

READING COMPREHENSION – LEVEL 4 and 5
Ohio Junior Classical League – 2010

Passage #1: Vergil Aeneid 2.318-354

Ecce autem telis Panthus elapsus Achivum,
Panthus Othryades, arcis Phoebique sacerdos,
sacra manu victosque deos parvumque nepotem 320
ipse trahit cursuque amens ad limina tendit.
‘Quo res summa loco, Panthu? Quam prendimus arcem?’
Vix ea fatus eram gemitu cum talia reddit:
‘Venit summa dies et ineluctabile tempus
Dardaniae. Fuimus Troes, fuit Ilium et ingens 325
gloria Teucrorum; ferus omnia Iuppiter Argos
transtulit; incensa Danaï dominantur in urbe.
Arduus armatos mediis in moenibus astans
fundit equus victorque Sinon incendia miscet
insultans. Portis alii bipotentibus adsunt, 330
milia quot magnis umquam venere Mycenis;
obsedere alii telis angusta viarum
oppositis; stat ferri acies mucrone corusco
stricta, parata neci; vix primi proelia temptant
portarum vigiles et caeco Marte resistunt.’ 335
Talibus Othryadae dictis et numine divum
in flammis et in arma feror, quo tristis Erinys,
quo fremitus vocat et sublatus ad aethera clamor.
Addunt se socios Rhipeus et maximus armis
Epytus, oblatus per lunam, Hypanisque Dymasque 340
et lateri agglomerant nostro, iuvenisque Coroebus
Mygdonides—illis ad Troiam forte diebus
venerat insano Cassandrae incensus amore
et gener auxilium Priamo Phrygibusque ferebat,
infelix qui non sponsae praecepta furentis 345
audierit!
Quos ubi confertos ardere in proelia vidi,
incipio super his: ‘Iuvenes, fortissima frustra
pectora, si vobis audentem extrema cupido
certa sequi, quae sit rebus fortuna videtis: 350
excessere omnes adytis arisque relictis
di quibus imperium hoc steterat; succurritis urbi
incensae. Moriamur et in media arma ruamus.
Una salus victis nullam sperare salutem.’

1. Who is Panthus (318-319)?

a. a priest of Apollo	b. a Greek
c. the father of Orthyas	d. a cousin of Aeneas

2. What does Panthus have with him (320-321)?

a. his wife, son, and sacred objects	b. his grandson, statues of the gods, and sacred objects
c. his father, son, and sacred objects	d. statues of gods, sacred objects, and his son

3. Which Latin word best describes the emotional state of Panthus (318-321)?

a. <i>elapsus</i>	b. <i>arcis</i>	c. <i>cursu</i>	d. <i>amens</i>
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4. What does Aeneas ask Panthus (322)?

a. what his wife is doing	b. why he is running
c. who has sent him	d. where the fighting is

5. Translate *gemitu cum talia reddit* (323):
 a. with such a groan he replies b. groaning, he answers such things
 c. with a groan he replies such things d. when he responds such things with a groan
6. What literary device describes the placement of the word *Dardaniae* (325)?
 a. metonymy b. enjambment c. chiasmus d. ellipsis
7. What best describes Panthus' point in lines 325-327?
 a. Troy is no more b. Jupiter favors Troy
 c. the Trojans are brave d. the Greeks are deceitful
8. Line 325 (*gloria Teucrorum; ferus omnia Iuppiter Argos*) contains ___ elision(s).
 a. 0 b. 1 c. 2 d. 3
9. All of the following are true about the Wooden Horse (328-330) EXCEPT:
 a. it is the victor b. armed men pour forth from it
 c. it is towering d. it is within the city's fortifications
10. The Latin word *venere* (331) is best translated:
 a. to come b. you come c. you will come d. came
11. The Latin word *Mycenis* (331) refers to:
 a. Greece b. Sinon c. the horse d. Troy
12. How many dactyls are in line 333 (*oppositis ... corusco*)?
 a. 1 b. 2 c. 3 d. 4
13. What literary device is found in line 335 (*portarum ... resistunt*)?
 a. apostrophe b. asyndeton c. anastrophe d. metonymy
14. What does Aeneas do after Panthus' speech (336-338)?
 a. hugs him b. prays to the gods
 c. kiss him d. goes out to fight
15. What sensory area is emphasized in line 338 (*quo ... clamor*)?
 a. sight b. sound c. smell d. touch
16. The best translation of *Addunt se socios* (339) is:
 a. His companions join him. b. He joins his companions
 c. They add themselves as companions d. They add him to their companions
17. Which soldier is described as a young man (339-342)?
 a. Hypanis b. Rhipes c. Dymas d. Coroebus
18. What describes the word *Mygdonides* (342)?
 a. synecdoche b. hyperbole c. syncope d. patronymic
19. Why had Coroebus come to fight at Troy (341-344)?
 a. to marry Cassandra b. to win glory
 c. to help his son-in-law d. to disprove a prediction of Cassandra
20. Why is Coroebus described as *infelix* (345-346)?
 a. he was insane b. Cassandra had rejected him
 c. Priam did not want his help d. he did not listen to Cassandra
21. Line 347 contains a(n):
 a. hiatus b. metaphor c. aposiopesis d. simile
22. What is the subject of *excessere* (351)?
 a. *Iuvenes* b. *fortuna* c. *adytis* d. *di*

