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Latin
Higher level
Paper 2

6 May 2026

Zone A morning | **Zone B** morning | **Zone C** morning

1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions to students

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer the questions in one option.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[32 marks]**.

Answer **all** questions in **one** option.

Option A

Answer **all** parts of the following question based on the provided extract.

Prescribed core text: Prose — Cicero, *Pro Caelio* 16 and 30

numquam enim tam Caelius amens fuisset ut, si sese isto infinito ambitu commaculasset, ambitus alterum accusaret, neque eius facti in altero suspicionem quaereret cuius ipse sibi perpetuam licentiam optaret, nec, si sibi semel periculum ambitus subeundum putaret, ipse alterum iterum ambitus crimine arcesseret. quod quamquam nec sapienter et me invito facit, tamen est eius modi
5 cupiditas ut magis insectari alterius innocentiam quam de se timide cogitare videatur.

[...]

itaque ego severitati tuae ita ut oportet respondere non audeo. erat enim meum deprecari vacationem adolescentiae veniamque petere. non, inquam, audeo; perfugiis nihil utor aetatis, concessa omnibus iura dimitto; tantum peto ut, si qua est invidia communis hoc tempore aeris alieni, petulantiae, libidinum iuventutis, quam video esse magnam, tamen ne huic aliena peccata,
10 ne aetatis ac temporum vitia noceant. atque ego idem qui haec postulo quin criminibus quae in hunc proprie conferuntur diligentissime respondeam non recuso. sunt autem duo crimina, auri et veneni; in quibus una atque eadem persona versatur. aurum sumptum a Clodia, venenum quaesitum quod Clodiae daretur, ut dicitur.

(Option A continues on the following page)

(Option A continued)

1. (a) *numquam enim ... licentiam optaret* (lines 1–3). Identify what Caelius would never do, according to Cicero. Quotation of the Latin text is **not** required. [2]
- (b) *nec, si ... crimine arcesseret* (lines 3–4). Identify the reference **and** explain what Cicero implies by it. Quotation of the Latin text is **not** required. [3]
- (c) *itaque ego ... inquam, audeo* (lines 6–7). Outline what Cicero says he won't do. Quotation of the Latin text is **not** required. [3]
- (d) *tantum peto ... vitia noceant* (lines 8–10). State what Cicero asks for. Support your answer with **two** quotations from the Latin text. [2]
- (e) *sunt autem ... ut dicitur* (lines 11–13). Explain why Cicero says that both accusations involve the same person. Support your answer with **two** quotations from the Latin text. [2]
- (f) Analyse how Cicero constructs Caelius's innocence in this passage. Support your answer by quoting the Latin text. [8]

Answer **either** part (a) **or** part (b).

Support your answer with evidence from **one verse** prescribed core text and **at least one** other source.

Either

2. (a) "Latin verse texts are spaces for cultural and political transgression." Discuss. [12]

Or

2. (b) To what extent can Latin texts highlight the views and perspectives of their authors? [12]

End of Option A

Option B

Answer **all** parts of the following question based on the provided extract.

Prescribed core text: Prose — Livy, *Ab Urbe Condita* 2.11

Porsenna primo conatu repulsus, consiliis ab oppugnanda urbe ad obsidendam versis, praesidio in Ianiculo locato, ipse in plano ripisque Tiberis castra posuit, navibus undique accitis et ad custodiam ne quid Romam frumenti subvehi sineret, et ut praedatum milites trans flumen per occasiones aliis atque aliis locis traiceret; brevique adeo infestum omnem Romanum agrum

5 reddidit ut non cetera solum ex agris sed pecus quoque omne in urbem compelleretur, neque quisquam extra portas propellere auderet. hoc tantum licentiae Etruscis non metu magis quam consilio concessum. namque Valerius consul intentus in occasionem multos simul et effusos improvise adoriundi, in parvis rebus neglegens ultor, gravem se ad maiora vindicem servabat. itaque ut eliceret praedatores, edicit suis postero die frequentes porta Esquilina, quae aversissima

10 ab hoste erat, expellerent pecus, scituos id hostes ratus, quod in obsidione et fame servitia infida transfugerent. et sciare perfugae indicio; multoque plures, ut in spem universae praedae, flumen traiciunt. P. Valerius inde T. Herminium cum modicis copiis ad secundum lapidem Gabina via occultum considerare iubet.

(Option B continues on the following page)

(Option B continued)

3. (a) *Porsenna primo ... obsidendam versis* (line 1). Outline how Porsenna's plans changed. Support your answer with **two** quotations from the Latin text. [2]
- (b) *brevique adeo ... propellere auderet* (lines 4–6). State the effects of Porsenna's actions. Support your answer with **three** quotations from the Latin text. [3]
- (c) *itaque ut ... infida transfugerent* (lines 9–11). Explain Valerius's plan. Quotation of the Latin text is **not** required. [3]
- (d) *et sciere ... considerare iubet* (lines 11–13). Outline how Valerius's plan worked out. Quotation of the Latin text is **not** required. [4]
- (e) Analyse how Livy uses stylistic choices to depict the military strategies of Porsenna and Valerius. Support your answer by quoting the Latin text. [8]

Answer **either** part (a) **or** part (b).

Support your answer with evidence from **one verse** prescribed core text and **at least one** other source.

Either

4. (a) "Latin verse texts are spaces for cultural and political transgression." Discuss. [12]

Or

4. (b) To what extent can Latin texts highlight the views and perspectives of their authors? [12]

End of Option B

Option C

Answer **all** parts of the following question based on the provided extract.

