2009 SAN ANTONIO CLASSICAL SOCIETY

TSJCL AREA B ACADEMIC OLYMPICS

READING COMPREHENSION LEVEL II TEST

***Cincinnatus***

bellīs contrā finitīmōs ab Romānīs gestīs, quīnque equitēs Romam venērunt. hī dīxerunt inimīcōs munitiōnēs exercitūs Romānōs circumdedisse et consūlem cum exercitū obsidērī. hīs rēbus nuntiātīs senātus ab magistrātibus et principibus reī pūblicae vocābātur. senatōrēs audīvērunt exercitum in valle inter montēs sine exitū clausum esse.

 senatōrēs crēdidērunt sē auxilium mittere debēre. perītum ducem habere opus est. consēnsū omnium Lucius Quinctius Cincinnatus dictātor dicitur. Lucius trāns Tiberem vivēbat. legāti ad eum adeunt. eum in agrīs invenērunt. salūtāte datā redditāque, antequam legātī verba, quae senātus mandāverat, nuntiāverant, Cincinnatus uxōrem , Racillam, togam proferre iussit. pulvere ab manibus corpōreque lavātō, Cincinnatus legātōs audīvit, et cum eīs Romam redit.

 nāve parātā dictātor novus cum nuntiīs Romam adit. in eō lōcō mīlitēs frumentum cogunt. agmine factō occāsū sōlis dictātor copiaeque ex urbe exeunt.

 itinere celeriter factō, atque castrīs hostium circumdātīs, signum dātum est. ōmnēs mīlitēs clamōrem ad caelum sustūlērunt. consūlēs sōnum clamōris civilis audivērunt gaudēbantque.

 nocte proelium cōmmissum est et proeliō coeptō per noctem nōn intermīsit. hostēs territī vulnerātīque victī sunt et arma depōnunt. iugō ex trībus hastīs factō sub hōc dictātor hostēs mīsit.

 Cicninnatus omnem praeam ex castrīs hostium suīs militibus dedit. senātus triumphum Cincinnatō cum agmine in urbem venientī decrēvit. Cincinnatus agrōs honōre melius amāns dōmum īvit.

1. How many cavalrymen came to Rome during the war with neighboring tribes?

a) 1 b) 5 c) 10 d) 2

1. What news do the cavalrymen bring with them?

 a) Rome has fallen b) a mutiny has occurred c) The Roman army was surrounded

3. Who summoned the senate to convene?

 a) magistrates b) soldiers c) chieftains d) A and B

4. What was told to the senators?

 a) The army was retreating into the mountains b) The army was blocked in a valley

 c) The army is fleeing d) the army has lost their generals

1. What does the senate want to do about the situation?

 a) send help b) raise a new army c) surrender d) move

1. What does the senate need to be successful, but don’t have?

 a) a good leader b) a large army c) nice clothes d) new weapons

1. What is the title given to Cincinnatus?

 a) consul b) praetor c) dictator d) king

8. Where do the legionaires find Cincinnatus?

 a) in a tavern b) at his farm c) in the baths d) on the practice range

9. After he heard the announcement, what did Cincinnatus do?

 a) ordered a toga from his wife b) washed his hands and body

c) returned to Rome with the soldiers d) all of the above

10. When Cincinnatus arrived at the military cmap what does he find?

 a) geese b) the camp was surrounded c) ghosts d) Caesar’s army

11. What did his soldiers do when given the signal?

 a) shouted very loudly b) ran away c) put down their weapons and surrounded

 d) attacked Roman soldiers

12. Why did Cincinnatus walk away from the honors given to him by the senate?

 a) he was a coward b) he was already rich c) he loved the fields more than honors

 d) he was crazy

***The Evils of Medea***

nunc ut dē familiā Peliae poenās capiat. Medea querellam falsam cum coniuge Iasōne simulat et supplex ad regiam Peliae fugit. cuius filiae illam magnō cum gaudiō accipiunt quōniam rex ipse senex est. parvō tempōre Medea amicitia falsa fīliās cēpit dumque fabulam dē iuventūte Aesōnis recēptā narrat. eīs spem dat parentem suum arte magicā rēvirescere posse. idque petunt pretiumque iubent sine fine dārī. “ut sit fidēs maior huius mūneris.” ait, “dux ovium ferātur ut agnus medicāmine meō fiat.” statim hōc ductō, Medea guttur ense secat et in aēnō corpus mergit. subitō in mediō aenō balātus audītur et sine morā ēvēnit agnus quī mātrem quaerit.

 fīliae Peliae mīrātae sunt postquam ipsae mīrāculum prōmissum vīderant; tum vērō mūnus maxime rogant. post trēs noctēs fīlia Aeёtae ignī aenum plēnum aquae sine herbīs magicīs impōsuit. iam somnus mortis similis corpus regis tenēbat ubi fīliae cum Medeā cubiculum regis intrāvērunt et circum lectum ambulāvērunt: “cūr nunc dubitātis?” ait Medea “gladiīs emittite sanguinem ut sanguine iuventūtis corpus patris repleam. in manibus vestris est vīta parentis.” hīs verbīs audītīs, quaeque pia fīlia factum mālum facit. tamen quia nulla ictūs suōs spectāre potest, oculōs vertunt ut caeca vulnera dextrīs dent. ille sanguine fluēns tamen surgere temptat et inter tot gladiōs bracchia tendēns ait, “quid facitis, fīliae? cūr in mortem parentem mittitis?” animī illārum cecidērunt et manus quōque. sed Medea guttūre regis plura verba abstulit et corpus in calidis undis mersit. in hōc modō Medea fīliābus Peliae persuāsit ut patrem suum necārent.

