

2013 NJCL Advanced Poetry Reading Comprehension Test

All the passages for this test are printed on the LAST page, which you are encouraged to tear off for easy reference to the passages.

Nota bene: “translate” means a literal translation; “interpretation” means the general meaning of the words

Passage One **Aeneid III: The leader of the Harpies speaks to the Trojans**

1. What best forbodes doom on line 246?
 - A. the use of the verb rumpit
 - B. the fact she is a vātēs
 - C. Her voice comes from her chest.
 - D. all spondees in the first four feet
2. Where is she (line 1)?
 - A. on a high cliff
 - B. on her throne
 - C. in a shaded grove
 - D. on the highest part of the poopdeck
3. Why is she called īnfēlīx vātēs (line 2)?
 - A. The Harpies have suffered terribly.
 - B. She bears bad news of the future.
 - C. She is severely injured.
 - D. She is muttering mysteries.
4. Why does she call the audience Lāomedontiadae (line 248)?
 - A. She has fought against Laomedon already.
 - B. She remembers Laomedon fondly.
 - C. Laomedon was their ancestor.
 - D. Laomedon is their leader.
5. What does she accuse the audience of doing (lines 247-248)?
 - A. stealing her cattle
 - B. lying like Laomedon
 - C. killing cattle
 - D. preparing to wage war
6. How many elisions are there on line 249?
 - A. none
 - B. one
 - C. two
 - D. three
7. What is the best translation of rēgnō (line 249)?
 - A. in the kingdom
 - B. to the kingdom
 - C. from the kingdom
 - D. for the kingdom
8. What is the interpretation of Accipite ... animīs (line 250)?
 - A. Pay attention
 - B. Mentally prepare to die
 - C. Take my advice
 - D. Get out of here
9. How did Celaeno learn her information (line 251)?
 - A. Apollo told her.
 - B. The Sibyl told her.
 - C. Her father told her.
 - D. Jupiter told her.
10. What is the best translation of ventīs ... vocātīs (line 253)?
 - A. the winds having been summoned
 - B. for the summoned winds
 - C. by calling the winds
 - D. You call the winds.
11. What is the best interpretation of portūs ... intrāre licēbit (line 254)?
 - A. They will not let you land.
 - B. You will enjoy entering the city.
 - C. You will not be able to enter the city.
 - D. You can land safely.
12. Lines 255-256 provide an example of what stylistic device?
 - A. hyperbole
 - B. anastrophe
 - C. chiasmus
 - D. tmesis
13. What is the best interpretation of datam ... urbem (line 255)?
 - A. the date of founding the city
 - B. giving the city a name
 - C. the city promised to you
 - D. You will be given a city.
14. To what does dīra famēs (line 256) refer?
 - A. a horrible reputation
 - B. starvation
 - C. dreadful news
 - D. none of these
15. What does Celaeno suggest had happened by nostraeque iniūria caedis (256)?
 - A. The Trojans have killed several Harpies.
 - B. The Harpies have unjustly killed the cattle.
 - C. The Trojans had no right to kill the cattle.
 - D. The Harpies have killed several Trojans.

16. What doom is predicted on line 257?
 A. The Harpies will eat the Trojans. C. The Trojans will eat their tables.
 B. The Trojans will go hungry for many months. D. The Trojans will eat the Harpies.
17. What does pennīs ablāta tell us about Celaeno's escape (line 258)?
 A. Her feathers were wounded. C. She shot one last arrow at the Trojans.
 B. She flew. D. She stole the Trojans' arrows.

Passage Two Ovid, Metamorphoses IX:

