

## 2005 NJCL CONVENTION—READING COMPREHENSION

### LEVEL 2

N.B. There are no macrons on this test

[66]Quarta restat causa, quae maxime angere atque sollicitam habere nostram aetatem videtur, adpropinquatio mortis, quae certe a senectute non potest esse longe. O miserum senem qui mortem contemnendam esse in tam longa aetate non viderit! quae aut plane negligenda est, si omnino exstinguit animum, aut etiam optanda, si aliquo eum deducit, ubi sit futurus aeternus; atqui tertium certe nihil inveniri potest.

[67]Quid igitur timeam, si aut non miser post mortem aut beatus etiam futurus sum? Quamquam quis est tam stultus, quamvis sit adulescens, cui sit exploratum se ad vesperum esse victurum? Quin etiam aetas illa multo pluris quam nostra casus mortis habet; facilius in morbos incidunt adulescentes, gravius aegrotant, tristius curantur. Itaque pauci veniunt ad senectutem; quod ni ita accideret, melius et prudentius viveretur. Mens enim et ratio et consilium in senibus est; qui si nulli fuissent, nullae omnino civitates fuissent. Sed redeo ad mortem impendentem. Quod est istud crimen senectutis, cum id ei videatis cum adulescentia esse commune?

[68]Sensi ego in optimo filio, tu in exspectatis ad amplissimam dignitatem fratribus, Scipio, mortem omni aetati esse communem. At sperat adulescens diu se victurum, quod sperare idem senex non potest. Insipienter sperat. Quid enim stultius quam incerta pro certis habere, falsa pro veris? At senex ne quod speret quidem habet. At est eo meliore condicione quam adulescens, quoniam id, quod ille sperat, hic consecutus est; ille vult diu vivere, hic diu vixit.

[69] Quamquam, O di boni! quid est in hominis natura diu? Da enim summum tempus, exspectemus Tartessorum regis aetatem (fuit enim, ut scriptum video, Arganthonius quidam Gadibus, qui octoginta regnavit annos, centum viginti vixit)—sed mihi ne diuturnum quidem quicquam videtur in quo est aliquid extremum. Cum enim id advenit, tum illud, quod praeteriit, effluxit; tantum remanet, quod virtute et recte factis consecutus sis; horae quidem cedunt et dies et menses et anni, nec praeteritum tempus umquam revertitur, nec quid sequatur sciri potest; quod cuique temporis ad vivendum datur, eo debet esse contentus.

Cicero, De Senectute, 66-69

1. What is the construction exemplified by the phrase “a senectute” in line 2?
  - a. ablative of means
  - b. ablative of comparison
  - c. ablative of separation
  - d. ablative of agent

2. How is the approach of death viewed in lines 1-2?
  - a. It causes people to live anxiously.
  - b. It is a source of joy.
  - c. It causes people to reflect on the life they have lived.
  - d. It is neglected.
  
3. What is the grammatical construction of “contemnendam esse” in line 3?
 

a. indirect command	b. indirect statement
c. active periphrastic	d. result clause
  
4. What is the antecedent of “quae” in line 3?
 

a. aetate (line 3)	b. mortem (line 3)
c. senem (line 3)	d. senectute (line 2)
  
5. Why is “timeam” (line 6) subjunctive?
 

a. indirect command	b. indirect question
c. potential	d. deliberative
  
6. Which of the following is NOT true about the sentence beginning “Quin etiam aetas” in line 8?
  - a. Young people get sick easier than old people.
  - b. Young people become more gravely ill than old people.
  - c. Young people get well more easily than old people.
  - d. It is harder for young people to recover from illness than it is for old people.
  
7. What part of speech is “quod” in line 10?
 

a. conjunction	b. relative pronoun
c. adjective	d. noun
  
8. What do we learn from the sentence starting “Itaque pauci veniunt” (lines 10-11)?
  - a. People live recklessly because they know they will be able to live a quiet old age.
  - b. People live more prudently because they want live into old age.
  - c. People live better once they grow old.
  - d. People live recklessly because they think they will not live into old age.
  
