

**MASSACHUSETTS CERTAMEN  
NOVICE DIVISION – ROUND I**

**Page 1**

**1:**

TU: Please supply the correct personal pronoun to complete the following sentence:

\_\_\_\_\_ *in hortō labōrāvī.*

**EGO**

B1: ...: \_\_\_\_\_ *cucurristī.*

**TŪ**

B2: ...: \_\_\_\_\_ *terruistis.*

**VŌS**

**2:**

TU: What Roman defied the traditions of Roman politics and served as *cōsul* 7 times during his career?

**(C.) MARIUS**

B1: In what year did Marius assume his first consulship?

**107 BC**

B2: What Latin term denotes people like Marius who became the first in their family to hold the consulship?

**NOVUS HOMŌ**

**3:**

TU: Quid Anglicē sīgnificat: cervus?

**DEER, STAG**

B1: Quid Anglicē sīgnificat: cinis?

**ASH**

B2: Quid Anglicē sīgnificat: caupō?

**INNKEEPER**

**4:**

TU: What goddess of strife threw an apple of discord at the wedding of Peleus and Thetis?

**ERIS**

B1: What was inscribed on the apple?

**FOR THE MOST BEAUTIFUL / FOR THE FAIREST**

B2: Name the goddesses that claimed the apple.

**HERA/JUNO, ATHENA/MINERVA, & APHRODITE/VENUS**

**[SCORE CHECK]**

**5:**

TU: What is the meaning of the Latin word at the root of “penult”?

**ALMOST/LAST**

B1: What is the meaning of the Latin word at the root of “reservoir”?

**TO GUARD, KEEP, SAVE, PROTECT, WATCH**

B2: What is the meaning of the Latin word at the root of “nuance”?

**CLOUD**

**6:**

TU: What do the following verbs have in common: *crēdō*, *faveō*, *impero*, *noceo*, and *respondeō* have in common?

**THEY TAKE THEIR (DIRECT) OBJECT IN THE DATIVE CASE**

B1: Say in Latin: I don’t trust the senator.

**SENĀTŌRĪ NŌN CRĒDŌ**

B2: Say in Latin: Marcus, do not harm the enemy

**MARCE, NOLI NOCERE HOSTI**

**7:**

TU: What daughter of the river god Inachus was transformed into a heifer by Hera?

**IO**

B1: What creature was given the task of guarding Io?

**ARGUS (PANOPTES)**

B2: Who killed Argus?

**HERMES**

**8:**

TU: Give the Latin term that refers to a slave who has been manumitted.

**LĪBERTUS / LĪBERTĪNUS**

B1: What cap of freedom would a slave receive as a sign of his manumission?

**PILLEUS**

B2: In order to be manumitted, a Roman slave must reach what minimum age?

**30**

[SCORE CHECK]

9:

TU: Please translate the following sentence into English: *mea mater nōn est celerior quam tua.*

**MY MOTHER IS NOT SWIFTER THAN YOURS/YOUR MOTHER**

B1: ...: *tua villa nōn est maior quam mea.* **YOUR HOUSE ISN'T BIGGER THAN MINE / MY (HOUSE)**

B2: ...: *meus frāter celerius quam servī currit.*

**MY BROTHER RUNS FASTER / MORE QUICKLY/SWIFTLY THAN THE SLAVES**

10:

TU: What daughter of king Acrisius was destined to have a son who would slay his grandfather? **DANAE**

B1: Because of this prophecy, what did Acrisius do with his daughter Danae?

**IMPRISONED HER IN A TOWER/ UNDERGROUND CHAMBER**

B2: In what form did Zeus visit Danae in this prison? **A GOLDEN RAIN/SHOWER**

11:

TU: Please listen to the following sentences, which I shall read twice; then answer the question that follows in English:

*puerī per viās ad amphitheātrum currēbant quod multī gladiātōrēs in arēnā pugnābant.*

*puerī, postquam gladiātōrēs intrāvērunt, plaudēbant. (repeat)*

The question: Where were the boys running to?

**TO THE AMPHITHEATER**

B1: *Who were fighting in the amphitheater?*

**GLADIATORS**

B2: When did the boys clap?

