

1992 NJCL CERTAMEN

ROUND C1

- I. Who was elected pontifex maximus during Cicero's consulship?
JULIUS CAESAR
- What Asian enemy of Rome took his own life that year?
MITHRIDATES
- Also in the same year, what Roman general besieged and captured Jerusalem? POMPEY
- II. Ask in Latin: "Where am I"? UBI SUM?
- Ask: "Where am I going?" QUO EO?
- Ask: "Where have I come from?" UNDE VENI?
- III. Who was Troy's last king? PRIAM
- Who was his queen? HECUBA
- Who was his bravest and strongest son? HECTOR
- IV. What Latin imperative is abbreviated cf? CONFER
- What adverb is abbreviated ibid? IBIDEM
- What command is abbreviated q.v.? QUOD VIDE
- V. What would a Roman call his version of a fast-food joint?
THERMOPOLIUM
- What did the Romans call allium? GARLIC
- The meat of what animal was eaten only by the poorest classes?
GOAT
- VI. What would a Roman farmer call his field? AGER
- What noun would he use for himself? AGRICOLA
- What did he call his horse? EQUUS
- VII. What is the dative plural of pater? PATRIBUS
- Make patribus singular. PATRI
- Make patri ablative. PATRE
- VIII. The Domus Aurea of Nero lay in the valley between what two hills?
PALATINE AND ESQUILINE
- Which emperor had a palatial villa which you can still visit at Tibur, now Tivoli? HADRIAN
- Whose villa can you see on Capri? TIBERIUS'

ROUND C1, page 2

- IX. How many kings ruled Rome? SEVEN
What elected official replaced the king? CONSUL
What was a consul's term of office? ONE YEAR
- X. Who took another ten years to get home after the ten years of the Trojan War? ODYSSEUS
Where was his home? ITHACA
Who was his faithful wife who awaited him there? PENELOPE
- XI. What was the relationship of Hestia, Hera and Demeter? SISTERS
Which one was a virgin goddess? HESTIA
Which one bore Zeus only one child? DEMETER
- XII. What narrow strait, meaning "cow crossing," was named for the transformed Io? THE BOSPORUS
What son did Zeus finally father on her, after all her wandering? EPAPHUS
Whom did she encounter in her long trek and receive prophecy from? PROMETHEUS
- XIII. What is a lupus? WOLF
What is a lepus? RABBIT, HARE
What is a lapis? STONE
- XIV. Who gave Minos the Cretan bull? POSEIDON/NEPTUNE
How did Poseidon punish Minos for not sacrificing it as expected? MADE PASIPHAE PASSIONATE FOR IT
Who captured the bull alive? HERACLES
- XV. What Latin verb with what meaning is the root of "inspire"? SPIRO = BREATHE
What Latin verb with what meaning is the root of "imbibe"? BIBO = DRINK
What Latin verb with what meaning is the root of "infuse"? FUNDO = POUR

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ROUND C2

- I. What structure was built to house the Minotaur? THE LABYRINTH
Who was the architect? DAEDALUS
Who was Daedalus' ill-fated son? ICARUS
- II. What Byzantine emperor commissioned a major codification of Roman law?
JUSTINIAN
Who was his empress? THEODORA
What general of Justinian recaptured North Africa from the Vandals? BELISARIUS
- III. Make audit plural. AUDIUNT
Make audiunt future. AUDIENT
Make audient first person singular. AUDIAM
- IV. Translate: "they have watched." SPECTAVERUNT
Translate: "they have been watched." SPECTATI SUNT
Translate: "they were being watched." SPECTABANTUR
- V. Whom did Venus send to the Underworld to fetch her a jar of Proserpina's beauty?
PSYCHE
Who was sent there to bring back the three-headed dog Cerberus? HERCULES (not HERACLES!)
Who went there with his friend Theseus to kidnap Proserpina herself? PIRITHOUS
- VI. What sea god was a mortal transformed by eating a strange herb?
GLAUCUS
What sea nymph did Glaucus fall in love with? SCYLLA
Whom did he consult on how to win Scylla's love? CIRCE
- VII. What city asked Pyrrhus for help against Rome? TARENTUM
What enemy of Rome took Tarentum by treachery in 213BC?
HANNIBAL
What major Latin colony elsewhere in southernmost Italy led to Tarentum's decline? BRUNDISIUM

