2018 SAN ANTONIO CLASSICAL SOCIETY

TSJCL AREA B ACADEMIC OLYMPICS

**READING COMPREHENSION LEVEL II**

**CENA TRIMALCHIONIS**

Itaque domī sedēbāmus cum intrāvit servus Agamemnonis et

‘quid?’ inquit; ‘nonne scītis? Hodiē vōs ad cēnam invītāvit

Trimalchiō, optimus homō. Venīte igitur; nōlīte cessāre.’

Celeriter igitur vestīmenta induimus et ad balnea prōcessimus.

In balneīs senem calvum vīdimus quī inter puerōs ***capillātōs*** pilā **5 *capillātōs –*** long-haired

lūdebat. Accurrit aliquis ad nos et ‘ille est’ inquit ‘Trimalchio, quī

vōs ad cēnam invītāvit.’ Vix haec dīxerat cum Trimalchiō digitōs

***concrepuit***; aquam poposcit et digitōs lāvit. Deinde servī eum in ***concrepuit -*** snapped

lectīcam imposuērunt domumque auferēbant.

1.\_\_\_ What is the best translation for “cum” in line 1?

 a) with b) after c) although d) when

2.\_\_\_ What is the narrator’s opinion of Trimalchio in line 3?

 He is … a) very wealthy b) an excellent man c) very generous d) a miser

3.\_\_\_ What does Agamemnon urge the guest not to do (in line 3)?

 a) delay b) hurry c) go d) refuse

4.\_\_\_ What do the men do before going to the baths?

 a) accept the invitation b) get something to eat

 c) discuss what to wear d) get dressed

5.\_\_\_\_ What do they see an old man and some boys doing at the bath?

 a)laughing heartily b)playing ball c)swimming d)arguing

6.\_\_\_ What does Trimalchio do in line 8?

 a) demands some water b) gets out of the water

 c) drinks some water d) complains about the water

7.\_\_\_ What do the slaves do in lines 8-9?

 a) carry Trimalchio away

b) leave ahead of Trimalchio to prepare the house

 c) agree that the water at Trimalchio’s house is better

 d) tell Trimalchio that it is time to go home

Ad iānuam Trimalchiōnis aedium cum Agamemnone **10**

pervēnimus. Atrium magnificum erat, sed ego, dum omnia spectō,

paene cecidi et ***crūra*** mea frēgī. In mūrō enim pictus est canis ***crūra -*** ***legs***

ingēns, superque scrīptum CAVE CANEM, comitēs mē rīsērunt; ego

autem spīritum collēgī et tōtum mūrum inspicere incēpī. Erat enim

***vēnālicium*** cum titulīs pictum; deinde ipse Trimalchio Rōmam **15**  ***vēnālicium – slave sale***

intrābat. Deinde omnia quae fēcerat Trimalchiō pictor cum

inscrīptiōne dīligenter reddiderat. Prīmum Trimalchiō ratiōnēs

facere discebat, Deinde ***dispensator*** factus est, denique Mercurius ***dispensator – a steward***

eum tollēbat et in tribūnal altum rapiebat; ibi erat Fortūna quae

cornū abundantī dīvitiās effundēbat. **20**

8.\_\_\_ What does the narrator nearly break in lines 10-12?

 a) his present for the host b)his arm c) a promise d)his legs

9.\_\_\_ What do his companions do when they see the CAVE CANEM?

 a)step back b)laugh at him c)warn him d)scold him

10.\_\_\_ What does the narrator closely examine?

 a)the dog b)the atrium c) some sculptures d)the wall

11.\_\_\_ Which of the following is NOT true about the images?

 a) Trimalchio’s rise to success is depicted.

 b) Trimalchio’s first job was that of a painter.

 c) A god raised him onto a platform.

 d) Fortune poured forth riches.

 Nōs in triclinium iam pervēnerāmus et mox omnēs

recubuerant praeter ipsum Trimalchionem. Servī gustātiōnem

valdē splendidam intulērunt. Nam ***asellum*** argenteum cum ***asellum – donkey***

***bisacciō*** nōbis prōposuerunt, quī habebat olīvās in alterā ***bisacciō –twin platters***

parte albas, in alterā nigrās. **25**

12.\_\_\_ In lines 21 – 22 we learn that…

 a) Everyone is waiting outside the dining room.

 b) All are reclining in the dining room.

 c) Trimalchio is not in the dining room.

 d) Trimalchio is waiting in the dining room for everyone.

