



Shrewsbury School

SHREWSBURY SCHOOL

SIXTH FORM ENTRANCE EXAMINATION 2016

LATIN
(Time: 1 hour)

Instructions to candidates:

- Answer Question 1 and question 2
- Answer on lined paper; all translation should be on *alternate lines*

I. Translate this passage into English; **write your translation on alternate lines.**

Many stories told about Dionysius, tyrant of Syracuse, show that power and wealth do not give peace of mind. Paranoia can be a constant companion.

Dionysius, qui plurimos annos tyrannus fuit Syracusanorum, nemini credebat. ex familiis nobilium servos delegit ut cibum pararent, vestes curarent, corpus lavarent; his servis libertatem promittebat ut semper fideles essent sibi. etiam in cubiculo, ne dormiens neceretur, fossam circum lectum excavari iussit, pontemque trans fossam aedificari; postquam hunc pontem transiit, ipse detorquebat. olim Dionysius volebat cum pila ludere. tunica deposita, gladium servo cuidam tradidit; servo altero locuto, 'vitam tuam huic committis,' risit servus qui gladium tenebat. Dionysius iratus duos interfici iussit, alterum quod viam interficiendi ostendisset, alterum quod ridens verba probavisset.

Vocabulary

Syracusani	<i>people of Syracuse</i>	pila	<i>ball</i>
deligere	<i>to select</i>	ludere	<i>to play</i>
vestes	<i>clothes</i>	quidam	<i>a certain</i>
fossa	<i>ditch</i>	committere	<i>to entrust</i>
lectum	<i>bed</i>	probare	<i>to approve of</i>
detorquere	<i>to swivel around</i>		

[25 marks]

2. Read the following passage and answer the questions which follow.

A court flatterer is given a reality check by Dionysius on the joys of monarchy.

erat assentator quidam, Damocles nomine, qui magnificentiam vitae Dionysii admirabatur, dixitque neminem esse feliciosem. hunc rogavit Dionysius, ‘visne, o Damocles, partem habere felicitatis meae?’ cum Damocles se cupere respondisset, Dionysius eum in lecto aureo recumbere iussit. prope Damoclem stabant servi pulcherrimi qui cibum vinumque ferebant. Damocles tum se fortunatissimum putabat. Dionysius deinde servos ingentem gladium, una saeta equina suspensum, super caput Damoclis ponere iussit. hoc conspecto, ille non diutius luxuriam videre poterat, periculum solum; tandem tyrannum rogavit ut se liberaret, quod felix esse nollet. Dionysius itaque ostendit quam felix esset tyrannus cui mors semper immineret.

assentator	<i>flatterer</i>	felix-icis	<i>happy, lucky</i>
felicitas-atis	<i>luck, happiness</i>	recumbo	<i>recline</i>
saeta-ae	<i>hair</i>	equinus-a-um	<i>of a horse</i>
suspendo	<i>suspend</i>	super + acc	<i>above</i>
non diutius	<i>no longer</i>	immineo + dat	<i>I threaten</i>

- a) What did Damocles admire about Dionysius? [2]
- b) What was Dionysius’ response to Damocles saying nobody was luckier than him? [3]
- c) What was Damocles’ reply back? [1]
- d) What was initially attractive about the couch? [1]
- e) Pick out the Latin word describing the slaves serving food and drink, and translate. [1+1]
- f) What unusual order did Dionysius give his slaves? [5]
- g) Why did Damocles cease to enjoy himself after this order was carried out? [4]
- h) What did he ask Dionysius to do, and why? [3]
- i) What was the lesson the tyrant was trying to teach Damocles? [2]
- j) Indicate **two** qualities of the character of Dionysius. [2]

TOTAL [25]

Vocabulary

assentator	<i>flatterer</i>	felix	<i>lucky, fortunate</i>
felicitas	<i>good fortune</i>	recumbere	<i>to recline</i>
saeta equina	<i>horse hair</i>	suspensus	<i>suspended</i>
super	<i>above</i>	non diutius	<i>no longer</i>
imminere + dat	<i>to threaten</i>		