



National  
Qualifications  
2025

**X843/76/11**

**Latin  
Literary Appreciation**

THURSDAY, 29 MAY

9:00 AM – 11:40 AM

**Total marks — 80**

Choose **TWO** sections.

Attempt ALL questions in your chosen sections.

Section 1 — CATULLUS — 40 marks

Section 2 — OVID — 40 marks

Section 3 — VIRGIL — 40 marks

Section 4 — PLINY — 40 marks

Section 5 — CICERO — 40 marks

Write your answers clearly in the answer booklet provided. In the answer booklet you must clearly identify the question number you are attempting.

Use **blue** or **black** ink.

Before leaving the examination room you must give your answer booklet to the Invigilator; if you do not you may lose all the marks for this paper.



## SECTION 1 — CATULLUS — 40 marks

Attempt ALL questions

Catullus, *Poems*

Turn to PAGE TWO of the Prescribed Text.

1. Refer to **Poem 2**, (Varus, a friend . . .).

(a) Refer to lines 6–14 (When we . . . his men). Give details of Catullus' experiences while working in Bithynia. 2

(b) Refer to lines 27–38 (Then, like . . . the truth!). Why do you think Catullus' opinion of Varus' girlfriend suddenly becomes more hostile? 2

Turn to PAGE THREE of the Prescribed Text.

2. Refer to **Poem 3**, lines 12–23 (*di magni . . . poetae*). Catullus has received an unwelcome gift.

(a) What does Catullus write to show his dislike of the gift? 3

(b) Describe how Catullus plans revenge. 2

Turn to PAGE FOUR of the Prescribed Text.

3. Refer to the whole of **Poem 5** (*Dianae sumus . . .*).

This poem is a hymn to the goddess Diana. In what ways does Catullus use language to create a religious tone? In your answer, you may wish to refer to the arrangement and choice of words, imagery, sound and metre. 6

Turn to PAGE FIVE of the Prescribed Text.

4. Refer to **Poem 6**, (*o funde . . .*).(a) Refer to lines 1–7 (*o funde . . . villa*). Explain the references to *Sabine* and *Tibur* regarding the location of Catullus' country estate. 3(b) Refer to lines 10–15 (*nam, Sestianus . . . urtica*).

(i) Describe the cause and symptoms of Catullus' illness. 2

(ii) What has made him feel better? 1

## SECTION 1 (continued)

Turn to PAGES SIX AND SEVEN of the Prescribed Text.

5. Refer to the whole of **Poem 8** (Of all the . . .) and the whole of **Poem 10** (As my friend . . .).

Both of these poems include fake praise. What might the Romans have found funny about these poems? Refer to both poems in your answer.

4

Turn to PAGE SEVEN of the Prescribed Text.

6. Refer to the whole of **Poem 11** (According to . . .).

Explain how Catullus' feelings for Lesbia have changed.

4

Turn to PAGE EIGHT of the Prescribed Text.

7. Refer to **Poem 13** (*iucundum, mea vita* . . .).

Catullus writes to Lesbia about their love affair. Identify details in the poem that show he is serious about the relationship.

3

8. To what extent do you think that Catullus over-reacts to his experiences in life? Support your answer with reference to at least three poems.

8

[Turn over

## SECTION 2 — OVID — 40 marks

Attempt ALL questions

Ovid, *Metamorphoses*

Turn to PAGE NINE of the Prescribed Text.

9. Refer to **Extract 1**, lines 6–9 (They were . . . burned).

Ovid describes the love between Pyramus and Thisbe as being like a fire. Do you consider that comparing love with fire is a good comparison or not? Explain your answer.

3

Turn to PAGE TEN of the Prescribed Text.

10. Refer to **Extract 2**, lines 1–6 (*fissus . . . solebant*).

(a) Suggest reasons why Pyramus and Thisbe are the only ones to have noticed the crack in the wall.

3

(b) In line 4, Ovid speaks directly to Pyramus and Thisbe, when he says to them: 'You were the first to see the crack'. Why do you think Ovid speaks to them directly in this way?

2

Turn to PAGE ELEVEN of the Prescribed Text.