13.\_\_\_ How is the donkey which is holding the hors d’oeuvres described?

 a) a real donkey (i.e. living) b)trained c)gorgeous d)silver

14.\_\_\_ What is the first thing which the diners receive?

 a)olives b)wine c)napkins d)thanks for coming to the diner

 Hāc gustātione gaudēbāmus cum ipse Trimalchiō intravit ad sonum

symphōniae. Ubi lectō recubuit, ‘amīcī,” inquit, ‘nōndum voluī in

triclinium venire; tesserīs enim lūdebam. Sed omnem voluptātem

mihi negāvit. Lūdum tamen conficere volo.’ Intravit puer

tabulam portāns et crystallinās tesserās. **30**

15.\_\_\_ What was the group doing when Trimalchio entered?

 a) enjoying hors d’oeuvres b) waiting silently

c) complaining about the food d) discussing “good taste”

16.\_\_\_ What does Trimalchio tell his guests.

 a) He has denied himself all pleasure.

 b) He had been playing dice.

 c) He wanted to continue to play dice.

 d) a-c are all things which Trimalchio tells

17.\_\_\_ What can we assume about the “puer” in line 29?

 a) He was Trimalchio’s son b) He was son of one of the guests

 c) He was a neighbor’s boy d) He was a slave

 Iam Trimalchiō lūdum cōnfēcerat, cum puerī amphorās

attulērunt quārum in cervīcibus ***pittacia*** fīxa sunt cum hāc ***pittacia –*** labels

īnscrīptione: ‘***Falernum Opīmiānum*** annōrum centum’. Dum nōs ***Falernum Opīmiānum –*** Falernian wine

īnscriptionem legimus. Trimalchio’ergō’ inquit ‘diutius vīnum from the consulship of Opimius

vīvit quam homō. Līberē igitur bibite. Vērum Opimiānum vōbis **35**

dō. Herī vinum nōn tam bonum posuī et multō maiōrēs

mecum cēnābant.

18.\_\_\_ Which of the following do we learn about the Falernian wine?

 a) it is the best wine

 b) it is one hundred years old

 c) it is Trimalchio’s favorite wine

 d) a-c are all things we learn about the Falernian wine

19.\_\_\_ What comment does Trimalchio make about the wine?

 a) a man doesn’t live as long as a bottle of wine

 b) men live longer who drink good wine

 c) a bottle of wine doesn’t live as long as a man

 d) Trimalchio doesn’t make any comments about the wine, but simply drinks it

20.\_\_\_ How does Trimalchio tell his guests to drink the wine?

 a) slowly b)carefully c)quickly d)freely

21.\_\_\_ What final comment does Trimalchio make about the wine?

 a) He had drunk a much better wine the day before.

 b) He had recently served a lesser wine to more important people

 c) He had come into possession of a much better wine the day before

 d) He believed greater wines made a man better

 Advēnērunt subitō servī quī ***torālia*** prōposuērunt; in eīs ***rētia*** ***torālia -*** tapestries

picta erant ***vēnātōrēs*** et tōtus ***vēnātiōnis*** apparatus. Dum haec ***rētia -*** nets***; vēnātōrēs -*** hunters

spectāmus admīrātiōne plēnī, clāmōrem ingentem audīmus et, **40 *vēnātiō/-onis -*** hunt

ecce, canēs ***Lacōnicī*** circum mēnsam currere incēpērunt. Deinde ***Lacōnicī -*** Spartan

puer ***repositōrium*** intulit, in quō erat ***aper*** maximus. Accessit ***repositōrium*** – platter;

barbātus ingēns, vēnātōris vestīmenta gerēns, quī ventrem aprī ***aper/apri -*** boar

vehementer percussit. Ubi hoc fēcit, avēs ē ventre aprī

ēvolāvērunt. Parātī erant servī quī avēs circum trīclīnium **45**

volantēs celeriter cēpērunt.