**AFTER THE GLADIATORS ENTER**

[SCORE CHECK]

12:

TU: Which son did Vespasian appoint as his commander of the praetorian guards?

**TITUS**

B1: Which city did Titus conquer in 70AD?

**JERUSALEM**

B2: What office did Titus share with his father Vespasian that allowed them to alter the composition of the Senate?

**CENSOR(SHIP)**

[FINAL SCORE]

EXTRA QUESTIONS

Please put an X through the ones you already used

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- TU: Give the comparative form for the adjective *nōbilis*.  
B1: Give the comparative form for the adjective *stultus*.  
B2: Give the comparative form for the adjective *trīstis*.

NŌBILIOR  
STULTIOR  
TRĪSTIOR

MYTHOLOGY

- TU: What monster did Iobates ask Bellerophon to kill?  
B1: What creature did Bellerophon capture to aid in this task?  
B2: What goddess gave Bellerophon a golden bridle to capture Pegasus?

THE CHIMERA  
PEGASUS  
ATHENA / MINERVA

HISTORY & LIFE

- TU: Who was the mother of the Gracchi brothers?  
B1: What name did Cornelia use to refer to the Gracchi brothers?  
B2: What daughter of Cornelia married Scipio Aemilianus?

CORNELIA  
“HER JEWELS”  
SEMPRONIA

1:

- TU: Who fought with Paris in single combat in an attempt to end the war?  
B1: What goddess saved Paris from being killed by Menelaus?  
B2: How did Aphrodite save Paris?

MENELAUS  
APHRODITE / VENUS  
HID HIM IN A CLOUD

2:

- TU: Give the dative singular of the phrase *hic magnus exercitus*.  
B1: Change *huic magnō exercituī* to the genitive.  
B2: Change *huius magnī exercitūs* to the plural.

HUIC MAGNŌ EXERCITUĪ  
HUIUS MAGNĪ EXERCITŪS  
HŌRUM MAGNŌRUM EXERCITUUM

3:

- TU: What is the Latin term for a primary school teacher?  
B1: What is the Latin term for a secondary school teacher?  
B2: What is the Latin term for the slave that was responsible for escorting pupils between home and school?

LUDĪ MAGISTER / LITTERĀTOR  
GRAMMĀTICUS  
PAEDAGŌGUS

4:

- TU: Give the Latin root and its meaning from which “miscreant” is derived.

CRĒDŌ – TO BELIEVE, TRUST

- B1: What is the Latin root and its meaning of the English word “flamingo”?  
B2: What derivative of *gēns* means “a class or category of artistic endeavor having a particular form, content, or technique”?

FLAMMA - FLAME

GENRE

[SCORE CHECK]

5:

- TU: Quid Anglicē significat: *iam*?  
B1: Quid Anglicē significat: *igitur*?  
B2: Quid Anglicē significat: *frustrā*?

NOW, ALREADY  
THEREFORE, AND SO  
IN VAIN

6:

- TU: What fierce Italian tribe fought a series of wars against the Romans in the 4<sup>th</sup> century BC?  
B1: Where did the Samnites defeat the Romans in 321 BC?  
B2: What act of humiliation did the Romans have to undergo after this defeat?

SAMNITES  
CAUDINE FORKS  
MARCH UNDER THE YOKE (OF SPEARS)

7:

- TU: Please give the comparative and superlative forms for the adjective *fortis*.

FORTIOR, FORTISSIMUS

- B1: Please give the comparative and superlative forms for the adjective *miser*.

MISERIOR, MISERRIMUS

- B2: Please give the comparative and superlative forms for the adjective *malus*.

PEIOR, PESSIMUS

8:

- TU: What Trojan youth had been abducted by Zeus to be the cupbearer of the Gods?  
B1: What goddess of youth was also a cupbearer?  
B2: What sister of Hebe is the goddess of childbirth?

GANYMEDE(S)  
HEBE  
EILEITHYIA/ILITHYIA

[SCORE CHECK]

9:

TU: What is the Latin root and its meaning of the following words: *sever, parasol, parade*?

