

Markscheme

May 2026

Latin

Standard level

Paper 1

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Paper 1—Guided analysis

To what extent does the response contain an analysis of textual features and/or authorial choices?

To what extent is the response supported by evidence that is relevant and correctly understood?

Marks	Description
0	The response does not meet the description below.
1–2	The response describes or summarizes examples from the extract; the response contains little analysis of textual features and/or authorial choices. The response is supported by evidence that is irrelevant to the prompt, or incorrectly understood.
3–4	The response contains some analysis of textual features and/or authorial choices and how they shape meaning, but relies on description. The response is supported by evidence that is somewhat relevant to the prompt and partially understood.
5–6	Throughout the response there is plausible analysis of textual features and/or authorial choices; the response draws conclusions from evidence. The response is directly supported by relevant evidence that is correctly understood.

Option A

Prose — Seneca, *Letters* 54.1–3

1. (a) After a long respite from ill health [1], (now) it attacked him suddenly [1].
- (b) None/ no type (of illness)/nothing is unknown to Seneca [1].
- (c) (He does not know why) it is called/he calls it ‘asthma’/by its Greek name [1] it is/involves/can (adequately) be called shortness of breath [1].
- (d) Award [1] up to [4] for any of the following: they are brief (*brevis*); and like a storm (*procellae similis*); they let up within an hour (*intra horam desinit*); (all manner of) (bodily) inconveniences/dangers (*incommoda/pericula*); go through/permeate/affect him/his body (*per me transierunt*).
- (e) Award [1] up to [3] for any of the following: anything else is (just) being ill; this is like breathing out your life/soul (or: expiring, dying etc); the doctors call it; a practice in dying.
- (f) His breath will do [1] what it has often tried (i.e., to stop/leave him) [1].

- (g) The [6] for how well the translation conveys the meaning of the passage are awarded using the markbands below.

Marks	Level descriptor
0	The response does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below.
1–2	The response does not adequately communicate the meaning of the text. Lexical and grammatical errors are in evidence throughout the translation
3–4	The response communicates the general meaning of the text. Lexical and grammatical errors are isolated but significant
5–6	The response accurately communicates the meaning of the text. Lexical and grammatical errors do not impair the translation.

The [10] for the precision of the translation are awarded as follows, with each word or phrase worth [1].

	Word or phrase	Type of mark	Response
1	<i>me</i>	Syntax/morphology	subject of <i>scribere</i>
2	<i>quia</i>	Meaning in context	“because”
3	<i>effugi</i>	Syntax/morphology	1st person sg perfect
4	<i>tam ... quam</i>	Syntax/morphology	rendition of comparison (“so/as ... as...”)
5	<i>fine</i>	Meaning in context	“outcome”, “end” (not: “boundary”)
6	<i>delector</i>	Syntax/morphology	1st person singular verb
7	<i>vicisse</i>	Syntax/morphology	perfect active infinitive
8	<i>ipsa</i>	Syntax/morphology	modifying <i>suffocatione</i>
9	<i>fortibus</i>	Meaning in context	“brave”, “courageous” (not: “strong”)
10	<i>adquiescere</i>	Meaning in context	“rejoice in”, “be satisfied with” (not: “acquiesce to”)

Option B

Verse — Catullus, *Carmina* 68.9–26

2. (a) That Manlius calls him a friend (accept: that he is Manlius's friend) [1] and asks (him) for poetry/the gifts of the Muses and Venus [1].
- (b) His troubles being unknown to Manlius [1], or that Manlius may think that he hates/avoids his duty (as a friend) [1], and that Manlius asks for (further) gifts/poetry [1].
- (c) Award [1] up to [4] for any of the following: when first (*tempore quo primum*); he received his "white clothing" (*vestis mihi tradita pura est*); his youth was fresh/flowery (*florida*); it was pleasant (*iucundum*); he had fun/wrote poetry a lot **or** enough (*multa lusi* or *satis lusi*).
- (d) She mixes (sweet) bitterness [1] with love/cares/grief [1]. Also accept: she knows Catullus (or similar)
- (e) (His brother's) death has taken away [1] all his enthusiasm [1] through/with/in grief [1].

- (f) The [6] for how well the translation conveys the meaning of the passage are awarded using the markbands below.

Marks	Level descriptor
0	The response does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below.
1–2	The response does not adequately communicate the meaning of the text. Lexical and grammatical errors are in evidence throughout the translation
3–4	The response communicates the general meaning of the text. Lexical and grammatical errors are isolated but significant
5–6	The response accurately communicates the meaning of the text. Lexical and grammatical errors do not impair the translation.

The [10] for the precision of the translation are awarded as follows, with each word or phrase worth [1].

	Word or phrase	Type of mark	Response
1	<i>misero</i>	Syntax/morphology	modifying <i>mihi</i>
2	<i>adempte</i>	Syntax/morphology	perfect passive participle
3	<i>fregisti</i>	Syntax/morphology	2nd pers sg perfect
4	<i>est sepulta</i>	Syntax/morphology	3rd pers sg perfect passive
5	<i>una (second)</i>	Meaning in context	‘along with’, ‘together with’, ‘at the same time’ (not: ‘one’)
6	<i>quae</i>	Syntax/morphology	object of <i>alebat</i>
7	<i>cuius</i>	Syntax/morphology	referring back to the brother/‘you’
8	<i>interitu</i>	Meaning in context	‘death’
9	<i>fugavi</i>	Meaning in context	‘chase’ (not: ‘flee’)
10	<i>animi</i>	Syntax/morphology	gen. with <i>delicias</i>