9. Why would there have been no “civitates,” if there hadn’t been old men?
  - a. Because old men have the qualities needed to run a state
  - b. Because young men would have ruined them
  - c. Because old men would have increased the population of the states
  - d. Because young men would have fought over state plans
  
10. What is the antecedent of “ei” (line 11)?
 

a. mortem (line 11)	b. crimen (line 11)
c. adulescentia (line 12)	d. senectutis (line 11)

11. What case is “id” (line 11)?  
a. Nominative  
b. Accusative  
c. Ablative  
d. Dative
12. What does the phrase “mortem omni aetati esse communem” (line 15) tell us?  
a. That Cato and Scipio have both experienced the loss of a loved one  
b. That Cato and Scipio will both eventually die  
c. That death comes both to the young and to the old.  
d. That both old and young people are subjected to the realities of death.
13. What is the best translation for the word “quam” (line 16)?  
a. than  
b. how  
c. as  
d. which
14. What do we learn from lines 18-19?  
a. That old men wish to live long  
b. That old men die  
c. That young men wish to become old  
d. That old men wish to die with fame
15. What is the form “consecutus est” in line 18?  
a. active periphrastic  
b. perfect passive indicative  
c. perfect active indicative  
d. pluperfect passive indicative
16. In lines 20-23, which of the following is NOT true?  
a. King Arganthonius lived to be 100.  
b. King Arganthonius ruled for 80 years.  
c. No amount of time seems long, if there is a set limit to it.  
d. The speaker read about the life of Arganthonius.
17. What is the best translation of “cum” in line 23?  
a. although  
b. since  
c. with  
d. when
18. What is the case and number of “dies” in line 25?  
a. nominative singular  
b. nominative plural  
c. accusative plural  
d. accusative singular
19. Why is “sequatur” subjunctive in line 26?  
a. jussive  
b. characteristic  
c. indirect question  
d. indirect command
20. Since we do not know how long we will live what must we do?  
a. worry about death  
b. lament our mortality  
c. spend our money  
d. be happy with how much time is given us

[14] Druides a bello abesse consuerunt neque tributa una cum reliquis pendunt; militiae vacationem omniumque rerum habent immunitatem. Tantis excitati praemiis et sua sponte multi in disciplinam conveniunt et a parentibus propinquisque mittuntur. Magnum ibi numerum versuum ediscere dicuntur. Itaque annos nonnulli vicens in disciplina permanent. Neque fas esse existimant ea litteris mandare, cum in reliquis fere rebus, publicis privatisque rationibus Graecis litteris utantur. Id mihi duabus de causis instituisse videntur, quod neque in vulgum disciplinam efferri velint neque eos, qui discunt, litteris confisos minus memoriae studere: quod fere plerisque accidit, ut praesidio litterarum diligentiam in perdiscendo ac memoriam remittant. In primis hoc volunt persuadere, non interire animas, sed ab aliis post mortem transire ad alios, atque hoc maxime ad virtutem excitari putant metu mortis neglecto. Multa praeterea de sideribus atque eorum motu, de mundi ac terrarum magnitudine, de rerum natura, de deorum immortalium vi ac potestate disputant et iuventuti tradunt.

Caesar, Comentarii De Bello Gallico, 6.14

21. Which of the following is NOT true of the Druids based on lines 1-2?

- a. They are always at war.
- b. They are forced to join the army.
- c. They do not pay taxes.
- d. They are not forced to do anything.