**PARŌ – TO PREPARE  
WELL-KNOWN, FAMOUS  
FACIŌ AND TŌTUS**

B1: What is the meaning of the Latin root of the English word “notary”?

B2: What are the two Latin root of the English word “factotum”?

10:

TU: What hero from Iolchus assembled a crew to retrieve the Golden fleece?

**JASON**

B1: Who was the uncle of Jason who denied him the throne of Iolchus until this task was completed?

**PELIAS**

B2: What goddess aided Jason because she wanted Jason to bring about the eventual destruction of Pelias?

**HERA / JUNO**

11:

TU: Please translate the following sentence into English:

*cīvēs senātōribus nōn crēdidērunt quod senātōrēs nōn labōrāvērunt.*

**THE CITIZENS DIDN'T TRUST/BELIEVE THE SENATORS BECAUSE THE SENATORS  
DIDN'T WORK**

B1: *spectātōrēs gladiātōrī nōn favēbant quod leōnēs nōn mortuī erant.*

**THE SPECTATORS WEREN'T SUPPORTING/FAVORING // DIDN'T FAVOR/SUPPORT  
THE GLADIATOR BECAUSE THE LIONS WEREN'T DEAD**

B2: *...: gladiātor mihi nōn respondit quod umbra erat.*

**THE GLADIATOR DIDN'T RESPOND TO/ANSWER ME BECAUSE HE WAS A GHOST**

[SCORE CHECK]

12:

TU: What philosopher was partially responsible for what's called the **quīnquennium Nērōnis**, the first five years of Nero's reign, during which the young emperor appeared capable of becoming a competent ruler?

**SENECA (THE YOUNGER)**

B1: Name the Praetorian Prefect who also provided sound advice to Nero during this period.

**BURRUS**

B2: What did Nero order Seneca to do after he was implicated in an assassination plot against the emperor?

**COMMIT SUICIDE**

[FINAL SCORE]

**EXTRA QUESTIONS**

**LANGUAGE SKILLS**

If you have gingivitis, what do you have an inflammation of?

**GUMS**

B1: Where in your body do you find costal cartilage?

**RIBS**

B2: While there are many veins in the body, one of the most prominent is the jugular. From what Latin noun with what meaning is the word “jugular” derived?

**IUGULUM meaning THROAT**

**MYTHOLOGY**

TU: What nine daughters of Zeus and Mnemosyne were the patronesses of literature and the arts?

**THE MUSES**

B1: What three daughters of Zeus and Themis controlled the destiny of mortals? **THE FATES/ MOIRAI**

B2: What group of goddesses punished sinners in the Underworld?

**THE FURIES/ THE ERINYES / SEMNAI THEAI / EUMINIDES**

**HISTORY & LIFE**

TU: Who assassinated Domitian?

**STEPHANUS**

B1: What action, taken by the Senate after the assassination of Domitian, showed the unpopularity of the emperor among the senators?

**DAMNĀTIŌ MEMORIAE /DAMNATION OF MEMORY /  
REMOVAL OF HIS NAME FROM ALL PUBLIC RECORDS**

B2: What chamberlain of Domitian was the chief instigator behind this conspiracy?

**PARTHENIUS**

1:

TU: What is the meaning of the Ciceronian idiom “ex tempore”?

EXTEMPORANEOUSLY

B1: What is the meaning of the Ciceronian idiom “fidem facere”?

TO CONVINCE

B2: What is the meaning of the Ciceronian idiom “fructum capere”?

TO REAP THE REWARD

2:

TU: What daughter of Priam was cursed with the gift of prophecy that would never be believed?

CASSANDRA

B1: Who raped Cassandra at the sack of Troy?

AJAX OILEUS / AJAX THE LESSER

B2: In whose temple did Cassandra try to find sanctuary?

ATHENA’S / MINERVA’S

3:

TU: Please give the dative singular and plural forms for *vir*.

VIRŌ & VIRĪS

B1: Please give the dative singular and plural forms for *senex*.

SENĪ & SENIBUS

B2: Please give the dative singular and plural forms for *tū*.

TIBI & VŌBĪS

4:

TU: Against whom was the first *senātūs cōnsultum ultimum* passed?

GAIUS GRACCHUS

B1: What was a *senātus cōnsultum ultimum*?