22. \_\_\_ What was the reaction of guests as they watched the display?

 a) They were impressed.

 b) They were startled.

 c) They were put off by another showy display meant to impress them.

 d) They loudly clapped.

23. \_\_\_ What happens soon after the tapestries are brought in?

 a) Men dressed as Spartan soldiers march around a table.

 b) Several Spartan soldiers enter the room with their dogs.

 c) Some Spartans chase several dogs around a table.

 d) Several Spartan dogs run around a table.

24.\_\_\_ What do we learn about the man who enters after the boar?

 a) He is a huge barbarian.

 b) He kills the boar in front of all the guests.

 c) He causes birds to fly out of the boar’s abdomen.

 d) We learn everything in a – c.

25.\_\_\_ What happens at the end of the paragraph?

 a) Slaves capture the birds.

 b) Slaves serve the guest the next course of birds.

 c) Slaves dress up as birds and pretend to fly around the room.

 d) Slaves watch as the guests capture birds.

 Ubi servī hoc ferculum abstulērunt, surrēxit Trimalchio et ē

trīclīniō discessit. Nōs colloquium facere incēpimus. Itaque ***Dāma Dāma –*** one of the guests

prīmus pōtiōnem rogāvit et ‘diēs’ inquit ‘nihil est. Dum vertis tē,

nox fit. Itaque nihil est melius quam dē cubiculō rēctā in **50**

triclinium īre. Et ācre frīgus habuimus. Vix mē balneum ***calfēcit***. ***calfēcit -*** warmed

Calida tamen potiō vestiārius est. Plūrimum bibī et ēbrius sum.

Vīnum in caput meum abiit.’

26.\_\_\_ What happens to Trimalchio?

 a) He is carried off by slaves b) He begins talking about his marvelous dining room

 c) He leaves the room d) He learns something new about his dining room

27.\_\_\_ What do the guests then do (line 48)?

 a) begin to chat

 b) begin to complain about Trimalchio

 c) make compliments about the dining room

 d) begin to get drunk

28.\_\_\_ What does the guest Dama ask for?

 a) more food b) a cooler place to sit c) a place to sleep d) a drink

29.\_\_\_ What general complaint does the group make?

 a) the nights are too short b) they can never get enough sleep

 c) the weather is cold d) Trimalchio’s dining room is too hot

30.\_\_\_ Which of the following is true about Dama’s comments?

 a) He is hot and he needs a drink to cool off.

 b) He thinks a hot drink is like a coat.

 c) He wants to take a cool bath.

 d) He wants to take a hot bath.

**TIE-BREAKERS**

Seleucus, ubi haec audīvit, ‘ego’ inquit ‘nōn cotīdiē mē lavō;

balneum enim corpus ***dīlacerat***. Neque hodiē mē lavāre potuī. Īvī 55 ***dīlacerat – tear apart***

enim ad fūnus. Homō bellus, tam bonus Chrysanthus, diem suum

***obiit***. Modo, modo mē salūtāvit. Medicī eum perdidērunt, immō ***obiit - met***

malum fātum; medicus enim nihil aliud est quam animi

cōnsōlatiō. Optimum tamen fūnus erat, etiam sī uxor nōn mulltum

eum lugēbat.’ 60

96. What does Seleucus NOT say about taking baths?

 a) they tear up one’s body

 b) he enjoys them

 c) he couldn’t take one that day

 d) he doesn’t take one every day

97. When did Seleucus go to a funeral?

 a) earlier that day

 b) the day before

 c) last week

 d) he couldn’t go to the funeral

98. What had Chrysanthus recently done?

 a) invited Seleucus for dinner

 b) praised Seleucus

 c) greeted Seleucus

 d) deceived Seleucus

99. What does Seleucus say about doctors?

a) They are worse than Fate

 b) They are nothing more than a comfort

 c) They only take one’s money

 d) They are the cause for most deaths

100. What final comment does Seleucus make about the funeral?

 a) the wife cried too much

 b) the wife didn’t care much for him

 c) the wife refused to mourn

 d) the wife didn’t mourn much