

2006 SAN ANTONIO CLASSICAL SOCIETY

TSJCL AREA B ACADEMIC OLYMPICS

READING COMPREHENSION: ADVANCED POETRY

Passage 1: Catullus 64.238-250

Haec mandata prius constanti mente tenentem 238
 Thesea ceu¹ pulsae ventorum flamine nubes
Aerium² nivei montis liquere³ cacumen⁴. 240
 At pater, ut summa prospectum ex arce petebat,
 Anxia in assiduous absumens⁵ lumina fletus⁶,
 Cum primum infecti conspexit lintea veli⁷,
 Praecipitem esse scopulorum e vertice iecit,
 Amissum credens immiti⁸ Thesea fato 245
 Sic funesta⁹ domus ingressus tecta paterna
 Morte ferox Theseus, qualem Minoidi luctum
 Obtulerat mente immemori, talem ipse recepit.
 Quae tum prospectans cedentem maesta carinam¹⁰
 Multiplices animo volvebat saucia curas. 250

Notes and Vocabulary

- 1 – *ceu*: *ceu*, *adv.*, *just as*
- 2 – *aereus*, *-a*, *-um*: *lofty*
- 3 – *liquere* = *linquēunt*
- 4 – *cacumen*, *-inis*: *summit*
- 5 – *absumō*, *-ere*: *exhaust*
- 6 – *fletus*, *-ūs*: *weeping, tears*
- 7 – *velum*, *-ī*: *sail*
- 8 – *immitis*, *-e*: *severe*
- 9 – *funestus*, *-a*, *-um*: *deadly*
- 10 – *carina*, *-ae*: *keel, ship*

1. How had Theseus' memory been previously in regard to his father's orders?
 a) firm and unforgetting b) spotty c) poor d) prone to lapses
2. To what is Theseus' mind compared?
 a) the sea b) the winds c) clouds d) a mountain
3. What did the father of Theseus see?
 a) white sails b) dark-dyed sails c) the Minotaur d) Ariadne
4. How did the father of Theseus kill himself?
 a) poison b) sword c) with a fatal leap d) by hanging himself
5. Why did the father of Theseus kill himself?
 a) he thought Minos was attacking b) he feared Medea's powers
 c) he feared Ariadne d) he thought his son was dead
6. Who is Minoidi?
 a) Medea b) Ariadne c) Minos d) Pasiphae
7. What did Theseus experience upon entering his father's house?
 a) relief b) joy c) a reward d) grief
8. Who had earlier suffered what Theseus experienced when he returned home to Athens?
 a) the Minotaur b) Minos c) the daughter of Minos d) Medea

9. Why is the observer in lines 249-250 sad?

- a) she has been wounded by a sword b) she sees the ship of her beloved departing
c) she realizes she will die by drowning d) her vertigo has returned

Passage 2: Ovid, *Metamorphoses* VIII.637-650

Ergo ubi caelicolae parvos tetigere¹ Penates²
 Submissoque humiles intrarunt vertice postes,
 Membra senex posito iussit relevare³ sedili,
 Quo superiniecit textum rude sedula⁴ Baucis: 640
 Inque foco tepidum cinerem dimovit et ignes
 Suscitāt hesternos⁵ foliisque et cortice⁶ sicco
 Nutrit et ad flammās anima producit anili,
 Multifidasque faces ramalia⁷ que arida tecto
 Detulit et minuit parvoque admovit aeno. 645
 Quodque suus coniunx riguo⁸ collegerat horto,
 Truncat holus⁹ foliis; furca levat ille bicorni
 Sordida terga suis nigro pendentia tigno
 Servatoque diu resecat de tergore partem
Exiguam¹⁰ sectamque domat ferventibus undis. 650

Notes and Vocabulary

- 1 – *tetigere* = *tetigerunt*
 2 – *penates* = *metonymy for small cottage*
 3 – *relevo, -are*: *relieve, ease*
 4 – *sedulus, -a, -um*: *attentive*
 5 – *hesternus*: *yesterday*
 6 – *cortex, -icis*: *bark*
 7 – *ramalis, -e*: *branches*
 8 – *riguus*: *irrigated*
 9 – *holus, -eris*: *vegetable*
 10 – *exiguus, -a, -um*: *small*

10. Where did the sky-dwelling gods enter?

- a) the chapel of the Penates b) the underworld c) a modest house d) Olympus

11. Who bade the guests be seated?

- a) an old woman b) an old man c) the Penates d) the Sedilians

12. What did Baucis throw on?

- a) an overcoat b) a crude cloth c) a textured ceramic lid d) napkins

13. What did Baucis stir up?

- a) ashes b) punch c) the gods' anger d) a hive of bees

14. How did Baucis cause the kindling to burst into flame?

- a) by blowing b) by holding a torch to it
c) by throwing undiluted wine on it d) by tricking the gods to light it

15. Where had Baucis been storing her firewood?

- a) in the woodpile behind the house b) in the cellar
c) in the barn d) in the rafters of their house

16. What did Baucis place on the fire?

- a) fragrant woods b) a cooking pot c) spits of meat d) a side of beef

17. Who had brought something in from the garden?

- a) Baucis b) the gods c) peasants d) the husband of Baucis

18. What did the husband of Baucis use to get down the hanging pork?

- a) a two-pronged fork b) a knife c) a wooden beam d) assistance from the gods

19. What was the size of the cut of meat sliced off?

- a) large b) medium c) small d) huge

Passage 3: Virgil, *Aeneid* V.129-135

Hic viridem Aeneas frondenti ex ilice¹ metam
Constituit signum nautis pater, unde reverti 130
Scirent et longos ubi circumflectere cursus.
Tum loca sorte legunt ipsique in puppibus auro
Ductores longe effulgent ostro²que decori;
Cetera populea velatur³ fronde juvenus
Nudatosque umeros oleo perfusa nitescit⁴. 135

