

READING COMPREHENSION – LEVEL 3
Ohio Junior Classical League - 2010

Passage #1:

Titus Manlius, a Roman soldier fighting the Gauls, participates in a one on one fight against an enemy soldier.

Titus Manlius autem maxime iratus quod e tanto exercitu nemo cum Gallo pugnavit, ipse scutum suum 1
cepit et gladio brevi cinctus ad Gallum cucurrit. Gallus suo more scutum suum proiecit et impetum Manli 2
expectavit. Tum Manlius scutum Galli suo scuto percutit atque Gallum de loco suo paulum deicit. Dum 3
Gallus consistere conatur, Manlius iterum scutum eius suo scuto percutit atque de loco hominem iterum 4
deicit. Hoc modo longiis gladiis Galli succedere potest et gladio suo brevi pectus Galli percutit. Caput 5
Galli praecidit, torquem rapit eumque sibi in collum imponit. Tum victor in castra Romana revertit. 6
Semper postea cognomina Torquato appellatus est quod Gallum occiderat atque eum torque spoliaverat. 7
Posterique eius quoque omnes per annos Torquati appellati sunt. 8

1. Why was Manlius angry in line 1?
 - a. He lost to a Gaul earlier
 - b. The army of the Gauls was fighting very well
 - c. No one would fight
 - d. None of the Romans were exercising
2. In line 1, what word modifies *exercitu*?
 - a. maxime
 - b. tanto
 - c. nemo
 - d. autem
3. According to lines 1-2 (*ipse...cucurrit*), we DO NOT learn that
 - a. Manlius threw his weapons at the Gaul
 - b. Manlius armed himself with a short sword
 - c. Manlius picks up his shield
 - d. Manlius runs toward the Gaul.
4. In line 2, *suo* more explains
 - a. Where the Gaul threw his shield
 - b. How the Gaul used his shield
 - c. Why the Gaul threw his shield
 - d. When the Gaul abandoned his shield
5. What is the best translation of *impetum Manli expectavit* (line 2-3)?
 - a. The Gaul looked out for Manlius and his rage
 - b. The Manilians awaited the assault
 - c. The attack of Manlius was expected
 - d. The Gaul anticipated the charge of Manlius
6. According to line 3 (*atque...deiecit*), we learn that
 - a. The Gaul gives up a little ground
 - b. The Gaul taunts Manlius a little bit
 - c. Manlius knocks the Gaul out
 - d. Manlius throws his cloak to the ground
7. The words *dum...conatur* (lines 3-4) tell us that
 - a. The Gaul is countered by his enemy
 - b. The Gaul wants to pause
 - c. The Gaul decides that he would stay
 - d. The Gaul tries to make a stand
8. According to line 5 (*hoc..potest*), what advantage did the Gaul have against Manlius?
 - a. He knew this area
 - b. He was stronger
 - c. His sword was long
 - d. His comrades were encouraging him
9. From *gladio...percutit* in line 5, we can infer that
 - a. The blow to the chest was fatal
 - b. The Gaul put up a good fight
 - c. The Gaul struggled for a short time
 - d. Manlius was struck in the chest
10. In line 5, what word does *brevi* modify?
 - a. gladio
 - b. Galli
 - c. pectus
 - d. percutit
11. What is the best translation of *caput Galli praecidit* (lines 5-6)?
 - a. The head proceeded the Gaul
 - b. The head Gaul was excellent
 - c. He cut off the head of the Gaul
 - d. The head of the Gaul fell forward
12. In line 6, *sibi* refers to
 - a. The Gaul
 - b. torquem
 - c. caput
 - d. Manlius

13. According to *torquem ...imponit* (line 6), what insult does Manlius give to the Gaul?
 a. He refuses to bury his body
 b. He displays the body as a trophy on a hill
 c. He takes something precious from the Gaul
 d. He mutilates the body to warn others
14. In line 6 (*tum...revertit*), we learn that
 a. Manlius makes it back to the camp
 b. The Gaul enters the camp
 c. The winner goes back to fight in the camp
 d. The Romans return the camp to the winner
15. In line 7, *eum* refers to the same thing as
 a. sibi (line 6) b. victor (line 6) c. quod (line 7) d. hominem (line 4)
16. The subject of *appellati sunt* in line 8 is
 a. Torquati (line 8) b. omnes (line 8) c. posterii (line 8) d. Romani (understood)
17. What does this story explain?
 a. Why the Romans and Gauls often fight
 b. How the descendants of Manlius got their name
 c. Why a river near Gaul has a certain name
 d. How Manilus got to be a general
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Passage #2:

Scipio is made consul and sent into Africa. Hannibal is recalled from Italy.

