

PLINY FINDS AN EXCUSE TO ADD ON TO HIS VILLAS

Pliny writes to his friend Romanus about his villas in northern Italy.

C. PLINIUS RŌMĀNŌ SUŌ S.

Aedificāre tē scribis. Bene est, invēnī patrōcinium; aedificō enim iam ratione quia tēcum. Nam hoc quoque nōn dissimile quod ad mare tū, ego ad Lārium lacum. Huius in lītore plūrēs meae villae, sed duae maximē ut dēlectant ita exercent. Altera imposita saxīs mōre Baiānō lacum prōspicit, altera aequē mōre Baiānō lacum tangit... Sua utrīque amoenitās, et utraque possidentī ipsā dīversitāte iūcundior. Haec lacū propius, illa lātius ūtitur; haec ūnum sinum mollī curvāmine amplectitur, illa ēditissimō dorsō duōs dīrimit; illīc rēcta gestātiō longō līmite super lītus extenditur, hīc spatiōsissimō xystō lēviter inflectitur; illa flūctūs nōn sentit, haec frangit; ex illā possīs dēspicere piscantēs, ex hāc ipse piscārī, hamumque dē cubiculō ac paene etiam de lectulō ut ē nauculā iacere. Hae mihi causae utrīque quae dēsunt astruendī ob ea quae supersunt. Etsī quid ego ratiōnem tibi, apud quem prō ratione erit idem facere? Vale.

Pliny the Younger, *Epistulae* IX.7

1. According to lines 1-2 (*Aedificāre...tēcum*), what is Pliny using as an excuse for adding on to his villas? A) He has found a good location. B) Romanus is also building. C) His homes are too small. D) Romanus has criticized his villas.
2. According to lines 2-3 (*Nam...lacum*), Pliny and Romanus both A) like to entertain many guests B) are trying to outdo each other C) want to impress the local officials D) are building next to bodies of water
3. What figure of speech is illustrated within lines 2-3 (*ad mare tū, ego ad Lārium lacum*)? A) onomatopoeia B) synecdoche C) hyperbole D) chiasmus
4. According to lines 3-4 (*Huius...exercent*), what do we know about Pliny's villas? A) He has several villas but likes two in particular. B) He has to work hard to keep his villas in good repair. C) He wants to add more villas to his collection. D) He prefers to stay in his villas more than in Rome.
5. What is the best translation for *ut* in line 4? A) for B) as C) that not D) then
6. In lines 4-6 (*Alter...tangit*), what do we know about Pliny's villas? A) One was damaged by a landslide, the other by a flood. B) Both were built by Pliny's friend Romanus. C) One sits on a cliff, another on a shore. D) They are too expensive for him to keep both.
7. In line 5, when Pliny talks about his villas, what does he mean by the phrase *mōre Baiānō*? A) They are built in the style of villas at Baiae. B) They are unknown in Baiae. C) They are no longer fashionable in Baiae. D) They are much larger than those in Baiae.
8. What is the best translation of *possidentī* (line 6)? A) having occupied B) planning to occupy C) to be occupied D) to the one occupying
9. According to lines 6-7 (*Sua...iūcundior*), why does Pliny find these two villas particularly charming? A) Each one is different and has its own charm. B) He has owned these villas the longest. C) Both villas are favorites of his friends. D) Both villas had been owned by close friends.
10. In line 7, what can we infer from *illa lātius (lacū) ūtitur*? A) The villa is too large for the lot on which it is built. B) It was used as a working villa. C) The lake is too close to the villa. D) The villa has a wider view of the lake.
11. To what does *illa* (line 8) refer? A) *Alter...lacum prōspicit* (lines 4-5) B) *Alter...lacum tangit* (lines 5-6) C) *Sua...amoenitās* (line 6) D) *ipsā dīversitāte* (line 6)
12. The mentions of *gestātiō* (line 9) and *xystō* (line 10) indicate that A) each villa had an unusual layout B) the two villas were connected by a colonnade C) each villa had a pleasant outdoor walkway D) each villa had a swimming pool
13. What is the best translation for *possīs* (line 11)? A) you have been able B) you were able C) you may be able D) you had been able
14. What is the best translation for *piscantēs* (line 11)? A) fishermen B) time spent fishing C) fish D) fishsellers
15. On what verb or verb form does *piscārī* (line 11) depend? A) *sentit* (line 10) B) *frangit* (line 11) C) *possīs* (line 11) D) *dēspicere* (line 11)
16. In line 12, the words *lectulō* and *nauculā* are examples of A) invectives B) diminutives C) correlatives D) defectives
17. What is the meaning of *hamumque...iacere* (lines 12-13)? A) Pliny sometimes prefers to sleep on his boat when he goes fishing. B) One can practically fish right from the window of the bedroom. C) The fish often jump into the window of the bedroom. D) The bedroom is decorated with pictures of someone fishing.
18. According to lines 13-14 (*Hae...supersunt*), Pliny indicates that A) he loves these villas and wants to improve them B) these villas are all that he has left in the world C) he could not afford to buy any more villas D) his villas will become more magnificent than Romanus'
19. The phrase *Etsī quid ego ratiōnem tibi* (line 14) indicates that A) Pliny does not like Romanus's reason for building onto his villas B) Pliny believes that Romanus likes his (Pliny's) villas C) Pliny feels that Romanus will never understand his motives D) Pliny thinks that Romanus already understands why he (Pliny) is building
20. Lines 14-15 (*Etsī...facere*) Pliny implies that Romanus A) will be jealous of Pliny B) wants to own Pliny's villas C) wants to become a neighbor of Pliny D) shares Pliny's sentiments about building

1 **patrōcinium** = excuse

2 **ratione** = with reason

3 **Lārium lacum** is called Lake Como today

4 **exercent** = occupy my mind

5

6

7 **ūtitur** = enjoys; **sinum** = inlet

8 **ēditissimō dorsō** = on a very high ridge; **dīrimit** = parts

9 **gestātiō** = covered walkway

10 **xystō** = by a...open colonnade

11 **piscārī** = to fish

12 **hamum** = fishhook; **nauculā** = boat

13 **utrīque...astruendī** = for adding on to each; **quae** = things which

14 **quid** = why; **ego** = I (give); **ratione** = **eādem ratione**

15

JUNO REFUSES TO BACK DOWN

Juno threatens the Trojans in Italy.

