

2008 GJCL Reading Comprehension Exam: Level II

Fill in the first four blocks of the Scantron sheet with your own 4-digit code, then the next four blocks with the code for this exam (1009). Fill in completely the space on the answer sheet corresponding to the correct answer for each question – do not write on the exam itself.

The Clashing Rocks

Hōc factō Phīneus, ut prō tantō beneficiō meritam grātiā referret, Iāsonī dēmōnstrāvit quā infestae Symplēgadēs essent. Symplēgadēs autem duo erant saxa ingentī magnitudīne, quae ā Iove in marī posita erant eō cōnsiliō, nē quis ad Colchida pervenīret. Haec parvō intervāllō in marī natābant, et sī quid in medium spatium vēnerat, incrēdibilī celeritāte

(5) concurrēbant. Postquam igitur ā Phīneō doctus est quā ratiōne Symplēgadēs vitāre posset, Iāson sublātīs ancorīs lēnī ventō prōvectus brevī tempore illīs saxīs appropinquāvit. Tum in prōrā stāns columbam quā in manū tenēbat ēmīsīt. Illa per medium spatium volāvit, et priusquam saxa cōnflīxērunt, incolumis caudā solā āmissā ēvāsīt. Tum saxa utrimque discessērunt; itaque priusquam rūsus concurrerent, Argonautae, intellegentēs omnem spem salutis in celeritāte

(10) positam esse, summā vī rēmīs contendērunt ac nāvem incolumem perdūxērunt. Hōc factō dīs grātiās maximās ēgērunt, quod eōrum auxiliō ē tantō perīculō ēreptī essent; omnēs enim sciēbant nōn sine auxiliō deōrum rem tam fēliciter ēvēnisse.

infestus, -a, -um, unsafe, dangerous
incolumis, -e, unhurt, safe

Symplēgadēs, the Clashing Rocks
cauda, -ae, f, tail

- Why did Jupiter place the Clashing Rocks where he did?
a) to demonstrate his power b) to prevent anyone from reaching Colchis c) for vengeance on Phineus
d) to force people to be clever in avoiding them
- Why does Phineus teach Jason how to avoid the Clashing Rocks?
a) because Jason forces him b) because he himself has been harmed by them c) out of gratitude to Jason
d) he doesn't – it's only a trick.
- What is the case and use of *factō* (1)?
a) ablative absolute b) dative of possession c) ablative of accompanying circumstances d) ablative of means
- What is the case use of *Iove* (2)?
a) agent b) means c) cause d) accompaniment
- What is the mood, tense, and voice of *ēreptī essent* (11)?
a) plup. pass. ind. b) perf. act. subj. c) perf. pass. ind. d) plup. pass. subj.
- What is the reason for the mood of *ēreptī essent* (11)?
a) Indicative of actual result b) Subj. from indirect question c) Subj. from a relative clause of characteristic
d) Subj. causal clause giving another's reason
- What is the tense and mood of *posset* (5)? a) pres. subj. b) impf. subj. c) pres. inf. d) plup. ind.
- What is the reason for the mood of *posset*?
a) Indic. of actual result b) Subj. from indirect question c) Subj. from a relative clause of characteristic
d) Subj. from causal clause giving another's reason
- Quam* (6) is best translated: a) how b) which c) whom d) in order that
- How did Jason and the Argonauts manage to make it through the Clashing Rocks?
a) By their unbelievable speed alone b) By offering Phineus as a sacrifice c) by offering a dove as a sacrifice
d) by sending a dove in ahead of their ship to trigger the rocks
- How did the dove ultimately fare?
a) There is no dove in the story. b) Unharmful but for its tail c) Only its tail survived d) Entirely unharmed

12. Why do the Argonauts give thanks to the gods?
a) For their survival. b) They only ironically give thanks – after all, Jupiter had placed the Clashing Rocks in the sea.
c) For creating an obstacle which will make the Argonauts famous d) For killing their opponents
13. What is the correct genitive plural of *nāvem* (10)? a) *nāvum* b) *nāvuum* c) *nāvārum* d) *nāvium*
14. Where did the dove come from? a) There is no dove in the story. b) The story does not say. c) From Phineus.
d) It had been brought on the ship for just such an eventuality.
15. *Quam* (1) is best translated: a) how b) which c) whom d) in order that
16. *quis* (3) is best translated: a) by such [means] b) anyone c) who d) you are able
17. We can infer from a straightforward analysis of *Argonautae* as *Argo-nautae* that the Argonauts are:
a) heroes b) sailors c) soldiers d) military engineers
18. *Dīs* (11) is an alternative form of: a) *deīs* b) *deī* c) *ditibus* d) *dīvīs*
19. Why can this story be legitimately described as an episode in the larger story of Jason and the Argonauts?
a) The story describes a heroic feat. b) The story shows a journey. c) The story is largely self-contained.
d) The story shows the survival and triumph of the hero.
20. *Priusquam* (7) is best translated: a) before b) after c) since d) when
21. *Postquam* (5) is best translated: a) before b) after c) since d) when
22. *Illīs saxīs* (6) is best parsed as:
a) ablative of place where b) ablative absolute c) dative with compound verb d) accusative of place to which
23. *Sī... vēnerat, ... concurrēbant* is a: a) past contrafactual condition b) past general condition
c) present contrafactual condition d) present general condition
24. *Rem* (11) is best parsed as:
a) subject accusative b) accusative of direct object c) subject nominative d) accusative of place to which
25. Perhaps the most famous depiction of the Argonauts' journey is the *Argonautica* of Apollonius of Rhodes, where Jason is depicted as irresolute and easily discouraged. Does this version tally with that one?
a) Yes – Jason relies on outside aid. b) Yes – Jason gives up. c) No – Jason finds and executes a way to overcome an obstacle. d) No – Jason laughs at dangers.
26. *Auxiliō* (12) is best parsed as:
a) dative with compound verb b) ablative of means c) ablative of cause d) dative of indirect object
27. *Ēvēnisse* (12) in direct speech would be: a) *ēvēnērunt* b) *ēvēnerat* c) *ēvēnerant* d) *ēvēnit*
28. Who is the subject of *doctus est* (5)? a) Phineus b) Jason c) a nameless Argonaut d) the dove
29. *Incolumem* (10) is best understood as an: a) attributive adjective b) predicate adjective c) circumstantial participle d) supplementary participle
30. *Volāvit* (7) is best translated: a) It flew b) it wanted c) They fly d) They want

Reading Level 2
2009

- 1 b
- 2 c
- 3 a
- 4 a
- 5 d
- 6 d
- 7 b
- 8 b
- 9 b
- 10 d
- 11 b
- 12 a
- 13 d
- 14 b
- 15 a
- 16 b
- 17 b
- 18 a
- 19 c
- 20 a
- 21 b
- 22 c
- 23 b
- 24 a
- 25 c
- 26 b
- 27 b
- 28 b
- 29 b
- 30 a