

Yale Certamen 2020

Written by Samir Al-Ali, Nestoras Apodiakos, Margot Armbruster, Aspen Bombardo, Domenic Ferreris, Ram Gollapudy, Noah Harris, Connor Harrison, Minyoung Hwang, Kyle Jain, Michael Kearney, Carina Layfield, Mindren Lu, Noah McThenia, Dante Minutillo, Gabe Molina, Ali Murray, Matt Nelson, MaryAnn Placheril, Nikhil Ranjan, Ben Ream, Henry Schott, Colton Shepard, Jason Tan, Matt Thomas, Teddy Trakas, Ben VanGelder, Bryan Wu, and Jonathan Yuan.

Edited by Michael Kearney, Dante Minutillo, Nikhil Ranjan, and Matt Thomas.

Novice – Preliminary Round 1

- Please translate the following sentence from English to Latin: “Aurelia is in Italy with a horse,”
AURĒLIA EST IN ĪTALIĀ CUM EQUŌ [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]
B1: Translate this sentence into Latin: “Aurelia was watching the large games.”
AURĒLIA SPECTĀBAT MAGNŌS LŪDŌS [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]
B2: Now translate this sentence into Latin, using the interjection “**ēheu**” to mean “alas”: “Alas! The angry horse runs to the island.”
ĒHEU! EQUUS ĪRĀTUS CURRIT AD ĪNSULAM!
[ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]
- Over 16 years, what man rose from saving his father in a cavalry skirmish at the Ticinus River to leading victorious Roman forces at the Battle of Zama?
(PUBLIUS CORNELIUS) SCIPIO AFRICANUS
B1: Who led the opposing, defeated forces at the Battle of Zama?
HANNIBAL (BARCA)
B2: In what year B.C. did the Battle of Zama, which ended the Second Punic War, occur?
202 (B.C.)
- “Taxpayer,” “pacifier,” “peace,” and “pacifist” are all derived from what Latin noun meaning “peace?”
PĀX
B1: What other derivative of **pāx** means “peaceful in character or intent” and is used to describe one of the world’s oceans?
PACIFIC
B2: What other derivative of **pāx** means “to relieve or satisfy someone”?
APPEASE / PACIFY
- According to Ovid, what event began when the wickedness of Lycaon made Jupiter so disgusted that he wiped out the entire human race except for Deucalion and Pyrrha?
(GREAT) FLOOD
B1: Though Lycaon was turned into a wolf for his wickedness, into what animal was his daughter Callisto later transformed due to Juno’s jealousy?
BEAR
B2: Later in the *Metamorphoses*, what pair of Phrygian peasants similarly survive a flood because they gave hospitality to Jupiter and Mercury, becoming a pair of intertwined trees after their death?
BAUCIS and PHILEMON
- Give the English for the motto of Oklahoma, **labor omnia vincit**.
WORK / LABOR CONQUERS ALL (THINGS)
B1: Give the English for the motto of Maine, **dirigō**.
I DIRECT / POINT THE WAY
B2: Give the English for the motto of Virginia, **sic semper tyrannīs**.
THUS ALWAYS TO TYRANTS

6. What number is shared between the number of consulships held by a **novus homō** from Arpinum — Gaius Marius—and the traditional number of Roman kings and hills?

SEVEN / 7

B1: What number is shared between the number of Julio-Claudian emperors and the number of so-called “Good Emperors?”

FIVE / 5

B2: What number is shared between the number of men who served as lictors for a consul and the number of law tables in a code that was finalized in 449 B.C.?

TWELVE / 12

7. We hope that you have enjoyed your experience playing Certamen so far. What does the noun **certāmen** mean in English?

CONTEST / STRUGGLE / COMPETITION

B1: Great! Now, give a Latin verb which means “to play”.

LŪDŌ / LŪDERE

B2: Now, give a Latin verb which means “to hope”.

SPĒRŌ / SPĒRĀRE

8. What man was found by the fisherman Dictys after he washed up in a chest alongside his mother Danaë, but was sent away by Dictys’ brother on an impossible quest to decapitate the Gorgon Medusa?

PERSEUS

B1: Who was Dictys’ brother, a cruel king who wanted to marry Danaë?

POLYDECTES

B2: Along the way to kill the Gorgon, Perseus forced what trio of sisters to give him important information by snatching the one eye that they shared among themselves?

GRAIAE // GRAY WOMEN // GRAY SISTERS

9. Please translate the following sentence, which features a dative, from Latin to English: “**Dās puellae multa dōna bona.**”

YOU GIVE MANY GOOD GIFTS TO THE GIRL

B1: Now translate this sentence into English: “**Puella nōn cupiēbat habēre dōna tua.**”

THE GIRL DID NOT WANT / WAS NOT WANTING TO HAVE YOUR GIFTS

B2: Now translate this sentence into English: “**Īrātus erās quod puella nōn cupiēbat habēre tua dōna.**”

YOU WERE ANGRY BECAUSE THE GIRL DID NOT WANT / WAS NOT WANTING TO HAVE YOUR GIFTS

10. What man worked his way up the ranks from quaestor in 69 B.C. to pontifex maximus in 63 B.C., and famously dictator for life in 44 B.C.?

(GAIUS JULIUS) CAESAR

B1: What organization of three powerful men did Caesar help form?

FIRST TRIUMVIRATE

B2: What two men led the conspiracy that killed Caesar?

(MARCUS JUNIUS) BRUTUS and (GAIUS) CASSIUS (LONGINUS)

11. Myrrha and Phaedra were both victims of the meddling of what goddess, who avenged slights of her name by utilizing her domain of love?

APHRODITE / VENUS

B1: Myrrha was cursed by Aphrodite to love her father, resulting in the birth of what child, who was himself later a love of Aphrodite?

ADONIS

B2: Phaedra was cursed by Aphrodite to fall in love with what stepson of hers, who slighted Aphrodite by maintaining his chastity?

HIPPOLYTUS

12. What modern-day country contains the ancient cities of Carrhae, Halicarnassus, and Byzantium, which is today called Istanbul?

TURKEY

B1: By what name was Byzantium known from the 4th century to the early 20th century?

CONSTANTINOPLE

B2: What waterway in modern-day Turkey was formerly known as the “Hellespont”?

