

AREA F 2014

Reading Comprehension Poetry (for levels III+)

Choose the best answer for each question based on the four passages given below.

PASSAGE A

Vivamus, mea Lesbia, atque amemus	1
rumoresque senum severiorum	2
omnes unius aestimemus assis!	3
Soles occidere et redire possunt;	4
nobis cum semel occidit brevis lux,	5
nox est perpetua una dormienda.	6
Da mi basia mille, deinde centum;	7
dein mille altera, dein secunda centum;	8
deinde usque altera mille, deinde centum;	9
Dein, cum milia multa fecerimus,	10
conturbabimus illa, ne sciamus,	11
aut ne quis malus invidere possit,	12
cum tantum sciat esse basiorum.	13

1. Who is the author of this poem?

- (A) Ovid (B) Vergil (C) Lucian (D) Catullus

2. What genre of poetry does this poem belong to?

- (A) Love poetry (B) Elegy (C) Didactic (D) Tragedy

3. Who or what is described as *severiorum* in line 2?

- (A) Lesbia (B) *senes* (C) *rumores* (D) *omnes*

4. What does the poet suggest in line 3?

- (A) Feel better about themselves (B) Buy an ass to return home
(C) Disregard rumors (D) Help everyone together

5. What will the poet and Lesbia do in line 6?

- (A) Die (B) Get married (C) Stay up all night (D) Wake up

6. What is the poet counting on lines 7-9?

- (A) Coins (B) Days (C) Nights (D) Kisses

7. What is the best translation for *ne sciamus* on line 11?

- (A) so that we do not know (B) don't let us know
(C) and let us find out (D) we don't know anything

8. What does the poet hope will happen in line 12?

- (A) Someone could see them (B) She would not be jealous of him
(C) No one would be able to be jealous (D) He could find her with another man

9. Based on this poem, who is Lesbia?

- (A) A goddess (B) A lover (C) A warrior (D) A rival

PASSAGE B

Turnus ut infractos adverso Marte Latinos 1
defecisse videt, sua nunc promissa reposci, 2
se signari oculis, ultro implacabilis ardet 3
attollitque animos. Poenorum qualis in arvis 4
saucius ille gravi venantum vulnere pectus 5
tum demum movet arma leo, gaudetque comantis 6
excutiens cervice toros fixumque latronis 7
impavidus frangit telum et fremit ore cruento: 8
haud secus acceso gliscit violentia Turno. 9
tum sic adfatur regem atque ita turbidus inquit: 10
“nulla mora in Turno; nihil est quod dicta retractent 11
ignavi Aeneadae, nec quae pepigere recusant: 12
congregior. Fer sacra, pater, et concipe foedus. 13

10. What genre of poetry does this excerpt belong to?
(A) Love poetry (B) Tragedy (C) Didactic (D) Epic
11. Based on this passage, who is Turnus?
(A) A centaur (B) A lion (C) A son of Aeneas (D) A warrior
12. What does Turnus see in line 1?
(A) The Latins killing his troops (B) Mars appears to encourage the Latins
(C) The Latins are discouraged by the fighting (D) Mars turns to shatter the ground
13. What is the best translation of *se signari oculis* on line 3?
(A) That he is marked by every eye (B) He looks at himself with his eyes
(C) With his eyes, he see their signals (D) He watches them in his eyes
14. Which emotion is evoked in line 4?
(A) Anger (B) Courage (C) Fear (D) Dignity
15. Which animal is Turnus compared to in the extended simile on lines 4-8?
(A) Bull (B) Lion (C) Snake (D) Hawk
16. How does he react to the sustained injury (*vulnere*) in line 5?
(A) At last excites him to fight (B) Takes away the urge to fight
(C) Causes him to panic and run (D) Makes him more bitter
17. What caused the injury (*vulnere*) in line 5?
(A) A sword (B) A trap (C) A dart (D) A bite
18. What are the *Aeneadae* in line 12?
(A) Constellation (B) Priests (C) Nymphs (D) Fighters
19. Whom is Turnus addressing in lines 11-13?
(A) Jupiter (B) King Latinus (C) Aeneas (D) Mars

PASSAGE C

Multa tuae, Sparte, miramur iura palaestrae, 1
sed mage virginei tot bona gymnasii, 2
quod non infamis exercet corpore ludos 3
inter luctantis nuda puella viros, 4
cum pila velocis fallit per brachia iactus, 5
increpat et versi clavis adunca trochi, 6
pulverulentaque ad extremas stat femina metas, 7
et patitur duro vulnera pancratis. 8

