

**READING COMPREHENSION  
LEVEL I  
NJCL 2000**

**Directions:** Read through the three passages carefully and answer the questions which follow them. Choose the best answer for each question.

**Passage #1**

Ōlim, servus nōmine Androclēs in Africā habitābat. Propter dominī crūdēlitātem fugere coāctus, in speluncam iit. Mox ad hanc speluncam vēnit ingēns leō quī gemēbat dolēbatque quod ūnō pede claudus erat. Prīmō Androclēs quidem terrōris plēnus sē cēlābat. Sed ubi leō eum cōspexit, mītis et mānsuētus appropinquāvit atque pedem eī ostendit, quasi auxiliū petēbat. Stirpem ingentem, quae in eius pede haerēbat, Androclēs extrāxit et vulnus lāvit. Tum leō, iam laetus, dormīvit. Trēs annōs, leō et Androclēs ūnā in spēluncā habitābant. Deinde mīlitēs Androclēm cēpērunt et ad dominum redūxērunt. Dominus Androclēm ad bēstiās mittere constituit. Ibi, Androclēs iterum eīdem leōnī occurrit! Leō quoniam Androclēm agnōscit vītā eius servāvit.

1 crūdēlitās, -ātis; f; cruelty  
cogō, -ere, coēgī, coāctus;  
to force  
claudus, -a, -um; lame  
quidem; indeed  
mītis, -e; gentle  
mānsuētus, -a, -um; tame  
quasi; as if  
stirps, stirpis; f; thorn  
bēstia, -ae; f; wild beast,  
used in public games

1. Ubi Androclēs habitābat?  
A. in Africā      B. servus est      C. dominus      D. in Italiā
2. Why did Androcles flee?  
A. Because he didn't like Africa      B. His master set him free  
C. Because of his master's cruelty      D. A lion was chasing him
3. What is the best translation for in speluncam in line 2?  
A. in a cave      B. into a cave      C. within a cave      D. from a cave

4. What word does ingēns modify in line 3?  
 A. speluncam      B. Mox      C. hanc      D. leō
5. What was the lion doing when he came into the cave?  
 A. growling and fighting      B. chasing Androcles  
 C. groaning and feeling pain      D. eating and being sad
6. Cūr leō gemēbat dolēbatque?  
 A. quod esuriēbat      B. quod claudus erat  
 C. quod laetus erat      D. quod īrātus erat
7. According to lines 4-5, how did Androcles first react to seeing the lion?  
 A. He was afraid and hid      B. He screamed  
 C. He was surprised      D. He hugged the lion
8. In line 5, what case is terrōris?  
 A. Nominative      B. Genitive      C. Dative      D. Accusative
9. According to lines 5-6, how did the lion react to seeing Androcles?  
 A. He was afraid and hid      B. He roared  
 C. He approached wildly      D. He approached calmly
10. Quid leō hominī ostendit?  
 A. mītis      B. pedem      C. eī      D. speluncam
11. Quid in pede leōnis haerēbat?  
 A. mītis      B. auxilium      C. stirps      D. Androclēs
12. What did Androcles do to help the lion?  
 A. Cleaned the cave      B. Combed his mane  
 C. Removed a thorn      D. Removed a loose tooth
13. In line 8, what is the gender of vulnus?  
 A. Masculine      B. Feminine      C. Neuter      D. either Masc. or Fem.
14. How long did Androcles and the lion live together in the cave?  
 A. for one year      B. for three years      C. for three months      D. forever
15. What is the best translation for ūnā in line 9?  
 A. one      B. together      C. alone      D. first