DARDANELLES

13. What use of the accusative case is found in this Latin sentence: **ego ad forum cum amīcō meō ambulō.**

PLACE TO WHICH

B1: What use of the ablative is found in that same Latin sentence?

ACCOMPANIMENT

B2: Now translate that sentence into English.

I WALK / AM WALKING TO THE FORUM WITH MY FRIEND

14. Make the phrase **deus bonus** accusative singular.

DEUM BONUM

B1: Change **deum bonum** to the genitive.

DEĪ BONĪ

B2: Change **deī bonī** to the nominative plural.

DEĪ BONĪ / STAYS THE SAME

15. When he realized that his new city would only survive a single generation due to a scarcity of brides, what king of Rome invited the Sabines to a festival and seized their women?

ROMULUS

B1: After the women were seized, the Sabines coalesced around what king of theirs, who later co-ruled with Romulus?

(TITUS) TATIUS

B2: In the ensuing war against the Sabines, Tarpeia betrayed the city. What did she too-unspecifically ask for as payment, resulting in her death? A description is fine.

“WHAT THEY / SABINES WORE ON THEIR LEFT ARMS”

16. Who was given a sickle by his mother in order to castrate his father Ouranos, becoming the ruler of the cosmos until he was in turn deposed by his own son Zeus?

CRONUS

B1: Who was the wife of Cronus, who saved Zeus from his father’s cannibalism?

RHEA

B2: According to Roman traditions, what age of man began in Italy when Saturn, the Roman version of Cronus, fled there after Jupiter took over?

GOLDEN AGE

17. Which of the following nouns, if any, does not belong due to gender: **magistra, poēta, littera, rēgīna?**

POĒTA

B1: Which of the nouns from the list in the tossup, if any, does not refer to a person?

LITTERA

B2: Which of the nouns from the list in the tossup, if any, does not belong due to declension?

NONE

18. For the Latin verb **dō, dare**, give the second person plural, present active imperative.

DATE

B1: Now, please give the same form for the Latin verb **dūcō, dūcere**.

DŪCITE

B2: Finally, please give the second person singular, present active imperative of the verb **dīcō, dīcere**.

DĪC

19. Which Roman emperor built the **Domus Aurea** and allegedly fiddled while Rome burned in the Great Fire of 64 A.D.?

NERO

B1: Who was Nero's overbearing mother?

AGRIPPINA THE YOUNGER

B2: In what year, directly before the year of the Four Emperors, did Nero commit suicide?

68 (A.D.)

20. Claiming that she was weaving a shroud for her father-in-law Laertes, who undid her work every night, managing to hold off her suitors until she could be reunited with her husband, Odysseus?

PENELOPE

B1: While Penelope held her suitors at bay, what son of hers traveled through mainland Greece in search of news about his father?

TELEMACHUS

B2: Name one of the two kings — one in Sparta, the other in Pylos — that Telemachus talked to during his expedition.

MENELAUS or NESTOR

ROUND 1 EXTRA QUESTIONS

EXTRA HISTORY / LIFE

1. Who, a prominent Roman statesman, lawyer, and orator, served as consul in 63 BC, uncovered a conspiracy to overthrow the government, but is perhaps best known for a series of 14 speeches criticizing Marc Antony?

(MARCUS TULLIUS) CICERO

B1: What is the name for this series of 14 speeches criticizing Marc Antony?

PHILIPPICS / PHILIPPICAE

B2: Upon which Greek orator's *Philippics*, did Cicero model his own?

DEMOSTHENES

EXTRA MYTHOLOGY

1. Who was told to stay with his grandfather Pittheus only until he was able to move a boulder with a sword and a pair of sandals underneath it, at which point he was to make his way to Athens to claim the throne?

THESEUS

B1: On his way to Athens, Theseus came across a variety of bandits. Which of these bandits had a giant pet turtle, who he would feed by kicking passerby off a cliff while they cleaned his foot?

SCIRON

B2: Once Theseus arrived at Athens, he was almost poisoned by what woman, who had fled to Athens and wanted to secure the throne for her son with Aegeus?

MEDEA

EXTRA LANGUAGE

1. For the Latin verb **sum**, meaning "to be," give the first person plural present active indicative.

SUMUS

Make that form, **sumus**, plural.

SUNT

Now make that form, **sunt**, imperfect.

ERANT

Novice – Preliminary Round 2

- When recognized by the spotter, perform the following command, taking the second-declension noun **nūntius** to mean message: **Mitte nūntium “Salvē.”**
PLAYER SHOULD SEND “HELLO” OR “SALVE” IN THE ZOOM CHAT
B1: Now perform this command: **Mōnstrā digitīs tuīs numerum “quattuor.”**
ONE PLAYER MAKES THE NUMBER FOUR WITH THEIR FINGERS.
B2: Now perform this command: **Rīdēte et plaudite.**
MORE THAN ONE PLAYER SMILES/LAUGHS AND CLAPS/APPLAUDS.
- What city’s fall was enabled when a sacred statue of Athena — the Palladium — was retrieved by Diomedes and Odysseus, as well as being finally secured when a wooden horse breached its walls?
TROY
B1: In Vergil’s *Aeneid*, what Trojan priest tries in vain to persuade his people not to trust the horse?
LAOCOÖN
B2: Besides stealing the Palladium, Diomedes is also known for wounding two deities in battle, with the help of Athena. Name either of them.
ARES or APHRODITE
- Complete the following analogy: **ūnus** is to **prīmus** as **duo** is to [blank]?
SECUNDUS / Ī / A
B1: Now complete this analogy: **ūna** is to **prīma** as **trēs** is to [blank]?
TERTIUS / Ī / A / AE
B2: Now complete this analogy: **ūna** is to **prīma** as **quattuor** is to [blank]?
QUĀRTUS / Ī / AE / A
- What pair of brothers were killed in 133 B.C. and 121 B.C. after they tried to pass bills helping the agrarian poor through land reform?
GRACCHI (BROTHERS) // TIBERIUS and GAIUS GRACCHUS [RESPECTIVELY]
B1: Name the mother of the Gracchi brothers and their sister, Sempronia.
CORNELIA
B2: What cousin of the Gracchi led the mob that killed Tiberius Gracchus in 133 B.C.?
(P. CORNELIUS) SCIPIO NASICA (SERAPIO)
- Give the **praenōmen** that was abbreviated Q.
QUĪNTUS
B1: Give the **praenōmen** that was abbreviated P.
PŪBLIUS
B2: Give the **praenōmen** that was abbreviated C.
GĀIUS
- As they traveled past the island of Anthemoessa, Odysseus’ crewmates put wax into their ears to protect themselves against what creatures, whose song lured men to their death in the rocky waters below?
SIRENS / SEIRENES
B1: Later in his journey, Odysseus had to encounter which terrible sea monster, who continuously sucked water in and out, creating a massive whirlpool?
CHARYBDIS
B2: Not all of the sea creatures Odysseus encountered were out to kill him. What kind sea goddess gave Odysseus her veil to ensure that he survived until he made it to the Phaeacians?
LEUCOTHEA

