

2008 SAN ANTONIO CLASSICAL SOCIETY  
 TSJCL AREA B ACADEMIC OLYMPICS  
 ADVANCED READING COMPREHENSION PROSE TEST

**Instructions: Read the following passages and answer the questions about them.**

**LOL, Cicero!**

*A later author presents a different side of Cicero.*

Sed miror omnes vos ioca tacuisse Ciceronis, in quibus facundissimus, ut in omnibus, fuit. Cicero, cum apud Damasippum cenaret et ille, mediocri vino posito, diceret: "Bibite Falernum hoc; annorum quadraginta est." "Bene," inquit, "aetatem fert."

Idem cum Lentulum, generum suum, exiguae staturae hominem, longo gladio accinctum vidisset, "Quis," inquit, "generum meum ad gladium alligavit?"

Nec Quinto Ciceroni fratri pepercit. Nam cum in ea provincia quam ille rexerat vidisset imaginem eius ingentibus lineamentis usque ad pectus ex more pictam (erat autem Quintus ipse staturae parvae), ait, "Fratr meus dimidius maior quam totus."

Cicero Curio multum de annis aetatis suae mentienti dixit: "Tum ergo cum una declamabamus non eras natus." Idem Fabia dicente triginta se annos habere, "Verum est," inquit; "nam hoc dicere illam viginti annis audio."

facundus, a, um: fluent  
 exiguus, a, um: small  
 ex more: according to custom

Falernum: a high quality wine  
 lineamentum: line; feature  
 dimidius, a, um: halved

1. What is the author of the passage surprised about?
  - a. how lame Cicero's jokes are
  - b. that everyone is quiet about Cicero's sense of humor
  - c. that Cicero doesn't laugh at jokes
  - d. that everyone jokes about Cicero
  
2. What tense is 'tacuisse' (ln. 1)?
  - a. present
  - b. imperfect
  - c. perfect
  - d. pluperfect
  
3. Which of the following is the **best** translation of 'mediocri vino posito'?
  - a. with the wine placed in between
  - b. after he had put out wine for the middle-aged man
  - c. when some mediocre wine had been set out
  - d. since he put out an inferior wine

4. Quis dicit, "Bibite Falernum hoc..." et cui hoc dicit?
  - a. Cicero Damasippo hoc dicit
  - b. Damasippus Ciceroni hoc dicit
  - c. Cicero narratori hoc dicit
  - d. Damsippus narratori hoc dicit
  
5. To whom does idem (ln. 5) refer?
  - a. Cicero
  - b. Damasippus
  - c. Lentulus
  - d. the narrator
  
6. What does Cicero's sarcastic remark imply about Lentulus?
  - a. that his sword is tied to him
  - b. that he is always getting in sword fights
  - c. that he is smaller than his own sword
  - d. that he is too small to carry a sword
  
7. What case and construction is 'staturae parvae' (ln. 9)?
  - a. dative of reference
  - b. dative of possession
  - c. objective genitive
  - d. genitive of description
  
8. What prompted Cicero to tell Curius "tum ergo...non eras natus"?
  - a. Curius was joking about his (Cicero's) age
  - b. He wanted to emphasize how much he had accomplished before Curius had been born
  - c. Curius had been lying about his (Curius') age
  - d. He wanted to pretend he was older than Curius
  
9. According to Cicero, Fabia was at least how old?
  - a. 20 years old
  - b. 30 years old
  - c. 40 years old
  - d. 50 years old

**Cicero, Oratio Philippica Secunda 53.13-55.4*****Cicero delivers a speech in the Senate.***

Tu, tu, inquam, M. Antoni, princeps C. Caesari omnia perturbare cupienti causam belli contra patriam inferendi dedisti. Quid enim aliud ille dicebat, quam causam sui dementissimi consili et facti afferebat, nisi quod intercessio neglecta, ius tribunicium sublatum, circumscriptus a senatu esset Antonius? Omitto quam haec falsa, quam leuia, praesertim cum omnino nulla causa iusta cuiquam esse possit contra patriam arma capiendi. Sed nihil de Caesare: tibi certe confitendum est causam perniciosissimi belli in persona tua constitisse. O miserum te, si haec intellegis, miseriozem, si non intellegis hoc litteris mandari, hoc memoriae prodi, huius rei ne posteritatem quidem omnium saeculorum unquam immemorem fore, propter unum te consules ex Italia expulsos, cumque eis Cn. Pompeium, quod imperi populi Romani decus ac lumen fuit, omnis consularis qui per ualetudinem exsequi cladem illam fugamque potuissent, praetores, praetorios, tribunos plebis, magnam partem senatus, omnem subolem iuuentutis, uno uerbo rem publicam expulsam atque exterminatam suis sedibus! Ut igitur in seminibus est causa arborum et stirpium, sic huius luctuosissimi belli semen tu fuisti. Doletis tris exercitus populi Romani interfectos: interfecit Antonius. Desideratis clarissimos ciuis: eos quoque uobis eripuit Antonius. Auctoritas huius ordinis afflicta est: afflixit Antonius. Omnia denique, quae postea uidimus (quid autem mali non uidimus?) si recte ratiocinabimur, uni accepta referemus Antonio. Ut Helena Troianis, sic iste huic rei publicae causa belli, causa pestis atque exiti fuit.

quod (ln 10) = qui  
stirps: plant

Suboles: offspring, children  
Accepta referre: to give credit to (+dat.)

