

**2014 Area F Latin Convention**  
**Reading Comprehension - Levels 1/2 A, 1/2 B, and I**

**Directions:** Choose the best answer for each question according to the passage. Italicized words are glossed below each passage. Bolded words are referred to in questions about each passage.

**Passage A** (Use for questions 1-10)

- 1 Rōmānī **quī** p̄mī extrā Ītaliā p̄cessērunt **fortēs** fuērunt et vītās simplicās ēgērunt.  
2 Senātōrēs saepe agrōs parvōs et familiās magnās habuērunt sed sine luxuriā contentī erant.  
3 Carthāginiensēs rīsērunt quod eōrum lēgātī solum *instrūmentum escāriōrum* vīdērunt in mensīs  
4 omnium senātōrum in quōrum domibus cēnāverant, sed multī scriptōrēs senātum Rōmānum  
5 “concilium regum” vocāvērunt. Dignitas, nōn dīvitiae, a multīs senātōribus petītae sunt.

*instrūmentum escāriōrum* – set of eating utensils

1. Where did the Romans go?  
(A) into Italy  
(B) away from Rome  
(C) away from Italy  
(D) to Carthage
  
2. What is the antecedent of *quī* (line 1)?  
(A) Rōmānī  
(B) p̄mī  
(C) extrā  
(D) Ītaliā
  
3. What noun does *fortēs* (line 1) describe?  
(A) extrā  
(B) Ītaliā  
(C) vītās  
(D) Rōmānī
  
4. What is the best translation for the phrase *vītās simplicās ēgērunt* (lines 1-2)?  
(A) they ate simple minerals  
(B) they lived simple lives  
(C) they made simple wines  
(D) they grew simple wines
  
5. What two things did the senators have?  
(A) farms and luxuries  
(B) silver and riches  
(C) fields and families  
(D) peacocks and families

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6. Quī erant contentī?  
(A) familiās  
(B) luxuriā  
(C) senātōrēs  
(D) habuērunt
7. Why did the Carthaginians laugh?  
(A) because their ambassadors ate with one set of utensils on all of the senators’ tables, but their scribes called the senate a royal council  
(B) because their ambassadors observed that senators had only one set of utensils on their tables at home while writers referred to the senate as an assembly of kings  
(C) because the senators called the ambassadors a set of utensils in their minds while at home, but authors counseled the senate to call upon the king  
(D) because they were planning an attack on the Roman senate and showed it using their set of utensils
8. Where did the ambassadors eat?  
(A) in the senate house  
(B) in their own homes  
(C) outside the city  
(D) at the homes of senators
9. A quibus senātum Rōmānum concilium regum vocātum est?  
(A) legātīs  
(B) senātōribus  
(C) scriptōribus  
(D) domibus
10. What did most senators want?  
(A) merit  
(B) petitions  
(C) riches  
(D) better utensils

**Passage B** (Use for questions 11-25)

1 Thēseus ad īnsulam Crētam cum sex puerīs et septem puellīs in unā nave nāvīgāvit.  
2 Sciēns magnitudinem periculī nōn timēbat. Nāvis cum liberīs ad īnsulam appropinquāvit.  
3 Multī hominēs in rīpā nāvem spectābant. Inter eōs erat virgo pulcherrima, filia rēgis Crētēnsis,  
4 nomine Ariadnē, quae Thēseum amāvit. Illa eī auxilium dare cōstituit. Ad portam labyrinthī  
5 Ariadnē Thēseum expectāvit, et eī gladium et *glomus* dedit.  
6 “Hōc gladiō,” dixit Ariadnē, “Mīnōtaurum interficiēs, hōc glomere viam inveniēs.” Tum  
7 Thēseus sine timōre in labyrinthum contendit. Mōnstrum vīdit et cum eō diū et ācritter pugnāvit.  
8 Mīnōtaurus, accipiēns multa vulnera, interfectus est. Tum Thēseus et Ariadnē ad Graeciam sēsē  
9 in fugam dedērunt. Hōc modō puerī puellaeque Graeciae a Thēseō servatī sunt.