11. Refer to **Extract 3**, lines 15–18 (*dum dubitat . . . aura*).

In these lines, Thisbe spots the injured Pyramus lying on the ground. How successful is Ovid in showing Thisbe's feelings of shock at this point? Refer to the text to support your answer.

6

Turn to PAGE TWELVE of the Prescribed Text.

12. Refer to the whole of **Extract 4** (When she . . .).

What can we learn from **Extract 4** about death and burial in the Roman world?

3

Turn to PAGE THIRTEEN of the Prescribed Text.

13. Refer to **Extract 6**, lines 10–14 (*quodque . . . undis*).

(a) What do we learn about the ham?

3

(b) Why do you think Ovid gives so much detail about this one particular food item?

2

## SECTION 2 (continued)

Turn to PAGE FOURTEEN of the Prescribed Text.

14. Refer to **Extract 8**, lines 16–20 (*And while . . . the ground*).  
What can we learn about Roman temples from these lines? 3
15. Refer to **Extract 9**, lines 5–8 (*esse . . . illa*).  
Consider what Philemon and Baucis request from Jupiter. Do you think that the gods would have been surprised by what the old couple ask for, or not? Explain your answer. 4
16. Refer to **Extract 9**, lines 17–22 (*ostendit . . . colantur*).  
In these lines, Ovid tells us that the trees continued to be remembered long after the time of Baucis and Philemon. Give details of what he says. 3
17. ‘Although Ovid’s stories focus on people, they also provide us with a glimpse of the gods too’.  
To what extent do both stories teach us about the powers of the gods? Support your answer with reference to both stories. 8

[Turn over

## SECTION 3 — VIRGIL — 40 marks

Attempt ALL questions

VIRGIL, *Aeneid*, I, IV, VI

Turn to PAGE FIFTEEN of the Prescribed Text.

18. Refer to the whole of **Extract 1** (It is said . . .).

In this extract, we learn that the goddess Juno is anxious.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (a) Identify two reasons for her anxiety about the future of Carthage.   | 2 |
| (b) To what extent might the reader find Juno an unlikeable character?   | 3 |
| (c) What can we learn about the Romans' attitude to the gods and goddesses from what Virgil tells us about Juno? | 3 |

19. Refer to the whole of **Extract 2** (*haec dum . . . futuris*).

In what ways does Virgil describe a positive relationship between Dido and her people in these lines?

2

Turn to PAGE EIGHTEEN of the Prescribed Text.

20. Refer to **Extract 7**, lines 1–6 (*at vero . . . sumat?*).

In these lines, Aeneas reacts very emotionally to Mercury's message. In what ways does Virgil convey the intensity of the emotions felt by Aeneas? In your answer, you may wish to refer to the choice and arrangement of words, imagery, sound and metre.

6

21. Refer to **Extract 7**, lines 7–14 (*at regina . . . Cithaeron*).

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (a) In these lines, Virgil tells us that Dido knew about Aeneas' plans before he spoke to her. Explain how Dido found out his plans.   | 1 |
| (b) Virgil uses a powerful image to convey Dido's emotions and her behaviour. How effective, in your view, is this image in making Dido's behaviour come alive for the reader? | 6 |

## SECTION 3 (continued)

Turn to PAGE NINETEEN of the Prescribed Text.

22. Refer to Extract 9, lines 1–7 (*tandem . . . veni*).

In these lines, Aeneas attempts to defend himself against Dido's accusations.

- (a) Do you think Dido would have been likely to accept Aeneas' arguments in his defence or not? Give reasons for your view. 4

- (b) To what extent do you have sympathy with Aeneas at this point in the story? 3

Turn to PAGE TWENTY of the Prescribed Text.

23. Refer to the whole of Extract 12 (Then you . . .).

What can we learn about the future relationship between the cities of Rome and Carthage from these lines? 2

24. The relationship between Dido and Aeneas ended tragically. Who or what, in your view, was most to blame for this tragic outcome?

Support your answer with reference to the text. 8

[Turn over

## SECTION 4 — PLINY — 40 marks

Attempt ALL questions

Pliny, *Letters*

Turn to PAGE TWENTY-TWO of the Prescribed Text.

