

2016 FJCL State Latin Forum Reading Comprehension – Prose

N. B. the passages are divided into numbered segments which may or may not be entire sentences.

Passage 1) Nepos: Themistocles 2. 6-9

The Greeks prepare for the arrival of the King Xerxes army

6. cuius de adventu cum fama in Graeciam esset perlata et maxime Athenienses peti dicerentur propter pugnam Marathoniam, miserunt Delphos consultum, quidnam facerent de rebus suis. 7. Deliberantibus Pythia¹ respondit, ut moenibus ligneis se munirent. 8. Id responsum quo valeret, cum intellegeret nemo, Themistocles persuasit consilium esse Apollinis, ut in naves se suaque conferrent: eum enim a deo significari murum ligneum. 9. Tali consilio probato addunt ad superiores totidem naves triremes suaque omnia, quae moveri poterant, partim Salamina, partim Troezena deportant; arcem sacerdotibus paucisque maioribus natu ac sacra procuranda tradunt, reliquum oppidum relinquunt.

1. *cum* (segment 6) is best translated
 - a. although
 - b. since
 - c. when
 - d. with

2. *cuius...Marathoniam* (segment 6) tells the reader that
 - a. Marathon being near Athens would be attacked hardest
 - b. The Athenians were said to be the focus of the attack
 - c. The Persian arrival was actually a rumor
 - d. There was a report that Athens was the greatest

3. *consultum* (segment 6) is best translated
 - a. advice
 - b. decree
 - c. of the consuls
 - d. to consult

4. *Deliberantibus* (segment 7) is best translated
 - a. being worthy of advice
 - b. by deliberating
 - c. for weighing
 - d. to those asking

5. *ut* (segment 7) is best translated
 - a. as
 - b. how
 - c. on order that
 - d. that

6. In segment 8, *Id... nemo*, what does no one understand?
 - a. by what means they would prevail
 - b. how a wooden wall would save them
 - c. where they would be safe
 - d. why they would be safe

7. In segment 8, Themistocles persuades that the plan of Apollo is
 - a. to build a wall of wood
 - b. to gather together with the god's protection
 - c. to remove themselves and their belongings by sea
 - d. to trust him as he was what the god meant by a wall of wood

8. In segment 8, Themistocles interprets the response of the Oracle
 - a. cynically
 - b. literally
 - c. metaphorically
 - d. pragmatically

¹ Pythia, Pythiae, f., *The Pythia, the Oracle of Delphi*

9. *Talia consilio probato* (segment 9) is best translated
- by approving so great a plan
 - once such a plan had been approved
 - to approve so much advice
 - with such a counsel having been approved
10. In segment 9, the Athenians do all of the following EXCEPT
- deport all foreigners, especially those from Salamis and Troezen
 - double the size of the battle fleet
 - entrust the elderly and the sacred objects to the citadel
 - have a general evacuation

Two passages from two different authors recounting the debate over the immediate execution of the Catilinarian conspirators(63 BCE), in violation of Roman law
 Passage 2) Sallust: *Bellum Catilinae* 51

The author presents what he claims Julius Caesar, then pontifex maximus, said in response to the proposal by Decimus Silanus that the execution take place that night.

19 "De timore supervacaneum est disserere, cum praesertim diligentia clarissimi viri consulis tanta praesidia sint in armis. 20 De poena possum equidem dicere, id quod res habet, in luctu atque miseriis mortem aerumnarum requiem, non cruciatum esse; eam cuncta mortalium mala dissolvere; ultra neque curae neque gaudio locum esse. 21 Sed, per deos immortales, quam ob rem in sententiam non addidisti, uti prius verberibus in eos animadverteretur? 22 An quia lex Porcia vetat? At aliae leges item condemnatis civibus non animam eripi, sed exilium permitti iubent. An quia gravius est verberari quam necari? 23 Quid autem acerbum aut nimis grave est in homines tanti facinoris convictos? 24 Sin, quia levius est, qui convenit in minore negotio legem timere, cum eam in maiore neglexeris?

11. *supervacaneum* (segment 19) is best translated
- above all
 - beyond discussio
 - empty
 - utterly unnecessary
12. In segment 19, Caesar argues that a quick decision
- is needed because of overwhelming fear
 - is needed because Rome is at war
 - is not needed because Rome has an excellent and diligent consul
 - is not needed because there is nothing to fear.
13. In segment 20, Caesar argues that death is all of the following EXCEPT
- joyless
 - rest
 - torture
 - worry-free
14. *per deos immortales* (segment 21) is
- agency
 - an interjection
 - place to which
 - purpose
15. *lex Porciae vetat* (segment 22) implies that
- attention must be paid prior to beating
 - beating before execution is also banned
 - only a single segment is allowed
 - use of beating is more disgraceful than execution
16. *condemnatis civibus* (segment 22) is best translated
- by condemned citizens
 - for condemned citizens
 - in condemning citizens
 - with citizens having been condemned