glomus, glomeris, n. – ball of thread

11. How did Theseus get to Crete?

- (A) by walking
- (B) in a ship
- (C) by running
- (D) the passage does not specify

12. Theseus knew:

- (A) that there was not time to size up the danger
- (B) that there was nothing to fear
- (C) that there was a good chance he would perish
- (D) the size of the danger

13. What did the ship contain as it approached the island?

- (A) children
- (B) books
- (C) freedmen
- (D) sailors

14. Where were the people as they watched Theseus' ship approach?

- (A) in the waves
- (B) on the shore
- (C) in another ship
- (D) in the palace

15. Among the people watching was:

- (A) the Minotaur
- (B) the king
- (C) a maiden
- (D) an assassin

16. A quā Thēseum amatus est?

- (A) ā rege
- (B) ā virgine
- (C) glomere
- (D) nomine

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glomus, glomeris, n. – ball of thread

17. To whom does **eōs** (line 3) refer?

- (A) liberīs
- (B) hominēs
- (C) virgo
- (D) Thēseum

18. What did Ariadne decide?

- (A) to wait until Theseus gets off the boat
- (B) to go with Theseus into the maze
- (C) to marry Theseus because she loves him
- (D) to help Theseus

19. Where did Ariadne wait for Theseus?

- (A) at the maze entrance
- (B) outside the city gate
- (C) at the entrance to the palace
- (D) She didn't wait; she went looking for him.

20. Quās rēs Ariadne Thēseō dēdit?

- (A) gladium et glomus
- (B) auxiliū
- (C) et A et B
- (D) nec A nec B

21. What is one thing Ariadne instructs Theseus to do with the items she gives him?

- (A) build a new road
- (B) find his way
- (C) kill the monster by strangling him with the thread
- (D) tie the thread to his waist

22. How did Theseus go into the maze?

- (A) quickly
- (B) with much fear
- (C) without happiness
- (D) proudly

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23. For how long did Theseus fight the monster?

- (A) a whole day
- (B) a long time
- (C) a short time
- (D) one hour

24. What happened during the fight?

- (A) The Minotaur knew Theseus was vulnerable.
- (B) The Minotaur wounded Theseus many times.
- (C) The Minotaur received many wounds.
- (D) The Minotaur could not be killed.

25. What did Theseus do with the children?

- (A) saved them
- (B) left them in Greece
- (C) served them to the Minotaur
- (D) fled with them

**Passage C** (Use for questions 26-35)

1       Olim in Hispāniā populī *complūrēs* rebellābant, et Cato Maior eōs vīcit. Cato magnum  
2       tributum, autem, ab eīs postulāvit, et Hispānī id *collegērunt*. Postea altera *sēditio* a Tiberiō  
3       Semprōniō Gracchō, marītō Corneliae filiae Scīpiōnis Africānī, *suppressa* est. Gracchus  
4       bene et aeque Hispānōs *tractāvit*, et eum in memoriā cārā Hispānī tenuērunt.

5       Cornēlia filia Scipiōnis Africānī erat multō iūnior quam marītus Semprōnius Gracchus.  
6       Ubi filiī eōrum duo, Tiberius et Gaius, *adhuc* puerī, pater mortuus est. Cornēlia, sicut aliī  
7       familiae suae, nōn luxuriam sed pātriam amāvit. Olim altera fēmina Cornēliae *ostendit* gemmās  
8       suās, sed Cornēlia fēminae suōs filiōs dēmonstrāvit et dīxit, “**Hī** sunt gemmae meae.” Cornēlia  
9       multa dē gente et pātriā puerōs docuit. Sciēns historiam Rōmae Graeciaeque et fābulās dē magnā  
10      gente, Tiberius et frater Gaius *ēmendāre* mala Romae voluit.

