


2024 ACL/NJCL NATIONAL LATIN EXAM INTERMEDIATE LATIN READING COMPREHENSION EXAM D
 CHOOSE THE BEST ANSWER FROM A, B, C, OR D. MARK ANSWERS ON ANSWER SHEET.

A QUEEN'S INFLUENCE

The learned, powerful queen Zenobia ruled Syria in the third century CE.

Iūlia Aurēlia Zēnobia, prōles gentium rēgālium, erat rēgīna Syriae. Dum puella est, linguīs 1 **prōles** = a descendant
 Graecōrumque Aegyptiōrumque Aramaeiōrumque Rōmānōrumque studēbat. Dīcunt eam 2 **Aramaeiōrum** describes speakers
 fuisse dē omnī historiā tam cūriōsam ut scrīpta Homeris, Platonis, et aliōrum philosophōrum 3 | of Aramaic, a Middle Eastern
 Graecōrum memoriā tenēret. Zēnobia prō filiō dux facta est, cum marītus suus mortuus esset, 4 | language
 deinde et prōvinciam Aegyptiam et magnam partem imperiī orientālis Rōmānōrum vīcit. 5
 Quamquam eques optima erat, Zēnobia cum mīlitibus suīs pede ita prōcēdēbat ut ipsa 6 **eques** = horseback rider
 imperātrīx exercitūs vidērētur. Zēnobia erudīta dīcitur clēmēntiam populīs religiōnum 7 **erudīta** = The learned
 dīversārum dēmōnstrāvisse. Ea, nāta vīgintī et novem annōs, Aegyptō victā, imperium 8
 Rōmānum prōvocāvit et sē rēgīnam Aegyptiōrum esse prōclāmāvit. Tum rēgīna, multās 9
 terrās fīnitimās vincēns, itinera mercātōrum ab Rōmānīs capiēbat. Tandem, septimō annō 10 **fīnitimās** = neighboring
 rēgnī suī, capta ā cōpiīs Aurēliānī prīncipis, Zēnobia captīva Rōmam ducta est atque ab 11
 Aurēliānō post triumphum eius līberāta est. Zēnobia prope Tibur multōs annōs habitābat 12 **Tibur** = Tivoli, a city near Rome
 atque philosopha nōta mātrōnaque facta est. 13

An original story based on ancient sources

- In line 1, what do we learn about Zenobia's background before she became queen? A) She was born in Egypt. B) She was the descendant of royalty. C) Her ancestors lived in poverty. D) Her parents were Greek.
- Departing from the usual Roman practice for naming women, the Romans called this queen *Iūlia Aurēlia Zēnobia*. What is the Roman term for the first of the three names? A) *praenōmen* B) *nōmen* C) *cognōmen* D) *agnōmen*
- According to lines 1-2 (*Dum...studēbat*), what was a major focus of Zenobia's education? A) diplomacy B) languages C) music D) geography
- In lines 2-4, why did Zenobia commit the writings of Homer and Plato to memory? A) She was curious about history. B) She was assigned to read them. C) She was traveling to Greece. D) She received these writings as a gift.
- What event led to Zenobia becoming a leader (line 4)? A) She saved her people from a famine. B) She conquered a neighboring kingdom. C) Her husband died. D) A prophecy foretold her rise to power.
- In lines 6-7, how did Zenobia assert authority and establish herself as the leader of the military? A) She tasked her generals with training the troops. B) She inspired the soldiers through religious teachings. C) She marched alongside the troops. D) She threatened any deserters with imprisonment.
- Which of the following phrases best describes Zenobia's military leadership style in line 6 (*Quamquam...prōcēdēbat*)? A) *deo volente* B) *fiat lux* C) *cedant arma togae* D) *prima inter pares*
- According to lines 7-8 (*Zēnobia...dēmōnstrāvisse*), in what ways could Zenobia's reign be characterized? A) remote and peaceful B) learned and tolerant C) harsh and cruel D) dutiful and reserved
- According to lines 8-9, what was Zenobia's first action provoking the anger of the Romans? A) She conquered Roman Egypt. B) She met the leader of Arabia. C) She planned an attack on Aurelian. D) She established trade routes for the Romans.
- Upon her first victory, what did Zenobia proclaim (lines 8-9)? A) It will take two years to conquer Egypt. B) She will conquer Rome itself. C) She is queen of the Egyptians. D) Aurelian is a poor leader.
- According to lines 8-9, how old was Zenobia when she campaigned through eastern parts of the Roman empire? A) XX B) XXI C) XXIX D) XXXIII
- Zenobia waged war throughout the Middle East. Which of these areas was known for an earlier learned queen, for its wheat production, and for creating the Fayum portraits, such as the one pictured to the right? 12.  A) *Aegyptus* B) *Arabia* C) *Syria* D) *Graecia*
- After what action was Zenobia captured by Aurelian's soldiers (lines 10-12)? A) She pledged her allegiance to Rome. B) She celebrated a triumph in Rome. C) She seized control of Roman trade routes. D) She plotted to kill Aurelian.
- Why did Aurelian bring Zenobia back to Rome (lines 11-12)? A) to be an advisor of the Romans B) to be a prisoner in his triumph C) to serve as a priestess D) to reunite with her family
- According to the passage, how did Zenobia live out her years (lines 12-13)? A) She returned to Syria. B) She settled in Italy. C) She was exiled to Gaul. D) She traveled throughout the Eastern Empire.
- In line 12, to what proper noun does *eius* refer? A) *Rōmānīs* (line 10) B) *Zēnobia* (line 11) C) *Rōmam* (line 11) D) *Aurēliānō* (line 12)
- At the end of the passage, what role did Zenobia assume in Roman society? A) priestess B) empress C) diplomat D) philosopher
- To which literary genre does the passage above belong? A) comedy B) history C) letters D) love poetry



A REMARKABLE STATUE OF DIANA

Two fishermen make an unusual catch off the coast near Formiae, a Roman town.

