

Texas State Junior Classical League
Area F, MMI
Advanced Reading Comprehension: Poetry

Directions: Read each passage below and choose the best answer for each question.
N.B. Bold faced words are defined below the passages.

PASSAGE A:

Phaselus ille, quem videtis, hospites,
Ait fuisse navium celerrimus,
Neque ullius natantis impetum **trabis**
Nequisse praeterire, sive **palmulis**
Opus foret volare sive **linto**. 5
Et hoc negat **minacis** Hadriatici
Negare litus insulasve Cycladas
Rhodumque nobilem horridamque Thraciam
Propontida trucemve Ponticum sinum,
Ubi iste post phaselus antea fuit 10
Comata silva; nam Cytorio in iugo
Loquente saepe sibilum **edidit** coma.
Amastri Pontica et Cytore buxifer,
Tibi haec fuisse et esse cognitissima
Ait phaselus: ultima ex origine 15
Tuo stetisse dicit in **cacumina**,
Tuo imbuisse palmulas in aequore,
Et inde tot per impotentia **freta**
Erum tulisse, laeva sive dextera
Vocaret aura, sive utrumque Iuppiter 20
Simul secundus incidisset in pedem;
Neque ulla vota litoralibus deis
Sibi esse facta, cum veniret a mari
Novissimo hunc ad usque limpidum lacum.
Sed haec prius fuere: nunc **recondita** 25
Senet quiete seque dedicat tibi,
Gemelle Castor et gemelle Castoris.

Phaselus, i= ship trabs, trabis=plank, beam palmula, ae=little oar linteus, i=sail
Minax, minacis=threatening comatus, a, um=long-haired, leafy
Edeo, edere=bring forth cacumen, cacuminis=point, tip, peak
Fretum, i=strait, sound, channel erus, i=heir, master reconditus, a, um=hidden
Seneo, senere=be old, age

Passage B:

Sunt tamen obscenae **Venerem Propoetides** ausae
Esse negare deam; pro quo sua, **numinis ira**,
Corpora cum forma primae **vulgasse feruntur**, 240
Utque pudor cessit sanguisque **induruit oris**,
In rigidum parvo silicem **discrimine** versae.

Quas quia Pygmalion **aevum** per crimen agentis
Viderat, offensus vitiis, quae plurima menti
Feminae natura dedit, sine coniuge **caelebs** 245
Vivebat thalamique diu **consorte** carebat.

Interea niveum mira feliciter arte
Sculpsit **ebur** formamque dedit, qua femina nasci
Nulla potest, **operisque** sui concepit amorem.
Virginis est verae **facies**, quam vivere credas 250
Et, si non obstat **reverentia**, velle moveri—
Ars adeo latet arte sua. Miratur et **haurit**
Pectore Pygmalion **simulati** corporis ignes.

Venus,eris= Venus Propoetis,idis= (daughter) of Propoetus
numen,inis= goddess vulgo,are= to prostitute
induro,are= to harden discrimen,inis= change aevum,-i= life
caelebs,caelibis= unmarried consors,tis= partner ebur,oris= ivory opus,eris= creation
facies,ei= appearance reverentia,ae= modesty haurio,ire= to draw simulo,are= to copy

Passage C:

Forte et Numitori, cum in custodia Remum haberet
audissetque geminos esse fratres, comparando et aetatem
eorem et ipsam minime servilem indolem tetigerat animum
memoria nepotum, sciscitandoque eodem pervenit, ut haud
procul esset quin Remum agnosceret. Ita undique regi dolus 5
nectitur. Romulus non cum globo iuvenum— nec enim erat
ad apertam vim par--, sed aliis alio itinere iussus certo
tempore ad regiam venire pastoribus, ad regem impetum
facit, et a domo Numitoris alia comparata manu adiuvat
Remus. Ita regem obtruncant. Numitor inter primum 10
tumultum hostis invasisse urbem atque adortos regiam dicti-
tans, cum pubem Albanam in arcem praesidio armisque
obtinendam avocasset, postquam iuvenes perpetrata caede
pergere ad se grantulantes vidit, extemplo advocato concilio
scelus in se fratris, originem nepotum, ut geniti, ut educati, 15
ut cognoti essent, caedem deinceps tyranni seque euis aucto-
rem ostendit. Iuvenes per mediam contionem agmine
ingressi cum avum regem salutassent, secuta ex omni multi-
tudine consentiens vox ratum nomen imperiumque regi
efficit.

