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SCHOLARSHIP EXEMPLAR

Scholarship 2016  
Latin

9.30 a.m. Monday 28 November 2016  
Time allowed: Three hours  
Total marks: 32

ANSWER BOOKLET

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

Write your answers in this booklet.

Start your answer to each question on a new page. Carefully number each question.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–12 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

Question	Mark
ONE	
TWO	
THREE	
FOUR	
TOTAL	/32

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## Question One //

He [Nero] was being terrified by the warning signs of dreams and omens. Eventually, after his mother had been killed, he saw in his sleep ~~the~~ the helm torn away from him as he steered ~~the~~ ship, and he himself being dragged by his wife Octavia ~~into~~ into very thick darkness complete and utter darkness, and being overwhelmed by a swarm of winged ants; [he saw] his horse, which he was very greatly fond of, transformed into the figure of an ape. From the mausoleum, with <sup>the</sup> doors having opened of their own accord, a voice was heard clearly, calling him by name. //

He considered ~~variously~~ various courses of action: whether he should approach the Parthians or Calba as a humble petitioner, or, dressed in black, he should appear in a public place and from the speakers' platform ~~begin to~~ pray, with ~~as much~~ ~~the~~ ~~greatest amount of~~ ~~pity~~ ~~he could~~ ~~muster~~ as much pity as he could possibly muster, for a pardon for his past sins, or, if he had not swayed their hearts, he should beg that the governorship of Egypt be granted to him. //

So, putting off these deliberations until the next day, and having been woken up in the ~~at~~ middle of the night, when he found out that the guard of soldiers had withdrawn, he jumped out of his bed and sent around his friends, and because nothing was reported back by anyone, he himself went with a few [attendants] to the rooms of each individual. But with all the doors closed and no one replying, he returned to his bedroom, from where his guards had already fled. And straight away he called out for the gladiator Spiculus or some other would-be //

assassin, ~~by whose hand he might die~~ so he would die by their hand, and finding nobody he said, "Do I therefore have neither friend nor foe?" and he ran out, as if he was about to throw himself into the Tiber. //

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## Question Two

In this passage Nero is portrayed as being utterly terrified. His paranoia and anxiety are first shown in line one "portentis... ominum." where the repeated idea of omens and portents tell us that his fate looks grim. ~~and~~ In the rest of the first paragraph (lines 1-5, "vidit... cientes") we are given a vivid description of his dreams: first he is ~~being~~ torn from the helm of the ship he is steering, which symbolises him losing power in Rome, then he is dragged into darkness by his own wife, where he is accosted by a swarm of bugs. The description "pinnatarum fornicarum multitudinem" in line 3, with its long genitive endings is 13 syllables long, which helps to convey the size of the swarm and its formidableness. His horse is then turned into an ape, and a voice issues forth from a mausoleum, calling him. These images show the terrified state of mind he is in. This is further developed in the third paragraph, lines 10-12 ("prosiluit... diffugerant."), where he jumps out of bed and tries to find his friends. This gives us the impression of a child, woken by a nightmare, ~~going to~~ waking his parents for comfort. In line 14, in his speech "ergo ego" these ~~two~~ similar sounding words give a stuttering effect, once again highlighting his terror. Nero can therefore be seen as anxious and paranoid, and despairing for his fate.

~~Also~~ Also revealed in this passage is Nero's selfishness. In lines ~~6-8~~ 6-8 "varie... ocuret." he lists some ways to remedy the situation. First of all he considers going to Parthians for aid, enemies of Rome, and

this shows that he actually does not care greatly about Rome, only about himself and his own well-being, clearly not a desirable quality in a leader. He then considers begging for pity from the Roman people, showing his lack of dignity, and ~~the~~ the lengths to which he will go to save himself. It also suggests that he has little remorse for the crimes he has committed. This shows further in lines 10-12 "prosiluit...adiit" where he goes to wake up his friends in the middle of the night so that he can be comforted. He is thinking ~~the~~ only of himself, and not for the welfare of his friends (and their sleep), and he becomes to be seen as rather pathetic.

Finally we come to ~~the~~ see the crazed state of mind he is in, as he begs for an assassin to come and kill him. The careful choice of vocabulary in line 14 of "amicus" and "inimicus" ~~&~~ emphasise his musings: "he has neither friend nor foe". This ~~bit of comic relief~~ provides comic relief, but also aids the image of a man driven mad by terror.

## Question Three

In the middle, in the lofty inner part of the palace, there was a sacred laurel tree, which ~~had been guarded in respect of its leafy top~~ whose leafy top had been guarded out of reverence for many years, and (it is amazing to tell) ~~at the~~ with a great buzzing tightly packed bees flew ~~across~~ through the clear the air [towards] the topmost point of this tree and settled at its crown, and with their feet linked one with another the sudden swarm hung on a ~~leafy branch~~ <sup>the</sup> leafy branches. Immediately a prophet said "We see a foreign man coming ever nearer, and an army on the march, from the same parts, heading ~~to~~ in the same direction, and <sup>[the man]</sup> ruling as lord at the top of a citadel." Afterwards, while the maiden Lavinia was kindling the sacrificial offerings with the sacred ~~pine~~ pine-wood, and standing by at her father's side. it seemed that, O the horror of it! her ~~her~~ long locks of hair caught fire (lit. she seemed to catch on fire with respect to her hair) and her whole dress burnt up in crackling flames, and her royally-styled hair and crown, ~~splendid~~ resplendent with jewels, ~~as~~ were set alight; then, wrapped in smoke, she [seemed] to be enveloped in a tawny light and to spray Vulcan's ~~fire~~ fire-sparks upon the whole palace. At the sight of this, the incident was reported to be both terrible and wonderful: for they were ~~for~~ prophesying that she herself would be distinguished in reputation and in her destiny, but they foretold of a great war for the people.

## Question Four //

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In line 1 "laurus" is put right at the beginning of the line, along with its adjective "sacra" in line 2, ~~etc~~ which emphasises its importance and holiness. Lines 2-3 have an appreciable amount of sibilance, which may be suggesting the buzzing sound of the bees "stredere" which comes at the beginning of line 4. Also in lines ~~2-5~~ 2-5 ~~there is a repetition~~ there is a repetition of the idea of height and loftiness ("comam", "summa", "apicem") which gives a sense of importance and grandeur. The strange imagery in line 5 of the bees with interlocked feet starts to suggest the strangeness of the situation and the omen to come. Line 11 is spondaic, which couples with Virgil's use of vocabulary ("taedis" etc.) <sup>to</sup> ~~which~~ indicate holiness and good things ("pietas"). This is then contrasted with "refas" which indicates the suddenness of the omen.

Scholarship exemplar for 93008 – 2016		Total score: 22
Q	Grade score	Annotation
1	8	The candidate sustained a high degree of accuracy and fluency in translation, and showed a particularly good understanding of apposition, agreement, and word order in Latin. The translation was perceptive and communicated in a convincing manner.
2	4	The candidate demonstrated awareness of the state of Nero's mind, and of his lack of leadership, showing him to be a person who cared solely for himself. Though the text was critically examined for such evidence, some unusual conclusions were made.
3	8	The candidate communicated the meaning of the passage in English with a high degree of accuracy, despite at times incorrect agreement of noun and adjective. Overall precision and an impressive fluency was sustained.
4	2	The candidate's response was incomplete and did not expand on the points made, especially the idea of holiness and the use of sibilance, though some basic awareness of critical appreciation was shown.