Prescribed core text: Verse — Vergil, *Aeneid* 2.199–224

hic aliud maius miseris multoque tremendum
 200 obicitur magis, atque improvida pectora turbat.
 Laocoön, ductus Neptuno sorte sacerdos,
 sollemnis taurum ingentem mactabat ad aras.
 ecce autem gemini a Tenedo tranquilla per alta—
 horresco referens—immensis orbibus angues
 205 incumbunt pelago, pariterque ad litora tendunt;
 pectora quorum inter fluctus arrecta iubaeque
 sanguineae superant undas; pars cetera pontum
 pone legit, sinuatque immensa volumine terga.
 fit sonitus spumante salo; iamque arva tenebant,
 210 ardentisque oculos suffecti sanguine et igni,
 sibila lambebant linguis vibrantibus ora.
 diffugimus visu exsanguis: illi agmine certo
 Laocoönta petunt; et primum parva duorum
 corpora natorum serpens amplexus uterque
 215 implicat, et miseros morsu depascitur artus;
 post ipsum auxilio subeuntem ac tela ferentem
 corripunt, spirisque ligant ingentibus; et iam
 bis medium amplexi, bis collo squamea circum
 terga dati, superant capite et cervicibus altis.
 220 ille simul manibus tendit divellere nodos,
 perfusus sanie vittas atroque veneno,
 clamores simul horrendos ad sidera tollit:
 quales mugitus, fugit cum saucius aram
 taurus, et incertam excussit cervice securim.

(Option C continues on the following page)

(Option C continued)

5. (a) *Laocoön, ductus ... ad aras* (lines 201–202). State how Laocoon’s role is shown in these lines. Quotation of the Latin text is **not** required. [3]
- (b) *ecce autem ... volumine terga* (lines 203–208). Describe the creatures that Aeneas saw. Support your answer with **four** quotations from the Latin text. [4]
- (c) Write out and scan *sibila lambebant ... agmine certo* (lines 211–212). Indicate elisions where necessary. [2]
- (d) *post ipsum ... cervicibus altis* (lines 216–219). Outline the steps by which the snakes overpowered Laocoon. Support your answer with **three** quotations from the Latin text. [3]
- (e) Analyse how Vergil uses language to convey Aeneas’s horror at the demise of Laocoon and his sons. Support your answer by quoting the Latin text. [8]

Answer **either** part (a) **or** part (b).

Support your answer with evidence from **one prose** prescribed core text and **at least one** other source.

Either

6. (a) Discuss the depiction of social class and hierarchy in Latin prose texts. [12]

Or

6. (b) Discuss how Latin texts establish models of conduct to follow or reject. [12]

End of Option C

Option D

Answer **all** parts of the following question based on the provided extract.

Prescribed core text: Verse — Ovid, *Amores* 1.9.1–26

- militat omnis amans, et habet sua castra Cupido;
 Attice, crede mihi, militat omnis amans.
 quae bello est habilis, Veneri quoque convenit aetas.
 turpe senex miles, turpe senilis amor.
- 5 quos petiere duces animos in milite forti,
 hos petit in socio bella puella viro.
 pervigilant ambo; terra requiescit uterque —
 ille fores dominae servat, at ille ducis.
 militis officium longa est via; mitte puellam,
- 10 strenuus exempto fine sequetur amans.
 ibit in adversos montes duplicataque nimbo
 flumina, congestas exteret ille nives,
 nec freta pressurus tumidos causabitur Euros
 aptaque verrendis sidera quaeret aquis.
- 15 quis nisi vel miles vel amans et frigora noctis
 et denso mixtas perferet imbre nives?
 mittitur infestos alter speculator in hostes;
 in rivale oculos alter, ut hoste, tenet.
 ille graves urbes, hic durae limen amicae
- 20 obsidet; hic portas frangit, at ille fores.
 saepe soporatos invadere profuit hostes
 caedere et armata vulgus inerme manu.
 sic fera Threicii ceciderunt agmina Rhesi,
 et dominum capti deseruistis equi.
- 25 nempe maritorum somnis utuntur amantes,
 et sua sopitis hostibus arma movent.

(Option D continues on the following page)

(Option D continued)

7. (a) *quae bello ... senilis amor* (lines 3–4). Outline the similarity highlighted by Ovid in these lines. Support your answer by quoting the Latin text. [4]
- (b) Write out and scan *militis officium ... sequetur amans* (lines 9–10). Indicate elisions where necessary. [2]
- (c) *quis nisi ... ille fores* (lines 15–20). Outline **two** parallel actions of the lover and the soldier. Support your answer with **four** quotations from the Latin text. [4]
- (d) *sic fera ... deseruistis equi* (lines 23–24). Outline the mythological reference **and** explain what it suggests. Quotation of the Latin text is **not** required. [2]
- (e) Analyse how Ovid uses language to convey the notion that love requires hard work. Support your answer by quoting the Latin text. [8]

Answer **either** part (a) **or** part (b).

Support your answer with evidence from **one prose** prescribed core text and **at least one** other source.

Either

8. (a) Discuss the depiction of social class and hierarchy in Latin prose texts. [12]

Or

8. (b) Discuss how Latin texts establish models of conduct to follow or reject. [12]

End of Option D

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- Option B** T. Livius, n.d. *ab Urbe Condita*. R. S. Conway and C. Flamstead (eds.) 1914. [online] Available at: <https://artflsrv03.uchicago.edu/philologic4/Latin/navigate/79/2/12/> [Accessed 31 March 2025]. Source adapted.
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- Option D** P. Ovidius Naso, n.d. *Volume 1: Amores, Epistulae, Medicamina faciei femineae, Ars amatoria, Remedia amoris*. R. Ehrwald and R. Merkel (ed.), 1907 [online] Available at: <https://artflsrv03.uchicago.edu/philologic4/Latin/navigate/84/1/11/> [Accessed 31 March 2025]. Source adapted.