



L-Università
ta' Malta

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE
EXAMINATIONS BOARD

**SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL
2025 MAIN SESSION**

SUBJECT:	Latin
PAPER NUMBER:	I – Level 1-2-3
DATE:	14 th May 2025
DURATION:	2 hours 5 minutes

Answer **BOTH** sections. Answer **ALL** the questions in each section in English.

SECTION A: VIRGIL, Selections from *Aeneid* IV

1. Read the following passage carefully and then answer the questions set on it:

Quam simul ac tali persensit peste teneri 90
cara Iovis coniunx nec famam obstare furori,
talibus adgreditur Venerem Saturnia dictis:
'egregiam vero laudem et spolia ampla refertis
tuque puerque tuus, magnum et memorabile numen,
una dolo divum si femina victa duorum **est.** 95
nec me adeo fallit veritam te moenia nostra
suspectas habuisse domos Karthaginis **altae.**
Sed quis erit modus, aut quo nunc certamine tanto?
quin potius pacem aeternam pactosque hymenaeos
exercemus? habes tota quod mente petisti: 100
ardet amans Dido traxitque per ossa furorem'

(Virgil, Aeneid 4.90-101)

a. What, according to the speaker, Jupiter's wife, is happening to Dido, as described in lines 90 - 91?

(8

b. What case is '**dolo**' (line 95)?

This question continues on next page.

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- c. Explain the phrase '**una dolo divum si femina victa duorum est**' (line 95) in the context of the narrative.

(6)

- d. What figure of speech is used in line 99, and what is the purpose of it?

(8)

- e. Translate '**nec me ... altae**' (lines 96 - 97)?

(10)

- f. What is the proposal that the speaker here is making to Venus, as spoken in lines 99 - 100?

(8)

- g. Translate '**habes ... petisti**' (line 100). Explain what the speaker exactly is referring to in terms of Dido's behaviour.

(8)

(Total: 50 marks)

SECTION B: CICERO, *Select Letters*

2. Read the following passage carefully and then answer the questions set on it:

CICERO ATTICO SAL.

Utinam illum diem videam cum tibi agam gratias quod me vivere coegisti! Adhuc quidem valde me paenitet, sed te oro ut ad me Vibonem statim **venias** quo ego multis de causis converti iter meum. Sed eo si **veneris**, de tota itinere ac fuga mea consilium capere potero. Si id non **feceris**, **mirabor**; sed confido te esse facturum.

(Cicero, Ad Atticum. 3.3)

- a. What is it that Cicero wishes to thank Atticus for in this letter and what is he hoping for?

(8)

- b. Translate **adhuc ... me paenitet** (lines 1 - 2). Comment on the apparent contradiction expressed here.

(8)

This question continues on next page.

- c. What mood is **venias** (line 2)? Name the construction of which it is a part and translate the sentence **sed te ... venias**.

(8)

- d. What is it, according to this letter, that Cicero wishes to consult Atticus about? Explain briefly the background to Cicero's troubles.

(8)

- e. What kind of verb is **mirabor** (line 4)? Give its principal parts. What is Cicero confident that Atticus will do here?

(8)

- f. What is the mood and tense of **veneris** and **feceris** (line 3)? What kind of construction is this in both cases?

(10)

(Total: 50 marks)



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**SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL
2025 MAIN SESSION**

SUBJECT:	Latin
PAPER NUMBER:	II – Level 2-3
DATE:	14 th May 2025
DURATION:	2 hours 5 minutes

Answer Questions 1 **AND** 2, and **EITHER** 3 **OR** 4 (**THREE** questions in all).

1. Translate the following passage into English:

A Fatal Gift

Postea, Iason et Medea, cum Thessalia expulsi essent, ad urbem Corinthum venerunt, cuius urbis Creon quidam regnum tum obtinebat. Erat autem Creonti filia una, nomine Glauce: quam cum vidisset, Iason, homo perfidiosissimus, Medeam, uxorem suam, eo ipso consilio, ut Glaucen in matrimonium duceret, deserere constituit. At Medea, ubi intellexit, quae ille in animo haberet, ira graviter commota, iureiurando se tantam iniuriam ulturam confirmavit. Itaque illud consilium cepit. Vestem summa arte textam et variis coloribus tinctam paravit. Hanc vestem mortifero quodam veneno infecit, cuius vis tanta erat, ut, si quis eam induisset, corpus eius quasi igni ureretur. Hoc facto, vestem ad Glaucen misit.