7. Differentiate in meaning between the Latin verbs **timeō** and **terreō**.
 TO FEAR AND TO FRIGHTEN [RESPECTIVELY]
 B1: **Quid Anglicē significat "teneō"?**
 TO HOLD
 B2: **Quid Anglicē significat "taceō"?**
 TO BE SILENT/QUIET
8. Who left fallow his four-acre farm in order to become **dictātor** and rescue a trapped Roman army, whereupon he returned to his plow?
 (LUCIUS QUINCTIUS) CINCINNATUS
 B1: How many days was Cincinnatus said to have held the dictatorship?
 15 / 16 (DAYS)
 B2: In what year B.C. was Cincinnatus said to have become **dictātor** and saved Rome?
 460 or 458 (B.C.)
9. Who visited Erythia, Lake Stymphalus, Erymanthus, Nemea, and many other locations in order to complete a series of seemingly impossible tasks?
 HERACLES
 B1: Heracles traveled to Erytheia for which of his tasks, which resulted in the murder of a beast, a multi-bodied man, and a dog?
 (TO RETRIEVE THE) CATTLE OF GERYON
 B2: Heracles traveled to Thrace for which of his tasks, which required Heracles to subdue the king of the Bistones?
 (TO RETRIEVE THE) MARES OF DIOMEDES
10. Please translate the following sentence from English to Latin: "Quintus, drink the wine!"
BIBE VĪNUM, QUĪNTE [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]
 B1: Now translate this sentence from English to Latin: "Iulius, lead the women into the forest"
IŪLĪ, DŪC MULIERĒS / FĒMINĀS IN SILVAM [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]
 B2: Now translate this sentence from English to Latin: "My son, do not stand in the forum."
NŌLĪ STĀRE IN FORŌ, MĪ FILĪ [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]
11. Ruling from 161 to 180 A.D., which emperor was also a Stoic philosopher who published the *Meditations*?
 MARCUS AURELIUS
 B1: What son of Marcus Aurelius succeeded him?
 COMMODUS
 B2: Marcus Aurelius is generally considered the last ruler in what 200-year period of tranquility?
PĀX RŌMĀNA
12. "Capable," "participation," "receipt," and "accept" are derived from what Latin verb meaning "to take?"
CAPIŌ / CAPERE (MEANING "TO TAKE")
 B1: What derivative of **capīō** is a brief explanation added to a picture such as an Instagram post?
 CAPTION
 B2: What derivative of **capīō** means engrossed in thought or distracted?
 (PRE)OCCUPIED / CAPTIVATED
13. In Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, what Roman deity helps Jupiter abduct Europa by driving a herd of cattle to the seashore, just a few scenes after stealing another herd of cattle from Apollo?
 MERCURY
 B1: Shortly before stealing the cattle of Apollo, Mercury is said to have invented what object from a tortoise shell?

LYRE

B2: What punishment did the god inflict on an old man, Battus, who revealed his theft of the cattle?
TURNED HIM TO STONE

14. To what general category of Latin nouns do **pollex**, **collum**, **auris**, and **caput** all belong?
BODY PARTS

B1: Define any two of the four body parts listed in the tossup.
ANY TWO OF: THUMB, NECK, HEAD, AND EAR [RESPECTIVELY]

B2: Distinguish in meaning between the nouns **ōs**, **ōris** and **os**, **ossis**.
MOUTH AND BONE [RESPECTIVELY]

15. What Greek's name became proverbial when he beat the Romans but lost so many troops that he could not truly continue his invasion of Italy after the battle of Asculum?
PYRRHUS

B1: What city asked Pyrrhus to invade Italy?
TARENTUM

B2: At what Italian city was the last battle of the Pyrrhic War fought?
BENEVENTUM // MAL(E)VENTUM

16. When he was imprisoned in the same labyrinth he had constructed for king Minos, what man fashioned a pair of wings for himself and his ill-fated son Icarus?
DAEDALUS

B1: What daughter of Minos had fallen in love with Theseus and begged Daedalus to show her a way for Theseus to escape the labyrinth and kill the Minotaur?
ARIADNE

B2: The Minotaur was the offspring of a bull and what wife of Minos?
PASIPHAE

17. While in Latin class, your teacher writes **n.b.** next to an irregular verb form. Give the Latin and English for that abbreviation.
NOTĀ BENE, NOTE WELL

B1: As she conjugates the irregular verb, your teacher provides an example of a similarly irregular verb. Give the two letter Latin abbreviation she might have used to mean "for the sake of an example?"
E.G.

B2: Your teacher later writes you an email **re.** your lack of participation in class. Of what Latin noun, with what meaning, is **re.** a form?
RĒS, MATTER / FACT / THING

18. Phrases such as "**magnā cum prūdentīā**" and "**magnā cum dīligentiā**" illustrate what use of the ablative case?
(ABLATIVE OF) MANNER

B1: Name one use of the ablative case illustrated in the following Latin sentence: "**Necābāsne dominum gladiō in culīnā? Ēheu!**"
MEANS / INSTRUMENT or PLACE WHERE [DO NOT REVEAL OTHER ANSWER]

B2: Name the other use of the ablative illustrated in that sentence.
[SEE ABOVE]

19. Octavius Mamilius led forces against Rome at what battle of 496 B.C., where the Latin League was at last defeated?
LAKE REGILLUS

B1: What deposed king joined the forces of the Latin League at Lake Regillus?
TARQUINIUS SUPERBUS

B2: What deities supposedly appeared to the Romans to aid them at Lake Regillus?