22. In line 2, what is the case and reason of “praemiis”?

- a. dative with special verbs
- b. ablative of manner
- c. ablative of means
- d. dative of agent

23. What is the form of “excitati” in line 2?

- a. participle
- b. infinitive
- c. supine
- d. imperative

24. What is the subject of “dicuntur” in line 4?

- a. parentibus (line 3)
- b. praemiis (line 2)
- c. militiae (line 1)
- d. Druides (line 1)

25. What is the best translation of “ediscere” in line 4?

- a. learning
- b. to have learned
- c. to learn
- d. having learned

26. In line 5, what is the form “fere”?

- a. adverb
- b. present active infinitive
- c. third declension noun
- d. preposition

27. In the sentence beginning “Neque fas esse” which of these describes the Druids’ stance towards writing?
- They do not know how to write.
  - They do not write down their verses.
  - They practice writing Greek poems.
  - They write poetry in their own language.
28. Which of the following is a reason for the Druids’ writing behavior?
- They want people to learn their religious practices.
  - They want the public to be educated.
  - They want people to remember what was written.
  - They want people to trust less in what has been written than in their own memory.
29. What is the case of “plerisque” (line 8) and why?
- |                              |                                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| a. ablative of means         | b. ablative of time within which |
| c. dative with special verbs | d. dative of agent               |
30. Why is “remittant” (line 9) subjunctive?
- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| a. result clause    | b. purpose clause    |
| c. indirect command | d. indirect question |
31. What is the meaning of the phrase “ab aliis post mortem transire ad alios”?
- that souls go to the underworld after death
  - that souls change shape after death
  - that souls go into other bodies after death
  - that souls die after death
32. Why do the Druids think that their philosophy about death encourages men?
- because men want to be famous in the underworld
  - because men no longer fear death
  - because death means they will live no longer
  - because they do not believe they will die
33. Which of the following do the Druids NOT discuss?
- The stars
  - The size of the earth
  - The greatness of the gods
  - Meteorology
34. What is the case of “immortalium” in line 12?
- |               |             |
|---------------|-------------|
| a. nominative | b. genitive |
| c. accusative | d. dative   |

35. What does the phrase “iuventuti tradunt” (line 13) imply?
- The youth are excluded from religious practice among the Druids.
  - The elders feed the youth.
  - The youth are instructed about the mysteries of the world.
  - The youth are encouraged to serve in the army/

[3] Sed in magna copia rerum aliud alii natura iter ostendit. pulchrum est bene facere rei publicae, etiam bene dicere haud absurdum est; vel pace vel bello clarum fieri licet; et qui fecerunt et qui facta aliorum scripserunt, multi laudantur. ac mihi quidem, tametsi haudquamquam par gloria sequitur scriptorem et auctorem rerum, tamen in primis arduum videtur res gestas scribere: primum quod facta dictis exaequanda sunt; dehinc quia plerique quae delicta reprehenderis malevolentia et invidia dicta putant, ubi de magna virtute atque gloria bonorum memores, quae sibi quisque facilia factu putant, aequo animo accipit, supra ea veluti ficta pro falsis ducit. Sed ego adulescentulus initio sicuti plerique studio ad rem publicam latus sum, ibique mihi multa adversa fuerunt. nam pro pudore, pro abstinentia, pro virtute audacia largitio avaritia vigeabant. quae tametsi animus aspernabatur insolens malarum artium, tamen inter tanta vitia imbecilla aetas ambitione corrupta tenebatur; ac me, cum ab reliquorum malis moribus dissentirem, nihilominus honoris cupido eadem qua ceteros fama atque invidia vexabat.

[4] Igitur ubi animus ex multis miseriis atque periculis requievit et mihi reliquam aetatem a re publica procul habendam decrevi, non fuit consilium socordia atque desidia bonum otium contere, neque vero agrum colendo aut venando, sevilibus officiis, intentum aetatem agere; sed a quo incepto studioque me ambitio mala detinuerat, eodem regressus statui res gestas populi Romani carptim, ut quaeque memoria digna videbantur, perscribere, eo magis quod mihi a spe, metu, partibus rei publicae animus liber erat. Igitur de Catilinae coniuratione quam verissime potero paucis absolvam; nam id facinus in primis ego memorabile existimo sceleris atque periculi novitate. De cuius hominis moribus pauca prius explananda sunt quam initium narrandi faciam.