ROUND C1, page 3

- XVI. Translate into Latin the English word "himself" in this sentence: "He saved himself a piece of pie."
SIBI
- Do the same for these:
He baked the pie himself. IPSE
He burned himself on the hand baking the pie. SE
- XVII. What Latin noun with what meaning is contained in the English adjective "significant"?
SIGNUM = SIGN, SIGNAL
- What Latin base verb with what meaning is contained in the English adjective "important"?
PORTO = CARRY
- What Latin verb with what meaning is contained in the English adjective "essential"?
SUM = BE
- XVIII. What is the nominative plural of the pronoun tu? VOS
- What is the corresponding possessive adjective? VESTER
What construction does Latin use instead of the prepositional phrase cum vobis? VOBISCUM
- XIX. Spell feminine. F E M I N I N E
- Spell adjective. A D J E C T I V E
Spell possessive. P O S S E S S I V E
- XX. How many emperors ruled in between the Flavian dynasty and the Five Good Emperors?
NONE
- Who was the last of the Flavian emperors? DOMITIAN
Who was the first of the Five Good Emperors? NERVA

ROUND C2, page 2

- VIII. What change in his garb did a young Roman make around the age of 15?
HE PUT ON THE TOGA VIRILIS
- What garment did this replace? THE TOGA PRAETEXTA
What garment did he wear under either one of them?
TUNICA or SUBLIGACULUM
- IX. Give the ablative singular of the noun liber. LIBRO
- Make libro plural. LIBRIS
Make libris genitive. LIBRORUM
- X. Who followed Tiberius as emperor? CALIGULA/GAIUS
- By what other name is he sometimes known?
GAIUS/CALIGULA
- How did Caligula die? ASSASSINATED (IN PALACE REVOLT)
- XI. Translate with one word: "I am here." ADSUM
- Translate with one word: "I am asleep." DORMIO
Translate with one word: "I am in charge." PRAESUM
- XII. What basic verb is the root of "sedition"? DO
- What basic verb is the root of "obsession"? SEDEO
What basic verb is the root of "transition"? EO
- XIII. What is the Latin noun for "star"? STELLA/STELLA/SIDUS
- For "sun"? SOL
For "moon"? LUNA
- XIV. What was a rota? WHEEL
- What was a biga? TWO-HORSE CHARIOT
What was a iugum? YOKE
- XV. Who punished Cassandra with unheeded prophecy? APOLLO
- What had she done to draw his anger? SPURNED HIS AFFECTIONS
What Greek leader took Cassandra captive at the end of the war?
AGAMEMNON
- XVI. What verb is the source of the English noun "audacity"? AUDEO
- What verb is the source of the English verb "augment"? AUGEO
What verb is the source of the English noun "audience"? AUDIO

ROUND C2, page 3

- XVII. Give the full name of the great orator Cicero.
MARCUS TULLIUS CICERO
- Who was Cicero's beloved daughter? TULLIA
Who was his son? MARCUS TULLIUS CICERO
- XVIII. Spell "declension." D E C L E N S I O N
- Spell "grammar." G R A M M A R
Spell "interrogative." I N T E R R O G A T I V E
- XIX. What case would you need for "friends" in this sentence:
"The people in that chariot are our friends"?
NOMINATIVE
- In these sentences: "We made our friends a gift." DATIVE
"We changed our plans because of our friends." ACCUSATIVE
- XX. Who was the Roman goddess of the dawn? AURORA
- What did the Greeks call her? EOS
Who was the goddess of the rainbow? IRIS

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ROUND C3

- I. What was a folium? LEAF/PAGE
 What was herba? GRASS
 What was a radix? ROOT (or RADISH)
- II. What princess had to be sacrificed before the Greeks could sail to Troy?
 IPHIGENIA
On what pretense did Agamemnon have Iphigenia sent to him?
 SHE WAS SUPPOSEDLY TO WED ACHILLES
What was the seaport where the Greeks were becalmed? AULIS
- III. Whose bird was the owl? ATHENA'S/MINERVA'S
 Whose was the dove? APHRODITE'S/VENUS'
 Whose was the eagle? ZEUS'/JUPITER'S
- IV. Who was hailed as restitutor orbis? AURELIAN
 What self-proclaimed emperor of Gaul did he defeat to win that title? TETRICUS
 What was the year? 274AD
- V. Who were the two sons of Livia? DRUSUS AND TIBERIUS
 Whom did Drusus marry? ANTONIA MINOR
 Who was their first son? GERMANICUS
- VI. In what year did Roman soldiers fight each other at the Battles of Philippi?
 42BC
 What commander won? MARC ANTONY
 Who lost? CASSIUS AND BRUTUS (THE TYRANNICIDES)
- VII. Tell someone not to laugh. NOLI RIDERE
 Tell two people to sing. CANTATE/CANITE
 Tell them to cry. FLETE/LACRIMATE
- VIII. Who had to lift a great rock before he could meet his father?
 THESEUS
 What lay beneath the rock? A SWORD AND SANDALS
 Who was Theseus' mother? AETHRA

