

## 2009 NJCL Latin 1/2 and 1 Reading Comprehension Test

## PART ONE: FABIUS MAXIMUS, DICTATOR

Romani, quod Hannibal multas victorias reportaverat, dictatorem creaverunt Q. Fabium. 1  
 Postquam Fabius summam imperium sumpsit, Romani iusta proelia vitabant, hostes per Italiam  
 agebant; itaque magna difficultate Hannibal cibum invenire poterat. Sed pauci e Romanis Fabii  
 consilium contemnebant et Fabium “Cunctatorem” vocabant. Mox aequum imperium Minucio,  
 magistro equitum, dederunt; sed Minucius multos e militibus suis iusto proelio amisit. Cuncti iam 5  
 Fabium laudaverunt, et Cunctatorem honoris causa vocaverunt.

Sed postquam Fabius imperium deposuit, consul novus, nomine Varro, quod Hannibalis copias  
 contemnebat, iusto proelio prope Cannas cum hostibus pugnavit. Poeni tamen Romanos tum quoque  
 superant, multosque necaverunt. Senatores Varronem non culpaverunt, sed gratias consuli egerunt, et  
 Fabium dictatorem iterum creaverunt. 10

iuxtum proelium = a pitched battle  
 contemnere = to despise

Cunctatorem = the Delayer  
 honoris causa = as a mark of honor

culpare = to blame

- What did the Romans do with Fabius Maximus (line 1)?  
 A. elected him dictator  
 B. sent him to Hannibal  
 C. threw him out of office  
 D. celebrated his victories
- Quod (line 1) is best translated as  
 A. which  
 B. whom  
 C. when  
 D. because
- Following this event, Fabius Maximus  
 A. made himself dictator for life  
 B. immediately conquered Hannibal  
 C. went into exile  
 D. kept avoiding Hannibal’s attacks
- Magna difficultate (line 3) is best translated  
 A. in great difficulty  
 B. the greatness of the difficulty  
 C. with great difficulty  
 D. a very difficult thing
- Magna difficultate refers to Hannibal’s trouble  
 A. finding food  
 B. pursuing Hannibal  
 C. gathering troops  
 D. killing a monster
- What tense is vocabant (line 4)?  
 A. present  
 B. perfect  
 C. imperfect  
 D. future
- Why did some Romans call Fabius ‘Cunctator’?  
 A. He kept avoiding Hannibal.  
 B. He could not find the monster.  
 C. His troops starved from lack of food.  
 D. He never reported results to Rome.
- What did the Romans then give to Minucius, as Master of The Equites (line 4-5)?  
 A. many gifts  
 B. a sound defeat  
 C. an imperial palace  
 D. equal power
- What did Minucius manage to do (line 5)?  
 A. build his palace in Rome  
 B. lose many soldiers in battle  
 C. lose the Romans’ gifts  
 D. send away the envoys
- Why was it not unusual that Fabius imperium deposuit (line 7)?  
 A. His term as consul had ended.  
 B. The need for a dictator had passed.  
 C. Rome had fallen.  
 D. He became too old.
- Who then shared Fabius’ power?  
 A. Hannibal  
 B. the generals  
 C. Varro  
 D. Cannas
- Based on context, who/what was/were Cannae?  
 A. a place  
 B. women  
 C. men  
 D. an animal

13. In lines 7-9, what was Varro's result in battle against the Poeni?
- A. a huge victory  
B. a huge defeat  
C. a narrow victory  
D. a narrow defeat
14. The case of consuli (line 9) is
- A. nominative  
B. genitive  
C. dative  
D. ablative
15. What happened to Fabius at the story's end?
- A. he was sent on a long journey  
B. he was thanked for his service  
C. he was elected dictator again  
D. he chose the next consul

PART TWO: PAPIRIUS

1 Olim senatus de bello gravi deliberabat; consul, "Non intra unum diem," inquit, "de re tam  
2 gravi consilium capiemus; cras iterum conveniemus. Interea nihil extra curiam de consiliis  
3 nostris dicemus." Puer Papirius cum patre suo in curia fuerat. Itaque, ubi domum  
4 revererunt, mater, "Quid," inquit, "hodie patres egerunt?" "De re tacere debemus," respondit  
5 puer, "nam senatui placuit nihil priusquam de tota re deliberaverimus." Sed mater iterum  
6 iterumque rogavit. Ita puer "Vere tibi, mater," inquit, "rem omnem narrabo. Senatorum alii  
7 unum virum duas uxores habere cupiunt, alii unam uxorem duos viros. De re tam gravi diu  
8 deliberare necesse est; itaque cras iterum convenire placuit."  
9 Mater Papirii, ubi talia verba audivit, statim rem ceteris feminis narravit. Itaque postero  
10 die omnes senatorum uxores iratae ad curiam convenerunt, et senatores cum lacrimis ita  
11 oraverunt: "Unam uxorem duobus viris date; nam rei publicae non proderit unum virum duas  
12 habere uxores." Senatores primo rem non comprehenderunt. Sed postquam Papirius omnia  
13 narravit, senatores constantiam fidemque laudaverunt. Ita senatus constituit: "Numquam  
14 posthac pueros cum patribus in curiam venire sinemus, praeter Papirium solum."