Sallust, Catilinae Coniuratio, 3-4

36. How is nature described in line 1?
- It is always the same.
  - It is different for everyone.
  - It is hard to predict.
  - It knows everything.
37. What is meant by the phrase “vel pace vel bello clarum fieri licet” in line 2?
- Men make bad decisions in war and in peace.
  - Men are intelligent both in war and peace.
  - Men can become famous both in war and peace.
  - Men can die both in war and in peace.

38. Why is “mihi” dative in line 3?
- |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| a. Agent     | b. Purpose   |
| c. Reference | d. Advantage |
39. In lines 3-4 what does Sallust say about writing?
- It is especially difficult to write about deeds.
  - One shouldn't write, but he should perform actions.
  - Writing is as equally renowned as performing actions.
  - Writing is a glorious thing to do.
40. What is the grammatical construction “exaequanda sunt” in line 5?
- |                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| a. supine              | b. passive periphrastic |
| c. active periphrastic | d. indirect statement   |
41. Which of the following is NOT a reason, according to Sallust, that writing is challenging?
- One must equate deeds with words.
  - People feel ill will against authors.
  - People think that authors write lies.
  - People do not like to read.
42. What is the best translation of “ubi” in line 6?
- |          |        |
|----------|--------|
| a. where | b. how |
| c. when  | d. why |
43. What best describes the attitude of Sallust toward the republic when he was a young man?
- |                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| a. He was disinterested. | b. He was zealous. |
| c. He was content.       | d. He was afraid.  |
44. What is the form “insolens” in line 11?
- |               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| a. infinitive | b. participle  |
| c. supine     | d. subjunctive |
45. What is the subject of “tenebatur” in line 12?
- |                    |                        |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| a. aetas (line 11) | b. ambitione (line 12) |
| c. vitia (line 11) | d. animus (line 11)    |
46. What does the phrase “cum ab reliquorum malis moribus dissentirem” say?
- Sallust separated himself from the rest.
  - Sallust had bad habits.
  - Sallust disagreed with the bad habits of others.
  - Sallust took leave from political activity.

47. What is the case of “cupido” in line 13?
- a. Dative
  - b. Ablative
  - c. Genitive
  - d. Nominative
48. How does the desire of office affect others?
- a. They are harassed by jealousy.
  - b. They go insane.
  - c. They are consumed with bloodlust.
  - d. They want to die.
49. Where did Sallust decide to live out the rest of his life?
- a. In Rome
  - b. In the Curia
  - c. Away from the Republic
  - d. On an Island
50. What does Sallust say that he did not want to do in his new surroundings (line 15-16)?
- a. Write
  - b. Hunt
  - c. Be a farmer
  - d. Be at leisure
51. What are the forms “colendo” and “venando” in line 16?
- a. supines
  - b. gerunds
  - c. gerundives
  - d. infinitives
52. What is the best translation of “ut” in line 18?
- a. how
  - b. since
  - c. so that
  - d. as
53. Which of the following is NOT a reason why Sallust decided to write?
- a. He thought he was good at it.
  - b. He was not afraid.
  - c. He did not have hope.
  - d. He wasn't involved in politics anymore.
54. What is the case of “paucis” in line 20?
- a. Genitive
  - b. Dative
  - c. Ablative
  - d. Nominative
55. What is the case of “facinus” in line 20?
- a. Nominative
  - b. Accusative
  - c. Genitive
  - d. Dative
56. Why is the conspiracy of Catiline worthy to be written about?
- a. Because of its danger to the republic
  - b. Because of its importance
  - c. Because of how many people died
  - d. Because it created faction



57. What is the rhetorical device found in line 22?  
a. metaphor  
b. simile  
c. asyndeton  
d. tmesis
58. What is the case of “cuius hominis” in line 21?  
a. Nominative  
b. Genitive  
c. Dative  
d. Accusative
59. What will Sallust do before he begins to tell of the conspiracy?  
a. Talk about the people involved  
b. Talk about Rome  
c. Talk about Catiline’s character  
d. Talk about the republic
60. What is the form of “narrandi” in line 22?  
a. infinitive  
b. supine  
c. gerundive  
d. gerund