CASTOR and POLLUX // DIOSCURI

20. Please translate the following sentence from Latin to English: “**In multīs proeliīs Caesar Antōnium vincēbat.**”

CAESAR WAS CONQUERING / DEFEATING ANTONY / ANTONIUS
IN MANY BATTLES [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]

B1: Now translate this sentence into English: “**Caesar scrībēbat septem librōs dē bellō in Galliā.**”

CAESAR WAS WRITING SEVEN BOOKS
ABOUT THE WAR IN GAUL [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]

B2: Now translate this sentence into English: “**Caesar numquam fuit imperātor, sed dictātor.**”

CAESAR WAS NEVER EMPEROR, BUT (HE WAS) DICTATOR [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]

ROUND 2 EXTRA QUESTIONS

EXTRA HISTORY / LIFE

1. In 451 B.C., what group of 10 men, led by Appius Claudius Crassus, were established in order to codify Roman law following the Secession of the Plebs?

DECEMVIRI

B1: Displayed in the Roman Forum, what was the name for laws which the decemviri had codified?

TWELVE TABLES / **DUODECIM TABULAE**
/ **LĒGĒS DUODECIM TABULĀRUM**

B2: Which young woman did Appius Claudius Crassus attempt to violate, only for her father to kill her, seeing it the only way to preserve her dignity?

VERGINIA

EXTRA MYTHOLOGY

1. On what island did Philoetius and Eumaeus live, waiting for their absent master, Odysseus?

ITHACA

B1: What livestock was Eumaeus in charge of?

PIGS / SWINE

B2: Name Odysseus' dog.

ARGUS

EXTRA LANGUAGE

1. What use of the genitive case is found in the following Latin sentence: **Marce, satis cibī emēbās?**

PARTITIVE

B1: What case is “**Marce**” in the sentence from the toss-up?

VOCATIVE

B2: What use of the dative case is found in the Latin sentence **Iūliae est ūnus canis?**

POSSESSION

Novice – Preliminary Round 3

- This year, the actor Chadwick Boseman, best known for his role as the Black Panther, passed away. In his honor, considering that the Latin noun **pardus, pardī** means “panther,” translate “Black Panther” into Latin.

PARDUS ĀTER / NIGER

B1: Chadwick Boseman is an alum of Howard University in Washington, D.C. The motto of this university is **Vēritās et Ūtilitās**. What does this motto mean?

TRUTH AND SERVICE / UTILITY

B2: Which movie featuring Chadwick Boseman and a slate of other Marvel superheroes would the Romans have succinctly called **Lūdus Ultimus**?

(AVENGERS:) ENDGAME
- Which Roman general and politician, who put down a slave rebellion in 71 B.C. and died fighting the Parthians in 53 B.C., was considered the richest man in Rome during his lifetime?

(MARCUS LICINIUS) CRASSUS

B1: Who was the leader of the slave revolt that Crassus put down in 71 B.C.?

SPARTACUS

B2: Where, in 53 B.C., was Crassus decisively beaten by the Parthians and killed?

CARRHAE
- Give an antonym of the Latin adjective **gravis**.

LEVIS

B1: Give an antonym of the Latin adjective **dexter**.

SINISTER

B2: Give an antonym of the Latin adjective **iuvenis**.

SENEX
- Which king of Thebes bore Ismene, Antigone, and two sons to his new wife Jocasta, but blinded himself after realizing that he had unwittingly married his mother and killed his father?

OEDIPUS

B1: Who was this father, whom Oedipus had killed at a crossroads without recognizing him?

LAIUS

B2: Oedipus had been installed as king after he used his wits to vanquish what monster, a winged lion with the face of a woman?

SPHINX
- Please translate the following sentence from Latin to English: “**Mārcus magnō cum gaudiō ad circum ambulat.**”

MARCUS WALKS WITH GREAT JOY
TO THE CIRCUS [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]

B1: Now translate this sentence into English: “**Virī pugnābunt gladiīs.**”

(THE) MEN WILL FIGHT WITH SWORDS [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]

B2: Now translate this sentence into English: “**Agricola laetus in agrīs labōrābit.**”

THE HAPPY FARMER WILL WORK IN THE FIELDS or THE FARMER
WILL HAPPILY WORK IN THE FIELDS [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]
- Which of these places is not the name of an island in the Aegean Sea: Delos, Knossos, Lesbos, Naxos?

KNOSSOS

B1: On which Greek island is the city of Knossos located?

CRETE

B2: Which of these places is not the name of a region of Greece: Arcadia, Epirus, Attica, Olympia?
OLYMPIA

7. What monster was only defeated when Iolaus came to the rescue of his uncle Heracles, since it grew two new heads every time one of its heads was cut off?

(LERNEAN) HYDRA

B1: What object did Iolaus give Heracles to help him with this labor?

A TORCH / BURNING BRAND

B2: What king of Mycenae or Tiryns assigned Heracles his twelve labors?

EURYSTHEUS

8. What man, who supposedly remarked that “he found Rome a city of brick and left it one of marble,” defeated Mark Antony to solidify his rule as Rome’s first emperor?

AUGUSTUS / OCTAVIAN // (GAIUS) OCTAVIUS

B1: At what battle did Augustus’ forces crush Mark Antony’s and Cleopatra’s joint fleet?

(BATTLE OF) ACTIUM

B2: What man was responsible both for initiating Augustus’ building project and leading Augustus’ fleet at the Battle of Actium?

(MARCUS VIPSANIUS) AGRIPPA

9. Which of the following words, if any, is not derived from the same Latin verb as the others: action, intact, exact, agency?

INTACT

B1: From what Latin verb do we derive “action,” “exact,” and “agency?”

AGŌ / AGERE (MEANING “TO DO” or “TO DRIVE”)

B2: From what Latin verb do we derive “intact?”

TANGŌ (MEANING “TO TOUCH”)

10. What emperor succeeded the ruler who brought Rome to its greatest extent, Trajan?

HADRIAN

B1: What emperor succeeded Tiberius?

CALIGULA

B2: What emperor succeeded Galba?