Anno quarto decimo posteaquam in Italiam Hannibal venerat, Scipio, qui multa bene in Hispania egerat, 1
 consul est factus et in Africam missus. Cui viro divinum quiddam inesse existimabatur, adeo ut putaretur 2
 etiam cum numinibus habere sermonem. Is in Africa contra Hannonem, ducem Afrorum, pugnat; 3
 exercitum eius interficit. Secundo proelio castra capit cum quattuor milibus et quingentis militibus, XI 4
 milibus occisis. Syphacem, Numidia regem, qui se Afris coniunxerat, capit et castra eius invadit. Syphax 5
 cum nobilissimis Numidis et infinitis spoliis Romam a Scipione mittitur. Qua re audita omnis fere Italia 6
 Hannibalem deserit. Ipse a Carthaginiensibus redire in Africam iubetur, quam Scipio vastabat. 7

18. According to line 1, how many years after Hannibal entered Italy does the story take place?
 a. four years b. ten years c. fourteen years d. forty years
19. The word *multa* (line 1) modifies
 a. Scipio b. qui c. bene d. Hispania
20. Which of the following is the best translation for *consul...missus* (line 2)?
 a. He was made consul and he was sent into Africa
 b. He was made consul, even having been sent into Africa
 c. He was made consul, and was lost in Africa
 d. Having been made consul and having been sent into Africa
21. To which word does *viro* (line 2) refer?
 a. Hannibal b. Scipio c. Africa d. sermonem
22. *cui* (line 2) could best be replaced with which other pronoun and not change the meaning of the clause?
 a. ipsi b. illi c. huic d. alicui
23. What special trait is described in *adeo...sermonem* (line 2-3)?
 a. he had superhuman strength b. he could see the future through omens
 c. he could remember anyone's name d. he could talk to gods
24. Who did Scipio fight first upon his arrival to Africa?
 a. Hannibal b. Afer c. Secundus d. Hanno
25. What case is *eius* (line 4)?
 a. nominative b. genitive c. dative d. accusative

26. How many soldiers did Scipio use in the second battle?
 a. 4000 b. 500 c. 11000 d. 4500
27. What was the fate of Syphax?
 a. killed in battle b. switched sides c. sent to Rome d. fled to Rome
28. What is the best translation of *infinitis spoliis* (line 6)?
 a. endless carts b. countless plunder c. infinite lines of men d. endless battles
29. What caused *omnis fere Italia Hannibalem deserit* (lines 6-7)?
 a. Syphax's defeat b. Scipio's defeat c. the Numidian revolt d. stronger Italian defenses
30. To whom does *ipse* (line 7) refer?
 a. Numidia b. Scipio c. Hannibal d. Syphax
31. What type of ablative is *Carthaginensibus* (line 7)?
 a. agent b. accompaniment c. location d. source
32. The antecedent of *quam* (line 7) is
 a. audita (line 6) b. Italia (line 6) c. Africam (line 7) d. it is adverbial
33. The events of this story take place near the end of the _____ War.
 a. 1st Punic b. 2nd Punic c. 3rd Punic d. 4th Punic

Passage #3:

Pliny the Younger writes a letter to Minutius Fudanus about his life in the city and in the country