20. What genre of poetry does this excerpt belong to?
(A) Didactic (B) Tragedy (C) Elegy (D) Comedy
21. Who or what is the poet addressing in line 1?
(A) A goddess (B) A group of women (C) A city (D) A hero
22. What does the poet praise in line 2?
(A) virgin priestesses (B) women's gyms (C) good omens (D) blessings of youth
23. Who or what is *non infamis* in line 3?
(A) *puella* (B) *viros* (C) *corpore* (D) *Sparte*
24. What activity is most likely depicted in line 5 (*cum pila ... brachia iactus*)?
(A) playing catch (B) wrestling (C) foot race (D) arm wrestling
25. What activity is most likely depicted in line 7 (*pulverulentaque ... metas*)?
(A) playing catch (B) wrestling (C) foot race (D) arm wrestling
26. What activity is most likely depicted in line 8 (*et patitur ... pancratis*)?
(A) playing catch (B) wrestling (C) foot race (D) arm wrestling

PASSAGE D

Illa, "Quis et me," inquit, "miseram et te perdidit, Orpheu, 1
quis tantus furor? En iterum crudelia retro 2
Fata vocant, conditque natantia lumina somnus. 3
Iamque vale: feror ingenti circumdata nocte 4
invalidasque tibi tendens, heu non tua, palmas!" 5
dixit et ex oculis subito, ceu fumus in auras 6
commixtus tenues, fugit diversa, neque illum, 7
prensantem nequiquam umbras et multa volentem 8
dicere, praeterea vidit, nec portitor Orci 9
amplius obiectam passus transire paludem. 10
Quid faceret? Quo se rapta bis coniuge ferret? 11
Quo fletu Manis, quae numina voce moveret? 12
Illa quidem Stygia nabat iam frigida cumba. 13

27. Who or what is the speaker addressing in line 1?
(A) Orpheus (B) Her anger (C) The audience (D) Herself

PASSAGE D, cont.

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quis tantus furor? En iterum crudelia retro 2
Fata vocant, conditque natantia lumina somnus. 3
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28. What is the best translation for *furor* in line 2?
(A) Anger (B) Forgetfulness (C) Power (D) Madness
29. What condition is the speaker suffering from in line 3?
(A) Blurry vision (B) Vertigo (C) Nausea (D) Pregnancy
30. What is the implied noun with the adjective *tua* in line 5?
(A) *fata* (B) *nox* (C) *palma* (D) *lumina*
31. What is the best translation for *ex oculis* in line 6?
(A) From her eyes (B) Out of sight (C) From his eyes (D) Looking away
32. What happens to the speaker in lines 6-10?
(A) Burns with fury and causes destruction (B) Vanishes into thin air
(C) Holds back the shadows around her (D) Loses her voice from inhaling smoke
33. Who is the *portitor Orci* in line 9?
(A) Mercury (B) Orpheus (C) Charon (D) Cerberus
34. What is the best translation for the phrase *Quid faceret?* In line 11?
(A) What should he do? (B) What would happen?
(C) What could he have done? (D) What was he doing?
35. What is a Latin synonym for *numina* in line 12?
(A) *preces* (B) *fata* (C) *nomina* (D) *deos*
36. What is a Latin synonym for *cumba* in line 13?
(A) *lecto* (B) *palude* (C) *somno* (D) *flumine*
37. What was Orpheus attempting to do in this passage?
(A) Bring his wife back from the dead (B) Ask his wife about a prophecy
(C) Save his family from the enemy (D) Cure his wife's illness with medicine

Tie Breakers

Passage E

Quidquid agit Rufus, nihil est nisi Naevia Rufo.	1
Si gaudet, si flet, si tacet, hanc loquitur.	2
Cenat, propinat, poscit, negat, innuit: una est	3
Naevia; si non sit Naevia, mutus erit.	4
Scriberet hesterna patri cum luce salute,	5
'Naevia lux', inquit, 'Naevia lumen, have.'	6
Haec legit et ridet demisso Naevia vultu.	7
Naevia non una est: quid, vir inepte, furis?	8

96. What is the best translation of scriberet (line 5)?

- (A) he wrote (B) he was writing (C) he will write (D) he had written

97. Who is the author of this poem?

- (A) Catullus (B) Ovid (C) Vergil (D) Martial

98. What would happen, as in line 4, if Rufus never met Naevia?

- (A) Rufus would stop talking about her (B) Rufus would change into a different person
(C) Rufus would change his mind about her (D) Rufus would write a letter to his father

99. Why is Naevia laughing (*ridet*) in line 7?

- (A) Rufus has made a funny joke (B) Rufus shows that he is pathetic
(C) She has broken up with Rufus (D) She does not know how to read

100. Whom is the poet addressing in line 8 (*vir inepte*)?

- (A) himself (B) Naevia (C) Rufus' father (D) Rufus