



**Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission**

Leaving Certificate Examination 2025

**Latin
Higher Level**

Monday 23 June 2025 – Afternoon 2:00 - 5:00

400 marks

1. Answer **either** Section A **or** Section B.

[75]

A. Translate into Latin.

When Porsenna was besieging Rome, a young man called Mucius promised that he would kill the king. Mucius hid a sword beneath his toga and entered the camp of the enemy in secret. He saw a secretary, who was giving money to the soldiers, and, because he believed that this secretary was the king, killed him at once. The guards captured Mucius and dragged him to the true king. Porsenna ordered the guards to punish Mucius. Mucius, however, without fear, put his hand into the king's fire in order to show his courage. Porsenna was so astonished that he sent the young man back to Rome.

Porsenna: Porsenna, -ae (m.)

in secret: clam

secretary: scriba, -ae (m.)

OR

B. Read the following passage and answer, in English, **all** the questions which follow.

(Cloelia breaks the peace treaty between Rome and the Etruscans by leading a brave escape from the Etruscan camp. The Etruscan king reacts with mixed emotions, but finally both sides celebrate her heroism.)

Cloelia virgo una ex obsidibus erat. Cum castra Etruscorum haud procul ripa Tiberis locata essent, frustrata custodes, Cloelia, ducens agmen virginum inter tela hostium, Tiberim tranavit, sospitesque omnes Romam ad parentes restituit. Quod ubi regi nuntiatum est, primo incensus ira oratores Romam misit ad Cloeliam obsidem deposcendam. Deinde rex in admirationem versus dixit se, si femina non tradatur, pro rupto foedus habiturum, sed, si ea tradatur, se eam intactam ad suos remissurum.

Utrimque constitit fides; et Romani pignus pacis restituerunt, et rex Etruscus laudavit virginem et dixit se Cloeliam cum parte obsidum redditurum esse. Pace renovata, Romani virtutem in femina novo genere honoris, statua equestri, donaverunt; in Sacra Via posita est virgo sedens in equo.

Tiberis, Tiberis (m.): the river Tiber. frustror, frustrari: I escape. trano, -are: I swim across.
sospes, sospitis: unharmed. deposco, -ere: I demand. pro rupto habeo: I consider broken.
intactus, -a, -um: unharmed. pignus, pignoris (n.): pledge. dono, -are: I reward.

- (i) Who was Cloelia? (6)
- (ii) Where was the Etruscan camp located? (6)
- (iii) What did Cloelia do after she escaped the guards? State **three** things. (12)
- (iv) How did the king feel when he first heard about what Cloelia had done? (4)
- (v) What action did the king take when he first heard what Cloelia had done? (5)
- (vi) Why did the king take this action? (6)
- (vii) How did the king feel after some time? (6)
- (viii) What did the king say he would do if Cloelia was **not** handed back to him? (6)
- (ix) What did the king say he would do if Cloelia was handed back to him? (6)
- (x) What did the Etruscan king do **and** say after the pledge of peace was renewed? (12)
- (xi) How did the Romans reward Cloelia's courage **and** where was this reward located? (6)

2. Translate into English **one** passage from Section A and **one** passage from Section B. [130]

- A. (i) (*Iulus jokes about the way Aeneas' hungry followers eat their wheat cakes. As Aeneas listens to Iulus, he is reminded of a prophecy about his new homeland.*)

Aeneas primique duces et pulcher Iulus
 corpora sub ramis deponunt arboris altae,
 instituuntque dapes et adorea liba per herbam
 subiciunt epulis (sic Iuppiter ipse monebat).
 'heus, etiam mensas consumimus?' inquit Iulus,
 nec plura, adludens. ea vox audita laborum
 prima tulit finem, primamque loquentis ab ore
eripuit pater ac stupefactus numine pressit.
continuo 'salve fatis mihi debita tellus
 vosque' ait 'o fidi Troiae salвете penates:
 hic domus, haec patria est'.

Virgil (65)

ramus, -i (m.): branch.	daps, dapis (f.): feast.	adoreus, -a, -um: wheaten.
libum, -i (n.): cake.	epulae, -arum (f. pl.): foods.	heus: look!
consumo, -ere: I eat.	adludo, -ere: I joke.	eripuit = 'heard, caught'.
stupefactus, -a, -um: amazed.	premo, -ere: I stop, hold back.	continuo: at once.

OR

- A. (ii) (*Catullus criticises Marrucinius for the theft of a napkin. He demands the return of this souvenir and threatens to bombard Marrucinius with poetry.*)

Marrucine Asini, manu sinistra
 non belle uteris: in ioco atque vino
tollis linteum neglegentiorum.
 hoc salsum esse putas? fugit te, inepte:
 quamvis sordida res et invenusta est.
 non credis mihi?
quare aut hendecasyllabos trecentos
 exspecta, aut mihi lintheum remitte,
 quod me non movet aestimatione,
 verum est mnemosynum mei sodalis.