Mirum est quam sit cuiquam difficile rationem dare dierum quos in negotiis urbanis consumit. Si amicum	1
interrogabis, "Hodie quid egisti?" ille certe respondebit, "Officio togae virilis, nuptiis interfui," vel	2
"Cuidam consilium de legibus dedi." Necessaria quidem hae officia videntur eo die quo ea facis, sed	3
inania, si te cotidie per annos fecisse putabis; et multo magis inania videntur ubi, urbe relicta, domum ad	4
villam pervenisti. Tunc etiam dices, ut ego heri dixi, "Quot horas in urbe inanibus rebus hodie consumpsi!"	5
Sed hic in mea villa Laurentina ab officiis urbanis sum liberatus. Aut aliquid lego aut scribo aut	6
quietem corpori peto. Nihil audio quod audivisse mihi non placet; nihil dico quod dixisse non	7
gratum est. Nemo apud me quemquam reprehendit; neminem ipse reprehendo nisi tamen me, cum	8
commode scribere non possum. Nec spe, nec timore sollicitor. Mecum tantum et cum libris meis	9
loquor. O laetam vitam! O dulce otium! Itaque tu quoque labores inanes strepitumque urbis	10
relinque et otio studiisque ruris te trade.	11

34. What is the best translation of *quam* in line 1?
 a. whom b. how c. than d. as....as possible
35. According to *ille...dedi* (lines 2-3), how might a friend respond to the question in line 2?
 a. I gave legal advice to someone b. I went to the office
 c. I read about things d. I put on my toga
36. How does Pliny characterize the *officia* of a Roman man?
 a. unnecessary but useful b. necessary and useful
 c. necessary but useless d. unnecessary and useless
37. How often does Pliny claim a Roman man performs his *officia*?
 a. daily b. often c. through the years d. on certain days
38. What is the best translation of *multo* in line 4?
 a. many things b. many times c. by much d. with much
39. What is the best translation of the phrase *urbe relicta* in line 4?
 a. When he leaves the city b. With the city left behind
 c. Although the cities are left d. Because we left the city

40. According to lines 4-5 (*et....dixi*), when will Pliny's friend make the realization that he himself made yesterday?
- a. when he visits Pliny
 - b. when he goes to the city
 - c. when he goes to his country house
 - d. when he talks to others
41. What is the realization which Pliny made in line 5?
- a. How many bad things he ate in the city
 - b. How much time it takes to travel from the city
 - c. How long he sat in the Senate today
 - d. How many hours he wastes on stuff that is not important
42. In line 6 (*sed...liberatus*), we learn that
- a. Pliny feels free in his country house
 - b. Pliny has many freedmen in his country house
 - c. Pliny's country house was a gift from an official
 - d. Pliny is a freedman living in a country house
43. Which of these things is NOT an activity that Pliny mentions he might do in his villa (lines 6-7)?
- a. read something
 - b. rest his body
 - c. have a dinner party
 - d. write something
44. What is the best translation of *nihil audio quod audivisse mihi non placet* (line 7)?
- a. I don't like to listen to things which no one has heard
 - b. I don't hear anything which I don't like to hear
 - c. I hear nothing and that is not pleasing to me.
 - d. I have heard nothing that pleases the one listening
45. What is the best translation of *apud me* in line 8?
- a. because of me
 - b. at my house
 - c. with my permission
 - d. with me
46. According to *neminem...possum* (lines 8-9), who is the only person who gets scolded by Pliny?
- a. Pliny himself
 - b. anyone who interrupts his writing
 - c. no one
 - d. anyone who writes poorly
47. In line 9 (*nec...sollicitor*), we learn that
- a. Pliny is interrupted by very little
 - b. Pliny does not worry about good things or bad things
 - c. Pliny knows a lawyer has neither hope nor fear
 - d. Hope and fear are not allowed for Pliny to discuss
48. What behavior does Pliny describe in lines 9-10 (*mecum...loquor*) that we might find odd?
- a. He speaks with no one while writing at his villa
 - b. His freedmen call him silly names in his villa
 - c. He addresses his orders only to himself
 - d. He talks to himself and his books
49. What is the best translation of *dulce* in line 10?
- a. pleasantly
 - b. kind
 - c. flatter!
 - d. a sweet drink
50. What final advice does Pliny give to his friend in lines 10-11 (*itaque..trade*)?
- a. Work hard in the city and you can earn a villa
 - b. Give yourself over to country life and leisure
 - c. Leaving behind the city will drive you crazy
 - d. Trade study and leisure for hard work