

2023 San Antonio Classical Society

TSJCL Area B Academic Olympics

Reading Comprehension: Levels 1/2A, 1/2B, and 1

Directions: Please mark the letter of the correct answer on your scantron answer sheet.

Passage I

Cornūtus in magnā villā habitābat. Cornūtus multōs servōs ancillāsque habēbat. servī in fundō labōrābant et frūmentum in horreum portābant. pāstōrēs quoque ovēs in montibus custōdiēbant. sed Cornūtus in plūrimās ovēs habēbant. pāstōrēs nōn poterant omnēs ovēs semper custōdīre. fūr igitur noctū vēnit et ovem cēpit. Sed ubi fūr ē fundō discēdēbat et prope viam erat, vīlicus eum vīdit.

5

“siste, sceleste!” clāmāvit vīlicus. deinde fūrem superāvit. “venī mēcum! ego dominum petō.”

“esto!” inquit fūr. “tranquillē veniō. sed pallium meum prope horreum reliquī. pallium meum invenīre volō. tum dominum petere possumus. tū intereā ovem custōdī!”

“sceleste!” inquit vīlicus. “sī ego hīc maneō, tū fugere potes. sed nōn sum stultus. tū manē hīc et ovem custōdī! ego pallium tuum quaerere possum.”

10

esto!- so be it!

- Based on his description, what is a characteristic of Cornūtus?
 - Cruel
 - Famous
 - Wealthy
 - Generous
- What is the job of the pāstōrēs?
 - To carry grain
 - To oversee the farm
 - To clean the barn
 - To guard the sheep
- What is the case of ovēs in line 2?
 - Nominative
 - Dative
 - Accusative
 - Ablative
- What part of speech is ē in line 4?
 - Preposition
 - Adverb
 - Conjunction
 - Pronoun
- What part of speech is sed in line 4?
 - Conjunction
 - Noun
 - Participle
 - Pronoun
- What did the fūr try to do?
 - Steal a sheep
 - Eat the crops
 - Burn down the barn
 - Kill a cow

7. What mood is *siste* in?
- Indicative
 - Imperative
 - Subjunctive
 - Present
8. What did the *vīlicus* do when he saw the *fūr* in line 5?
- Chase him away
 - Overpower him in a fight
 - Made him apologize
 - Look away
9. The *fūr* claims he must do what before meeting the *dominum*?
- Return what he took
 - Get money to repay him
 - Find his cloak
 - Check on the livestock
10. What is the best translation of *maneō* in line 9?
- Wait
 - Stay
 - Guard
 - Watch
11. What is the tense of *sum* in line 9?
- Present
 - Imperfect
 - Perfect
 - Future
12. What is the *vīlicus* worried that the *fūr* will try to do?
- Run away
 - Fight the *dominus*
 - Steal money
 - Guard the sheep

Passage II

Aulus et Publius tībiās faciēbant. tībiae erant optimae. Aulus et Publius multīs cīvibus tībiās ostendērunt, sed cīvēs tībiās nōn emēbant.

Aulus et Publius amīcum in forō salūtāvērunt. amīcus “herī,” inquit, “Philomūsus urbem intrāvit. Philomūsus est optimus tībīcen. Philomūsus cotīdiē nōnā hōrā ad thermās venit.”

Aulus et Publius ad thermās nōnā hōrā contendērunt. Philomūsus in palaestrā sē 5 exercēbat.

“nunc?” Aulus Publium rogāvit.

“minimē!” respondit Publius. “nunc Philomūsus sē exercet; fessus est.”

Philomūsus tepidārium intrāvit.

“nunc?” rogāvit Aulus. 10

“minimē!” respondit Publius. “nunc Philomūsus sūdat. digitī sunt lūbricī.”

Philomūsus caldārium intrāvit.

“nunc?” rogāvit Aulus.

“minimē!” respondit Publius. “servus Philomūsus rādit; et Philomūsus nunc etiam plūs sūdat.” 15

tum Philomūsus frīgidārium intrāvit. Aulus et Publius quoque frīgidārium intrāvērunt et tandem Philomūsō tībiās ostendērunt.