Statua antīqua deae Diānae in marī prope Formiās ā duōbus piscātōribus inventa est. 1
Piscātōrēs ab aliīs, qui dē mirā huius statuae fābulā scīverant, monitī sunt ut eam in mare 2
reicere dēberent. Hī piscātōrēs tamen, bonae fortunāe vix crēdentēs, statuam magnō pretiō 3
senātōrī dīvitī vendidērunt. 4

Hic senātor Diānam in angulō ātriī sub tēctō posuit. Prīmā lūce imāgō in āere iuxtā 5
impluvium inventa est. Senātor statuam referri ad eius locum sub tēctō iussit. Proximō diē, 6
imāginem stāre prope fontem in peristylīō vīdērunt! Senātor vexātus tōtam familiam 7
convocāvit atque irātē rogāvit quis noctū statuam mōvisset. Senātor ā quōdam hortulānō, 8
quī fāmam antīquam dē hāc statuā audīverat, dē statuā errantī certior factus est. 9

Senātor, iram deae timēns, hortulānō statim imperāvit ut hanc statuam Templō 10
Diānae sine morā dōnāret. Paucīs post diēbus senātor templum ad statuam īnspectandam 11
vīsītāvit. Nārrātum est eī statuam nōn iam adesse in templō sed stantem in locīs variīs 12
per silvam vīsam esse. Flāminēs Diānam liberē errāre in āere permittere cōstituērunt. 13

An original story

dīvitī = wealthy

angulō = corner; tēctō = roof;

| āere = open air

hortulānō = gardener

certior factus est = was informed

Flāminēs = The priests

19. Diana, who was the goddess of the hunt, and her twin brother Apollo, were associated with what celestial objects?
A) meteors and comets B) the sun and moon C) stars and constellations D) thunderbolts and rainbows
20. Formiae, referenced in line 1, was a Roman town on the western coast of Italy. What body of water does Formiae overlook?
A) Adriatic Sea B) Aegean Sea C) Tyrrhenian Sea D) Black Sea
21. According to line 2 (*Piscātōrēs...scīverant*), what do we learn about the fishermen's find? A) No one had ever found it before.
B) Others already knew about the statue. C) One of the fishermen had dreamed that they would find it. D) It had been seen before in the shallow water.
22. Which of the following statements is true about the statue in line 2 (*Piscātōrēs...scīverant*)? A) It has a strange story connected to it. B) It was stolen from a nearby temple. C) It is in excellent condition. D) It was missing its nose.
23. What did others advise the fishermen to do (lines 2-3, *monitī...dēberent*)? A) build a temple to house the statue
B) bury the statue immediately C) place the statue in the forum D) throw the statue back into the sea
24. According to line 3 (*Hī piscātōrēs...crēdentēs*), how did the fishermen react to their discovery of the statue?
A) They immediately became afraid of the goddess. B) They argued fiercely over what to do with the statue.
C) They could hardly believe their luck. D) They quickly rowed back to shore.
25. From lines 3-4 (*statuam...vendidērunt*), what do we learn about the senator? A) He stole the statue from the fishermen.
B) He was trying to gain the favor of the goddess. C) He paid a lot of money for the statue. D) He thought the fishermen were trying to trick him.
26. Where did the senator place the statue of Diana (line 5)? A) in the garden B) in the kitchen C) in the study D) in the atrium
27. According to lines 5-6 (*Hic senātor...inventa est*), what did the senator discover the next morning? A) The statue had been pushed over. B) The statue was not where he had placed it. C) The statue had been dressed in fine clothing. D) The statue had been repainted.
28. According to lines 7-8, what did the senator demand to know from his household? A) where the statue had been hidden
B) who would remain awake to watch the statue C) how they might please the goddess D) who was responsible for moving the statue
29. What role did a certain gardener play in our story (lines 8-9)? A) He offered to sell the statue for the senator. B) He informed priests about the statue. C) He told the senator a rumor about the statue. D) He returned the statue to the fishermen.
30. Why did the senator give away the statue (line 10)? A) He was afraid of angering the goddess. B) He was having nightmares about the statue. C) He was a close friend of the gardener. D) He wanted to gain the favor of the priests.
31. To whom or what did the senator order the statue be given (lines 10-11)? A) the head magistrate in the forum
B) a Temple of Diana C) the local shop dealing in art D) the fishermen who had found it
32. In lines 11-12, what did the senator want to do a few days later? A) buy back the statue B) speak with the statue
C) destroy the statue D) look at the statue
33. Why was the senator not able to visit the statue (lines 12-13)? A) The statue had been stolen. B) The priests had thrown the statue back into the sea. C) The statue had been locked away. D) The statue had wandered away.
34. Where had the statue been seen (lines 12-13)? A) in different places in the forest B) on the floor of the local tavern
C) at the bottom of the sea D) on the roof of the temple
35. *Flāminēs* were Roman priests. Who was the chief priest in ancient Rome? A) the Vestal Virgin B) the haruspex
C) the Pontifex Maximus D) the augur
36. At the end of the story, what did the priests decide? A) to demand a refund from the senator B) to send the statue to a larger temple in Rome C) to let the statue wander around as it wished D) to display the statue in the forum for all to see

Note: This exam has only 36 questions. Please leave answers 37-40 blank on the answer sheet.