

2009 NJCL Latin 2 Reading Comprehension Test

Choose the best answer for each question, based on the given passage.

PART ONE: Civil War– Caesar vs. Cato

1 Caesar erat tam potens ut senatores, timore affecti, eum ex provincia discedere iusserunt. Caesar,
2 tamen, tantam potestatem non deposuit, sed cum exercitu in Italiam e Gallia profectus est. Itaque bellum
3 inter senatum et Caesarem ortum est. Exercitus senatus, duce Pompeio, in Graecia postero anno victus est.

4 Sed Cato senator, qui a perpetua unius hominis potestate abhorrebat, adhuc rem publicam conservare
5 conabantur. Itaque, Pompeio superato et occiso, bellum in Africa produxit. Huc Caesar navigavit. Cato
6 interea Uticam, urbem Africae, muniverat. Ceteris adventu Caesaris perterritis, illum solum animus non
7 deficit. Iterum Caesar victor erat; multi nobiles Romani fugerunt, sed Cato in urbe manebat. Sub noctem
8 a servo fidelissimo gladium suum postulat; quo accepto, “Fortuna mea,” inquit, “iam penes me est. Quid
9 peius est quam rei publicae superesse?” Haec locutus se sua manu occidit.

orior (4) = arise, spring up abhorreo (2) = shrink from penes = in the power of

1. timore affecti (line 1) is best translated
 - A. influenced by fear
 - B. timid with his affections
 - C. timidly influenced
 - D. affecting him with fear
2. In line 1, the senate orders Caesar to
 - A. descend into the province
 - B. leave his country house
 - C. stop fighting senators
 - D. depart from the province
3. eum (line 1) refers to
 - A. senatores
 - B. provincia
 - C. Gallia
 - D. Caesar
4. profectus est (line 2) is translated
 - A. is setting out
 - B. set out
 - C. is about to set out
 - D. having set out
5. Lines 1-2 tell us that Caesar
 - A. followed the senate’s orders
 - B. defied the senate
 - C. joined his army with the senate’s
 - D. was an enemy of many senators
6. The initial result of Caesar’s actions (lines 2-3) was
 - A. the joint army conquered more tribes
 - B. he made more senatorial friends
 - C. a civil war
 - D. a lasting peace
7. With whom did Pompey go into Greece?
 - A. the senate
 - B. the senate’s army
 - C. the senate’s leader
 - D. Caesar
8. What happened when Pompey was in Greece?
 - A. He was defeated.
 - B. He defeated the enemy.
 - C. He fought under the victorious leader.
 - D. He lived for many years.
9. What was Cato hoping for (lines 4-5)?
 - A. to have great power
 - B. Pompey’s death
 - C. a war with Africa
 - D. the republic’s return to power
10. What did Cato accomplish (lines 5-6)?
 - A. defeated Caesar in battle
 - B. overcame Africa in battle
 - C. defeated the city of Utica
 - D. fortified the city of Utica

11. In what way was Cato unique among the nobles, in his actions when Caesar arrived?
 A. He was terrified of Caesar. C. His spirit remained strong.
 B. He met Caesar alone. D. He welcomed Caesar.
12. What was the result when Caesar and Cato met?
 A. They became good friends. C. They fought a duel.
 B. Caesar conquered him. D. He conquered Caesar.
13. Under the darkness of night in the city, what unusual action did Cato take?
 A. hid under his bed C. had a slave get his sword
 B. went out with friends D. demanded to see a sword fight
14. fidelissimo (line 8) translates
 A. loyal B. very trusted C. more faithful D. infidel
15. To whom/what does suum (line 8) refer?
 A. Caesar B. the senate C. a slave D. Cato
16. How did Cato die (lines 7-9)?
 A. killed himself with a sword C. killed by another Roman noble
 B. killed by Caesar's slave D. died in battle
17. Why did Cato die as he did (lines 7-9)?
 A. It was common for nobles to die that way. C. He wanted to avoid living beyond the republic
 B. His slaves had all turned against him D. It was just a coincidence.
18. sua (line 9) is translated
 A. his B. her C. its D. their

PART TWO: Hercules and Nessus

1 Hercules Deianiram, Oenei filiam, in matrimonium duxit. Tribus post annis accidit casu ut puerum
 2 quendam occideret, cui nomen erat Eunomus. Cum autem mos esset ut si quis hominem casu occidisset,
 3 in exilium iret, Hercules cum uxore sua e finibus civitatis exivit. Dum iter faciunt, ad flumen pervenerunt
 4 in quo nullus pons erat. Dum quaerunt quo modo flumen transire possent, accurrit centaurus Nessus, qui
 5 viatoribus auxilium obtulit. Hercules uxorem eius in tergum eius imposuit. Tum ipse flumen transivit.
 6 At Nessus paulum in aquam progressus ad ripam subito revertit, ac Deianiram auferre conatus est.
 7 Hercules, graviter commotus, arcu et sagitta Nessum occidit.
mos, moris m. custom