Hercules' reaction to the poisonous cloak which his wife has given to him

18. Lines 159-160 suggest that Hercules was
 A. on fire C. incensed at the prayers
 B. desperate to start a fire D. making sacrifices and prayers
19. To what does vīs illa malī (line 161) refer?
 A. the incense B. the poisoned cloak C. the offering bowl D. Hercules' jealous wife
20. What made the poison take effect (lines 161-162)?
 A. the odor of incense B. the wine offering C. the warmth of his body D. the heat of the flames
21. The word dīlapsa (line 162) modifies
 A. vīs illa B. paterā C. vīna D. Tūra
22. What is the best translation of Dum (line 164)?
 A. as long as B. until C. provided that D. yet
23. Line 163 testifies to Hercules'
 A. physical strength B. endurance C. numerous labors D. divine destiny
24. What is the best translation of solitā (line 163)?
 A. solitary B. radiant C. customary D. comforting
25. To what does patientia (line 164) refer?
 A. p̄mīs flammīs (159) C. paterā fundēbat (160)
 B. dīlapsa per artūs (162) D. gemitum repressit (163)
26. Line 165 tells us that
 A. Mt. Oete echoed Hercules' shouts C. Hercules' shouts could be heard on Mt. Oete
 B. Hercules ran shouting to Mt. Oete D. Hercules prayed loudly to Mt. Oete
27. What do we learn from Nec mora (line 166)?
 A. Hercules did not die. C. Not much time elapsed.
 B. This was not customary. D. Hercules didn't move.
28. What is Hercules trying to do on line 166?
 A. climb away from this horror C. extinguish the garment
 B. get away from the altar D. tear off the torturous cloak
29. What is the best translation of quā (line 167)?
 A. on whom B. from which C. by which D. from whom
30. To what does illa (line 167) refer?
 A. ārās (164) B. Mt. Oete (165) C. vestem (166) D. mora (166)
31. What is the best interpretation of haeret membrīs frūstrā temptāta revellī (168)?
 A. Whatever Hercules tore off removed even more of his skin.
 B. No matter how hard he tried, Hercules couldn't take off the cloak.
 C. Hercules was being torn limb from limb.
 D. Hercules could not resist the temptation to kill himself.
32. What is the best translation of dētegit (line 169)?
 A. covered B. attacked C. revealed D. found

33. To what is Hercules' blood compared on lines 170-171?
 A. pieces of metal falling into a lake
 B. a dyer's establishment dyeing white fabrics
 C. the sizzle when a blacksmith dunks hot metal into water
 D. poison bubbling on the stove

34. Which line begins with four spondees?
 A. 168 B. 169 C. 170 D. 171

Passage Three

Juvenal, Satire III: The problem with today's Romans

35. Which of these activities does Juvenal NOT hold in scorn (lines 41-43)?
 A. astrology B. praising free men C. lying D. clamoring for a bad book
36. Which of these activities does Juvenal NOT hold in scorn (lines 43-46 *aliū*)?
 A. inspecting animal intestines C. acting as the go-between for a lover and his bride
 B. killing someone so the son can inherit D. preparing for his father's funeral
37. What is the uncontracted form of nōrunt (line 46)?
 A. nōvērunt B. notāvērunt C. nōtī sunt D. nōrant
38. What is the best interpretation of mē nēmo ministrō/ fūr erit (lines 46-47)?
 A. I will never aid and abet a burglar. C. I will never become a burglar.
 B. No burglar will ever bother me. D. No one will ever be a better burglar than I am.
39. Juvenal will not go with anyone on a journey (line 47) because he is
 A. crippled B. worthless C. too busy D. too honest
40. What is meant by an exstinctae dextrae (line 48)?
 A. paralysis on the right side of the body C. an inability to write
 B. lacking a "right-hand man" D. no sense of direction
41. What is the best translation of dīligitur (line 49)?
 A. is chosen B. is loved C. chooses D. loves
42. nisi cōnscius (line 49) needs what word by ellipsis?
 A. est B. dīligitur C. mancus D. animus
43. What sort of a person is described by cui fervēns / aestuat occultīs animus (lines 49-50)?
 A. one who loves living in Rome C. one who yearns to tell secrets
 B. one whose mind is steeped in witchcraft D. one who hides from others
44. What is the best translation of tacendīs (line 50)?
 A. being quiet B. should be left unsaid C. you must be silent D. refraining from gossip
45. What is the best translation for Nīl tibi sē dēbēre putat (line 51)?
 A. He thinks he owes you nothing. C. You think you owe him nothing.
 B. He thinks you owe him nothing. D. You think he owes you nothing.
46. What sort of person is participem quī tē sēcrētī fēcit honestī (line 52)?
 A. one who can keep a secret C. one who tell others your secret
 B. one who tells you a secret D. one who is secretly honest
47. Now that you have read this passage, how should you best translate Quid Rōmae faciam? (line 41)
 A. What am I doing in Rome? C. Why am I working in Rome?
 B. Why should I work in Rome? D. What would I do in Rome?
48. On which line does Juvenal turn a metrically-long diphthong into two short vowels?
 A. 46 B. 47 C. 49 D. 50