Catullus (65)

Marrucinus Asinius (m.): Marrucinius Asinius.	belle: well, gracefully.
iocus, -i (m.): jest, joking.	tollo, -ere: I steal.
lintheum, -i (n.): napkin.	neglegentiorum = 'of careless people'.
salsus, -a, -um: funny.	ineptus, -a, -um: foolish.
invenustus, -a, -um: unattractive.	quare: therefore.
hendecasyllabi, -orum (m. pl.): eleven-syllable verses.	aestimatio, aestimationis (f.): value.
mnemosynum, -i (n.): souvenir.	sodalis, sodalis (m.): buddy, friend.

- B. (i)** *(A statue of Diana is brought back to Segesta after P. Africanus retrieves it from Carthage. Cicero gives a description of the statue and tells of Verres' plan to steal it.)*

Illo tempore Segestanis maxima cum cura haec Diana redditur; reportatur Segestam; in suis antiquis sedibus summa cum gratulatione civium reponitur. Haec erat posita excelsa in basi, in qua magnis litteris P. Africani nomen erat incisum eumque Carthagine capta Dianam restituisse scriptum.

Colebatur a civibus, ab omnibus advenis videbatur; cum quaestor essem, nihil mihi ab illis est demonstratum prius. Erat ampla et excelsa statua cum stola; sagittae pendebant ab umero, sinistra manu retinebat arcum, dextra ardentem faciem praeferebat. Hanc cum iste religionum hostis praedoque vidisset, quasi illa ipsa face percussus esset, ita ardere cupiditate coepit.

Cicero (65)

Segestani, -orum (m. pl.): people of Segesta.

Segesta, -ae (f.): town of Segesta.

excelsus, -a, -um: high

incido, -ere: I carve

quaestor, quaestoris (m.): quaestor.

stola, -ae (f.): gown, robe.

arcus, -us (m.): bow.

percutio, -ere: I strike.

Diana, -ae (f.) = 'statue of Diana'.

gratulatio, gratulationis (f.): joy, rejoicing.

in basi = 'on a pedestal'.

advena, -ae (m.): foreigner, stranger.

amplus, -a, -um: large.

pendo, -ere: I hang.

praedo, praedonis (m.): pirate.

cupiditas, cupiditatis (f.): desire.

OR

- B. (ii)** *(Pacuvius Calavius deceives the senators of Capua, telling them that he will protect them in the senate house. However, he then allows the people of Campania to choose which senators to execute and the candidates to replace them.)*

Pacuvius Calavius Capuae erat nobilis ac popularis homo. Senatum convocavit et dixit, 'claudam in curia vos et viam salutis vestrae inveniam.' Fide data, egressus est et claudi curiam iubet praesidiumque in vestibulo relinquit ne quis adire curiam neve egredi possit.

Tum vocato ad contionem populo, 'quod saepe' inquit, 'optavistis, Campani: clausos omnes senatores in curia accipite, solos, inermes. De capite singulorum vobis ius sententiae dicendae dabo ut quisque poenas, quas meruit, pendat. Quamquam, ut opinor, odistis senatores, nullum senatum habere non vultis. Itaque duae res simul agenda vobis sunt. Citari singulos senatores iubebo de quorum capite vos consulam sed, priusquam supplicium sumatur, in eius locum novum senatorem cooptabis.'

Livy (65)

vestibulum, -i (n.): entrance.

caput, capitis (n.): life.

sententia, -ae (f.): prison sentence.

opinor, opinari: I think.

cito, -are: I summon.

supplicium, -i (n.): punishment.

Campani, -orum (m. pl.): people of Campania.

ius, iuris (n.): right

poenas pendo, -ere: I pay the penalty.

odi, odisse: I hate.

consulo, -ere: I consult.

coopto, -are: I choose.

3. Answer **either** Section A **or** Section B in this question:

[90]

A.

(i) Translate into English:

(60)

Postero die, ut a praesenti motu averteret animum eius, in tribunal escendit et contionem advocari iussit. Ibi Masinissam, primum regem adpellatum eximiisque ornatum laudibus, aurea corona, aurea patera, sella curuli et scipione eburno, toga picta et palmata tunica donat. Addit verbis honorem: neque magnificentius quicquam triumpho apud Romanos neque triumphantibus ampliorem eo ornatum esse, quo unum omnium externorum dignum Masinissam populus Romanus ducat. Laelium deinde et ipsum collaudatum aurea corona donat. Et alii militares viri, prout a quoque navata opera erat, donati. His honoribus mollitus regis animus, erectusque in spem propinquam sublato Syphace omnis Numidiae potiundae.

