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Latin
Standard level
Paper 1

4 November 2025

Zone A afternoon | **Zone B** afternoon | **Zone C** afternoon

1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer the questions in one option.
- A dictionary is permitted for this examination paper.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[30 marks]**.

Answer **all** questions in **one** option.

Option A

Prose — Cicero, *Tusculan Disputations* 5.64–66

Cicero describes how he discovered the tomb of the famous Greek mathematician Archimedes in Sicily.

cuius ego quaestor ignoratum ab Syracusanis¹, cum esse omnino negarent, saeptum undique et vestitum vepribus et dumetis indagavi sepulcrum. tenebam enim quosdam senariolos², quos in eius monumento esse inscriptos acceperam, qui declarabant in summo sepulcro sphaeram esse positam cum cylindro. ego autem cum omnia conlustrarem oculis—est enim ad portas Agragantinas³

5 magna frequentia sepulcrorum—, animum adverti columellam non multum e dumis eminentem, in qua inerat sphaerae figura et cylindri. atque ego statim Syracusanis¹—erant autem principes mecum—dixi me illud ipsum arbitrari esse, quod quaererem. inmissi cum falcibus multi purgarunt et aperuerunt locum. quo cum patefactus esset aditus, ad adversam basim accessimus. apparebat epigramma exesis⁴ posterioribus partibus versiculorum dimidiatis⁵ fere. ita nobilissima Graeciae

10 civitas, quondam vero etiam doctissima, sui civis unius acutissimi monumentum ignorasset, nisi ab homine Arpinate⁶ didicisset.

¹ *Syracusani, orum* (m pl.): Syracusans, inhabitants of Syracuse (Sicily's principal city)

² *senariolus, i* (m): a little/insignificant line of verse

³ *Aragantinus, a, um* (adj.): of Agragas (a city on the coast of Sicily)

⁴ *exedo, edi, esus*: destroy, efface

⁵ *dimidiatus, a, um* (adj.): half

⁶ *Arpinas, atis* (adj.): from Arpinum (a town in Italy where Cicero was born)

(Option A continues on the following page)

(Option A continued)

1. (a) *cuius ego ... indagavi sepulcrum* (lines 1–2). State what Cicero says about the tomb. Quotation of the Latin text is **not** required. [2]
- (b) *tenebam enim ... cum cylindro* (lines 2–4). State how Cicero had learned what the tomb looked like. Quotation of the Latin text is **not** required. [3]
- (c) *ego autem ... frequentia sepulcrorum* (lines 4–5). State what Cicero did **and** why. Quotation of the Latin text is **not** required. [2]
- (d) *animum adverti ... et cylindri* (lines 5–6). Describe what Cicero noticed. Support your answer with **four** quotations from the Latin text. [4]
- (e) *atque ego ... quod quaererem* (lines 6–7). Outline how Cicero reacted to noticing the structure. Quotation of the Latin text is **not** required. [3]
- (f) Translate *inmissi cum ... Arpinate didicisset* (lines 7–11). [16]

End of Option A

Option B

Verse — Ovid, *Ex Ponto* 1.3.35–38; 41–46; 49–58

While living in exile in Scythia, far from Rome, Ovid responds to a letter from his friend Rufinus, who had tried to cheer him up.

nescio qua natale solum dulcedine cunctos
 ducit et inmemores non sinit esse sui.
 quid melius Roma? Scythico¹ quid frigore peius?
 huc tamen ex illa barbarus urbe fugit.
 5 aduetos tauri saltus, adueta leones—
 nec feritas illos impedit antra petunt.
 tu tamen exilii morsus e pectore nostro
 fomentis² speras cedere posse tuis.
 effice vos ipsi ne tam mihi sitis amandi,
 10 talibus ut levius sit caruisse malum.
 orbis in extremi iaceo desertus harenis,
 fert ubi perpetuas obruta terra nives.
 non ager hic pomum, non dulces educat uvas,
 non salices ripa, robora monte virent.
 15 neve fretum laudes terra magis; aequora semper
 ventorum rabie solibus orba³ tument.
 quocumque aspicias, campi cultore carentes
 vastaque quae nemo vindicat, arva iacent.
 hostis adest dextra laevaue a parte timendus,
 20 vicinoque metu terret utrumque latus.

¹ *Scythicus, a, um* (adj.): from Scythia

² *fomentum, i* (n): consolation, comforting words

³ *solibus orba*: “deprived of the rays of the sun”

(Option B continues on the following page)

(Option B continued)

2. (a) *nescio qua ... esse sui* (lines 1–2). Outline the power of the native land. Quotation of the Latin text is **not** required. [2]
- (b) *adsuetos tauri ... antra petunt* (lines 5–6). Outline the behaviour of the animals. Quotation of the Latin text is **not** required. [2]
- (c) *tu tamen ... posse tuis* (lines 7–8). Outline what Rufinus was hoping to do with his consoling words. Quotation of the Latin text is **not** required. [2]
- (d) *effice vos ... caruisse malum* (lines 9–10). State what Ovid asks his friends **and** why. Quotation of the Latin text is **not** required. [2]
- (e) *orbis in ... terra nives* (lines 11–12). Describe Ovid’s place of exile. Quotation of the Latin text is **not** required. [2]
- (f) *non ager ... monte virent* (lines 13–14). Outline the barrenness of the country. Support your answer with **four** quotations from the Latin text. [4]
- (g) Translate *neve fretum ... utrumque latus* (lines 15–20). [16]

End of Option B

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References:

- Option A** M. Tullius Cicero, n.d. *Tusculanae Disputationes*. M. Pohlenz (ed.) 1918. [online] Available at: <https://artflsrv03.uchicago.edu/philologic4/Latin/navigate/33/6/65/> [Accessed 14 January 2025]. Source adapted.
- Option B** P. Ovidius Naso, n.d. *Ex Ponto*. A. L. Wheeler (ed.) 1939. [online] Available at: <https://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A2008.01.0493%3Abook%3D1%3Apoem%3D3> [Accessed 14 January 2025]. Source adapted.