OTHO

11. What daughter of Iasus was denied a position among the Argonauts, but later achieved glory during the Calydonian Boar hunt, where she was the first to strike the beast?

ATALANTA

B1: Atalanta was in love with what prince of Calydon, who was later killed by his own mother for the murder of his uncles during the Calydonian Boar Hunt?

MELEAGER

B2: Later on, Atalanta instituted a race in an attempt to dissuade any new suitors. What man, with the help of Aphrodite, was able to win the race and the hand of Atalanta?

HIPPOMENES / MELANION

12. Please translate this sentence from Latin to English: “**Habēsne amīcum bonum?**”

DO YOU HAVE A GOOD FRIEND? [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]

B1: Now translate this sentence from Latin to English: “**Virīne mox scribunt litteram?**”

ARE THE MEN WRITING A LETTER SOON? [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]

B2: Now translate this sentence from Latin to English: “**Num Roma insula est?**”

ROME IS NOT AN ISLAND, IS IT? / SURELY ROME IS NOT AN ISLAND?
[ACCEPT ANY TRANSLATION THAT EXPECTS A NO ANSWER]

13. A general of what people ordered Roman captives under a **iugum**, or yoke, after defeating them at the Battle of Caudine Forks?
 SAMNITES
 B1: How many wars did the Romans fight against the Samnites?
 THREE / 3
 B2: During what century did this battle, as well as the entire Second Samnite War, occur?
 FOURTH (CENTURY B.C.) / 300s (B.C.)
14. What object in mythology was hung in a sacred grove in Colchis after it was given to king Aeetes, but was brought back to Greece when a large group of heroes was assembled by Jason to retrieve it?
 GOLDEN FLEECE
 B1: The Golden Fleece had originally belonged to the ram which rescued what son of Athamas from his stepmother Ino?
 PHRIXUS
 B2: What sister of Phrixus was less fortunate, since she fell off the ram's back and drowned in the strait that afterwards bore her name?
 HELLE
15. **Quid Anglicē significat "significō?"**
 TO SIGNIFY / INDICATE / SHOW / MEAN
 B1: **Quid Anglicē significat "Anglicē?"**
 IN ENGLISH
 B2: **Quid Anglicē significat "quid?"**
 WHAT / WHO / WHICH / HOW
16. What two word Latin phrase would someone use to refer to their college or high school and literally means "nourishing mother?"
 ALMA MĀTER
 B1: Julius Caesar was stabbed 23 times. That was a complete **nōn sequitur** to the tossup. Give the English for **nōn sequitur**.
 (IT) DOES NOT FOLLOW
 B2: Brutus's actions toward Caesar were **fidēs punica**. Give the idiomatic meaning of this phrase.
 DOUBLE CROSS / BETRAYAL / TREACHERY
17. Who, during a war between Rome and Clusium, was sent to kill the enemy king, but when caught, bravely stuck his right hand into a fire to demonstrate his loyalty to Rome?
 MUCIUS SCAEVOLA
 B1: Who was this king of Clusium whom Mucius Scaevola had attempted to assassinate?
 LARS PORSENNA
 B2: What is the meaning of "**scaevola**"?
 (LITTLE) LEFT-HANDED / LEFTY / SOUTH-PAW
18. What is the case and use of the Latin word **verbum, verbī** in the following Latin sentence: **Numquam malis verbīs meōrum inimicōrum crēdō.**
 DATIVE WITH (SPECIAL) VERB(S)
 B1: Now translate that sentence.
 I NEVER TRUST / BELIEVE THE BAD / EVIL WORDS OF MY ENEMIES
 B2: What Latin word meaning "to convince" is also commonly found with this dative construction?
 (PER)SUADEŌ

19. What deity appears in Book 1 of the *Aeneid*, when he summons a storm to wreck Aeneas, and in Book 10 of the *Odyssey*, when he gives Odysseus a bag containing nearly all the winds he was in charge of?

AEOLUS

B1: What name was given to the West wind, which was not included in the bag given to Odysseus?

ZEPHYR(US)

B2: Give the Greek name for the wind that dwelled in Thrace and bore Zetes and Calais to a kidnapped Athenian princess.

BOREAS

20. Which two of the following Latin verbs are of the same conjugation: **vīvō**, **vulnerō**, **vocō**, **veniō**?

VULNERŌ and **VOCŌ**

B1: Now, which of these two Latin verbs are of the same conjugation: **doceō**, **dēbeō**, **dormiō**, **dōnō** ?

DOCEŌ and **DĒBEŌ**

B2: Lastly, which of these Latin verbs does not belong due to conjugation: **claudō**, **cantō**, **cadō**, **currō** ?

CANTŌ

ROUND 3 EXTRA QUESTIONS

EXTRA HISTORY

1. What Roman king, whose head was once covered in flames but he felt no harm, succeeded Tarquinius Priscus?

SERVIUS TULLIUS

B1: Into how many classes did he divide the Roman people during the census?

FIVE

B2: Name one hill of Rome that was settled by Servius Tullius.

QUIRINAL or VIMINAL

EXTRA MYTHOLOGY

1. What woman was the wife of Sychaeus, the sister of Anna, and the love of Aeneas at Carthage?

DIDO

B1: By what other name was Dido known?

ELISSA

B2: From what city in Phoenicia did Dido hail?

TYRE

EXTRA LANGUAGE

2. For the verb **capio**, give the third person plural, present active indicative.

CAPIUNT

B1: Make that form future.

CAPIENT

B2: Make that form imperfect.