“tībiae,” inquit Philomūsus, “mē valdē dēlectant; sed modo ē balneō frīgidō veniō. digitī meī sunt frīgidī. tantō pēius!

tībia, tībiae- flute

nōnā hōrā- the ninth hour

13. What problem did Aulus and Publius have with the *tībiae*?
 - a. They were poor quality.
 - b. Nobody bought them.
 - c. They didn’t know how to play them.
 - d. They didn’t have enough resources to make them.
14. What is the tense of *salūtāvērunt* in line 3?
 - a. Present
 - b. Imperfect
 - c. Perfect
 - d. Future
15. What is the best translation of *tībīcen* line 4?
 - a. Doctor
 - b. Discus athlete
 - c. Flute player
 - d. Street food vender
16. What was the first thing that Philomūsus was doing at the *thermās*?
 - a. Exercising
 - b. Talking with others
 - c. Bathing
 - d. Selling goods
17. What part of speech is *sē* in line 8?
 - a. Noun
 - b. Pronoun
 - c. Adverb
 - d. Adjective
18. Why did Aulus and Publius not approach Philomūsus the first time they saw him?
 - a. He looked angry.
 - b. He wasn’t wearing any clothes.
 - c. He was tired.
 - d. He wasn’t as handsome as they hoped he’d be.
19. What is the best translation of *digitī sunt lūbricī* in line 11?
 - a. The numbers are ludicrous.
 - b. The foods are delicious.
 - c. His articles of clothing are luxurious.
 - d. His fingers are wet.
20. Based on the context in the story, what is the *caldārium*?
 - a. The hot bath room
 - b. The cold bath room
 - d. The tepid bath room
 - c. The exercise area
21. When did Aulus and Publius choose to approach Philomūsus?
 - a. When he left the *thermae*
 - b. When he finished selling his goods
 - c. When he entered the cold bath
 - d. When he stopped exercising
22. What is the best translation of *valdē* in line 18?
 - a. Hardly
 - b. In truth
 - c. Vexing
 - d. Very much

23. What is the case of *balneō* in line 18?

- a. Ablative b. Dative c. Nominative d. Genitive

24. Why did Aulus and Publius' approach fail?

- a. Philomūsus was too cold. b. Philomūsus was mean. c. They fell asleep and Philomūsus left before they could speak to him. d. Philomūsus was too old.

25. How did Philomūsus react to this failure?

- a. He didn't; he couldn't respond to people he hadn't met. b. He was disappointed
c. He tried to fight them. d. He shared leftover food.

Passage III

rēx Syrācūsānōrum erat Dionȳsius. Syrācūsānī eum rēgem fēcerant quod contrā Carthāginiēnsēs fortiter pugnāverat et eōs tandem superāverat.

multī Syrācūsānī igitur eum fēlicem vocābant quod magnum rēgnū accēperat. sed Dionȳsius multās cūrās habēbat, multās sollicitūdīnēs. Nōn facile erat eī rēgnū suū obtinēre; nōn facile erat rēgnū suū contrā Carthāginiēnsēs dēfendere. 5

Dāmoclēs tamen semper dīcebat: "rēgēs sunt fēlicissimī." itaque Dionȳsius eum ad cēnam invītavit. Dāmoclēs ad aulū laetus contendit. Dionȳsius locū optimū et vestem purpuream eī dedit. sed super lectū, ubi Dāmoclēs recumbēbat, Dionȳsius gladiū suspenderat. fīlū, quod hunc gladiū sustinēbat, erat tenuissimū.

per tōtam cēnam Dāmoclēs gladiū suspiciēbat. semper sollicitus erat. neque cibus, 10 quem Dionȳsius eī offerēbat, neque vīnū, quod suāvissimū erat, neque vestis purpurea quam gerēbat, hanc sollicitūdīnem levāre poterant.

tandem "rem nunc intellegō!" exclāmāvit. "Vīta, quam rēgēs habent, nōn est fēlicissima; nam cūrae, quae eōs opprimunt, omnia gaudia dēmunt."

aula, aulae- palace

recumbo, recumbere, recubi- recline

26. Why was Dionȳsius made the king of Syracuse?

- a. He fought against the Carthaginians. b. He was very wealthy. c. The Carthaginians made him king. d. Both Syracusians and Carthaginians loved him.

