

Reading Comprehension Advanced Prose  
Area F Convention 2005

Directions—You may detach this sheet. Use these passages to answer the questions:

A. *Bellum Catalinum* LVI by C. Sallustius Crispus

dum ea Rōmae geruntur, Catalīna ex omnī cōpiā quam et ipse addūxerat et Manlius habuerat duās legiōnēs instituit, cohortis prō numerō mīlitum complet; deinde, ut quisque voluntārius aut ex sociīs in castra vēnerat, aequālīter distribuerat, ac brevī spatiō legiōnēs numerō hominum explēverat, cum initiō nōn amplius duōbus milibus habuisset sed ex omnī cōpiā circiter pars quarta erat mīlitāribus armīs instructa, ceterī, ut quemque casus armaverat, sparōs aut lanceās, aliī praeacutās sudīs portābant.

sed postquam Antōnius cum exercitū adventābat, Catalīna per montīs iter facere, modo ad urbem modo Galliam vorsus castra movēre, hostibus occāsionem pugnandī nōn dare; sperābat prope diem magnās cōpiās sesē habitūrum, sī Rōmae sociī incepta patrāvissent. intereā servitia repūdiābat, cuiūs initiō ad eum magnae cōpiae concurrēbant, opibus coniūratiōnis fretus, simul aliēnum suīs ratiōnibus existimāns vidērī causam cīvium cum servīs fugitivīs commūnicāvisse.

B. Letter of Pliny the Younger to his friend Fabius Justus

C. Plinius Fābio Iūstō suō salūtat:

olim mihi nūllas epistolās mittis. nihil est, inquis, quod scībam at hoc ipsum scībe, nihil esse quod scībās. vel solum illud inde incipere priōrēs solēbant: "sī valēs, bene est; egō valeō." hoc mihi sufficit: est enim maximum lūdere mē pūtas? seriō petō fac sciam quid agās. quod sine sollicitūdine summā nescīre nōn possum. valē.

C. Selection from C. Julius Caesar's *de Bello Gallico* (2.2)

hīs nuntiīs litterīsque commōtus Caesar duās legiōnēs in citeriōre Galliā novās conscīpsit et initā aestāte in ulteriōrem Galliam quī deduceret Q. Pedium legātum mīsīt. ipse, cum primum pabulī copia esse inciperet, ad exercitum vēnit. dat nēgōtium Senōnibus reliquisque Gallīs quī finitimī Belgīs erant utī ea quae apud eōs gerantur cognōscant sēque dē hīs rēbus certiōrem faciant. hī constanter omnēs nuntiāvērunt manūs cōgī, exercitum in unum lōcum conducī tum verō dūbitandum nōn existimāvit quīn ad eōs proficiscerētur rē frumentāria prōvisā castra mōvet diebus circiter XV ad finēs Belgārum pervēnit.

D. Selection from Eutropius (1.9) regarding the first year of the Republic

hinc consulēs coepere, prō unō rēge duō. hāc causā creatī, ut, sī unus malus esse voluisset alter eum, habēs potestātem similem, coerceret. et plācuit, nē imperium longius quam annum habērent. nē per diuturnitātem potestātem insōlentiōrēs redderentur, sed cīvilēs semper essent, quī sē post annum scīrent futurum esse privātōs. fuerunt igitur annō primō ab expulsīs rēgibus consulēs L. Iūnnius Brutus, quī maxime ēgerat, ut Tarquinius pelleretur, et Tarquinius Collātīnus, marītus Lūcrētiāe; sed Tarquiniō Collātīnō statim sublata est dignitās. placuerat enim, nē quisquam in urbe remanēret, quī Tarquinius vocārētur. ergo acceptō omnī patrimonīō suō ex urbe migrāvit, et locō ipsius factus est L. Valerius Publicōla consul commōvit tamen bellum urbī Rōmae rēx Tarquinius, quī fuerat expulsus, et collectīs multis gentibus, ut in regnum posset restituī, dimicāvit.

A. Questions 1-13 refer to Passage A

- 1 The best translation for dum in line one is:
- a when
  - b until
  - c although
  - d while
- 2 The best translation for ea is:
- a she
  - b that
  - c those things
  - d that woman
- 3 quam in line one refers to:
- a ea
  - b Romae
  - c copia
  - d Catalina
- 4 In the first two lines, Cataline is:
- a leading troops out into battle against Manlius and his legions
  - b combining his forces to form two legions
  - c drafting enough men to form two legions of raw recruits
  - d trying to avoid Manlius and his two legions
- 5 How did Cataline gather enough men to reach full strength?
- a distributing volunteers and allies equally
  - b by distributing volunteers to each of Rome's allies
  - c by going into the camps of Rome's allies voluntarily
  - d he never was able to gather enough men
- 6 About how many of his men were provided with standard military weaponry?
- a his entire force
  - b only two thousand men
  - c only half his force
  - d only a quarter of his force
- 7 The best translation of ut in line 5 is:
- a so that
  - b as
  - c that
  - d in order to