CAPIĒBANT

Novice – Semifinal Round

1. What trio of monsters were so remarkably hideous that they turned men to stone with a single glance—an ability that survived even in Medusa’s disembodied head?
GORGONS
B1: What sea god mated with his sister Ceto to give birth to the Gorgons?
PHORCYS
B2: The only mortal Gorgon, Medusa, was slain by Perseus. Name her immortal sisters.
STHENO and EURYALE
2. Which of the following cities was not Etruscan: Veii, Clusium, Tarquinius, Neapolis?
NEAPOLIS
B1: What modern-day city was known to the Romans as Neapolis?
NAPLES
B2: What city near Naples, named for a hero, was buried by Mt. Vesuvius’ eruption?
HERCULANEUM
3. For the Latin verb **nōlō**, give the second person plural present active indicative.
NŌN VULTIS
B1: Now, please make that form imperative.
NŌLĪTE
B2: Finally, change the form from the tossup to 3rd person and imperfect.
NŌLĒBANT
4. What king, who died after improperly performing Jupiter’s sacrifices, proved the accuracy of his family name by his aggression toward Alba Longa?
TULLUS (HOSTILIUS)
B1: Which set of triplets won the war against Alba for Rome?
HORATII
B2: What was the name of the surviving brother of the Horatii?
PUBLIUS (HORATIUS)
5. Whose skill with a spear and sword, greatly complemented by his near-invulnerable skin, made him the single most dangerous man on the plains of Troy?
ACHILLES
B1: Homer mentions two injuries of Achilles. One was merely a scratch, but the other was fatal. The lethal wound in question was inflicted by what Trojan?
PARIS / ALEXANDER
B2: Though Paris was probably already dead by the time he arrived, what son of Achilles still got some measure of revenge by brutally killing Paris’ father and brother?
PYRRHUS / NEOPTOLEMUS
6. Which of the following four Latin verbs, if any, does not form the future tense with the endings **-bō, -bis, -bit**, etc.: **dō, stō, cadō, amō**?
CADŌ
B1: Which of the following four Latin verbs, if any, does not have a reduplicative perfect tense: **dō, stō, cadō, caedō**?
ALL HAVE A REDUPLICATIVE PERFECT TENSE
B2: Which of the following four Latin verbs, if any, forms its perfect tense differently than the others: **mittō, rideō, maneō, doceō**?
DOCEŌ [-uī instead of -sī]

7. Which of the following schools' mottoes does not contain a Latin word for "light": Yale, Columbia, Brown, Oxford?

BROWN

B1: Give the Latin for the motto of Columbia University, meaning "in your light we shall see light."

IN LUMINE TUO VIDEBIMUS LUMEN

B2: Give the Latin and English for the motto of Brown University.

IN DEO SPERAMUS, IN GOD WE HOPE

8. Said to have been handicapped, what uncle of the previous emperor was found cowering behind a curtain when he became emperor?

CLAUDIUS

B1: Claudius built the Anio Novus and Aqua Claudia. What kind of structures are these?

AQUEDUCTS

B2: What foodstuff was the source of the poison that killed Claudius?

MUSHROOM

9. Please translate this sentence from Latin to English: "**Vir stābat et tacēbat in forō.**"

THE MAN WAS STANDING IN THE FORUM AND
WAS (BEING) SILENT / QUIET [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]

B1: Now translate this sentence into English: "**Gāiō nōn fuit magna vōx.**"

GAIUS DID NOT HAVE A BIG / GREAT VOICE // THERE WAS NOT
A BIG / GREAT VOICE TO GAIUS [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]

B2: Now translate this sentence into Latin. Please use the perfect tense and **petō** to mean "attack": "The ferocious lions attacked the cows."

FEROCES LEONES PETI(V)ERUNT BOVES/VACCAS [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]

10. Which of the following words, if any, is not derived from the same Latin noun as the others: delegate, legal, legacy, deliver?

DELIVER

B1: From what Latin noun with what meaning do we derive "delegate," "legal," and "legacy"?

LĒX, LAW

B2: From what Latin noun with what meaning do we derive "deliver"?

LIBER, BOOK

11. What chieftain inflicted a **diēs āter** upon the Romans when he led the Senones to occupy the city itself in 390 B.C.?

BRENNUS

B1: At what river did Brennus defeat the Romans in 390 B.C.?

ALLIA (RIVER)

B2: What did Brennus toss onto the Roman scales when they were complaining about the weight of the gold that they owed him?

(HIS) SWORD

12. Listen to the following Latin sentence: "**Nihil odii habeō tibi, amīce.**" What use of the genitive appears in this sentence?

PARTITIVE / OF THE WHOLE

B1: What use of the accusative appears in the sentence from the toss-up?

DIRECT OBJECT

B2: Translate that sentence into English.

I HAVE NO(THING OF) HATE FOR YOU, FRIEND

13. Who used her arcane knowledge to destroy a brazen Cretan giant named Talus and to make a rejuvenating potion for Aeson, the father of her lover Jason?

MEDEA

B1: One of her herbs was from the Boeotian town of Anthedon, which later became famous for causing the transformation of what man into a sea-deity?

GLAUCUS

B2: Her knowledge of drugs also helped Jason defeat the dragon guarding the golden fleece, since he used leaves that secreted the waters of what Underworld river on Medea's advice?

LETHE

14. **Respondē Latīnē: Quot sunt undecim et septem?**

DUODEVIGINTĪ

B1: Respond in English with "yes" or "no": **Novemne sunt quattuordecim minus quīnque?**

YES

B2: For the cardinal number **novem**, give the corresponding ordinal form, an adjective meaning "ninth"
NŌNUS (-A, -UM)

15. After he observed a glowing cross and the words "in this sign, conquer" in the sky, what emperor won the Battle of Milvian Bridge and converted to Christianity?

CONSTANTINE (I / THE GREAT)

B1: Who led the defeated forces at the Battle of the Milvian Bridge?

MAXENTIUS

B2: After his victory, Constantine erected what kind of triumphal structure, much as Titus had done upon sacking Jerusalem?

ARCH

16. Though the Titan Prometheus worked tirelessly to improve the lot of man, it was all undone when what woman released all the evils of the world that had been shut in a jar?

PANDORA

B1: What rash brother of Prometheus shared his wife Pandora's rashness, earlier having accidentally given all the gifts he could give to other animals, with none left for man?

EPIMETHEUS

B2: Prometheus himself was forced to watch man suffer from what mountain range, where he was nailed for thousands of years?

(THE) CAUCASUS (MOUNTAINS)

17. Please translate the following sentence from English to Latin: "The gladiators are preparing before the big fight."

GLADIĀTŌRĒS ANTE MAGNAM PUGNAM PARANT [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]

B1: Now translate this sentence from English to Latin: "The price of peace is long war"

PRETIUM PĀCIS EST LONGUM BELLUM [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]

B2: Now translate this sentence from English to Latin using the verb "**placeō**": "The big house pleases the dog."