17. In segment 22, Caesar argues all of the following EXCEPT
 a. abiding by one law while ignoring another is wrong
 b. beating is worse than death
 c. citizens have rights
 d. laws on the books permit exile rather than death
18. The implied answer to the question in segment 23 is
 a. beating b. death c. everything d. nothing
19. *cum* (segment 24) is best translated
 a. although b. since c. when d. with
20. In segment 24 Caesar argues
 a. abuse of important rights will lead to disobedience to lesser laws
 b. anyone who agrees with the law fears it
 c. punishment must be proportional to the crime
 d. too light a segment will reduce fear of the law
21. In this passage, Caesar is presented as relying heavily on which rhetorical device?
 a. hyperbole b. metaphor c. polysyndeton d. rhetorical question
22. In this passage, Caesar is presented as arguing against the death penalty being immediately exacted using all of the following EXCEPT
 a. civil rights b. contradictory points
 c. elaborate historical allusions d. sarcasm

Passage 3) Cicero: In Catilinam IV. 7

Cicero published his oration rebutting Caesar's proposals:

1. Video duas adhuc esse sententias, unam D. Silani, qui censet eos, qui haec delere conati sunt, morte esse multandos, alteram C. Caesaris, qui mortis poenam removet, ceterorum suppliciorum omnes acerbitates amplectitur. 2. Uterque et pro sua dignitate et pro rerum magnitudine in summa severitate versatur. 3. Alter eos, qui nos omnes, qui populum Romanum vita privare conati sunt, qui delere imperium, qui populi Romani nomen extinguere, punctum temporis frui vita et hoc communi spiritu non putat oportere atque hoc genus poenae saepe in inprobos cives in hac re publica esse usurpatum recordatur. 4. Alter intellegit mortem ab dis immortalibus non esse supplicii causa constitutam, sed aut necessitatem naturae aut laborum ac miseriarum quietem esse. 5. Itaque eam sapientes numquam inviti, fortes saepe etiam libenter oppetiverunt. Vincula vero, et ea sempiterna, certe ad singularem poenam nefarii sceleris inventa sunt.

23. *unam* (segment 1)
 a. in apposition to *sententias* b. a predicate accusative
 c. subject of an indirect statement d. the direct object of *censeo*
24. *haec* (segment 1) refers to
 a. the conspirators b. the debate c. the nation d. the senate
25. According to Cicero in segment 1, Silanus' argument was
 a. destroyers have always been executed
 b. many have had their segments changed with death
 c. the conspirators must be executed
 d. the punishment must be changed from death

26. According to Cicero in segment 1, Caesar's argument
- embraces the harshest possible punishments
 - is concerned about the harshness as a precedent
 - is for multiple punishments, except death
 - looks on all punishments as equally bitter
27. *pro* (segment 2) is best translated
- in exchange for
 - in front of
 - in proportion to
 - on behalf of
28. *versatur* (segment 2) is best translated
- discusses
 - dwells
 - is rolled
 - turns
29. *genus* (segment 3) is the
- object of *oportere*
 - object of *recordatur*
 - subject of *oportere*
 - subject of *recordatur*
30. *delere* (segment 3) depends on
- conati sunt*
 - oportere*
 - putat*
 - recordatur*
31. *punctum* (segment 3) is best translated
- an instant
 - a jab
 - a point
 - a spot
32. The two points of the first argument laid out in segment 3 are
- those who plot against the state should be killed and there is precedent for doing it immediately
 - those who plot against the state enjoy it and therefore should be killed
 - those who have tried to kill the Roman people are not fit to breathe and rights don't apply to the wicked
 - those who have tried to kill the Roman people historically have no rights and expect to be killed
33. *supplicii* (segment 4) is a(n)
- genitive with adjectives
 - objective genitive
 - partitive genitive
 - possessive genitive
34. In segment 4, Cicero summarizes all of Caesar's speech with the following EXCEPT
- death is a natural phenomenon
 - death is the end of struggle and suffering
 - death was not established as a punishment by the gods
 - the gods don't punish evil-doers
35. *eam* (segment 5) has as its antecedent
- causa*
 - miseriam*
 - mortem*
 - necessitatem*
36. *libenter* (segment 5) is best translated
- liberally
 - quite freely
 - they are freed
 - willingly
37. According to Cicero (segment 5), the second proposal advocates
- banishment
 - exposure of wickedness
 - imprisonment
 - torture

47. In segment 6 we learn that Piso's brother did all of the following EXCEPT
- a. leave the battle
 - b. notice that his brother had fallen
 - c. put himself in the way of the enemy
 - d. receive many wounds
48. *hostibus* (segment 6) is
- a. ablative of place from which
 - b. ablative of place where
 - c. dative with compound verbs
 - d. dative of reference
49. The number of ablatives absolute in the passage is
- a. 4
 - b. 5
 - c. 6
 - d. 7
50. Caesar includes this incident because
- a. it brings home the tragedy of war
 - b. it is an unusual event which might interest the reader
 - c. it makes his commentaries seem more like Homeric epic
 - d. it shows that Gauls under Roman influence can be loyal and brave