

# 1997 TSJCL READING COMPRENSION TEST - ADVANCED

**DIRECTIONS:** Read the following passages carefully. Answer the questions according to what is stated or implied in the passages. Mark the letter of the correct answer on your answer sheet.

## Livy on the Death of Cicero

M. Cicerō sub adventum triumvirōrum cesserat urbe. Prīmō in Tusculānum [domum] fugit; inde trānsversis itineribus in Formiānum, ut ab Caiētā nāvem cōnscēnsūrus, proficīscitur. Unde aliquotiēns in altum provectum, cum modo ventī adversī  
 5 rettulissent, modo ipse iactātiōnem nāvis patī nōn posset, taedium tandem eum et fugae et vitae cēpit, regressusque ad superiōrem villam, "Moriar," inquit, "in patriā saepe servatā." Satis constat servōs fortiter fideliterque parātōs fuisse ad  
 10 dīmīcandum, ipsum depōnī lectīcam et quietōs patī quod sors inīqua cōgeret iussisse. Prōminenti ex lectīcā praebentīque immōtam cervicem caput praecisum est.

Manūs quoque, scripsisse in Antōnium aliquid exprobrantēs, [mīlites] praeciderunt. Ita relātum caput ad Antōnium, iussūque eius inter duās manūs in Rōstrīs positum, ubi ille cōsul, ubi  
 15 saepe cōsulāris, ubi eō ipsō annō adversus Antōnium (quanta nūlla umquam hūmāna vōx!) cum admirātiōne eloquentiae audītus fuerat. Vix attollentēs prae lacrimīs oculōs, hominēs intuērī trucidāta membra eius poterant. Vīxit trēs et sexāgintā annōs. Vir māgnus, ācer, memorābilis fuit, et in cuius laudēs  
 20 persequendās Cicerōne laudātōre opus fuerit.

Excerpted from *ab urbe conditā* 120.50

prōmineō, -ēre, -uī, jut out, step forth: [eī] prōminētī, for him stepping forth = as he stepped forth; dat. of ref./ int. exprobrō (1), reproach, charge

1. Cūr Cicerō urbe cesserat? (a) Triumvirōs timēbat. (b) Triumvirī eī displicuerant. (c) Adventum eius expectābat. (d) Narrātiō hoc nōn expōnit.
2. Cūr Cicerō trānsversa itinera faciēbat, urbe relictā? (a) Eī tantae villae erant ut nōn certus esset quae villa eī māximē plācēret. (b) Sciēbat quid faciendum esset. (c) Mūtābat cōnsilia sua, rēbus incertīs. (d) All these.
3. From sentence 2 (Prīmō...proficīscitur) one infers that Cicero's house near Formiae was close to Caieta. (a) true (b) false
4. 'Caiēta' est fortasse: (a) nāvis; (b) portus; (c) porta; (d) campus.
5. In line 3 ut is best translated (a) so that; (b) as; (c) when; (d) with the result that.
6. In line 4 aliquotiēns indicates that Cicero tried to escape Italy (a) many times; (b) once; (c) several times; (d) twice.
7. Livy explains that Cicero failed to leave Italy because of (a) contrary winds; (b) his own seasickness; (c) the excessive boasts of the crew of his ship; (d) two of these reasons.
8. Without specifically stating it, Livy gives us the impression that Cicero's failure to leave Italy was due in the end to his own (a) depression; (b) ambivalence about the seriousness of the danger; (c) ineptitude; (d) all three reasons.

9. In line 6 **taedium** is best translated (a) torch; (b) tedious; (c) weariness; (d) sadness.
10. In line 7 **moriar** indicates that Cicero intended to (a) delay his departure; (b) die; (c) stake his life on the character of the republic; (d) none of these.
11. The best translation of **patriā saepe servatā** (line 7) is: (a) the father I often saved; (b) the fatherland often preserved; (c) the fatherland I often saved; (d) the fatherland I often served.
12. Cicero's slaves panicked and ran away, failing to fight for their master. (a) true (b) false
13. **Cicerō ipse servīs imperāvit nē dīmīcarent.** (a) **vērus** (b) **falsus**
14. Livy shows that Cicero, at the moment of his death, was (a) noble; (b) cowardly; (c) tired; (d) asleep in bed.
15. In the sentence, **Prōminentī...est**, it becomes clear that Cicero was killed (a) when he threw himself off a cliff; (b) by a stab wound to the heart; (c) when his head was cut off; (d) none of these.
16. Antony's soldiers cut off Cicero's hands because (a) Antony had written, telling them to do so; (b) the soldiers themselves claimed that he had defamed Antony in writing; (c) Cicero had written charges against the soldiers; (d) none of these.
17. Livy tells us that after cutting off Cicero's hands the soldiers (a) buried them with the head at Antony's order and related this to him later; (b) put them on board their ship at the prow and then consulted Antony on what to do with them; (c) brought them with the head to Antony, who ordered head and hands displayed on the speakers platform in the Forum; (d) b and c.
18. **In Livii sententiā--"quanta nūlla umquam hūmāna vox!"--nūllae orātiōnēs umquam erant illustriōres quam Cicerōnis in Antōnium.** (a) **vērus** (b) **falsus**
19. The Rostra was the site of Cicero's greatest triumphs as (a) consul; (b) orator; (c) elder statesman; (d) all three.
20. The second paragraph in general presents us with a picture of Antony as (a) witty; (b) vengeful; (c) generous; (d) cowardly.
21. Cicero died at age (a) 73; (b) 53; (c) 36; (d) 63.
22. Livy's final assessment of Cicero is that he was so outstanding that only Cicero himself would be adequate to the task of praising Cicero. (a) true (b) false