19. Whom did Hercules marry (line 1)?
 A. Oeneus B. Tribus C. Deianira D. Eunomus
20. Lines 2-3, cum...cum should be translated
 A. since...with B. with...when C. when...since D. with...with
21. What was the accident (lines 1-3)?
 A. Hercules' wife died. C. They were robbed on a trip.
 B. They had a son. D. Hercules killed a boy.
22. In line 2, what does si quis mean?
 A. and a certain one B. if he was C. but the one who D. if anyone
23. What was the custom for a person to do when such an accident occurred?
 A. give up the child for adoption C. mourn for a long time
 B. go into exile D. remain at home for a long time
24. Dum iter faciunt (line 3) is translated
 A. While they were journeying C. When they are making a journey
 B. As soon as they make a trip D. Whoever makes a trip

25. In lines 3-5, what problem did they encounter while traveling?
 A. a flooded river
 B. a river with a broken bridge
 C. a river without a bridge
 D. a bridge with trolls under it
26. Who/What appeared as they contemplated the problem?
 A. an old friend
 B. a ghost
 C. a centaur
 D. a soldier
27. Why was he/she at the river (lines 4-5)?
 A. She came to calm Hercules.
 B. He came to frighten them.
 C. He was there fixing the bridge.
 D. He offered them help.
28. viatoribus (line 4) is translated
 A. from travelers
 B. with travelers
 C. to travelers
 D. of travelers
29. In lines 4-5, what does Hercules do with his wife?
 A. pray for her
 B. put her onto Nessus' back
 C. reprimand her
 D. ask her to help him
30. What does Hercules accomplish (line 5)?
 A. He crosses the river.
 B. He fixes the bridge.
 C. He makes friends with Nessus.
 D. He begins swimming.
31. progressus (line 6) means
 A. having progressed
 B. a progression
 C. he was progressing
 D. in order to progress
32. Which of these behaviors does Nessus NOT do in lines 5-7?
 A. go a little way out into the water
 B. turn around in mid-stream
 C. try to steal Deianira
 D. viciously attack Deianira
33. How does Hercules feel about Nessus' actions?
 A. happy
 B. disappointed
 C. quite disturbed
 D. very confused
34. As a result, what does Hercules do?
 A. kills Nessus
 B. rewards Nessus
 C. runs downstream
 D. gets sick
35. How many deaths are involved in this story?
 A. 0
 B. 1
 C. 2
 D. 3

PART THREE: Catullus' Invitation to Fabullus (Poem 13)

1 Cenabis bene, mi Fabulle, apud me
 2 paucis, si tibi di favent, diebus –
 3 si tecum attuleris bonam atque magnam
 4 cenam, non sine candida puella
 5 et vino et sale et omnibus cachinnis.
 6 Haec si, inquam, attuleris, venuste noster,
 7 cenabis bene. Nam tui Catulli
 8 plenus saculus est aranearum.
 9 Sed contra accipies meros amores,
 10 seu quid suavius elegantiusve est:
 11 nam unguentum dabo, quod meae puellae
 12 donarunt Veneres Cupidinesque;
 13 quod tu cum olfacies, deos rogabis,
 14 totum ut te faciant, Fabulle, nasum.

Vocabulary

sal, salis m. salt, wit
 cachinnis loud laughter
 venustus, -a, -um charming
 saculus, -i m. purse, pouch
 aranea, -arum f. cobweb
 contra in return
 merus, -a, -um pure, undiluted
 seu quid or whatever
 unguentum, -i n. perfume, oil

36. paucis (line 2) modifies
 A. me
 B. tibi
 C. di
 D. diebus

37. di (line 2) means
 A. a god B. a day C. the gods D. days
38. Lines 1-2 tell us that the poet
 A. wonders where Fabullus is C. expects to dine soon with Fabullus
 B. hopes Fabullus is feeling well D. wants to visit Fabullus for awhile
39. The base word for attuleris (line 3) is
 A. fero B. traho C. attineo D. trado
40. Lines 3-4 tell Fabullus to furnish
 A. himself and his dog C. excellent goods and a bright day
 B. dinner and a girl D. good food, but not a girl
41. Line 5 requires Fabullus also to provide
 A. laughter B. wine C. wit D. all of these
42. inquam (line 6) means
 A. on which B. I say C. against whom D. how
43. How are lines 1-7 ironic, inferring a concept quite strange to us?
 A. They tell Fabullus to bring all the goods for Catullus' own party.
 B. They say Catullus likes Fabullus, but imply he really does not.
 C. They infer both Catullus and Fabullus like the same girl, and both are happy about it.
 D. They indicate many things at a party that we do not like.
44. haec (line 6) means
 A. these things B. those people C. this man D. that thing
45. Line 8 is translated, "Catullus'..."
 A. purse has a cobweb in it. C. cobwebs are in every pouch.
 B. purse is full of cobwebs. D. cobwebs all have pouches.
46. Lines 7-8 mean that Catullus is
 A. deceptive B. angry C. frightened D. poor
47. meros (line 9) modifies
 A. aranearum B. accipies C. amores D. contra
48. suavius (line 10) means
 A. more pleasant B. very pleasant C. most pleasant D. pleasant
49. Lines 9-10 assure Fabullus of getting
 A. a pleasant girl C. a better girlfriend than they share
 B. something better than pure pleasure D. whatever else he wants to have
50. Catullus says the oil/perfume is so good that Fabullus will want to be
 A. a god B. with the gods C. smelling it always D. all nose