the word *celerēs* in line 1?

Question 11 (2 marks)

Which words convey the idea of speedy action in lines 2–4? Give **two** examples, explaining your choice in each case.

Question 12 (2 marks)

Identify the metaphor in the words *sed ferro ... ensibus* (lines 7–8) and describe its effect.

Question 13 (1 mark)

What comparison is being made in the simile *aeraque ... fundo* (lines 8–12)?

Question 14 (2 marks)

Which words and phrases add pathos to the description in lines 13–16? Give **two** examples with explanatory comments.

Question 15 (3 marks)

a. Scan line 15.

2 marks

b. How is the meaning of this line reinforced by assonance?

1 mark

Question 16 (1 mark)

How does the elision in line 16 reflect the meaning of this line?

Question 17 (3 marks)

Explain how the poet creates further pathos in lines 17–21.

Part C – Analysis of themes and ideas from the prescribed seen text

Read the following passage and answer Questions 18 and 19.

- sunt geminae Belli portae (sic nomine dicunt)
 religione sacrae et saevi formidine Martis;
 centum aerei claudunt vectes aeternaque ferri
 robora, nec custos absistit limine Ianus.
- 5 has, ubi certa sedet patribus sententia pugnae,
 ipse Quirinali trabea cinctuque Gabino
 insignis reserat stridentia limina consul,
 ipse vocat pugnas; sequitur tum cetera pubes,
 aereaque adsensu conspirant cornua rauco.
- 10 hoc et tum Aeneadis indicere bella Latinus
 more iubebatur tristisque recludere portas.
 abstinuit tactu pater aversusque refugit
 foeda ministeria, et caecis se condidit umbris.
 tum regina deum caelo delapsa morantis
- 15 impulit ipsa manu portas, et cardine verso
 Belli ferratos rumpit Saturnia postis.
 ardet inexcita Ausonia atque immobilis ante;
 pars pedes ire parat campis, pars arduus altis
 pulverulentus equis furit; omnes arma requirunt.

Source: Virgil, *Aeneid VII–VIII*, commentary by C Fordyce,
 edited by J Christie, Bristol Classical Press, London, 2001, Book 7, lines 607–625

Question 18 (8 marks)

In this passage, what impression does Virgil give of war in Latium? Support your response with evidence from the passage, placing Latin quotations in brackets.

Question 19 (12 marks)

‘Virgil is an anti-war poet.’

Discuss with reference to Book 7 and the *Aeneid* as a whole.

Assessment criteria

Section 1

- the capacity to understand and convey the meaning of the passage accurately and appropriately
- the capacity to interpret and express grammatical aspects of the passage accurately
- the capacity to express the passage in fluent English

Section 2

Part A

- the capacity to understand the content of the passage provided
- the capacity to understand how the passage relates to the *Aeneid* as a whole

Part B

- the capacity to identify the author's use of literary, stylistic and structural techniques
- the capacity to explain the author's use of literary, stylistic and structural techniques

Part C

- the capacity to analyse and discuss themes and ideas and their relevance to the *Aeneid* as a whole
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