**No Hell Except on Earth**

Atque ea nīmīrum quaecumque Acherunte profundō  
 prōdita sunt esse, in uītā sunt omnia nōbīs.  
 nec miser impendēns māgnūm timet āere sāxum 980  
 Tantalus, ut fāmast, cassā formīdine torpēns,  
 sed magis in uītā diuum metūs urget inānis  
 mōrtālīs, cāsūmque timent quem cuique ferat fors.  
 Nec Tityōn uolucrēs ineunt Acherunte iacentem  
 nec quod sub māgnō scrūtentur pectore quicquam 985  
 perpetuam aetātem possunt reperīre profectō:  
 \* \* \* \* \*  
 Sed Tityos nōbīs hīc est, in amōre iacentem 992  
 quem uolucrēs lacerant atque exest anxius angor  
 aut aliā quāuis scīdunt cuppēdine cūrae.  
 Sisyphus in uītā quoque nobis ante oculos est 995

quī petere ā populō fascīs saevāsque securīs  
 imbibit et semper uictus tristisque recēdit.  
 nam petere imperium quod inānest nec datur umquam  
 atque in eō semper dūrum sufferre labōrem,  
 hoc est aduersō nixantem trūdere monte  
 sāxum, quod tamen ē summō iam uertice rursum  
 uoluitur et plānī raptim petit aequora campī.

1000

(Lucretius dē rērum nātūrā 3)

fāmast = fama est

scrūtōr (1), search for, find      Tityos, acc. Tityon  
 imbibō (3), drink in; metaphorical = resolve, decide + infin.      cuppedō, -inis = cupidō, -inis  
 inānest = ināne est

23. Poēta negat Acherunta esse, id est, nūllōs locōs mortuōrum sub terrā; neque inferōs neque Mānēs esse; nōn esse aliquam 'vītā' animī post mortem itaque nūllās poenās post mortem. Fābulae dē miserīs inferīs nōbīs dēmonstrant poenās quās nōbīs in hāc vītā damus. (a) vērū (b) falsus
24. In line 978 the antecedent for *quaecumque* is (a) Acherunte; (b) ea; (c) prōdita; (d) vītā.
25. In the first lines (978-9) the statement is made that according to the traditions Acheron is (a) wide; (b) large; (c) profound; (d) deep.
26. In line 989 the best translation of *esse* is (a) to be; (b) to exist; (c) to eat; (d) they were.
27. In line 980 *impēdēns* refers to (a) miser; (b) sāxum; (c) Tantalus; (d) cassā.
28. In line 981 *formīdine torpēns* implies that Tantalus can't move because he (a) is chained to a wall; (b) is cold; (c) is asleep; (d) is terrified.
29. In this account of Tantalus he is forever condemned (although Lucretius denies the whole thing!) to grasp at food and drink that elude him. (a) true (b) false
30. What/who is in the air (*āere*) in Tantalus' story? (a) grapes; (b) a rock; (c) birds; (d) Tantalus.
31. Cūr Tantalus Lucrētīī sāxum inānī metū timet sed neque cibum neque aquam desiderat? (a) ut Lucrētius dē inānī metū, neque cupidīne, in hāc vītā dīcere possit. (b) ut Lucrētius dē morte nōs perterreat. (c) ut Tantalus fēlicior sit quam in aliā fābulā. (d) Causa est incerta.
32. Quis fert malās rēs in vītā? (a) Deī; (b) fors; (c) both; (d) neither.
33. The best translation of *quod...scrūtentur* (line 985) is: (a) which they are searching for; (b) of the sort they are searching for; (c) because they are searching; (d) the fact that they were searching.
34. What are the birds (but "really" not) looking for under Tityos' breast? (a) a hidden treasure; (b) something to eat; (c) eternal youth; (d) the account (984-994) doesn't make this clear.
35. What do the birds stand for in this life? (a) anxiety; (b) love; (c) any passionate desire; (d) all of these.
36. Which word(s) make clear that Tityos' situation is very unpleasant? (a) lacerant; (b) exest; (c) scīdunt; (d) all these

37. In line 996 **petere** means (a) they have sought; (b) to seek; (c) he begged; (d) none of these.
38. In the same line **saevās** probably modifies (a) **fascīs**; (b) **secūris**; (c) neither; (b) both.
39. In the same line **ā populō** means (a) for the people; (b) from the people; (c) by the people; (d) to the people.
40. In the Sisyphus section as a whole Sisyphus's hard but pointless and unsuccessful work with his rock is compared to that of a man who (a) proposes marriage to one woman after another; (b) tries to get elected to public office; (c) keeps trying to kill savage beasts with an ax; (d) pursues a military career but can never be viewed as a hero by the populace.

**TIE-BREAKERS.** The answers to the following questions will be graded and scored only to break ties. Please note that the tie-breakers are numbered 96-100 and record your answers in those positions.

96. In line 1000 **adversō** refers to (a) **hoc**; (b) **monte**; (c) **saxum**; (d) **nixantem**.
97. In the same line **nixantem** means (a) struggling; (b) snowing; (c) relying; (c) scarcely.
98. This whole comprehension passage is an extended example of (a) antithesis; (b) metaphor; (c) hyperbole; (d) hyperbaton.
99. In line 1001 **summō** refers to (a) **saxum**; (b) **monte**; (c) **uertice**; (d) **adversō**.
100. In the last line the best meaning for **aequora** is (a) seas; (b) fair; (c) equal; (d) none of these.