

2009 HSC Latin Extension

Sample Answers — Written Examination

This document contains ‘sample answers’, or, in the case of some questions, ‘answer may include’. These are developed by the examination committee for two purposes. The committee does this:

- (a) as part of the development of the examination paper to ensure the questions will effectively assess students’ knowledge and skills, and
- (b) in order to provide some advice to the Supervisor of Marking about the nature and scope of the responses expected of students.

The ‘sample answers’ or similar advice, are not intended to be exemplary or even complete responses. They have been reproduced in their original form as part of the examination committee’s ‘working document’. While the handwritten notes have been typed for legibility, no further editorial change or addition has occurred.

Section I — Prescribed Text

Question 2 (a) (i)

Sample answer:

Attributes of the goddess, which are specified in this extract, include the identification of Diana with Juno Lucina, goddess of childbirth, her function as guardian of the crossroads (Trivia) and the moon.

Question 2 (a) (ii)

Sample answer:

This extract contains a series of invocations to the goddess according to her various titles and functions, culminating in a request to protect the Roman people. The repetition of *tu* creates an increasing ritualistic and solemn atmosphere, leading to the traditional formula that covers attributes that may have been missed (lines 21-22). There is a reference to Diana's role in protecting the Roman people and to other traditional formulae, which add solemnity. The actual request, to protect the Roman people, contains an archaic word *sospites*, and the Romans are called the race of Romulus – a reference to their ancient origins. All these references to antiquity enhance the tone of solemnity and reverence.

Question 2 (b) (i)

Sample answer:

No one can know when death will come. No one will be restored to life not even those of high rank or exemplary virtue. Death is final and irreversible.

Question 2 (b) (ii)

Answers could include:

References

- *Minos* as judge of the underworld
- *Diana* and *Hippolytus*
- *Theseus* and *Pirithous*

Explanations

- *Minos* is a ruthless and inflexible judge whose decision is final
- Even *Diana* was not able to bring her favourite *Hippolytus* back to life
- *Theseus* could not release his friend *Pirithous* from the grip of Hades

Question 3

Answers could include:

Catullus

- Self conscious adaptation of poem of Sappho
- Emphasis on physical reactions of one who is observing his love but is excluded from her presence
- Reproaches himself for his idleness and implied self indulgence

Features

- Focus in three stanzas on himself – mi, mihi
- *Te* – refers to Lesbia and then to himself
- First 3 stanzas are one sentence - integrated depiction of her behaviour and its physical effects on him.

In the third stanza, there is a focus on the physical effects on himself. It is graphically depicted by use of striking vocabulary *torpet, demanat, tintinant* ; use of alliteration *sonitu suopte*; assonance – *flamma demanat*; almost rhyme, transferred epithet *gemina*

Horace

- Use of Sapphic metre with echoes of Catullus, *dulce ridentem* but in totally different situation
- Heroic posturing
- Any virtuous man needs fear no danger – illustrates this with military references
- No reference to being a man in love until the third stanza where, by analogy, he claims immunity, due to being a lover, parallel to immunity of being a virtuous soldier.
- Moves from fabled places in Roman world to his own Sabine forest, change in physical location and tone
- The wolf, highly exaggerated, a huge and horrible monster, did not harm him because he is invincible and is now in love
- Echoes of Catullus but used in a completely different tone, almost flippantly and without sense of passionate involvement

Poetic Techniques

- Structure of poems where the stanzas move from the distant areas to Sabine farms
- General statement, highly ornamental language of first stanzas
- Solemn and portentous language in the fourth stanza
- Final stanzas, return to faraway places
- Two metaphors: military, birth and regeneration

Section II — Non-prescribed Text

Question 4 (a)

Sample answer:

Bring back the light, worthy leader, to your country; for when your face has shone like the spring on your people, the day passes more happily and the suns shine better. Just as a mother, with vows omens and prayers, calls her young son, whom the South wind with its nasty blast across the surface if the Caspathian Sea keeps far from his beloved home, delaying for more than a year, and she does not move her gaze from the curved shore; in this way; struck by faithful long, our country seeks Caesar.

Question 4 (b)

Answers could include:

- Comparison of Augustus' face to season of spring (line 6)
- Use of metaphorical vocabulary, e.g. *adfulsit*
- Hyperbole: Augustus' face causes the sun to shine brighter
- Extended simile comparing Rome's longing for Augustus to a mother longing for a son (lines 9–15)
- Extended simile with references to geographical features (line 10)