

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 — Quintus Curtius, *History of Alexander* 3.2.10–15

1. (a) His officer(s) inflated his hope [1] with flattery/deception/lying/vanity/empty words [1].
- (b) Charidemus was skilled in war [1] and **either** was banished by Alexander **or** hated Alexander **or** was expelled from Athens on Alexander's orders [1].
- (c) Whether he was prepared [1] to crush/defeat/destroy/disgrace (his) enemy/enemies [1].
- (d) Charidemus' rank/position/lot/fate [1] and royal pride/arrogance [1].
- (e) If he doesn't (speak now) [1], it will be too late (afterwards) (or more literal) [1].
- (f) Award [1] up to [4] for any of the following: the army is fierce/grim (*torva*) **or** wild/rough/uncouth (*inculta*) [1]; they have shields (*clipeis*) **or** spears (*hastis*) [1]; they are arranged in a wedge (*cuneos*) [1]; they are powerful (*robora* **or** *stabile agmen*) [1]; they are drawn up closely (*conferta* **or** *vir viro conserta sunt* **or** *armis arma conserta sunt*) [1]. Accept 'it is called/ its technical name is a phalanx (*phalangem vocant*)' [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>monentis</i>	Syntax/morphology	gen. participle used substantively ('of the commander', 'of the one commanding')
2	<i>signa</i>	Syntax/morphology	acc. object of <i>sequi</i>
3	<i>servare</i>	Meaning in context	From <i>servo</i> (not: <i>servio</i>).
4	<i>imperatur</i>	Syntax/morphology	3rd sg passive
5	<i>obsistere</i>	Syntax/morphology	Present infinitive active
6	<i>cornu</i>	Meaning in context	Wing (of an army)
7	<i>quam</i>	Meaning in context	Comparison ("than")
8	<i>callent</i>	Meaning in context	Understand, be versed/experienced in. Not 'be callous' or literal sense.
9	<i>auri</i>	Syntax/morphology	Genitive with <i>studio</i>
10	<i>paupertate</i>	Syntax/morphology	Ablative

Option B

Verse — Reposian, *De concubitu Martis et Veneris* 1–7; 11–22

2. (a) Not to trust/believe that love is (ever) safe/certain/carefree. Accept: that love never believes itself to be secure [1].
- (b) Award [1] up to [3] for any of the following: she has a powerful flame/passion **or** is powerful [1]; desire serves her as a soldier (or similar or more literal) [1]; she is able to/can/could love (with Cupid as a safe guardian) [1]; she teaches **either** the tricks **or** the secrets of love [1]; she protects/oversees **either** the secrets **or** the tricks of love [1]. (There must be no overlap of information for both of these marks to be awarded.)
- (c) She could not procure/find a hiding place [1].
- (d) Award [1] up to [2] for any of the following: Cupid is wicked/relentless/shameless/mischievous **or** unfeeling/harsh; he is cruel; he is victorious/triumphant (or more literal); not satisfied with any triumph.
- (e) He should bear the label (of a slave) (or similar) [1] and carry chains [1] and lower his neck or submit to a yoke [1].
- (f) Award [1] up to [4] for any of the following supported by a precise quotation of the Latin text: he has been wounded (*vulnus*) [1]; he has been in war/battle (*bellum*) [1]; he gasps (*anhelat*) [1]; in the camp (/battlefield) of Cupid or more literal (*in castris tuis*) [1]; he is a recruit/beginner (*tiro*) [1]; he fears Cupid (*te timet*) [1]; the bonds of marriage/love lead him **or** he follows the bonds of marriage/love (*ducunt vincla marita or sequitur vincla marita*) [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>precor</i>	Meaning in context	I pray, I beg, 'please'
2	<i>imis</i>	Meaning in context	Deep, innermost. Not 'last'.
3	<i>medullis</i>	Syntax/morphology	Ablative of separation/motion (e.g. 'from their heart') from or locative ('in their marrow')
4	<i>captatur</i>	Syntax/morphology	3rd singular passive
5	<i>oris</i>	Meaning in context	Mouth, face. Not 'shore'.
6	<i>carmine</i>	Syntax/morphology	Instrumental ablative
7	<i>doctiloquo</i>	Syntax/morphology	Modifying <i>carmine</i>
8	<i>parate</i>	Syntax/morphology	Imperative
9	<i>Veneris</i>	Syntax/morphology	Genitive with <i>braccia</i>
10	<i>livida</i>	Syntax/morphology	Modifying <i>braccia</i>