(Adapted from: *Fabulae Faciles*. Longmans)

iureiurando confirmare: to swear an oath

ulturam: ulciscor (3) – to take vengeance on

[illegible]

(Total: 30 marks)

2. Read carefully the following passage and then answer the questions set on it:

The Death of Archimedes

Romani Syracusam primo navibus oppugnare conati sunt. deinde, quod urbem hoc modo capere non poterant, **duos annos** obsidebant. cives ubi tandem victi sunt nihil aliud quam salutem sibi liberisque rogaverunt; quae a Romanis promissa est. urbs tamen militibus data est ut praedam **peterent**. multa tum irae exempla erant, multa avaritiae. inter haec Archimedes philosophus interfectus est. nam inter tumultum urbis captae, miles Romanus domum quandam intravit ut aurum caperet. ibi hominem conspexit quem nesciebat. miles eum rogavit quis esset. philosophus tamen formas quas in pulvere scripserat inspiciebat. nihil dixit. Romanus igitur imperavit ut statim responderet. sed Archimedes formis suis tam intentus erat ut verba militis non **audiret**. tum Romanus ira incensus nulla mora Graecum necavit. imperator tamen exercitus Romanorum, Marcellus nomine, quod mortem philosophi graviter tulit, militem severe puniri iussit.

(Adapted from: Essential GCSE Latin, John Taylor)

a. How did the Romans try to attack Syracuse?

b. What case is **duos annos**, and why is it used here?

c. What mood is **peterent**, and why is it used here? What is being expressed by the construction?

(5

d. What mood is **audiret**, and why is it used here? What is being expressed by the construction?

(5)

e. Why did Archimedes remain silent to the soldier's request?

(5)

f. What was the general's reaction on realising who had been killed?

(5)

(Total: 30 marks)

Please turn the page.

3. Translate the following passage into English:**The Labours of Heracles**

Quis nomen Herculis non audivit? De magnis factis illius nunc pauca dicam. Herculem, virum Graecum cuius vires erant extraordinariae, in servitutem fortuna duxerat. Eurystheus ei misero duodecim graves labores dederat. Sed Hercules metu non victus erat; neque novis animalibus terreri poterat, neque ab hominibus eius generis quod numquam sceleribus caret. Magnum leonem solis manibus Hercules superavit; celerem cervam, cuius cornua aurea erant, cepit et ex eo loco in quo eam invenerat Mycenae traxit. Deinde ille missus est ab Eurysthe contra Cerberum, acrem canem; etiam hunc amovere poterat ab ipsa porta Plutonis! Post haec et alia facta Hercules laboribus liberatus est. Quod autem praemium ei datum est? Nullum. Qui erat fructus laborum eius? Gloria memoriaque perpetua in versibus poetarum.

(Adapted from: 38 Latin stories designed to accompany Wheelock's Latin)

(Total: 40 marks)

OR

4. Translate EIGHT of the following sentences into Latin:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| a. I will persuade them not to leave me here alone. | (5) |
| b. He replied in great anger that his enemy had lied. | (5) |
| c. You ought not to be afraid to tell the truth. | (5) |
| d. We put him to death that he might not hurt us. | (5) |
| e. What sort of country do you live in? | (5) |
| f. While they were cutting down the wood, the enemy came upon them. | (5) |
| g. If the prisoners escape, we shall be punished. | (5) |
| h. They left the sick in the camp and pursued the enemy. | (5) |
| i. These men are here to give an answer. | (5) |
| j. He went away so quickly that we never saw him again. | (5) |

(Total: 40 marks)

Please indicate which Question you are answering: _____

[illegible]

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