complūrēs – several

colligo, colligere, collegi, collectum – gather, collect

sēditio, sēditōnis, f. - insurrection

supprimo, supprimere, suppressi, suppressum – suppress

tracto, tractāre, tractāvi, tractātum – manage, treat

adhuc – yet, still

ostendo, ostendere, ostendi, ostensum – show

ēmendo, ēmendāre, ēmendāvi, ēmendātum – reform

26. Whom did Cato conquer?

- (A) his own men
- (B) a great tribune
- (C) the collected Spanish
- (D) Spanish peoples

27. Quis alteram seditiōnem suppressit?

- (A) Tiberius Semprōnius Gracchus
- (B) Cornēlia
- (C) Scīpio Africānus
- (D) Cato Maior

28. Why did the Spanish people hold Sempronius Gracchus in such high esteem?

- (A) He sought revenge on their enemies.
- (B) He treated them equally.
- (C) His daughter was betrothed to their king.
- (D) He helped them collect the tribute.

29. What comparison is made between Cornelia and Sempronius Gracchus in line 5?

- (A) their families
- (B) he is compared to her father
- (C) how they treated the Spanish
- (D) their age

30. What happened when Tiberius and Gaius were boys?

- (A) they looked forward to the day they had their own sons
- (B) they learned who their father was
- (C) their father died
- (D) their mother left them in their father’s care

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31. What did Cornelia NOT love?

- (A) her father
- (B) her husband
- (C) her country
- (D) extravagance

32. To whom or what did Cornelia liken her sons?

- (A) her father
- (B) jewels
- (C) the rest of their family
- (D) men from history

33. To whom or what does *hī* refer (line 8)?

- (A) filiōs
- (B) fēminae
- (C) luxuriam
- (D) patriam

34. What did the boys learn from their mother?

- (A) about their family and country
- (B) how to go to war for their country
- (C) how to be polite and obey their father
- (D) about their father and his military campaigns

35. What inspired Tiberius and Gaius to reform the evils of Rome?

- (A) their father was killed in Rome
- (B) their mother had told them to
- (C) the tales they knew about their great family
- (D) they knew Rome was better than Greece

**BE SURE TO ANSWER THE TIE BREAKERS ON THE NEXT PAGE**

**Tie Breakers – Answer these questions in numbers 96-100 on your Scantron!**

**Tie-Breaker Passage** (Use for questions 96-100)

- 1 Rōma p̄imō multōs virōs, paucās fēminās habēbat. Sabīnī proximī multās fēminās iuvenēs  
2 habēbant. Rōmulus, rēx Rōmānōrum, cōsiliū fēminās Sabīnās rapere cēpit . Rōmulus  
3 Sabīnōs cum fēminīs liberīisque ad pūblicōs lūdōs invītāvit. Sabīnī, et virī et fēminae et  
4 liberī, ad urbem novam laetissime vērunt. Tum Rōmānī, vidēs signum ā Rōmulō, fēminās  
5 Sabīnās cēperunt et domum contendērunt. Patrēs frātrēsque fēminārum pugnāre nōn poterant  
6 quod arma ad lūdōs nōn portāverant. Postea erat bellum inter Rōmānōs Sabīnōsque.

96. According to the passage, where is Sabine territory in relation to Rome?

- (A) far away
- (B) across the river
- (C) through a forest
- (D) nearby

97. What did Romulus plan to do?

- (A) steal from the Sabine women
- (B) invade the Sabine territory
- (C) take the Sabine women
- (D) force the Sabines to fight in the games

98. To what special event did Romulus invite the Sabine people?

- (A) unveiling of the new city
- (B) public freeing of women
- (C) public games
- (D) all of the above

99. Quōmodo Sabīnī Rōmam vērunt?

- (A) novam
- (B) laetissime
- (C) liberī
- (D) urbem

100. Why did the Sabine men not fight back?

- (A) They had not brought weapons with them.
- (B) They wanted to wait for the war to come.
- (C) They were unable to find the Roman men in the new city.
- (D) They did not want to.