Livy

(ii) Answer **any three** of the five questions below. Each question carries ten marks. (30)

- (a) How did Scipio defend against the Carthaginians' attack on his ships at Utica? Was he successful in this defence? Give reasons for your answer.
- (b) 'In Book XXX, Livy presents Masinissa as impulsive and emotional.' Describe two of Masinissa's actions which support this claim.
- (c) How did Hannibal and Mago react to the orders to return to Carthage? How were their reactions different?
- (d) Based on your reading of Book XXX, in your opinion, how did Livy make his narration of events dramatic? In your answer refer to specific examples.
- (e) Write notes on **any two** of the following:
Laelius; Syphax; Scipio; the treaty of Lutatius.

B.

- (i) Translate into English: (60)

dividimus muros et moenia pandimus urbis.
accingunt omnes operi pedibusque rotarum
subiciunt lapsus et stuppea vincula collo
intendunt. scandit fatalis machina muros,
feta armis. pueri circum innuptaeque puellae
sacra canunt funemque manu contingere gaudent;
illa subit mediaeque minans inlabitur urbi.
o patria, o divom domus Ilium et incluta bello
moenia Dardanidum! quater ipso in limine portae
substitit, atque utero sonitum quater arma dedere:
instamus tamen immemores caecique furore
et monstrum infelix sacrata sistimus arce.
tunc etiam fatis aperit Cassandra futuris
ora, dei iussu non umquam credita Teucris.

Virgil

- (ii) Answer **any three** of the five questions below. Each question carries ten marks. (30)

- (a) What role did fate and the gods play in the fall of Troy in Book II of the *Aeneid*?
(b) Explain how Thymoetes disagreed with Capys and Laocoon in Book II of the *Aeneid*.
(c) Describe how Sinon wins the trust and sympathy of the Trojans in Book II of the *Aeneid*.
(d) 'Virgil uses similes and imagery drawn from nature to add beauty and drama to *Aeneid* Book II.' Discuss this view, supporting your answer with reference to the text.
(e) Write notes on any **two** of the following: Calchas; Cassandra; Dido; Panthus.

4. Answer parts (i), (ii), and (iii). [30]

- (i) Answer **either** (a) **or** (b). (10)

- (a) Name and explain the case of *patriae* and the form of the verbs *defendi* and *possent* in the following lines:

sat patriae Priamoque datum: si Pergama dextra
defendi possent, etiam hac defensa fuissent.

- (b) Name and explain the forms of the verbs *iacerent* and *petens* and the case *Uticam* in the following passage:

Inde, cum maxime vallum Romani iacerent, conspecta classis hostium est
Uticam a Carthagine petens.

- (ii) Give the principal parts of **any three** of the following verbs: (10)

iubeo, credo, tollo, capio, loquor

- (iii) Name the metre of the following line and mark the quantities: (10)

vides ut alta stet nive candidum

5. Answer **any three** of the six questions below. Each question carries twenty-five marks. **[75]**
- (i) 'Augustus's administration of the empire brought about a period of peace and prosperity in the Roman world, but his policies were strict and inflexible.' Discuss this view.
- (ii) 'While Tiberius failed as an emperor at home, he enjoyed some success in the provinces.' Discuss this view.
- (iii) Write notes on **any two** of the following:
Mark Antony; Claudius' use of freedmen; Galba;
Agrippina (mother of Nero); Domitian's building projects. .
- (iv) Give an account of the life and works of **either** Sallust **or** Horace. Comment on the relationship between politics and writing in the works of your chosen author.
- (v) 'Well-designed structures need to be strong, useful and beautiful.' Discuss this view with reference to **at least two** specific structures from the Roman world.
- (vi) Look at Photographs **A, B, C, D** and **E** and answer **two** of the following questions.
- (a) Photographs **A** and **B** show modern reconstructions of the relief sculptures on the Arch of Titus. Describe **both** of these relief sculptures and comment on their significance.
- (b) Photographs **C** and **D** show cross-sections of Roman roads. Do you think that Roman roads are a good example of Roman engineering? In your answer, describe how Roman roads were built.
- (c) Photograph **E** shows a mosaic from Pompeii. Write a note on the functions of mosaics in ancient Rome. In your answer, refer to photograph **E** and **two** other mosaics you have studied.

A.



B.



C.



D.



E.



Acknowledgements

Images

Page 8: <https://www.worldhistory.org/image/5041/triumph-of-titus/>

https://imperiumromanum.pl/en/discoveries/coloured-arch-of-titus/#google_vignette

Page 9: <https://imperiumromanum.pl/en/curiosities/cross-section-of-roman-road/>

<http://www.aquisquerquennis.es/en/how-were-roman-roads-built/>

Page 10: http://mosaicstories.de/Fotos/2013/08/Cave_canem_casa_poeta_tragico-Wikimedia.jpg

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Latin

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