16. In line 10, what happens to Androcles?  
 A. He kills the lion and returns home.  
 B. He helps soldiers capture the lion, then returns to his master.  
 C. Soldiers capture him and take him home.  
 D. Soldiers capture him and return him to his master.
17. Quis Androclē ad bēstiās mittere constituit?  
 A. Leō                      B. Mīlitēs                      C. Dominus                      D. Deinde
18. According to lines 11-12, whom does Androcles meet at the beast-fighting games?  
 A. the lion                      B. soldiers                      C. his master                      D. his true love
19. In line 12, what case is eīdem leōnī?  
 A. Nominative                      B. Genitive                      C. Dative                      D. Accusative
20. What did the lion do to help Androcles?  
 A. Killed the soldiers                      B. Killed his master  
 C. Saved his life                      D. Saved his master's life

Passage #2

Nunc Gallī arcem Rōmānam obsidēbant. Quamquam 1  
 Rōmānī quī intrā arcem erant Gallōs ubīque per viās Rōmānās  
 vidēre poterant, arcem usque ad finem dēfendere dēcrēverunt.  
 Gallī intentē arcem spectābant, eam enim ascendere  
 volēbant. Tandem nuntium per angustam sēmitam 5  
 dēscendentem cōspexērunt, itaque hāc viā arcem nocte  
 oppugnāre cōstituērunt. Gallī igitur, tacitē ascendentēs,  
 ad summam arcem advēnērunt. Nōn solum custōdēs  
 sed etiam canēs fefellērunt. Ānserēs tamen nōn fefellērunt  
 quī sacri deae Iūnōnī erant et adhuc vīvēbant quod Rōmānī, 10  
 quamquam nūllum cibum habēbant, eōs ēsse nōlēbant.  
 Haec rēs salūtem Rōmānīs tulit, nam Manlius strepitū ānserum  
 excitātus arma sua rapuit et ad arma cēterōs vocāvit. Mox  
 Rōmānī dē arce Gallōs dēiciēbant.

Gallus, -ī; m; a Gaul  
 arx, arcis; f; citadel  
 obsideō, -ēre; to besiege  
 finis, -is; m; finish, end  
 dēcernō, -ere, dēcrēvī,  
 dēcrētus; to decide  
 angustus, -a, -um; narrow  
 sēmita, -ae; f; path  
 ānser, ānseris; m; goose  
 Nōn solum = not only  
 fallō, -ere, fefellī, falsus;  
 to escape the notice of  
 edō, ēsse, ēdī, ēsus; to eat  
 salūs, salūtis; f; safety  
 strepitus, -ūs; m; din, racket  
 dēiciō = dē + iaciō

21. According to line 1, what is the setting for this passage?  
 A. The Romans are besieging the citadel of Gaul.  
 B. The Gauls are besieging the citadel of Rome.  
 C. The Gauls are stealing the arch of Rome.  
 D. The Romans are waiting on an arch for the Gauls.

22. In line 2, what case is arcem?  
 A. Nominative      B. Genitive      C. Dative      D. Accusative
23. Quī sunt ubīque per viās Rōmānās?  
 A. Rōmānī      B. Mīlitēs      C. Gallī      D. Ānsērēs
24. According to line 3, what do the Romans decide to do?  
 A. Defend the citadel right up to the end  
 B. Defend their arch against the Gauls  
 C. Flee because the Gauls are everywhere  
 D. Flee because the streets of Rome are clear
25. Quōmodō Gallī arcem spectābant?  
 A. tacitē      B. laetē      C. celeriter      D. intentē
26. What is the best translation for Tandem in line 5?  
 A. Quietly      B. At last      C. However      D. But
27. What word does angustam modify in line 5?  
 A. Tandem      B. nuntium      C. sēmitam      D. dēscendentem
28. According to lines 5-7, what do the Gauls decide to do?  
 A. Climb a narrow path and attack the citadel at night  
 B. Climb a narrow path and attack the citadel at 9:00  
 C. Fight in the street to capture the arch  
 D. Climb down from the arch and fight in the street
29. Quōmodō Gallī arcem ascendēbant?  
 A. tacitē      B. laetē      C. celeriter      D. intentē
30. What is the best translation for ad summam arcem in line 8?  
 A. to the top of the arch      B. we are at the summit  
 C. at the top of the arch      D. at the top of the citadel
31. What is the best translation for Nōn solum . . . fefellērunt in lines 8-9?  
 A. Not only the guards but also the dogs escaped the notice of the Gauls.  
 B. Even the dogs escaped the notice of the guards alone.  
 C. Without the sun, the guards fell on their dinner.  
 D. They escaped the notice of not only the guards but also the dogs.
32. What is the best translation for tamen in line 9?  
 A. Quietly      B. At last      C. However      D. Only

