

Scholarship

2011 Assessment Report

Latin

COMMENTARY

The cohort this year was of good quality. The higher-achieving candidates continued to produce accurate and fluent translations as well as writing most perceptive responses to the analysis questions to demonstrate critical appreciation.

Candidates are encouraged to make use of the glossed vocabulary, and are reminded that although they are free to write an alternative English meaning to that provided for them, they should check that their own alternative correctly conveys the meaning of the Latin in the context of the given passage.

SCHOLARSHIP WITH OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

Candidates who were awarded Scholarship with Outstanding Performance typically:

- translated both the Latin prose and poetry clearly with appropriate idiom, paying consistently close attention to the detail of the Latin e.g. by correctly recognising passive verb forms such as *cernitur*, *adempta sunt*, *victae* and *destitui* (in the prose passage) and by accurately translating vocabulary such as *equum*, *tenebrae*, *ferre* and *optimus* (in the poetry)
- demonstrated perceptive understanding of Livy's use of storytelling skills and portrayal of character, as well as equally perceptive understanding of Virgil's depiction of mood and atmosphere and the relationship between a commander and his men
- answered analysis questions in depth, providing Latin evidence from the passages in support of their observations, as well as providing an English translation of the words quoted, to show how the authors' use of language and literary devices effectively conveys meaning.

SCHOLARSHIP

Candidates who were awarded Scholarship but not Scholarship with Outstanding Performance typically:

- translated one passage a little more accurately than the other or analysed one passage a little more perceptively than the other
- demonstrated a little less consistency in knowledge of vocabulary, in correct use of glossed meanings (i.e. as they had been supplied) and in recognition of grammatical constructions
- included within very good analytical writing some points that seemed forced or were less clearly developed or insufficiently supported by evidence from the Latin text.

OTHER CANDIDATES

Candidates who were not awarded Scholarship or Scholarship with Outstanding Performance typically:

- made errors in translation because vocabulary was either:
 - not correctly recognised e.g. *vestrae* was thought to be *vestimenta*, *illo* to be *hoc*, *victae* to be *victoriae*, and *equum* to be *equitum* or
 - not known, e.g. *nequaquam*, *damnum*, *tamquam*, *tenebrae* or
 - not used from the glossed vocabulary list e.g. *curia*, *cerno*, *et*, *nimirum*, *equum*, *pictai*, *facessunt*

- made errors in translation because inflexions were incorrectly recognised or grammatical constructions were not noticed e.g. *oris* was thought to be ablative plural, *laeti* to be a noun, *incensae* to be a present participle active and *destitui* to be first person singular perfect indicative active
- demonstrated less than full understanding of what the author was describing e.g. the reason for Hannibal's laughter and what he was actually thinking about when he laughed, or the movement of an approaching army compared with the movement of the water of great rivers.