



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

CLASSICAL TRIPOS PART IA
Paper 8

MODERN AND MEDIEVAL LANGUAGES TRIPOS Part IA
Paper GL 10

Thursday 15 June 2006 9 to 12

LATIN PROSE AND VERSE COMPOSITION

Candidates should attempt one section only.

Section B may be attempted only by candidates who have offered Paper 4, Alternative Latin Translation.

Write your number (not your name) on the cover of the booklet.

Candidates who do not write legibly may find themselves at a grave disadvantage.

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

20 Page Booklet x 1
Rough Work Pad x 1

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

None

**You may not start to read the questions
printed on the subsequent pages of this
question paper until instructed that you
may do so by the Invigilator**

SECTION A

Translate:

Either (a) for LATIN PROSE:

'That sounds splendid! A race of men who have renounced all illusions and have thus become capable of making their existence on earth tolerable! I, however, cannot share your expectations. And that is not because I am the obstinate reactionary you perhaps take me for. No, it is because I am sensible. We seem now to have exchanged roles: you emerge as an enthusiast who allows himself to be carried away by illusions, and I stand for the claims of reason, the rights of scepticism. What you have been expounding seems to me built upon errors which, following your example, I may call illusions, because they betray clearly enough the influence of your wishes. You pin your hope on the possibility that generations which have not experienced the influence of religious doctrines in early childhood will easily attain the desired primacy of the intelligence over the life of the instincts. This is surely an illusion: in this decisive respect human nature is hardly likely to change.'

FREUD *The Future of an Illusion*

Or (b) for LATIN PROSE:

And if Publius has thought it his duty to brand not only with his adverse opinion, but with the greatest severity of language, Gabinius and Piso, as the two monsters who have been almost the destruction of the republic, both on other accounts, and also most especially because of their extraordinary wickedness and unseemly inhumanity towards me, with what feelings ought I myself to be actuated towards those men,—I whose safety they devoted and ruined for the gratification of their own evil passions? But in declaring my sentiments at this time, I will not be guided by my indignation, nor will I make my speech subservient to my enmity. The same feelings which every individual among you ought to entertain towards those men, shall influence me also. My own predominant and peculiar feeling of private indignation, which, however, you have always considered as belonging to yourselves in common with me, I will put aside while delivering my opinion, and reserve for a more fitting opportunity of revenge.

CICERO *De prouinciis consularibus* 2 (tr. C. D. Yonge)

Or (c) for LATIN PROSE:

The whole populace of Rome was now crowding into the palace together with a good sprinkling of slaves. With discordant shouts they demanded the death of Otho and the doom of the conspirators. They might have been in the circus or the theatre, clamouring for entertainment. There was neither sense nor sincerity in their behaviour. They were quite ready on the same day to clamour for the opposite with equal zeal. But it is an established custom to flatter any emperor with unbridled cheering and meaningless enthusiasm. Meanwhile Galba was torn between two opinions. Titus Vinius maintained that they ought to remain within the palace, employ the slaves to offer resistance and block up all the doors, instead of going out to face the angry troops. 'This will give time,' he urged, 'for the disloyal to repent and the loyal to unite their forces. Crimes demand haste, good counsels profit by delay.'

TACITUS *Histories* I 32 (tr. W. Hamilton Fyfe)

Or (d) for LATIN HEXAMETRES:

Ulysses stands at his side to offer words of comfort and courage: 'Is this the man the Greeks agreed they needed? Is this the man the oracle told us our cause depends on? The portals of War have opened and we have already crossed its threshold. Your mother, as fond of you as she was and as worried on your behalf, ought to have known it was altogether hopeless to attempt to hide your brave heart in a woman's clothes. It wasn't the shield or spear, but that trumpet blast, or rather its resonance deep within you. Nothing could keep you away, as you knew all along. Do not blame your mother, or us, or yourself. This is how things are.'

STATIUS *Achilleid* II (tr. D. R. Slavitt)

[TURN OVER

Or (e) for LATIN ELEGIACS:

The hand that wrote this letter
 Sweeps the pillow clean
 So rest your head and read a treasured dream
 I care for no one else but you
 I tear my soul to cease the pain
 I think maybe you feel the same
 What can we do?
 I'm not quite sure what we're supposed to do
 So I've been writing just for you

They say your life is going very well
 They say you sparkle like a different girl
 But something tells me that you hide
 When all the world is warm and tired
 You cry a little in the dark
 Well so do I
 I'm not quite sure what you're supposed to say
 But I can see it's not okay

He makes you laugh
 He brings you out in style
 He treats you well
 And makes you up real fine
 And when he's strong
 He's strong for you
 And when you kiss
 It's something new
 But did you ever call my name
 Just by mistake?
 I'm not quite sure what I'm supposed to do
 So I'll just write some love to you.

DAVID BOWIE *Letter to Hermione*

SECTION B

Only candidates who have offered Paper 4, Alternative Latin Translation, may attempt this Section.

For LATIN PROSE (based closely on CICERO In Catilinam 1):

I shall omit the illustrious men Scipio and Ahala, who even as private citizens put to death those who were plotting against the State: it is the consuls that the Senate has ordered to see to it that the State suffer no harm. And in accordance with this decree, not a few individuals have been put to death. While Lucius Opimius was consul, Gaius Gracchus, of distinguished birth, was executed; under Gaius Marius, not only a tribune but also a praetor was executed. And in all these cases, Senators, the vengeance of the State was swift, not slow, and yet for twenty days now we have not unsheathed and made use of the sword of the Senate's authority, as it were. You ought to be put to death right now, Catiline, but we consuls are at fault.

[TURN OVER

SECTION C*Translate:***Both** (a) for LATIN HEXAMETRES:

‘Your mother, as fond of you
 as she was and as worried on your behalf, ought to have known
 it was altogether hopeless to attempt to hide your brave
 heart in a woman’s clothes. It wasn’t the shield or spear,
 but that trumpet blast, or rather its resonance deep within you.
 Nothing could keep you away, as you knew all along.’

STATIUS *Achilleid* II (tr. D. R. Slavitt)

And (b) for LATIN ELEGIACS:

He makes you laugh
 He brings you out in style
 He treats you well
 And makes you up real fine
 And when he's strong
 He's strong for you
 And when you kiss
 It's something new
 But did you ever call my name
 Just by mistake?
 I'm not quite sure what I'm supposed to do
 So I'll just write some love to you.

DAVID BOWIE *Letter to Hermione*

END OF PAPER