33. According to lines 9-10, whom did the Gauls wake up?  
 A. the gods and goddesses  
 B. the sacred geese of Juno  
 C. the sacred Romans  
 D. the sacred Ionians
34. In line 10, what case is deae Iūnōnī?  
 A. Nominative      B. Genitive      C. Dative      D. Ablative
35. According to lines 10-11, why were the geese still alive?  
 A. Because Roman dogs were guarding them  
 B. Because the Romans had plenty of food and were not hungry  
 C. Because the Romans had just begun to eat them  
 D. Because the Romans did not want to eat them, though they had no food
36. What did the geese do to bring safety to the Romans?  
 A. Attacked their guard dogs  
 B. Made a racket  
 C. Attacked the Gauls for awhile  
 D. Made a big nest
37. According to lines 12-13, what happened because the geese made noise?  
 A. Manlius woke up, grabbed his weapons, and called the others to arms.  
 B. The Romans knew where they were and finally had some food.  
 C. The Gauls killed the geese along with all the Romans.  
 D. Manlius got angry and called to the others to attack the geese.
38. In line 12, what case is strepitū?  
 A. Nominative      B. Genitive      C. Ablative      D. Vocative
39. In line 12, what case is ānserum?  
 A. Nominative      B. Genitive      C. Ablative      D. Vocative
40. What is happening at the end of the passage?  
 A. The Romans are lying down on top of the Gauls.  
 B. The Romans are throwing rocks down at the Gauls.  
 C. The Romans are throwing the Gauls down from the citadel.  
 D. A Roman named Mox is defeating the Gauls.

Passage #3

<p>Athēnīs vivēbant Thēseus eiusque pater, rēx Aegeus.          Illō tempore, cīvēs rēgī īnsulae Crētae poenās dabant:          septem puerōs et septem puellās ad eum mittēbant. Hae          quattuordecim victimae Mīnōtaurō suās vītās dabant.          Thēseus suō patrī dīxit, "Hunc malum mōrem tolerāre nōn</p>	<p>1         5</p>	<p>Athēnae, -ārum; f; Athens          Illō tempore = At that time          tolerō, -āre; bear, tolerate          mōs, mōris; m; custom          vīs, vīs; f; strength, power</p>
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possum! Ego ipse Mīnōtaurum inveniam et meīs vīribus vincam. Alba vēla vidēbis, ō mī pater, sī mortem vitābō; nigra vēla sī Mīnōtaurus mē vincet." Itaque Thēseus trāns mare ad Crētam nāvīgāvit. Ibi suīs vīribus Mīnōtaurum superāre et arte Ariadnae fugere poterat.

10

Aegeus suum filiū in scopulō diū expectāverat; nunc nāvem ipsam suī filiī vidēre poterat. Sed vēla nigra, nōn alba sunt! Stultus Thēseus suum cōnsilium memoriā nōn tenuerat; vēla nōn mūtāverat. Miser Aegeus sine morā sē iēcit in mare "Aegeum."