ROUND C3, page 2

- IX. Who was Heracles' mortal half-brother? IPHICLES
Who was their mother? ALCMENE
Who was Alcmene's husband? AMPHITRYON
- X. What tense is used to show action now incomplete but completed by some future time?
FUTURE PERFECT
What tense shows action already completed at some past time?
PLUPERFECT
What tense shows actions occurring repeatedly in the past?
IMPERFECT
- XI. What Latin noun is the root of "semester"? MENSIS
What adjective is the other root of that word? SEX
What noun is the root of "term"? TERMINUS
- XII. Sitting near you at the next table is a fully-staffed, all-girl certamen team. Count them out loud.
UNA, DUAE, TRES, QUATTUOR
Your other opponents are a fully-staffed, all-boy team. Count them out loud. UNUS, DUO, TRES, QUATTUOR
Now count them again, just their heads.
UNUM, DUO, TRIA, QUATTUOR
- XIII. To postpone her suitors, what did Penelope work on by day and secretly undo at night?
A SHROUD FOR LAERTES (HER FATHER-IN-LAW)
After the suitors discovered her deception, she agreed to choose the man who could perform what feat of strength and skill? (STRING ODYSSEUS' BOW AND) SHOOT AN ARROW THROUGH TWELVE AX-HEADS
Who finally accomplished this feat? ODYSSEUS (IN DISGUISE)
- XIV. How would a Roman say, "I will believe"? CREDAM
How would he say, "I said"? DIXI/FATUS SUM/LOCUTUS SUM
How would he say, "We saw"? VIDIMUS/CREVIMUS
- XV. What month is named for the Roman god of war? MARCH
What month is named for the god with two faces? JANUARY
What month is named for a fourth-conjugation verb? APRIL

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ROUND C10

- I. As with many English verbs, the meaning of the verb gero depends on its direct object. When the object is negotium, what is a good translation for gero?
CONDUCT, CARRY ON, DO
- What if the object is togam? WEAR
What is the object is bellum? WAGE, CONDUCT
- II. What is the Latin word for "dog"? CANIS
- For his friend the cat? FELIS or FELES
For his friend the tree? ARBOR
- III. What god slept with Althaea with her husband's acquiescence and so may have fathered her daughter?
DIONYSUS
- Who was Althaea's accommodating husband? OENEUS
Who was the daughter? DEIANEIRA
- IV. In what public building did you find Rome's mint?
THE TEMPLE OF JUNO MONETA
- What hill was it on? THE CAPITOLINE
What was the Latin name for the Capitoline's citadel? ARX
- V. What case does the preposition propter govern? ACCUSATIVE
- Extra? ACCUSATIVE
Prae? ABLATIVE
- VI. When Leto was due to give birth to her divine twins, who tried to foil the birth by keeping Ilithyia away?
HERA
- Other goddesses foiled Hera by bribing Ilithyia with what?
A GOLD NECKLACE
- What serving girl tricked Ilithyia into allowing Heracles to be born, in spite of Hera's machinations? GALANTHIS
- VII. What derivative of iocus is an ornament you might wear?
JEWEL
- What derivative of focus is a source of energy? FUEL
What derivative of socius is a popular sport? SOCCER
- VIII. Give a Roman the command to run. CURRE
- Give two Romans the same order. CURRITE
Tell them to sit. SEDETE

ROUND C3, page 3

- XVI. What foreign king became an ally of Tarquinius Superbus?
LARS PORSENNA
- Of what Etruscan city was Lars king? CLUSIUM
What Roman hero tried to assassinate Lars Porsenna?
C. MUCIUS SCAEVOLA
- XVII. Which of Rome's important offices was judicial in nature?
THE PRAETORSHIP
- Which office was financial in nature? QUAESTORSHIP
What number of years was supposed to elapse between two
consular terms? TEN
- XVIII. What is the dative singular of filius? FILIO
- Make fili accusative. FILIUM
Make fili plural. FILIOS
- XIX. What did the Romans call Scotland? CALEDONIA (SCOTIA)
- What did the Romans call France? GALLIA (GAUL)
What did the Romans call Spain? HISPANIA
- XX. What praenomen has the abbreviation D? DECIMUS
- The abbreviation M'? MANIUS
The abbreviation Sp? SPURIUS