MAGNA DOMUS PLACET CANĪ [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]

18. In September of this year, the 2018 online game "Among Us" skyrocketed in popularity, giving friends from across the world the opportunity to interact virtually. If this game were played in Ancient Rome, how might it be directly rendered into Latin?

INTER NŌS / (APUD NŌS)

B1: [Note to moderator: if the answer **INTER NŌS** was given in the tossup, read the underlined text as well.] Give another two-word prepositional phrase that could mean "among us", but could also mean "at our house".

APUD NŌS / (INTER NŌS)

B2: As a crewmate, you might exclaim about a suspected impostor, “He’s fighting against us!” How would you translate the phrase “against us” in that sentence into Latin?

CONTRĀ NŌS / NŌBĪSCUM / IN NŌS

19. What man fought as a military tribune at Thermopylae long before he started to end speeches with the phrase “**Carthāgō dēlenda est?**”

(MARCUS PORCIUS) CATO (THE ELDER) // CATO (MAIOR / CENSORIUS)

B1: Popular legend states that Romans did what to the land around Carthage after capturing it in 146 B.C.? A description is fine.

SOW(ED THE FIELDS) WITH SALT [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]

B2: Carthage then became the center of what Roman province?

AFRICA (PROCONSULARIS)

20. Clotho, Lachesis, and Atropos—who respectively spun the thread of life, assigned each man his destiny, and cut the thread at death—made up what mythological group, sometimes said to be more powerful than even the Olympians?

FATES / PARCAE / MOIRAE

B1: What god was forced to serve a man named Admetus, whose life the Fates would end if he did not find a substitute to die in his place, after he killed the Cyclopes to avenge his son Asclepius?

APOLLO

B2: In Vergil’s *Aeneid*, when Juno realizes that Aeneas is fated to reach Italy, she decides to make his time there as bloody as possible by summoning Allecto, a member of what other snake-haired mythological group?

FURIES / FURIAE / DIRAE / ERINYES / EUMENIDES

SEMIS EXTRA QUESTIONS

EXTRA HISTORY

1. Triumphant at Frigidus, who was the last Roman emperor to rule both the east and the west?

THEODOSIUS I

B1: What religion did Theodosius make the official religion of the empire?

CHRISTIANITY

B2: Who were Theodosius' sons who inherited one half of the empire each?

ARCADIUS and HONORIUS

EXTRA MYTHOLOGY

1. Because the Greeks feared invoking Hades with his true name, they used what euphemism instead, which references his wealth and not his realm, and was adapted directly into the god's Roman name?

PLUTO / PLOUTON

B1: Pluto derives from the Greek word for "rich," and the Romans analogically used their own word for "rich" as a common name for Pluto. What was this name, used by Roman authors like Vergil more frequently than "Pluto"?

DIVES / DIS

B2: What meaning does "Hades" have, highlighting another aspect of death that was evidently part of the Greeks' interpretation of mortality and passing?

INVISIBLE / UNSEEN

EXTRA LANGUAGE

1. Which two of the following verbs, if any, belong to the same conjugation: **salīō**, **nūntiō**, **iaciō**, **iaceō**?

NONE [DO NOT ACCEPT "ALL FROM THE SAME"]

B1: Identify the respective conjugations to which each of the tossup's verbs belongs.

FOURTH, FIRST, THIRD(-IO), SECOND [RESPECTIVELY]

B2: For five points, define any three of the four verbs from the tossup.

ANY THREE OF: TO JUMP, ANNOUNCE, THROW, LIE DOWN [RESPECTIVELY]

Novice – Final Round

- After witnessing the logistical success of Yale Certamen, your friend asks you if you want to create a website online on Squarespace, like the Yale Certamen website. You respond: “no, **vix.**” They think you are referring to the website-platform Wix but you are actually giving a Latin word with what meaning?
BARELY / HARDLY
B1: Welcome to the novice finals round of Yale Certamen 2020! What Latin adverb would you use to specify the day on which you played your preliminary rounds?
HERI
B2: Since Yale Certamen’s questions are so good, you decide to replay them every day. What Latin adverb would you use to describe your frequency of question-playing?
COTĪDIĒ
- What mortal woman’s beauty caused men to visit from around the world and even ignore the rites of Venus, who sent Cupid to punish her, only for him to fall in love instead?
PSYCHE
B1: How many jealous sisters did Psyche have?
TWO
B2: Eventually, Psyche lost the right to be with Cupid. What creatures aided Psyche with the first of the tasks that Venus set her to regain it?
ANT(S)
- Posting lists of their names and confiscating their property, what Roman began proscriptions after winning a decisive battle at Colline Gate in 82 B.C.?
(LUCIUS CORNELIUS) SULLA (FELIX) [DO NOT REVEAL FULL NAME]
B1: What **cognōmen** did Sulla give himself to accredit his “skill” as a general?
FELIX
B2: What ruler of Pontus did Sulla defeat after this king massacred 80,000 Italians?
MITHRIDATES (VI / EUPATOR / THE GREAT)
- Which of the following mottoes contains an imperative: Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Maine?
MICHIGAN
B1: Which of the following mottoes does not contain a verb: Johns Hopkins, University of Chicago, University of Michigan, University of Oregon.
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN / UMICH
B2: Which of the following mottoes contains an infinitive: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado.
ALABAMA
- In Book 6 of Vergil’s *Aeneid*, the Cumaean Sibyl says she has seen in the Underworld what twin brothers, “of giant bodies, who tried to tear down great heaven with their hands and expel Jupiter from his high kingdoms”?
OTUS and EPHIALTES // ALOADAE
B1: The Cumaean Sibyl also describes what pit, twice as deep as Olympus is high?
TARTARUS
B2: The Cumaean Sibyl also describes what man, punished for imitating Zeus by throwing “thunderbolts” out of his chariot?
SALMONEUS
- In the sentence “**Liberī dōnābant magnam cēnam animālibus in hortō,**” what use of the dative case appears?
INDIRECT OBJECT

B1: In the sentence from the toss-up, what use of the ablative case appears?

PLACE WHERE

B2: Translate that sentence into English.