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custodia,ae= custody comparo,are= to prepare, put together aetas,aetatis= age
indoles,is= character tango,ere,tetigi,tactum= to touch nepos,otis= grandson
sciscito,are= to ask, question agnosco,ere= to recognize dolus, doli= plot
obtrunco,are= to cut off, kill adior,adoriri,adortus sum= to attack
praesidium,ii= defense perpetro,are= to accomplish pergo,ere= to continue, come
auctor,oris= leader, originator contio,onis= meeting consentiens,entis= unanimous

Questions for Passage A:

1. At the beginning of the poem, the poet is addressing:
 - A) guests
 - B) a boat
 - C) that man
 - D) swimmers

2. From line 4 to line 5, *sive...sive...* best translates as
 - A) either...or...
 - B) some...without...
 - C) as...as...
 - D) whether...or...

3. This poem's reader can infer that the poet is:
 - A) grateful for his modest vessel's size
 - B) apologetic to his friends for such a worthless ship
 - C) proud of his ship's heritage
 - D) surprised it was able to survive such a long and arduous journey

4. *Quid est phaselus dicit?*
 - A) it was the fastest of the ships
 - B) it was able to surpass the attack of any floating beam
 - C) it knows the noble Rhodes
 - D) all of the above

5. *In Pontico sinu, quid erat phaeselus antea?*
 - A) Propontida
 - B) In iugo
 - C) Cytorio
 - D) Comata silva

6. On line 12, "*saepe sibilum*" is an example of
 - A) antithesis
 - B) hendiadys
 - C) anastrophe
 - D) onomatopoeia

7. The phrase *ultima ex origine* is best translated as
 - A) from his first birth
 - B) out of the final beginning
 - C) on account of ultimate origin
 - D) from the original final

8. What figure of speech is Iuppiter?
- A) metonymy
 - B) ellipsis
 - C) anaphora
 - D) litotes
9. In line 23, there are no vows made to:
- A) gods of the shore
 - B) gods in name only
 - C) wide-ranging gods
 - D) sea gods
10. Identify the figure of speech on line 27.
- A) Hendiadys
 - B) Contraposition
 - C) Polypoton
 - D) Antithesis

Questions for Passage B

11. The daughters of Propoetus dared to deny that:
- A) That Venus was a goddess
 - B) Venus was immortal
 - C) Venus was beautiful
 - D) Venus did not have a cow
12. In line 239, *ira* is an:
- A) ablative of cause
 - B) ablative of separation
 - C) ablative absolute
 - D) ablative of purpose
13. *Quid factus est postquam Propoetides obscenae negaverunt Veneram esse deam?*
- A) They were stoned to death
 - B) They caved small stones
 - C) They were changed into stone
 - D) They had to carry stones
14. Because of Venus' wrath the daughters:
- A) lost all the blood in their bodies
 - B) lost their sense of shame
 - C) assumed an ugly form
 - D) dared to deny their father

15.

An onlooker might believe that the statue was:

- A) unmarried
- B) alive
- C) reverant of its creator
- D) made of ivory

16.

Quis miratur et haurit pectore ignes?

- A) the statue
- B) the maidens
- C) the dead
- D) Pygmalion

17. What does Pygmalion's statue resemble?

- A) a maiden
- B) Venus
- C) himself
- D) a Muse

Questions for passage C.

18.

... In line 1, cum best translates as

- A) when
- B) since
- C) because
- D) with

19.

What had Numitor learned?

- A) the brothers were twins
- B) the brothers were killed
- C) the brothers became immortal
- D) the brothers were kidnapped

20.

... Remus's nature was

- A) not even servile
- B) godly
- C) irrational
- D) esoteric

21.

What did Romulus order his shepherds to do?

- A) kill the king
- B) weave a plot
- C) go to the palace by diverse routes at an appointed time
- D) kill their sheep

22. In line 17, rem would be best translated as
A) matter
B) story
C) cause
D) event
23. In line 17, Iuvenes is an example of a(n)
A) substantive
B) adverb
C) correlative
D) none of the above
24. In line 18, what is the tense of salutassent?
A) Pluperfect
B) Perfect
C) Imperfect
D) Future Perfect

Tie Breakers

51. In line 18, what is the mood of secuta?
A) Indicative
B) Gerund
C) Supine
D) Participial
52. Quis dedit consentientem vocem?
A) avum
B) multitudo omnis
C) regem
D) gratulantes
53. How is the history of the grandchildren described?
A) how they had been born
B) how they had been reared
C) how they had been discovered
D) all of the above
54. Quid consentiens vox effecit?
A) regi imperium et nomen
B) gratulantes
C) iuvenes
D) caedum tyranni
55. Who is not mentioned at all in the passage?
A) Remus
B) Romulus
C) Numitor
D) Juppiter