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albus, -a, -um; white  
vēlum, -ī; n; sail  
vitō, -āre; to avoid, escape  
niger, nigra, nigrum; black  
nāvīgō, -āre; to sail  
scopulus, -i; m; rock, cliff

cōnsilium, -ii; n; plan  
mūtō, -āre; to change  
mora, -ae; f; delay

41. In line 1, what tense is vivēbant?  
A. Present                      B. Imperfect                      C. Future                      D. Perfect
42. According to line 1, how was Aegeus related to Theseus?  
A. Aegeus was the father of Theseus                      B. They were not related  
C. Theseus was the father of Aegeus                      D. They were brothers
43. What is the best translation for īnsulae Crētae in line 2?  
A. of the insulation of Crete                      B. of the island of Crete  
C. of the apartments in Crete                      D. to the island of Crete
44. According to lines 2-3, why were the citizen of Athens sending boys and girls to Crete?  
A. The king of Crete was lonely because had no children of his own.  
B. The king of Athens and the king of Crete were good friends.  
C. The citizens of Athens were paying a penalty to the king of Crete.  
D. The boys and girls were giving gifts of money to the king of Crete.
45. How many children were sent to Crete?  
A. 6 boys and 6 girls                      B. 17 boys and 17 girls  
C. 40 total                      D. 7 boys and 7 girls
46. Based on a knowledge of Latin animal names, what is the most logical assumption about a creature called a Mīnōtaurus?  
A. it is part dog                      B. it is part bull  
C. it is part lion                      D. it is part goose
47. According to lines 3-4, what happened to the Athenian children who were sent to Crete?  
A. They helped sacrifice victims to the Minotaur.  
B. They gave their ribbons and victuals to the Minotaur.  
C. They gave 14 Minotaurs new life.  
D. They gave their lives to the Minotaur.

48. What does Theseus say to his father about this custom?  
A. That he cannot tolerate this bad custom  
B. That he would like to take an apple to the Minotaur  
C. That he wants the citizens to delay  
D. That he cannot bear to miss the next trip to Crete
49. In lines 6-7, what does Theseus propose to do?  
A. Meet the Minotaur itself and chain it up with many men  
B. Come into the Minotaur's house and defeat it with his men  
C. Invent a new Minotaur using his own strength and power  
D. Find the Minotaur himself and defeat it with his strength
50. In line 7, what tense is vidēbis?  
A. Present            B. Imperfect            C. Future            D. Perfect
51. In line 7, what case is mī pater?  
A. Nominative        B. Genitive            C. Ablative            D. Vocative
52. In line 8, what tense is vinctet?  
A. Present            B. Imperfect            C. Future            D. Perfect
53. According to lines 7-8, what does Theseus promise his father?  
A. White sails if he avoids death; black sails if the Minotaur wins  
B. Black sails if the Minotaur dies; white sails if the Minotaur wins  
C. If he lives, his father will see the Minotaur  
D. If there is another trip to Crete, his father can go, too
54. In line 9, what case is mare?  
A. Nominative        B. Accusative            C. Ablative            D. Vocative
55. In line 9, what tense is nāvigāvit?  
A. Present            B. Imperfect            C. Perfect            D. Pluperfect
56. In line 10, what tense is poterat?  
A. Present            B. Imperfect            C. Perfect            D. Pluperfect
57. According to lines 9-10, what two things enable Theseus to defeat the Minotaur?  
A. many men and string from Ariadne  
B. his own men and the skill of Ariadne  
C. his own strength and some artwork from Ariadne  
D. his own strength and the skill of Ariadne

58. In line 11, what tense is expectāverat?  
A. Present      B. Imperfect      C. Perfect      D. Pluperfect
59. Where was Aegeus waiting to see his son's ship?  
A. at the port      B. in a lighthouse      C. on a cliff      D. in a rowboat
60. Why is Theseus called stultus, in line 13?  
A. Ariadne was complementing him because he had decided not to stick with his plan of making a memory-book about his trip to Crete.  
B. His father was praising him because he had not killed the Minotaur but had instead caused him to mutate into something new.  
C. He had forgotten his plan of changing the black sails to white and had instead changed them to purple, a new color for the Athenians.  
D. He had forgotten to change the sails to white, causing his poor father, when he saw the black sails, to jump off the cliff.