

LATIN III-IV POETRY EXAM

I. READING LEVEL

Students read and understand sentences containing complex syntax. They read and interpret a passage of Latin poetry from Classical and later Latin poets with appropriate assistance provided by glosses. They recognize some figures of speech and are able to scan poetry and identify its metrical features.

II. LANGUAGE (in addition to items on previous levels)

NOUNS:

diminutives
supines

CONJUNCTIONS: e.g., *velut, quāsi, ceu*

VERBS:

poetic forms, e.g., *conticuēre = conticuērunt*
syncopated forms, e.g., *vocāsset = vocāvisset*

IDIOMS: e.g., *poenās dare, vēla dare, opus est, cordī est*

METRICS AND POETIC DEVICES:

poetic devices, e.g., onomatopoeia, metaphor, litotes, chiasmus
scansion and terms associated with dactylic hexameter, e.g., dactyl, elision, spondee

III. CULTURE AND CIVILIZATION (in addition to items on previous levels)

LITERATURE: general knowledge of literary genres, e.g., comedy (Plautus, Terence); epic (Vergil); lyric (Catullus, Horace, Ovid); satire (Horace, Juvenal, Martial); Greek poets influencing Roman poets (Homer, Sappho)

GEOGRAPHY: poetic references, e.g., Phoenicia, Cyprus, Ithaca, Bithynia, Mycenae, Atlas Mts., Mt. Parnassus

HISTORY: prominent figures and events of the Augustan Age and the Empire, e.g., Augustus, Maecenas, Vergil, Horace, Nero, Hadrian, Constantine

MYTHOLOGY: figures and events associated with the Trojan War; tales of lovers and transformations, e.g., Orpheus and Eurydice, Cupid and Psyche, Pyramus and Thisbe, Baucis and Philemon

ROMAN LIFE: values and perspectives, e.g., *pietās, gravitās*; philosophies, e.g., Epicureanism, Stoicism; role of prophets and prophecy, e.g., Delphic Oracle, Cumaean Sibyl

IV. LATIN IN USE (in addition to items on previous levels)

ORAL LATIN: e.g., *mīrābile dictū, salvus sīs, gaudeāmus*

DERIVATIVES: English words based on Latin roots, prefixes, and suffixes, e.g., ineluctable, cincture, ferrous, progeny, refulgent

EXPRESSIONS, MOTTOES, ABBREVIATIONS: those in common use consisting of words and constructions appropriate for the level, e.g., *cogitō ergō sum, rēs ipsa loquitur, in mediās rēs, dux fēmina factī*