25. Refer to the whole of **Extract 1** (You ask . . .).  
Why is Pliny writing to Tacitus? 2
26. Refer to **Extract 2**, lines 13–22 (*iubet . . . enotaretque*).  
(a) Pliny claims he wants to study rather than go with his uncle. Do you believe him?  
Explain your answer. 2  
(b) What details does Pliny give to make his uncle seem brave? 3

Turn to PAGE TWENTY-THREE of the Prescribed Text.

27. Refer to **Extract 4**, lines 1–4 (*interim . . . dictitabat*).  
(a) What makes the sight of the flames so vivid for the people of Stabiae? 2  
(b) (i) What explanation does Pliny give to calm them down? 1  
(ii) Do you think he was right to do this? Explain your answer. 2

Turn to PAGE TWENTY-FIVE of the Prescribed Text.

28. Refer to **Extract 9**, lines 3–11 (*tum demum . . . detinebat*).  
(a) What details does Pliny give about the crowd of people? 3  
(b) Pliny then describes what the people see as *miranda* (amazing). How successful in your view is Pliny in making the scene appear amazing? 6
29. Refer to **Extract 11**, lines 1–6 (*nec multo . . . moretur*).  
(a) Pliny's mother begs him to save himself. What reasons does she give? 2  
(b) Why do you think Pliny refuses to leave her behind? 2



## SECTION 4 (continued)

Turn to PAGE TWENTY-SIX of the Prescribed Text.

30. Refer to the whole of Extract 13 (*tandem illa . . . exegimus*).
- (a) In line 2, what comparison does Pliny make to suggest the lack of light? 1
  - (b) Why do you think Pliny and his mother are both worried and hopeful? 2
31. Consider the whole of Pliny's story (Extracts 1–13). What evidence is there to show that it was important to the Romans to be able to read and write? 4
32. To what extent is Pliny successful in making his description of events surrounding the eruption frightening?  
Support your answer with reference to both letters. 8

[Turn over

Attempt ALL questions

Cicero, *In Verrem V*

Turn to PAGE TWENTY-EIGHT of the Prescribed Text.

33. Refer to the whole of Extract 2 (Now with . . .).  
In what ways did the Mamertini help Verres? 2
34. Refer to Extract 3, lines 1–7 (*cum propter . . . veste*).  
(a) Refer to lines 1–4 (*cum propter . . . navigarent*). What effect has Verres' greed had on the Roman fleet in Sicily? 2  
(b) Refer to lines 5–7 (*erat . . . veste*). What can we learn about pirates in the Roman world from the contents of the pirate ship? 3
35. Refer to Extract 3, lines 24–30 (*hominem . . . facta est*).  
The people of Syracuse were eager to see the pirates punished. In what ways does Cicero use language to emphasise their eagerness? 6

Turn to PAGE TWENTY-NINE of the Prescribed Text.

36. Refer to the whole of Extract 4 (One man . . .).  
Describe how Servilius treated the pirates he had captured. 3
37. Refer to Extract 5, lines 12–17 (*opus est . . . imperantur*).  
Cicero describes the Syracusan quarries. In what ways do these details add to the strength of his argument? 4

Turn to PAGE THIRTY of the Prescribed Text.

38. Refer to Extract 7, lines 1–5 (*ne Panhormum . . . archpiratam*).  
Explain why the only 'pirate' the people of Centuripa feared was Apronius 'the land pirate'. 3

## SECTION 5 (continued)

Turn to PAGE THIRTY of the Prescribed Text.

39. Refer to Extract 7, lines 13–28 (*iste, quod . . . feriebantur*).

(a) Refer to lines 13–19 (*iste, quod . . . flagitaret*).

Explain why Verres did not execute all the pirates in one big group.

2

(b) Refer to lines 20–28 (*cum magnus . . . feriebantur*).

Suggest what the jury might have found particularly shocking in these lines.

4

40. Refer to the whole of Extract 8 (So this . . .).

Cicero suggests that Verres' achievements are not impressive. What does he say to support this?

3

41. 'Cicero's speech is entertaining but does not prove Verres' guilt.' To what extent do you agree? Support your answer with reference to the text.

8

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