priusquam = before  
cupere = wish

talis = such  
posterus = next

fides, -ei = faith

16. Lines 1-2 indicate that the senate was discussing
- A. a war  
B. a senator  
C. the next day  
D. a consul's impeachment
17. Gravi (line 1) modifies
- A. olim  
B. consul  
C. senatus  
D. bello
18. In lines 1-2, the senate decided not to
- A. go ahead with impeachment  
B. make the decision in one day  
C. make the punishment severe  
D. take more time with deliberations
19. Moreover, they agreed to
- A. keep their plans secret  
B. deal with the consul outside the Curia  
C. abandon those plans  
D. say nothing to the consuls
20. Who was Papirius?
- A. father of a young boy  
B. a peasant boy  
C. a senator's son  
D. a senator's friend
21. In lines 3-4, Papirius' mother wanted to know
- A. where he had been  
B. what he had learned  
C. what the senate had done  
D. where his father had gone
22. Papirius answered her by saying that
- A. she already knew  
B. he wasn't allowed to tell  
C. she wouldn't understand  
D. he would tell her later
23. Fuerat (line 3) is best translated
- A. was  
B. will be  
C. had been  
D. would be

24. What case is re (line 4)?  
 A. ablative                      B. nominative                      C. accusative                      D. genitive
25. In lines 5-6, Papirius changed his answer because his mother  
 A. kept asking                      B. threatened him                      C. told his father                      D. bribed him
26. Lines 6-7 describe Papirius' explanation of the senators' discussion of having  
 A. two wives per husband                      C. both A and B  
 B. two husbands per wife                      D. neither A nor B
27. Ubi (line 9) is best translated  
 A. where                      B. who                      C. why                      D. when
28. After learning of the senate's deliberations, Papirius' mother  
 A. grounded Papirius                      C. told senators' wives  
 B. chose her second husband                      D. threatened other women
29. What case is feminis (line 9)?  
 A. vocative                      B. dative                      C. accusative                      D. ablative
30. The next day (lines 9-10), the senators' wives were  
 A. happy                      B. shopping                      C. ready to vote                      D. angry
31. The wives wanted the senate to  
 A. give men two wives                      C. vote down both plans  
 B. give women two husbands                      D. consider a different problem
32. Based on context, proderit (line 11) is best translated  
 A. it produces                      B. he produced                      C. he benefits                      D. it will benefit
33. What word best describes the senators' reaction to the wives?  
 A. disgust                      B. surprise                      C. anger                      D. acceptance
34. In line 12, omnia is used as a/an  
 A. conjunction                      B. pronoun                      C. substantive                      D. preposition
35. What decision did the senate ultimately render?  
 A. Papirius may return to the Curia.                      C. They would impeach the consul and others.  
 B. They should attack the enemy.                      D. They would allow two wives per husband.

### PART THREE: MARTIAL'S POEMS

The last three passages are epigrams written by the poet Marcus Valerius Martial in the first century A.D. Epigrams are short, witty, humorous poems.

The first one is about Sabidius:

Non amo te, Sabidi, nec possum dicere quare.

Hoc tantum possum dicere: non amo te.

quare = why

tantum = only

Epigram I.32

36. What case is Sabidi?  
 A. dative                      B. vocative                      C. ablative                      D. genitive
37. What word best describes the writer's feelings for Sabidius?  
 A. dislike                      B. affection                      C. fear                      D. admiration
38. What tense is possum?  
 A. imperfect                      B. future                      C. present                      D. future perfect
39. Why does the writer say he feels as he does?  
 A. It is due to a former event                      C. His family feels that way.  
 B. He does not know.                      D. He has always felt that way.

This epigram's subject is Diaulus:

Nuper erat medicus, nunc est vespillo Diaulus:  
quod vespillo facit, fecerat et medicus.

Epigram I.47

nuper = recently

vespillo, -onis m. = undertaker

40. What is Diaulus' occupation currently?  
A. teacher                      B. doctor                      C. poet                      D. undertaker
41. What did he used to be?  
A. teacher                      B. doctor                      C. poet                      D. undertaker
42. The best translation for fecerat is  
A. he was making              B. he makes                      C. he did                      D. he had done
43. Martial's humor here indicates that Diaulus  
A. is a good poet                      C. is a bad teacher  
B. was a good undertaker              D. was a bad doctor
44. How many nominative words are in this poem?  
A. 1                                      B. 2                                      C. 4                                      D. 5

This epigram is about Aelia:

Si memini, fuerant tibi quattuor, Aelia, dentes.  
Expulit una duos tussis et una duos.  
Iam segura potes totis tussire diebus;  
nihil nunc quod aget tertia tussis habet.

Epigram I.19, adapted

memini = I remember  
dens, dentis m. = tooth

tussis, -is f. = a cough

45. How many teeth did Aelia have, initially?  
A. 4                                      B. 8                                      C. 2                                      D. 32
46. What tense is expulit?  
A. future                              B. pluperfect                      C. perfect                              D. present
47. What caused her to lose two teeth?  
A. 1 cough                              B. 2 coughs                              C. a fight                              D. being carefree
48. What word does una (line 2) modify?  
A. Aelia                                      B. dentes                                      C. diebus                                      D. tussis
49. How many teeth were left after a second cough?  
A. 4                                      B. 2                                      C. 1                                      D. 0
50. Why is she now segura?  
A. There are no teeth left.                      C. She feels better.  
B. There is no third cough.                      D. She won the fight.