THE CHILDREN WERE GIVING A GREAT DINNER / MEAL
TO THE ANIMALS IN THE GARDEN [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]

7. Who rose from the peasantry in Dalmatia to become emperor of Rome in the third century A.D.,
whereafter he established a tetrarchy of Roman rulers?

DIOCLETIAN

B1: How many rulers participated in the tetrarchy at any given time?

FOUR / 4

B2: In the east and west, there was a ruling emperor and an “understudy”. What is the Latin term for
each?

AUGUSTUS and CAESAR [RESPECTIVELY]

8. What god was the father of Nauplius, Chrysaor, Triton, and Polyphemus?

POSEIDON

B1: Name Chrysaor’s brother, who emerged alongside him from a severed head.

PEGASUS

B2: What consort of Poseidon was the mother of Triton?

AMPHITRITE

9. Having a purple border and also worn by boys, what type of toga was worn by curule magistrates,
censors, and dictators?

TOGA PRAETEXTA

B1: After being prepared with fuller’s chalk, what type of toga had a dazzling white sheen and was worn
by candidates running for office?

TOGA CANDIDA / TOGA SPLENDĒNS

B2: What was the term for the type of toga that was worn by ordinary citizens which was colored by the
natural color of the white wool with which it was made?

TOGA PŪRA / TOGA VIRĪLIS / TOGA LĪBERA

10. In the following sentence, identify two words derived from Latin and the words from which they
ultimately derive: “The damsel immediately contacted the city after surviving a difficult accident.”

TWO OF: DAMSEL - **DOMUS**; IMMEDIATELY - **MEDIUS**; CONTACTED - **TANGŌ**;
CITY - **CIVIS**; SURVIVING - **VIVŌ**; DIFFICULT - **FACIŌ**; ACCIDENT - **CADŌ**

B1: Identify another.

[SEE ABOVE]

B2: Identify another.

[SEE ABOVE]

11. What legendary king of Alba Longa, the elder son of Procas, was overthrown by his treacherous brother
before being reinstated by his grandsons, Romulus and Remus?

NUMITOR

B1: Who was the daughter of Numitor?

RHEA SILVIA

B2: Amulius overthrew Numitor and forcibly made Rhea Silvia a member of what priesthood in an
attempt to prevent her from having children?

VESTAL(S) / VESTAL VIRGINS

12. What two forms could the pronoun **tē** be?

ACC. SG., ABL. SG.

B1: Besides accusative singular and ablative singular, give a form that the pronoun **sē** could be.

ONE OF: ACC. PL. or ABL. PL.

B2: Using a reflexive pronoun, translate into Latin the phrase “to love oneself.”

SĒ AMĀRE

13. What enslaved woman was treated with kindness by Laërtes and given the job of raising both her master’s son and grandson—Odysseus and Telemachus?

EURYCLEIA

B1: By what physical mark was Eurycleia able to identify Odysseus?

SCAR (ON HIS KNEE)

B2: What sort of creature gave Odysseus this scar?

BOAR

14. What son of the previous emperor served as Praetorian Prefect, fought in Judaea, sacked Jerusalem, and finished the construction of the Colosseum in 80 A.D.?

TITUS

B1: Name Titus’ father, who originally led Roman forces against an uprising in Judaea.

VESPASIAN

B2: Besides the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius, name a natural disaster that occurred during Titus’ reign.

FIRE / FLOOD / PLAGUE

15. Provide the dative singular of the Latin phrase **vester antīquus pōns**.

VESTRŌ ANTĪQUŌ PONTĪ

B1: Now, using the 3rd declension noun **flūmen**, please give the Latin ablative singular for the phrase “our wide river.”

NOSTRŌ LATŌ FLŪMINE

B2: Give the accusative singular of the phrase **rēx senex**.

RĒGEM SENEM

16. Please translate this sentence from Latin to English: “**Putāsne me stultum esse?**”

DO YOU THINK THAT I AM STUPID? / DO YOU THINK ME TO BE STUPID? [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]

B1: Now translate this sentence: “**Catō dīcit Rōmānōs dēbēre dēlēre Carthāginem.**”

CATO SAYS THAT THE ROMANS OUGHT TO / SHOULD DESTROY CARTHAGE [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]

B2: Now translate this sentence: “**Crēdimus gladiātōrēs pugnāre nōn prō pecūniā, sed fāmā.**”

WE THINK / BELIEVE THAT GLADIATORS FIGHT NOT FOR MONEY, BUT FAME [ACCEPT EQUIVALENTS]

17. What law or set of laws, passed around 367 B.C., dictated that one of the consuls could be plebeian?

LĒX LĪCINIA-SEXTIA

B1: What law of 445 B.C. allowed intermarriage between plebeians and patricians?

LĒX CANULĒIA

B2: What law of 287 B.C. gave the plebeian assembly the power to pass binding laws?

LĒX HORTĒNSIA

18. Give the best Latin translation of the English idiom “to give thanks”.

GRĀTIĀS AGERE

B1: In contrast to **grātiās agere**, what is the idiomatic translation of the Latin phrase **grātiām habēre**?

TO FEEL GRATITUDE / BE THANKFUL

B2: Give a phrase common in Latin prose which means “to travel” or “march”.

ITER FACERE

19. What hero, whose father was devoured by his horses and was named Glaucus, perhaps killed a man named Bellerus, from whom he took his common name?

BELLEROPHON / HIPPONOUS

B1: In what Greek city did Glaucus — a son of Sisyphus — rule?

CORINTH / EPHYRA

B2: To be purified, Bellerophon went to Proëtus, a king of Argos. What wife of Proëtus fell in love with him there?

ANTE(I)A / STHENEBOEA

20. Keeping in mind that you signed a physical harm release, when recognized by the spotter, perform the following three-part command: **Stā et pōne pedem in manum et salī.**

PLAYER STANDS, HOLDS ONE FOOT IN THEIR HAND, AND JUMPS.

B1: Now perform this command: **Omnēs temptāte carmen simul canere.**

ALL PLAYERS MUST ATTEMPT (NOT NECESSARILY SUCCESSFULLY) TO SING A SONG IN SYNC

B2: Now perform this command: **Iterum iterumque surgite et consīdite.**

MORE THAN ONE PLAYER MUST REPEATEDLY STAND UP AND SIT DOWN.