Passage Four

Catullus LXXXV

49. What is the best translation of requīris?
 A. you will ask C. you may ask
 B. you will have asked D. you ask

50. Which is NOT found in this poem?

A. a future tense verb B. antithesis

C. three elisions

D. indirect question

Passage One Aeneid III: The leader of the Harpies speaks to the Trojans

Ūna in praecelsā cōnsēdit rūpe Celaenō, 245

īnfēlix vātēs, rumpitque hanc pectore vōcem;

'Bellum etiam prō caede boum strātisque iuvencīs,

Lāomedontiadae, bellumne īnferre parātis

et patriō Harpyiās īnsontēs pellere rēgnō?

Accipite ergō animīs atque haec mea fīgite dicta, 250

quae Phoebō pater omnipotēns, mihi Phoebus Apollō

praedīxit, vōbīs Furiārum ego maxima pandō.

Ītaliā cursū petitis ventisque vocātis:

ībitis Ītaliā portūque intrāre licēbit.

Sed nōn ante datam cingētis moenibus urbem 255

quam vōs dīra famēs nostraeque iniūria caedis

ambēsās subigat mālīs absūmere mēnsās.'

Dīxit, et in silvam pennīs ablāta refūgit.

Celaeno is nominative iuvenca = heifer īnsōns = guiltless

pandō,-ere = to reveal ambēsus-a-um = eaten māla = jaw absūmō = cōnsūmō

Passage Two Ovid, Metamorphoses IX:

Hercules' reaction to the poisonous cloak which his wife has given to him

Tūra dabat p̄mīs et verba precantia flammīs,
vīnaque marmoreās paterā fundēbat in ārās: 160

incaluit vīs illa malī, resolūtaque flammīs

Herculeōs abiit lātē dīlapsa per artūs.

Dum potuit, solitā gemitum virtūte repressit.

Victa malīs postquam est patientia, reppulit ārās,
implēvitque suīs nemorōsam vōcibus Oetēn. 165

Nec mora, lētiferam cōnātur scindere vestem:

quā trahitur, trahit illa cutem, foedumque relātū,

aut haeret membrīs frūstrā temptāta revellī,

aut lacerōs artūs et grandia dētegit ossa.

Ipse cruor, gelidō ceu quondam lammina candēns 170

tincta lacū, strīdit coquiturque ardente venēnō.

tūs, tūris, N. = incense patera,-ae = offering bowl incalēscō,-ere, -caluī = to grow hot

nemorōsus-a-um = woody Oetē, F. = a mountain in Greece cutis,-is,F = skin

revellō,-ere = to tear back lacerus-a-um = torn ceu = just as when

lammen, -inis, N. = metal object tingō,-ere, tinxī, tinctum = to moisten

Passage Three Juvenal, Satire III: The problem with today's Romans

Quid Rōmae faciam? mentūrī nescio; librum,

sī malus est, nequeō laudāre et poscere; mōtūs

astrōrum ignōrō; fūnus prōmittere patris

nec volo nec possum; rānārum vīscera numquam

īspēxī; ferre ad nuptam quae mittit adulter, 45

quae mandat, nōrunt aliī; mē nēmo ministrō
fūr erit, atque ideō nūllī comes exeo tamquam
mancus et exstinctae corpus nōn ūtile dextrae.

Quis nunc dīligitur nisi cōnscius et cui fervēns
aestuat occultīs animus semperque tacendīs?

50

Nil tibi sē dēbēre putat, nil cōnferet umquam,
participem quī tē sēcrētī fēcit honestī.

nequeō, -īre = to be unable adulter = a suitor ideō = therefore
*tamquam = as though mancus = a cripple cōnsci*us = an accomplice
aestuō, -āre = to seethe, be overactive cōnferō, -ferre = to contribute
honestus-a-um = respectable

Passage Four Catullus LXXXV

Ōdī et amō. Quārē id faciam, fortasse requīris.

Nescio, sed fierī sentiō et excrucior.