(ULTIMATE) DECREE OF THE SENATE  
THAT ALLOWED THE CONSULS TO USE FORCE TO TAKE CARE OF EMERGENCIES/  
(EMERGENCY) DECREE OF MARTIAL LAW

B2: What *cōsul* was the recipient of the first *senātūs cōnsultum ultimum* against Gaius Gracchus?

OPIMIUS

[SCORE CHECK]

5:

TU: In a Roman villa, what Latin term refers to the colonnaded garden?

PERISTŪLIUM

B1: What is the name for the shrine of the household gods?

LARĀRIUM

B2: What is the name for the backdoor used mainly by slaves?

POSTĪCUM

6:

TU: What would an Arizonan mean if he says to you in Latin "**Dītat Deus**"?

GOD ENRICHES

B1: How would an Oklahoman tell you in Latin that "Toil overcomes all obstacles"?

LABOR OMNIA VINCIT

B2: How would a North Carolinian tell you in Latin that "To be rather than to seem"?

ESSE QUAM VIDĒRĪ

7:

TU: What monster was born of Gaea and Tartarus to attack Zeus?

TYPHON

B1: What monster was the mate of Typhon?

ECHIDNA

B2: What offspring of Typhon and Echidna was used by Hades as his sentry?

CERBERUS

8:

TU: Translate the following sentence into Latin: We will have worked diligently in the kitchen.

**IN CULĪNĀ DĪLIGENTER LABŌRĀVERIMUS**

B1: ...: You (plural) had seen the mountain yesterday.

**MONTEM HERI VĪDERĀTIS**

B2: ...: You (singular) will listen to the teacher tomorrow.

**MAGISTRUM / MAGISTRAM / RHĒTOREM / LITTERĀTŌREM / GRAMMATICUM  
CRĀS AUDIĒS**

**[SCORE CHECK]**

9:

TU: Give an antonym of *iūstitia*.

**INIŪRIA (accept other variations that means crime or injury)**

B1: Give an antonym of *clēmēns*.

**CRŪDĒLIS**

B2: Give an antonym of *vāstō*.

**(CŌN)SERVŌ**

10:

TU: What Roman emperor presided over the re-construction of the Pantheon?

**HADRIAN**

B1: Where in Italy did Hadrian construct an elaborate villa?

**TIVOLI / TIBUR**

B2: What double temple standing opposite the Colosseum is Hadrian rumored to have designed himself?

**VENUS ET ROMA**

11:

TU: What princess of Joppa was boasted by her mother to be more beautiful than the Nereids, and as such was compelled to be chained to a rock and devoured by a sea monster?

**ANDROMEDA**

B1: What hero saved Andromeda from this sea monster?

**PERSEUS**

B2: Who were the parents of Andromeda?

**CEPHEUS & CASSIOPEIA**

**[SCORE CHECK]**

12:

TU: Please listen to the following sentences, which I shall read twice; then answer the question that follows in Latin:

*senēs et puellae, postquam actōrēs in theātrō spectāvērunt, ad villās suās redībant. subitō terra tremuit. senēs et puellae, quod erant perterritī, ad portum statim cucurrerunt. (repeat)*

The question: To where were the old man and girls returning?

**TO THEIR HOMES**

B1: When did the old man and girl return to their villas?

**AFTER THEY SAW THE ACTORS IN THE THEATER/  
AFTER THEY SAW THE SHOW**

B2: Why did the old man and girl run to the gate?

**THEY WERE SCARED**

**[FINAL SCORE]**



EXTRA QUESTIONS

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- TU: Quid Anglicē sīgnificat: *dīmittō*?  
B1: Quid Anglicē sīgnificat: *praemittō*?  
B2: Quid Anglicē sīgnificat: *intermittō*?

TO SEND OFF, DISMISS  
TO SEND AHEAD  
TO INTERRUPT, STOP

HISTORY & LIFE

- TU: What Roman **praenōmen** is abbreviated **T.**?  
B1: What Roman **praenōmen** is abbreviated **Ti.**?  
B2: What Roman **praenōmen** is abbreviated **A.**?