27. How did Syracusians feel about Dionysius being their king?
a. Angry b. Confused c. Happy d. Victimized
28. How did Dionysius feel about being king?
a. Arrogant b. Worried c. Hatred d. Powerful
29. What is the case of *eī* in line 4?
a. Nominative b. Genitive c. Ablative d. Dative
30. Why did Dionysius invite Dāmoclēs to dinner?
a. He was worried Dāmoclēs would try to overthrow him. b. Dāmoclēs was his favorite citizen. c. Dāmoclēs said that kings are very lucky. d. He wanted to brag to Dāmoclēs.
31. What was Dāmoclēs' reaction to the invitation?
a. He rejected it. b. He was happy. c. He invited Dionysius to his house instead. d. He was embarrassed.
32. How did Dionysius treat Dāmoclēs at the dinner?
a. He humiliated Dāmoclēs. b. He forced Dāmoclēs to watch him show off his wealth. c. He treated Dāmoclēs well and gave him gifts. d. He purposefully didn't serve Dāmoclēs dinner.
33. What is the best translation of *ubi* in line 8?
a. Where b. When c. With d. What
34. Why was Damocles worried during the dinner?
a. There was a sword held above him. b. He might embarrass himself in front of the king. c. His plot to kill Dionysius might not work. d. His son is dying.
35. What is the tense of *suspiciēbat* in line 10?
a. Present b. Imperfect c. Perfect d. Future
36. Which of the following was NOT offered in an attempt to console Dāmoclēs?
a. Food b. Wine c. Fancy clothing d. A laurel wreath
37. What part of speech is *levāre* in line 12?
a. Noun b. Infinitive c. Adjective d. Adverb
38. What is the best translation of "*rem nunc intellegō!*" in line 13?
a. I'm now intelligent! b. I sailed to a nearby place! c. I believe it now! d. Now I understand!

39. What is the lesson Dāmoclēs learned at the end of the story?
- a. Kings have many concerns. b. Being a king is fun and easy. c. The war in his country must end. d. Kings are bad dinner hosts.
40. What is the case of *cūrae* in line 14?
- a. Nominative b. Dative c. Genitive d. Locative

Passage IV

lupus agnam vīdit. agna ē flūmine bibēbat. lupus agnam cōnsūmere voluit et causam quaerēbat. lupus, quamquam super agnam stābat, agnam ita accūsāvit:

“tū aquam cōfundis. aqua nunc est lutea. nōn possum bibere.”

“quō modō ego aquam cōfundere possum?” respondit agna; “nam ego aquam vix libō; et tū super mē stās.”

5

deinde lupus “proximō annō,” inquit, “tū patrem meum vituperāvistī.”

“tunc,” inquit agna, “non vīvēbam.”

“tū optimē respondēs,” inquit lupus, “sed tē nihilōminus cōnsūmere intendō.”

agna- lamb

lutea- muddy

vix- hardly

96. What did the *lupus* want to do to the lamb?
- a. Eat it b. Talk to it c. Befriend it d. Trick it
97. What did the *lupus* accuse the *agna* of doing in line 3?
- a. Drinking all of the water b. Blocking the flow of the river c. Dirtying the water
d. Ruining the river bank
98. What is the best translation of *quō modō* in line 4?
- a. Why b. How c. What d. When
99. How did the *agna* disprove the second accusation of the *lupus* in line 7?
- a. It wasn’t alive b. It didn’t live in the same forest at that time c. It doesn’t remember doing that d. It wasn’t strong enough
100. What is the best translation of *nihilōminus* in line 8?
- a. Not yet b. Never c. Already d. Nevertheless