10. What is the best translation of 'inquam' (ln 1)?
- I shall say
  - I say
  - in which
  - against which
11. Quis omnia perturbare cupivit?
- M. Antonius
  - C. Caesar
  - Cicero
  - princeps
12. What is the **best** translation of 'quam' (ln 2)?
- than
  - which
  - what
  - how

13. In lines 1-2, what does Cicero allege Antony did?
- He waged war against his country.
  - He wanted to stir things up to create a reason for war.
  - He gave Caesar a pretext for waging war.
  - He gave Caesar everything.
14. Which of the following is **not** a reason Cicero gives for 'the superbly demented deed?'
- Antony had rewritten the law with the authority of the Senate.
  - The tribune's power of intercession by veto had been disregarded.
  - The tribunes had been stripped of their rights.
  - Antonius' privileges had been abridged by the Senate.
15. What is the **best** translation of 'quod' (ln 3)?
- which
  - because
  - ) that
  - ) what
16. What rhetorical device does **not** occur in lines 4-6?
- ) anastrophe
  - ) preterition
  - ) asyndeton
  - ) anaphora
17. Cicero is incensed by the causes given for war because
- ) they were trivial especially when inciting someone to war against his own country.
  - ) they were anything but false.
  - ) they were deceiving people to wage war against their own country.
  - ) no cause could be lighter or more deceiving.
18. If 'dico' is understood with 'nihil de Caesare', why does Cicero bother to mention Caesar's name at all?
- ) Caesar's name is respected and gives more weight to Cicero's argument.
  - ) He wants to emphasize the fact that Antony is responsible for Caesar's atrocities.
  - ) Antony and Caesar are both enemies of the state.
  - ) He does not want to offend Caesar's memory.

19. What is the **best** translation of 'tibi certe confitendum...constitisse' (ln 6-7)?
- Certainly it has been confessed to you that the cause of this most pernicious war exists in your person.
  - Certainly you must confess that the cause of that most destructive war exists in you alone.
  - It must certainly be confessed to you that the cause of the most ruinous war is constituted in your person.
  - Certainly the cause of the most pernicious war has been trusted to you to stand in (wearing) your mask.
20. What case and construction is 'miseriorem' (ln 8)?
- accusative direct object
  - accusative of respect
  - accusative subject of the infinitive in an indirect statement
  - accusative of exclamation
21. Cicero says Antony will be sorrier if he does not realize what fact?
- That Caesar's actions had been ordered by certain documents.
  - That Antony would not be remembered by future generations.
  - That all records of Caesar's actions would be destroyed.
  - That Antony's role in the civil war has been recorded for posterity.
22. Pro Cicerone, quid accidit propter M. Antonium?
- Pompey became the light and glory of Rome
  - The Senate expelled Pompey and those of consular rank from Rome
  - Pompey forced the consuls out of Italy.
  - Pompey and his supporters in the government were forced to flee Rome.
23. Cicero implies that some men of consular rank remained in Rome for what reason?
- They had young children.
  - They were in poor health.
  - They were on Pompey's side.
  - They were slaughtered before they could escape.
24. 'Ut' (ln 14) introduces
- an indirect command
  - a purpose clause
  - a simile
  - an exclamation
25. Which of the following does **not** occur in the last six lines of the passage?
- Someone dies.
  - A comparison is made between a man and a woman.
  - There is an appeal to the rationality of the audience.
  - There is a shift in audience.

26. What is the overall tone of the passage?
- sarcastic and witty
  - acerbic and polemic
  - laudatory and approving
  - reminiscent and solemn

**Apuleius, *Metamorphoses* VIII.33-45**  
*A master punishes his slave, who by his infidelity has caused  
 the death of his wife and child.*

Quam mortem dominus eorum aegerrime sustinens adreptum servulum, qui causam tanti sceleris uxori suae praestiterat, nudum ac totum melle perlitum firmiter alligavit arbori fico, cuius in ipso carioso stipite inhabitantium formicarum nidos concurrebant et ultro citro commeabant multiiuga scaturrigine.

Quae simul dulcem ac mellitum corporis nidorem persentiscunt, parvis quidem, sed numerosis et continuis morsiunculis penitus inhaerentes, per longi temporis cruciatum ita, carnibus atque ipsis visceribus adesis, homine consumpto membra nudarunt, ut ossa tantum viduata pulpis nitore nimio candentia funestae cohaerent cum arbore.

Eorum=uxoris filique (servi)  
 adesus, a, um: eaten up  
 viduare: to deprive (+abl)

scaturrigine: in a gushing stream  
 cruciatus: torture  
 pulpa: flesh

27. Quid in corpore servi perlivit dominus?
- tar
  - a tree
  - honey
  - his wife
28. Quibus erant nidi in carioso stipite?
- bees
  - wasps
  - termites
  - ants
29. Quali arbori dominus servulum alligavit?
- oak tree
  - beech tree
  - pine tree
  - fig tree

30. The diminutive suffix –ulum attached to servus is **most likely** used
- to emphasize the wretchedness of the slave
  - because the slave is a child
  - because the slave is small
  - to show affection

**Tiebreakers: The following questions will be scored only to break ties. Be sure to mark your answers in spaces 96-100 on your answer sheet.**

96. In the first passage, Lentulus is Cicero's
- father-in-law
  - son-in-law
  - nephew
  - cousin
97. In the second passage, what case and construction is 'omnium saeculorum' (ln 9) ?
- partitive genitive
  - accusative with a verb of forgetting
  - objective genitive
  - genitive with a verb of forgetting
98. In the last passage, 'nudarunt' (ln 8) is best translated
- strip bare
  - will strip bare
  - stripped bare
  - had stripped bare
99. In the last passage, how did the slave die?
- He was crucified
  - He was tied to a tree and starved to death.
  - He was eaten alive.
  - He was flayed alive.
100. In the last passage, what drew teams of insects from the rotting core of a tree?
- novum nidum inhabitare cupiebant.
  - aliquid olfaciebant
  - servi cruciatum audiebant
  - ossa candentia conspiciebant