

2006 NJCL Advanced Prose Reading Comprehension Test

test code 1006

Note: This test has only 50 questions.

Passage One: Tacitus, Annālēs, 1.3 (adapted) -- "Augustus Needs an Heir"

1 Augustus, subsidia dominātiōnī, Claudium Marcellum (sorōris filium et admodum
2 adulescentem) pontificātū et curūlī aedilitate, et M. Agrippam (ignōbilem locō, bonum
3 mīlitiā et victōriae socium) geminātīs cōsulātibus extulit, et mox, dēfuntō Marcellō, generum
4 sumpsit. Tiberium Nerōnem et Claudium Drūsum prīvignōs imperātōriīs nōminibus auxit,
5 integrā etiam tum domō suā. Nam genitōs Agrippae, Gaium ac Lūcium, in famīliam Caesarum
6 induxerat (necdum positā puerīlī praetextā), et prīncipēs iuventūtis appellārī et dēstinārī cōsulēs
7 (speciē recusantis) flagrantissimē cupīverat.

8 Ut Agrippa vītā concessit, Lucium Caesarem euntem ad Hispāniēnsīs exercitūs, Gaium
9 remeantem Armeniā et vulnere invalidum, mors fātō propera (vel novercae Liviae dolus) abstulit,
10 Drūsōque prīdem extinctō, Tiberius sōlus ē prīvignīs erat, illūc cuncta vergere. Fīlius et collēga
11 imperiī et consors tribūniciae potestātis adsūmitur, et omnīs per exercitūs ostentatur, nōn
12 obscurīs, ut antea matris artibus, sed palam hortātū. Nam senem Augustum dēvinxerat adeō, utī
13 nepōtem ūnicum, Agrippam Postumum, in insulam Planāsiam proiēcerit, rudem sānē bonārum
14 artium et rōbore corporis stolidē ferōcem, nulliūs tamen flagitiī conpertum. At hercule Germānicum,
15 Drūsō ortum, octō apud Rhēnum legiōnibus inposuit adscīrīque per adoptiōnem ā Tiberiō iussit,
16 quamquam esset in domō Tiberiī fīlius iuvenis, sed quō plūribus munīmentīs insisteret.

17 Bellum nullum eā tempestāte nisi adversus Germānōs supererat, magis abolendā infāmiā
18 ob āmissum cum Quintiliō Varō exercitum quam cupīdine proferendī imperiī aut ob dignum praemium.
19 Domī rēs tranquillae, eadem magistratum vocābula. Post Actiācam victōriam iuniōrēs, etiam
20 senēs plērīque, inter bella cīvium nātī: quotus quisque reliquus quī rem publicam vīdisset?

Vocabulary

3 - generum -- son-in-law

4 - prīvignōs -- stepsons

9 - remeantem -- returning

9 - novercae -- stepmother

12 - palam -- openly

12 - dēvinxerat -- convinced

13 - sānē -- clearly

14 - stolidē -- stupidly

14 - conpertum -- convicted

15 - adscīrī -- to be adopted

15 - ortum -- born

16 - insisteret -- rely upon

16 - munīmentīs -- protections

19 - vocābula -- titles

1. The subject of extulit (line 3) is:
A. generum B. Marcellum C. Agrippam D. Augustus
2. The words Marcellum and Agrippam are in apposition to:
A. Augustus B. subsidia C. dominātiōnī D. cōsulātibus
3. Marcellus is Augustus':
A. son B. grandson C. nephew D. cousin
4. Who held the priesthood and curule aedileship (line 2)?
A. Augustus B. Marcellus C. Agrippa D. none of these
5. Which is NOT a reason why Agrippa was chosen (lines 2-3)?
A. military victory B. humble birth C. military service D. family wealth
6. Who received 'twin consulships' (line 3)?
A. Augustus B. Marcellus C. Agrippa D. none of these

7. Who died first?
A. Augustus B. Marcellus C. Agrippa D. story doesn't say
8. Which word in the first three lines indicates that Tacitus did not approve of Augustus?
A. *dēfunctō* B. *admodum* C. *ignōbilem* D. *dominātiōnī*
9. What phrase best indicates the reason why Augustus made Agrippa his son-in-law?
A. *dēfunctō Marcellō* B. *admodum adulescentem* C. *subsidia dominātiōnī*
10. What did Augustus do for his stepsons Tiberius and Drusus?
A. gave them priesthoods B. adopted them as his sons
C. gave them imperial titles D. added them to his own household
11. Augustus overlooked members of his own family in favor of Tiberius and Drusus.
A. true B. false
12. Gaius and Lucius (line 5) were:
A. elected consuls B. sons of Agrippa C. adults D. put to death
13. According to lines 6 and 7, what did Augustus want for Gaius and Lucius?
A. that they be exiled B. that they become senators
C. that they be given special titles D. that they wear the toga of boyhood
14. Augustus pretended that he did not want Gaius and Lucius to become consuls.
A. true B. false
15. Which statement is true, based on lines 8-9?
A. Lucius was returning from Spain B. Gaius was going to Armenia
C. Lucius had been wounded D. Gaius was returning from Armenia
16. Tacitus suggests that the deaths of Lucius and Gaius were planned.
A. true B. false
17. Under what circumstances does Tacitus presume *illūc cuncta vergēre*(line 10) about Tiberius?
A. he had distinguished himself greatly, compared to all the others
B. the others had all earned disgrace, leaving Tiberius in a position of prominence
C. all the others had died, leaving only Tiberius to serve as heir
18. The verb *vergēre* (line 10) is:
A. present tense B. future tense C. imperfect tense D. perfect tense
19. Which is NOT an honor bestowed upon Tiberius, according to lines 10-11?
A. was made a 'partner' in the empire B. was adopted as Augustus' son
C. was given tribunician power D. put in charge of the army
20. What do lines 11-12 suggest about Tiberius' mother Livia?
A. she had previously been secretive about trying to get Tiberius a more favorable position
B. she was completely uninvolved in the political dealings that were going on
C. she refused to support Tiberius in his new position of power
D. she was a skilled army tactician and strategist
21. According to lines 12-13, whose idea was it that Agrippa Postumus be exiled to Planasia?
A. Augustus B. Tiberius C. Agrippa Postumus D. Livia
22. Agrippa Postumus was a blood relative of Augustus.
A. true B. false
23. According to lines 13-14, what sort of person was Agrippa Postumus?
A. smart and powerful B. quiet and shy C. dumb and harmless D. strong and rude
24. Who was in charge of the eight legions on the Rhine?
A. Augustus B. Tiberius C. Germanicus D. Drusus
25. Whom did Augustus force Tiberius to adopt?
A. Drusus B. Agrippa C. Germanicus D. none of these
26. Tiberius already had a son of his own, even before the adoption.
A. true B. false