- 15 In this letter, Pliny is:
- a. offering to give comfort to an anxious friend
  - b. complaining because his friend does not write often enough
  - c. wishing he could do something really great
  - d. complaining because he does not know what to do
- 16 nihil est, inquis, quod scribam” (line 1) is best translated
- a. you say there is nothing to write
  - b. you say there is nothing I won't write
  - c. you say it is nothing because I will write
  - d. you say it is nothing which (Pliny) will write
- 17 In this letter, Pliny suggests:
- a. that his friend not worry about his health
  - b. that his friend cannot know what is to come
  - c. that his friend should at least write that there is nothing to write
  - d. that his friend should write something to help Pliny make his decision
- 18 What else does Pliny suggest?
- a. that he write the same line they used to write in the old days
  - b. that he write about his opinion on Pliny's health
  - c. that he write about how much money he is making
  - d. that he write their mutual friend for advice
- 19 What is the subject of sufficit (line 4)?
- a. he
  - b. advice
  - c. hoc
  - d. mihi
- 20 What is the best translation of “ludere me putas?” (line 4)
- a. Why do you put me off like that?
  - b. Why do you play games with me?
  - c. Do you think I should have fun with it?
  - d. Do you think I'm kidding?
- 21 This letter makes it clear that Pliny
- a. is concerned about his friend's welfare
  - b. does not really care for his friend at all
  - c. is preoccupied with doing great deeds
  - d. does not know what he should do

- 29 What did the Gauls announce to Caesar?
- a the Belgians were gathering forces
  - b the hands of the Gauls were tied (i.e., they could do nothing)
  - c the Gauls would send an army to help Caesar
  - d the Belgians swore by their right hands to stay in one place
- 30 After Caesar encountered these Gauls and secured a food supply for his animals, what happened next?
- a Caesar advanced approximately fifteen miles and attacked the borders of the Belgians at once
  - b Caesar moved the shrines of approximately fifteen Belgian gods away from his camp
  - c Caesar retreated when the Belgians arrived near the border with around fifteen divisions
  - d within approximately fifteen days Caesar broke camp and advanced towards Belgium

**D. Questions 31-39 refer to Passage D**

- 31 According to the first sentence, the reason two consuls were elected was because:
- a the power of two consuls was equal to the power of one king
  - b one consul was allowed to play the part of a king or “bad cop”, the other was to play the part of a “good cop”
  - c having equal power, one could balance the other out if one of them began to misbehave
  - d the alternative choice for who should rule was considered bad and too coercive
- 32 According to this passage, why did the Romans make the term of a consulship only one year?
- a consuls originally had a tendency to be arrogant and insolent, and so they were punished by having their term of office reduced
  - b consuls would be more likely to behave themselves if they knew they would be private citizens again after only a year
  - c Romans thought a single year sufficient to manage both civil and private matters
  - d Romans had originally planned to make the term longer than a year, but the civil authorities prevented them
- 33 In this passage, what is the best translation of *longius* (line 2)?
- a long
  - b longer
  - c especially
  - d more especially

TIE-BREAKERS – mark your answers starting with number 96 on your Scantron. These will be scored only in the event of a tie.

E Selection from Livy's *Ab Urbe Condita* (1.5)

5 iam tum in Palatio monte Lupercal hoc fuisse ludicrum ferunt, et a Pallanteo, urbe Arcadica, Pallantium, dein Palatium montem appellatum; ibi Evandrum, qui ex eo genere Arcadum multis ante tempestatibus tenuerit loca, sollemne allatum ex Arcadia instituisse ut nudi iuvenes Lycaeam Pana venerantes per lusum atque lasciviam currerent, quem Romani deinde vocarunt Inuum. huic deditis ludicro cum sollemne notum esset insidatos ob iram praedae amissae latrones, cum Romulus vim se defendisset, Remum cepisse, captum regi Amulio tradidisse, ultro accusantes crimini maxime dabant in Numitoris agros ab iis impetum fieri; inde eos collecta iuvenum manu hostilem in modum praedas agere. sic Numitori ad supplicium Remus deditur.

96 According to the passage, where was the Lupercalia originally celebrated in Italy?

- a. on the Palatine hill
- b. in Pallanteum
- c. in the Arcadian-settled city of Pallantium
- d. all of the above

97 In the first line, the best translation of “ferunt” is:

- a. they carry
- b. they bring
- c. they practice
- d. they say

98 Evander's very strange festival worshiped

- a. the king
- b. naked youths
- c. Lycaeus
- d. Pan

99 Why were the robbers angry?

- a. they were cheated out of their plunder
- b. they were offended by the strange festival
- c. they were concerned that the ceremony was not solemn enough
- d. their king had been captured

100 What did the robbers do?

- a. killed Remus when they killed the captured king
- b. handed Remus over to Amulius for prosecution
- c. attacked Numitor's fields with Remus as their leader
- d. gathered together a body of young men with him as their king

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