“Ast ego, magna Iovis cōniūnx, nīl linquere inausum
quae potuī īnfēlīx, quae mēmet in omnia vertī,
vincor ab Aenēā. Quod sī mea nūmina nōn sunt
magna satis, dubitem haud equidem implōrāre quod usquam est:
flectere sī nequeō superōs, Acheronta movēbō.
Nōn dabitur rēgnīs, estō, prohibēre Latīnīs,
atque immōta manet fātīs Lāvīnia cōniūnx:
at trahere atque morās tantīs licet addere rēbus,
at licet ambōrum populōs excindere rēgum.
Hāc gener atque socer coeant mercēde suōrum:
sanguine Troiānō et Rutulō dōtābere, virgō,
et Bellōna manet tē prōnuba. Nec face tantum
Cisseis praegnās ignēs ēnīxa iugālēs;
quīn īdem Venerī partus suus et Paris alter,
fūnestaeque iterum recidīva in Pergama taedae.”

Vergil, *Aeneid* VII.302-322

- 1 **inausum** = unattempted
- 2 **mēmet** = myself
- 3
- 4 **haud** = not at all
- 5 **Acheronta** is acc. sing. for Acheron, a river in the
| Underworld
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10 **gener** = son-in-law; **socer** = father-in-law; **mercēde** = cost
- 11 **Rutulō** is an Italian tribe; **dōtābere** = you will be betrothed
- 12 **manet tē** = awaits you; **tantum** = only
- 13 **Cisseis praegnās** = pregnant Hecuba; **ēnīxa (est)** = has
- 14 Insert **est**; **quīn** = but; **partus** = offspring | given birth
- 15 Insert **erunt**; **recidīva** = restored

21. In line 1, how does Juno describe herself? A) beautiful B) timid C) great D) exhausted
22. In line 2, both instances of *quae* refer to A) *ego* (line 1) B) *Iovis* (line 1) C) *omnia* (line 2) D) *Aenēā* (line 3)
23. In lines 1-3 (*Ast ego...ab Aenēā*), what has Juno done to try to conquer Aeneas? A) She has tried everything. B) She has done nothing risky. C) She has relied on Jupiter. D) She has worked alone.
24. In line 4, how far will Juno go to seek help? A) She won't humiliate herself. B) She is hesitant to say. C) She will beg anywhere. D) She will only ask Jupiter.
25. In line 5, what is synonymous for *nequeō*? A) *nōn erō* B) *nōn eō* C) *nōn fīō* D) *nōn possum*
26. In line 5, *superōs* and *Acheronta* refer to A) Aeneas' conquering soldiers B) the gods and the Underworld C) Juno's Rutulian allies D) the surviving Greeks and Trojans
27. Line 6 (*Nōn...Latīnīs*) implies that Juno accepts that A) Latinus will adopt Turnus B) the Greeks will rule Italy C) she must immediately return to Olympus D) she cannot keep the Trojans from Italy
28. In line 7, who has decided that Lavinia will be a wife? A) Lavinia herself B) Juno C) the Fates D) the Latins
29. What is the scansion for the first four feet of line 8? A) DSDD B) DDS D) DSSD D) DSDD
30. What is an English derivative from *morās* (line 8)? A) mortal B) mourning C) moratorium D) morbid
31. In line 9, what does *ambōrum* modify? A) *morās* (line 8) B) *rēbus* (line 8) C) *populōs* (line 9) D) *rēgum* (line 9)
32. According to line 9, what does Juno plan to do? A) prevent Lavinia's marriage B) continue to cause delays for Aeneas C) form an alliance between the Rutulians and Trojans D) tear apart two kingdoms
33. In line 10, what is the best meaning for *coeant*? A) they had come together B) let them come together C) they will come together D) they must come together
34. In line 11, who is the *virgō*? A) Juno B) Lavinia C) Bellona D) Cisseis
35. In lines 11-12 (*sanguine...prōnuba*), what does Juno reveal about Lavinia's wedding? A) It will be joyful. B) All of her family refuses to attend. C) There will be conflict. D) She will have many children.
36. To which type of event do *sanguine* (line 11), *Bellōna* (line 12), and *face* (line 12) all refer? A) a trial B) a religious sacrifice C) a funeral D) a war
37. To whom does *Paris alter* (line 14) refer? A) Juno B) Aeneas C) Bellona D) Jupiter
38. In lines 12-15 (*Nec...taedae*), which phrase best describes Juno? A) eager to make peace and support a new Italy B) disgusted with the Trojans and the Rutulians C) plotting bloodshed while realizing that she cannot overturn fate D) surprised by the outcome and lacking a plan for revenge
39. The tone of Juno's speech throughout this passage is A) conciliatory B) humble C) persuasive D) condemning
40. This passage would remind a Roman reader in Vergil's time of which event before Augustus' reign?
A) Rome's expansion to the East B) cooperation between the Senate and consuls C) invasion by barbarians D) civil war