

2008 GJCL Reading Comprehension Exam: Lyric (Catullus/Horace)

Fill in the first four blocks of the scantron sheet with your own four digit code and the next four blocks with the code for this exam—**1012**. Fill in completely the space on the answer sheet corresponding to the correct answer for each question (do not write on the exam itself).

Catullus 8

Miser Catulle, desinas ineptire,
et quod vides perisse perditum ducas.
fulsere quondam candidi tibi soles,
cum ventitabas quo puella ducebat
5 amata nobis quantum amabitur nulla.
ibi illa multa tum iocosa fiebant,
quae tu volebas nec puella nolebat.
fulsere vere candidi tibi soles.
nunc iam illa non vult: tu quoque
impotens, [noli,]
10 nec quae fugit sectare, nec miser vive,
sed obstinata mente perfer, obdura.
vale, puella. iam Catullus obdurat,
nec te requiret nec rogavit invitam:
at tu dolebis, cum rogaberis nulla.

1. The word “desinas” in line 1 is in which mood?

- a. Imperative b. Indicative c. Subjunctive d. Infinitive

2. The overall tone of this poem is best described as?

- a. convivial b. melancholy c. angry d. joyous

3. The verb “fulsere” in line 3 is a truncated form of which word?

- a. fulseris b. fulserunt c. fulserisse d. fulserent

4. The “cum” clause in line 4 is best described as a:

- a. temporal clause b. circumstantial clause c. contrary-to-fact clause d. concessive clause

5. Most of the poem is addressed to whom?

- a. Lesbia b. Catullus c. Lesbia’s husband d. Furius

6. The “amata” in line 5 describes which word ?

- a. nulla b. puella c. soles d. Catullus

7. The antecedent of the word “quae” in line 7 is which word?

- a. nulla b. puella c. iocosa d. amata

8. What is the mood of the word “vive” in line 10?

- a. subjunctive b. indicative c. imperative d. infinitive

9. In lines 9-11, the speaker is telling the addressee of the poem to do what?

- a. to be firm in his resolve b. to declare his love to his mistress c. to cry often d. to be angry at his mistress

10. What probably happened before the poet composed this poem?

- a. a destructive fire b. the break-up of a romance c. a fight with a friend d. a political loss

11. What tense is the word “requiret” in line 13?

- a. future b. imperfect c. perfect d. future perfect

12. The adjective “invitam” in line 13 describes which word?

- a. puella b. te c. Catullus d. iam

13. The word “rogaberis” is in which form?

- a. third person singular imperfect subjunctive passive b. second person singular future indicative passive
c. second person singular imperfect indicative active d. second person plural present subjunctive passive

Horace 1.30

O Venus, regina Cnidi Paphique,
sperne dilectam Cypron et vocantis
ture te multo Glycerae decoram
transfer in aedem.
5 fervidus tecum puer et solutis
Gratiae zonis properentque Nymphae
et parum comis sine te Iuventas
Mercuriusque.

14. This poem is best described as:

- a. an appeal to Venus to make someone fall in love
- b. a prayer to Venus to thank her for her help
- c. a song about the beauty of Venus
- d. a hymn to the goddess which celebrates her birth

15. The word “transfer” in line 4 is in which mood?

- a. subjunctive
- b. indicative
- c. imperative
- d. infinitive

16. In all likelihood, who is the “puer” of line 5?

- a. Cupid
- b. Horace
- c. Hermes
- d. Apollo

17. “Iuventas” in line 7 is the personification of what?

- a. old age
- b. youth
- c. love
- d. beauty

Catullus 64

Haec vestis priscis hominum variata figuris
heroum mira virtutes indicat arte.
namque fluentisono prospectans litore Diae
Thesea cedentem celeri cum classe tuetur
5 indomitos in corde gerens Ariadna furores;
necdum etiam sese quae visit visere credit,
ut pote fallaci quae tum primum excita somno
desertam in sola miseram se cernat harena.
10 immemor at iuvenis fugiens pellit vada remis,
irrita ventosae linquens promissa procellae.
Quem procul ex alga maestis Minois ocellis
saxea ut effigies bacchantis prospicit, eheu,
prospicit et magnis curarum fluctuat undis,
15 non flavo retinens subtilem vertice mitram,
non contecta levi velatum pectus amictu,
non tereti strophio lactentis vincta papillas,
omnia quae toto delapsa e corpore passim
ipsius ante pedes fluctus salis adludabant.

18. This poem contains as example of which device?

- a. ecphrasis
- b. ring composition
- c. litotes
- d. rhetorical question

19. The word “heroum” in line 2 is in which case?

- a. ablative
- b. accusative
- c. genitive
- d. dative

20. Which word is the object of “in” in line 8?

- a. sola
- b. miseram
- c. desertam
- d. harena

21. Who is the antecedent of “quem” in line 11?

- a. a bacchant
- b. Theseus
- c. Ariadne
- d. Minos

22. What is the imagery in line 13 meant to suggest?

- a. the pleasure of love
- b. the pain of rejection
- c. friendship
- d. a ship tossed in a storm

23. The word “lactentis” in line 16 describes which word?

- a. papillas
- b. strophio
- c. tereti
- d. undis

24. The word “pectore” in line 20 is in which case?

- a. accusative
- b. ablative
- c. dative
- d. genitive

25. The word “egressus” in line 25 comes from which kind of verb?

- a. passive
- b. semi-deponent
- c. deponent
- d. defective

26. The myth to which this poem alludes involves all of the following except which of the following figures?

- a. the Minotaur
- b. Daedalus
- c. the Sibyl
- d. Pasiphae

27. The phrase “iniusti regis” in line 26 refers to whom?

- a. Theseus
- b. Aegeus
- c. Minos
- d. Ariadne

28. This story of Theseus abandoning Ariadne on an island appears on/in what in this poem?

- a. a shield
- b. a woven cloth
- c. a crown
- d. a painting

29. What is the meter of this poem?

- a. hendecasyllabic
- b. dactylic hexameter
- c. sapphic
- d. elegiac couplets

30. The word “Piraei” in line 25 represents which ancient city?

- a. Knossos
- b. Athens
- c. Sparta
- d. Corinth