ROUND C10, page 2

- IX. What god gave Midas the golden touch? DIONYSUS/BACCHUS
For what was the god thanking Midas? SHELTERING SILENUS
What river washed away the cursed gift? PACTOLUS
- X. What subjunctive tense shows completed action after a primary
tense main verb? PERFECT
After a secondary tense main verb? PLUPERFECT
What show incomplete action after a secondary verb? IMPERFECT
- XI. Make taedet perfect. TAEDUIT or TAESUM EST
Make ridere perfect. RISISSE
Make mordere perfect. MOMORDISSE
- XII. What hero beheaded Medusa? PERSEUS
What group was Medusa part of? GORGONS
What fearsome power did they have?
A GLANCE AT THEM TURNED MORTALS TO STONE
- XIII. What was Pompey's praenomen? GNAEUS
What was Cicero's praenomen? MARCUS
What was Crassus' praenomen? MARCUS
- XIV. What patronym refers to Agamemnon and Menelaus? THE ATRIDAE
Who was the murderous wife of Agamemnon? CLYTEMNESTRA
Who was the unfaithful wife of Menelaus? HELEN
- XV. Who married his own widowed former stepmother-in-law?
TIBERIUS
Explain. HIS SECOND WIFE JULIA WAS THE WIDOW OF HIS
FIRST WIFE'S (VIPSANIA'S) FATHER (AGRIPPA).
What name was shared by the brother and the son of Tiberius?
DRUSUS
- XVI. What new method of warfare was Pyrrhus the first to use
against the Romans? ELEPHANTS
What was the last battle between Pyrrhus and the Romans?
BENEVENTUM
What was the year? 275BC

ROUND C10, page 3

- XVII. What Roman king captured Alba Longa? TULLUS HOSTILIUS
Who were the Roman triplets that fought in this battle?
THE HORATII
Who were their Alban counterparts? THE CURIATII
- XVIII. Using the Latin verb iubeo, give the correct form of "stay" in
this sentence: "My mother told me to stay."
MANERE
What change would using impero mandate? MANEREM
What pronoun for "me" would the sentence with impero need?
MIHI
- XIX. What Latin verb is the root of "survey"? VIDEO
What Latin verb is the root of "surveillance"? VIGILO
What Latin verb is the root of "survive"? VIVO
- XX. Make bonos comparative. MELIORES
Give two other positive forms for which meliores would be
the comparative.
BONI, BONAE, BONAS

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ROUND C100

- I. Quot genua tibi sunt? DUO
Quot colla tibi sunt? UNUM
Quot tali tibi sunt? DUO
- II. Which of the emperors of 69AD died by his own hand?
OTHO
Who was Otho's wife before she was Nero's? POPPAEA SABINA
Where had Nero made Otho governor to get him out of the way?
LUSITANIA
- III. Which of these birds has a Latin root: parrot, sparrow,
eagle, robin?
EAGLE
Name and define the noun at the basic root of "canary."
CANIS = DOG
Name and define the noun at the basic root of "oriole."
AURUM = GOLD
- IV. What Latin verb form can mean either "I fly" or "I wish"?
VOLO
What is the infinitive that means "to fly"? VOLARE
What is the infinitive that means "to wish"? VELLE
- V. Who was the river god who struggled in many shapes while
wrestling with Heracles for the love of Deianeira?
ACHELOUS
Who was the grandson of Poseidon who assumed many shapes while
fighting Heracles in defense of Pylos? PERICLYMENUS
Who was the sea god who assumed many shapes when seized for
questioning by Menelaus? PROTEUS
- VI. Who was Odysseus' loyal swineherd? EUMAEUS
Who was his equally disloyal goatherd? MELANTHEUS
Who was the cowherd who with Eumaeus killed the treacherous
Melantheus after the deaths of the suitors? PHILOETIUS
- VII. What Latin word is sometimes abbreviated ca? CIRCA
For five points each, name two things that the simple letter
C can stand for.
CIRCA, CENTUM (100), CUM, GAIUS, CONDEMNO, CONGIUS

VIII. What title was bestowed on Cicero for exposing the Catilinarian conspiracy?

PATER PATRIAE

After what battle was Julius Caesar awarded that same title?