TITUS  
TIBERIUS  
AULUS

MYTHOLOGY

- TU: Who shot the arrow that killed Achilles?  
B1: Where did Paris hit Achilles?  
B2: What Greek killed Paris?

PARIS  
HIS HEEL  
PHILOCTETES

1:

TU: What grandson of Masinissa came into direct conflict with the Romans when many Italian citizens were slaughtered after the city of Cirta was sacked by the Numidian ruler?

JUGURTHA

B1: Name one of the Roman consuls who was sent against Jugurtha.

(CALPURNIUS) BESTIA /  
(POSTUMIUS) ALBINUS /  
CAECILIUS METELLUS (NUMIDICUS)

B2: What king of Mauretania and father-in-law of Jugurtha finally betrayed the Numidian to the Romans?

BOCCHUS

2:

TU: For the verb *ferō*, give the third person plural, perfect active indicative.

TULĒRUNT

B1: Change *tulērunt* to the passive.

LĀTĪ (-AE, -A) SUNT

B2: Change *lātī sunt* to the future.

FERENTUR

3:

TU: Which of the following words is not derived from the same Latin root?

doubt duet **arduous** duplex dubloon

ARDUOUS

B1: Which of the following words is not derived from the same Latin root?

**resent** present absent essential representative

RESENT

B2: Which of the following words is not derived from the same Latin root?

amateur paramour **amorphous** enamore amorous

AMORPHOUS

4:

TU: After the death of Achilles, what possession of his was fought over by the Greek chieftains?

HIS ARMOR

B1: Name the two primary contenders for the armor of Achilles.

ODYSSEUS & AJAX TELEMACHOS

B2: What did Ajax refuse to do in the Underworld because of the outcome of this contest?

HE REFUSED TO SPEAK TO ODYSSEUS

5:

TU: Please distinguish in meaning between *cēdō* and *cadō*.

CĒDŌ – TO YIELD, GO /  
CADO-TO FALL

B1: Please distinguish in meaning between *vincō* and *vinciō*.

VINCŌ – TO WIN, CONQUER /  
VINCIO – TO BIND, TIE UP

B2: Please distinguish in meaning between *item* and *iter*.

ITEM – LIKEWISE /  
ITER - JOURNEY

[SCORE CHECK]

6:

TU: Please supply the correct form of the relative pronoun for the following sentence: The girls, whose books we borrowed, were very beautiful.

QUĀRUM

B1: ...: The senators, whom we supported, were the best candidates.

QUIBUS

B2: ...: The governor, whom the emperor placed in charge of the town, was corrupt.

CUI

7:

TU: What would a Roman do in the *ūnctōrium* of a *thermae*?

**RUBBING / ANOINTING WITH OIL / MASSAGE**

B1: What instrument did the Romans use to scrape off the oil from the skin?

**STRIGILIS**

B2: To whom would a Roman have paid the entrance fee to get into the *thermae*?

**OSTIĀRIUS**

8:

TU: What creatures plagued the blind king Phineus by fouling his food every time it was set before him?

**THE HARPIES**

B1: Zetes and Calais, the winged sons of what god of the North Wind, chased away the Harpies? **BOREAS**

B2: What gift allowed Phineus to repay his debt to the Argonauts?

**PROPHECY**

9:

TU: Please translate into Latin using the verb **faveo**: *We will not support the senator because you are better.*

**CANDIDĀTŌ NŌN FAVĒBIMUS**

**QUOD (TŪ) ES MELIOR**

B1: Please translate into Latin: *After you had seen me, why didn't you answer me?*

**POSTQUAM MĒ VĪDERĀS / VĪDERĀTIS,**

**CŪR MIHI NŌN RESPONDISTĪ / RESPONDISTIS?**

B2: Please translate into Latin: *We left from the forum as quickly as possible after we heard the shout.*

**POSTQUAM CLĀMŌREM AUDĪVIMUS, (NŌS) Ē FORŌ**

**QUAM CELERRIMĒ DISCESSIMUS**

10:

TU: Which of the following words, if any, is not derived from the same Latin root as the others:

*libretto, libel, liberal, library?*

**LIBERAL**

B1: Which of the following words, if any, is not derived from the same Latin root as the others:

*mess, miss, muss, moss?*

**MOSS**

B2: Which of the following words, if any, is not derived from the same Latin root as the others:

*fund, fundamental, funeral, profundity?*

**FUNERAL**

**[SCORE CHECK]**

11:

TU: Who, harboring a hatred for her father like no other, drove a chariot over his body after her husband murdered him in the streets of Rome?