Notes and Vocabulary

- 1 – *illex, -icis*: oak tree
2 – *ostrum, -ī*: purple dye
3 – *velō, -āre*: cover, hide
4 – *nitesco, -ere*: begin to shine

20. Who sets up a sign for the sailors?

- a) Neptune b) Ilex c) Ascanius d) Aeneas

21. What signifies the turning point?

- a) an axe b) a leafy oak c) a green sail d) a stuffed seagull

22. How do the teams choose their starting positions?

- a) they are assigned by Aeneas b) they follow nautical protocol
c) they line up by colors d) they cast lots

23. Where do the captains of the ships stand?

- a) on the poop decks b) on the island c) on shore d) in the crow's nest

24. What do the captains wear?

- a) infantry costumes b) gold and purple c) admiralty crowns d) generic nautical attire

25. What foliage do the crews wear?

- a) oak b) pine c) kelp d) poplar

26. Why do the shoulders of the crew gleam?

- a) because of the olive oil b) because of their manly sweat
c) because of the too bright sun d) because the gods illuminate them

Passage 4: Ovid, *Metamorphoses* I.698-712

...Redeuntem colle Lycae
 Pan videt hanc pinuque caput praecinctus¹ acuta
 Talis verba refert"—restabat verba referre, 700
 Et precibus spretis fugisse per avia nympham,
 Donec harenosi² placidum Ladonis ad amnem
 Venerit. Hic illam, cursum impredientibus undis,
 Ut se mutarent liquidas orasse sorores:
 Panaque, cum prensam sibi iam Syringa putaret, 705
 Corpore pro nymphae calamos⁴ tenuisse palustres.
 Dumque ibi suspirat, motos in harundinae ventos
 Effecisse sonum tenuem similemque querenti⁵.
 Arte nova vocisque deum dulcedine captum
 "Hoc mihi concilium tecum" dixisse "manebit!" 710
 Atque ita disparibus calamis compagine⁶ cerae
 Inter se iunctis nomen tenuisse puellae.

Notes and Vocabulary

- 1 – *praecingo, -ere*: to gird
 2 – *harenosus, a, um*: sandy
 3 – *amnis, -is*: river
 4 – *calamus, -ī*: reed, cane
 5 – *quereor, -ērī*: lament
 6 – *compago, -inis*: fastening

27. Whom does Pan see?

- a) someone returning from Mt. Lycaeus b) Pine Needles
 c) a satyr d) a head girded with pine

28. Where did the nymph flee?

- a) to Mt. Lycaeus b) through trackless places c) to the sea d) to Pan

29. What blocked the nymph's way?

- a) Pan b) a river c) a band of satyrs d) the will of Jupiter

30. What did Pan end up holding?

- a) swamp reeds b) a nymph c) a river god d) only the dress of the nymph

31. What sound was produced by Pan's sighing?

- a) a thin sound b) a nautical sound c) a lamenting sound d) both a and c

32. What length were the reeds?

- a) uniform b) mixed c) unequal d) both b and c

33. How were the reeds joined?

- a) with twine b) with glue c) with wax d) with a conundrum

34. What did the new invention keep?

- a) the name of the girl b) Pandemonium c) the reed family d) the panacea

Passage 5: Horace, *Satires* II.6.79-89

.....olim
 Rusticus urbanum murem mus paupere fertur 80
 Accepisse cavo, veterem vetus hospes amicum,
Asper¹ et attentus quaesitis, ut tamen artum²
 Solveret hospitiiis animum. Quid multa? Neque ille
Sepositi³ ciceris⁴ nec longae invidit avenae⁵,
 Aridum et ore ferens acinum⁶ semesa⁷ que lardi⁸ 85
 Frustra dedit, cupiens varia fastidia cena
 Vincere tangentis male singula dente superbo;
 Cum pater ipse domus palea⁹ porrectus in horna¹⁰
 Esset ador¹¹ lolium¹² que, dapis¹³ meliora relinquens.

Notes and Vocabulary

- 1 – *asper*: rude, cruel, harsh
 2 – *artus*: firm, thrifty
 3 – *sepono, -ere*: to disregard
 4 – *cicero, -eris*: chickpea
 5 – *avena, -ae*: reed, oat
 6 – *acinum, -ī*: grape, raisin
 7 – *semesus*: half-eaten
 8 – *lardum, -ī*: lard, bacon
 9 – *palea, -ae*: chaff
 10 – *horna, -ae*: this year's
 11 – *ador, -is*: grain, spelt
 12 – *lolium, -ī*: grass
 13 – *daps, -is*: feast

35. Whom did the country mouse welcome?

- a) his brother b) a city friend c) his mistress d) a shrew

TIE-BREAKERS: The following questions will be used only in the event of a tie. Answer them using the passage above from Horace's *Satires*. Please mark them as numbers 96 – 100 on your answer document.

96. Where did the country mouse entertain his guest?

- a) in an inn b) in a barn c) in a field d) in his hole

97. What quality characterizes the country mouse?

- a) thrift b) envy c) boorishness d) extroversion

98. What does the city mouse have?

- a) a proud tooth b) a large appetite
 c) a case of food poisoning d) an urge to insult his friend

99. What does the country mouse give his guest?

- a) a raisin b) oats c) bacon d) all of the above

100. What did the country mouse leave for the city mouse?

- a) ador b) lolium c) dapis meliora d) all of the above