MUNDA

In what year was Augustus awarded the title? 2BC

IX. What famous patrician was going to head the Volscian army against Rome until his mother and wife persuaded him not to?

CORIOLANUS

Who was his mother?

VETURIA

Who was his wife?

VOLUMNIA

X. What is the genitive singular of nox? NOCTIS

What is the genitive singular of nux? NUCIS

What is the genitive singular of grex? GREGIS

XI. What grandson of Minos led the Cretans at Troy?

IDOMENEUS

What rash vow to what deity did Idomeneus make when threatened by a storm on the way home? HE SWORE TO APOLLO THAT HE'D SACRIFICE THE FIRST LIVING CREATURE HE SAW ON SHORE

What did that creature turn out to be? HIS OWN SON

XII. What did the Romans break into two categories: indutus and amictus?

CLOTHING

Which category included the toga? AMICTUS

What do the two words mean? INDUTUS = PUT ON

AMICTUS = WRAPPED AROUND (AMBO + IACIO)

XIII. What queen of the Lemnian women greeted Jason and his men?

HYPSIPYLE

What adviser of Hypsipyle advised her to offer the Argonauts more than just provisions (wink wink, nudge nudge)? POLYXO

What Argonaut shamed his fellows into leaving the receptive women of Lemnos and continuing the expedition? HERACLES

XIV. Who was the first emperor not drawn from Senatorial rank?

MACRINUS

Who defeated and succeeded Macrinus?

ELAGABALUS/HELIOGABALUS/BASSIANUS/M. AURELIUS ANTONINUS

Whose son was Elagabalus alleged to be in order to bolster his claim to the principate? CARACALLA'S

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EXTRA QUESTIONS

C LEVEL

Language

1. What does the noun taurus mean? BULL
2. What Latin verb means "frighten"? TERREO
3. What Latin noun is the root of "fable"? FABULA
4. What is the ablative plural of filia? FILIABUS
5. What case would you need for "service" in: "I'm glad to be of service to you"? DATIVE
6. Translate the verb form muniemus. WE SHALL FORTIFY
7. Tege os ambabus manibus.
PLAYER SHOULD COVER MOUTH WITH BOTH HANDS
8. What form of pulcher would modify vocum? PULCHRARUM
9. What number is L in Latin? FIFTY
10. What Latin verb is the root of "message"? MITTO

Mythology

1. Who was the muse of history? CLIO
2. What was mythology's winged horse? PEGASUS
3. Who was Apollo's reckless son, who made a fatal request?
PHAETHON
4. What princess of Crete did Theseus abandon? ARIADNE
5. What Olympian goddess did the Romans give the epithet Lucina?
JUNO

History

1. Who was Augustus' widow? LIVIA
2. Who was the dictator who returned to his plow? CINCINNATUS
3. What was the first year of Marius' many consulships? 107BC
4. What was a Roman home's garden courtyard? PERISTYLE
5. Whose rape and subsequent suicide precipitated the downfall of the monarchy in Rome? LUCRETIA'S

ROUND C100, page 3

- XV. What case would be required for "father" in this sentence:
"I was merciful to my father's enemies."
GENITIVE
- What case would "enemies" be in? DATIVE
What use of the dative is that? WITH SPECIAL VERB
- XVI. What Latin root verb gives us our verb "summon"?
MONEO
- What summons to court is the Latin phrase "under penalty"?
SUB POENA
- What English verb for "hate" comes from a Latin verb for
calling the gods to witness in anger? DETEST
- XVII. What god was called Zagreus in one version of his creation?
DIONYSUS/BACCHUS
- Who was Zagreus' mother? PERSEPHONE/PROSERPINA
Who tore the baby apart at Hera's instigation? THE TITANS
- XVIII. Who were fabri? ENGINEERS (BRIDGES, ETC.)/SMITHS/ARTISANS
- Who were speculatores? SPIES/SCOUTS/EXPLORERS
Who were funditores? SLINGMEN
- XIX. In how many tenses do imperatives exist? TWO
- In how many tenses do infinitives exist? THREE
In how many tenses do participles exist? THREE
- XX. In what kind of object would you find a penult? A WORD
- What is a penult? THE NEXT TO THE LAST SYLLABLE
What is the last syllable called? ULTIMA