**TULLIA**

B1: Who was this husband of Tullia?

**TARQUINIUS SUPERBUS**

B2: What name was given to the street on which this gross act occurred?

**VIA SCELERATA / VĪCUS SCELERĀTUS / "STREET OF SHAME/INFAMY/CRIME"**

12:

TU: Who guessed Odysseus' identity while bathing him?

**EURYCLEIA**

B1: How?

**SCAR ON HIS THIGH**

B2: How did Odysseus get the scar? **GASHED BY A BOAR AS A YOUNG MAN WHILE HUNTING**

13:

- TU: Quid Anglicē significat: aeger?  
B1: Quid Anglicē significat: agmen?  
B2: Quid Anglicē significat: aliquis?

SICK  
COLUMN  
SOMEONE

14:

- TU: From what Latin verb does the English word “elite” come from?  
B1: From the same Latin root, what English noun means “a reading desk”?  
B2: What Latin verb does the English word “ally” come from?

LEGŌ  
LECTERN  
LIGO

15:

- TU: Please listen to the following sentences, which I shall read twice; then answer the question that follows in English:

Listen carefully to the following passage, which I will read twice, and answer in English the question that follows: Titus Manlius appellatus est Torquatus quod semper gerebat torquem ex auro detractam ex hoste quem occiderat. Olim exercitus Romanus cum Gallis acerrime contendebat, et quidam Gallus processit qui viribus magnitudine et virtute omnibus ceteris praestabat. Titus Manlius processit. Scuto gladioque armatus, contra ingentem Gallum constitit. Confusus virtute magis quam arte, Gallum petivit evertitque. Duobus exercitibus spectantibus, Manlius torquem Galli detraxit et eam sibi imposuit. (repeat)

Question: How did Titus Manlius get his necklace?

TOOK IT OFF A GAUL

- B1: What was the necklace made of?  
B2: Who was watching when Titus Manlius took his necklace?

GOLD  
TWO ARMIES

[SCORE CHECK]

16:

- TU: What type of gladiators carried a large, oblong shield and was often distinguished by the feathers they wore on their helmets?  
B1: What type of gladiators carried a small, round shield and a curved sword?  
B2: What type of gladiators was often armed only with a **vēnābulum**?

SAMNITES  
THRACIANS / THRĀX  
BĒSTIĀRIUS

17:

- TU: Who, in Book IV of the *Iliad*, breaks the truce between the Trojans and the Greeks?  
B1: How does he do so?  
B2: What goddess prompts him to do this?

PANDARUS  
HE SHOOTS AN ARROW AT MENELAUS  
ATHENA

18:

- TU: What would a student at University of Oregon mean if he told you "*mēns agitat mōlem*"?  
B1: How would a student at the University of Missouri say in Latin "*By valor and arms*"?  
B2: How would a student at City College of New York tell you in Latin to "*Look back, look to the present, look to the future*"?

MIND MOVES THE MASS  
VIRTŪTE ET ARMĪS  
RESPICE, ADSPICE, PROSPICE

# MASSACHUSETTS CERTAMEN

## NOVICE DIVISION – FINALS

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PAGE 13

**19:**

- TU: What son of Hermes and Dryope was half man and half goat?  
B1: What girl, pursued by Pan, was transformed into marsh reeds?  
B2: What girl, pursued by Pan, was transformed into a pine tree?

**PAN**  
**SYRINX**  
**PITYS**

**[SCORE CHECK]**

**20:**

- TU: Which emperor was responsible for the distribution of cash to the people of Rome in 99, 102, and 107 AD?  
B1: What province was Trajan responsible for conquering in 106 AD?  
B2: Where in Spain was Trajan born?

**TRAJAN**  
**DACIA**  
**ITALICA**

**[FINAL SCORE]**