1. Why does Medea go to the kingdom of Pelias?

 a) to learn secret spells b) to inflict punishment on his family c) to take a vacation

14. According to Medea, why has she fled to his city?

 a) she accidently ended up there b) She had a fight with her husband

 c) she killed her husband d) she is looking for her brother

15. Why does the king’s daughters accept Medea happily?

 a) they have no friends b) they think she is beautiful c) they see her as a mother

 d) the king is an old man

1. How long does it take for the girls to trust Medea’s lies?

 a) not very long b) 17 months c) 45 years d) 10 years

17. What story does Medea tell the daughters?

 a) her marriage b) How Aeson regained his youth c) how Aeson had died

 d) how Aeson married her daughter

18. What did the girls hope would happen, aftering hearing the story?

 a) their parents would die b) they could go to sleep c) Medea would leave

 d) their parents would be young again

19. What does Medea use as her demonstration of her power?

 a) goat b) a lamb c) a building d) a statue

20. What does Medea do to her “victim”?

 a) cut its throat b) cut off its limbs c) dipped it in bronze d) A and C

21. What is heard from within the bronze?

 a) bleating b) Hades c) singing d) crying

22. After the girls saw Medea’s miracle what did the girls want?

 a) Medea to leave b) Medea to give the gift to her parents

 c) their father to give Medea money

1. How did Medea trick the daughters when mixing the bronze?

 a) no magic herbs b) the bronze is too hot c) she put them in the bronze

1. When the girls enter their fathers room what is his condition?

 a) he is dead b) he is dead asleep c) he is sick d) he is depressed

1. What does Medea tell the daughters to do?

 a) pour the bronze on their father b) wake up their father c) hit their father

 d) take his blood with the sword

26. Why should they do this?

 a) to kill him b) to honor the gods c) to replace the old blood with young blood

 d) to become goddesses

27. According to Medea, what do the girls hold in their hands?

 a) their parents’ life b) freedom c) death d) happiness

28. After she hears Medea’s words what does one of the daughter’s do?

 a) kills Medea b) kills her sister c) kills her father

29. Why did the girls avert their eyes?

 a) they were scared b) they could not see the wounds they caused

 c) they were blinded by a spell

1. What does the father do after his daughters wound him?

 a) dies immediately b) disappears c) tries to kill Medea d) tries to get up

31. According to their father, what did the girls do to him?

 a) sent him to death b) set him free c) sacrificed him to Jupiter

 d) made him immortal

32. What does Medea do to the girls’ father?

 a) cut its throat b) cut off its limbs c) dipped it in bronze d) A and C

***TIE BREAKERS:***

 L. Cornelius Sulla, quī bellō Iuguthinō quaestor Mariī consūlis fuit, usque ad quaestūram vītam luxuriōsam ēgerat. bellō Cimbricō legātus consūlis fuit et bonam operam edidit consul ipse deinde factus est, pulsa in exilium Mariō. Sulla dictātor creātus est. quattuor milia deditōrum inermium civium in circō interficī iussit. novō et inaudītiō exemplō tabulam prōscriptiōnis prōposuit, quā nomina eōrum quī occidendī essent continēbātur; cumque ōmnium orta esset indignātiō postrīdiē plūra etiam nomina adiecit. nōn solum in eōs saevīvit quī armis contrā sē dimicāverant, sed etiam quiētōs cīvēs propter pecūniae magnitūdinem prōscriptōrum numerō adiecit. sed paucis post annīs repente contrā ōmnium volūptātibus deditus reliquam vītam egit. ibi morbo corrēptus mortuus est, vir ingentis animī, cupīdus volūptātum, sed cupīdior glōriae.

1. Who was consul when Sulla was Quaestor?

 a) Marius b) Cinna c) Caesar d)Augustus

97. When did Sulla become consuls?

 a) When Caesar returned from Gaul b) When Marius died

 c) When Marius was exiled

98. What new job title did Sulla create?

 a) Captain of the army b) dictator c) supreme consul d) tribune of the army

99. What new and usual thing does Sulla create to keep citizens in line?

 a) death sentence b) killing with stones c) proscription list

 d) praetorian guard

100. How did Sulla die?

 a) he was murdered b) he succumbed to sickness c) he was struck by lightening

 d) he was very old