23. To what/whom does Aeneas give credit for the power of Troy (348-354)?
 a. bravery b. fate c. the gods d. people
24. The best translation of *Moriamur* (353) is:
 a. Don't wait! b. Let's die! c. Let's go! d. We will perish
25. What Latin word is in contrast to *Una* (354)?
 a. *salus* b. *victis* c. *nullam* d. *sperare*

Passage #2: Suetonius Bellum Iugurthinum 1.5-7

Bellum scripturus sum quod populus Romanus cum Iugurtha rege Numidarum gessit, primum quia magnum et atrox variaque victoria fuit, dehinc quia tunc primum superbiae nobilitatis obviam itum est. Quae contentio divina et humana cuncta permiscuit eoque vecordiae processit, ut studiis civilibus bellum atque vastitas Italiae finem faceret. Sed priusquam huiusmodi rei initium expedio, pauca supra repetam, quo ad cognoscendum omnia illustria magis magisque in aperto sint. 5

Bello Punico secundo, quo dux Carthaginensium Hannibal post magnitudinem nominis Romani Italiae opes maxime attriverat, Masinissa rex Numidarum in amicitiam receptus a P. Scipione, cui postea Africano cognomen ex virtute fuit, multa et praeclara rei militaris facinora fecerat. Ob quae victis Carthaginensibus et capto Syphace, cuius in Africa magnum atque late imperium valuit, populus Romanus quascumque urbes et agros manu ceperat regi dono dedit. Igitur amicitia Masinissae bona atque honesta nobis permansit. Sed imperi vitaeque eius finis idem fuit. Dein Micipsa filius regnum solus obtinuit, Mastanabale et Gulussa fratribus morbo absumptis. Is Adherbalem et Hiempsalem ex sese genuit Iugurthamque filium Mastanabalis fratris, quem Masinissa, quod ortus ex concubina erat, privatum dereliquerat, eodem cultu quo liberos suos domi habuit. 10 15

Qui ubi primum adolevit, pollens viribus, decora facie, sed multo maxime ingenio validus, non se luxui neque inertiae corrumpendum dedit, sed, uti mos gentis illius est, equitare, iaculari, cursu cum aequalibus certare, et cum omnes gloria anteiret, omnibus tamen carus esse; ad hoc pleraque tempora in venando agere, leonem atque alias feras primus aut in primis ferire, plurimum facere, et minimum ipse de se loqui. 20

Quibus rebus Micipsa tametsi initio laetus fuerat, existimans virtutem Iugurthae regno suo gloriae fore, tamen postquam hominem adulescentem exacta sua aetate et parvis liberis magis magisque crescere intellegit, vehementer eo negotio permotus, multa cum animo suoolvebat. Terrebat eum natura mortalium avida imperi et praiceps ad explendam animi cupidinem, praeterea opportunitas suae liberorumque aetatis, quae etiam mediocres viros spe praedae transversos agit; ad hoc studia Numidarum in Iugurtham accensa, ex quibus, si talem virum dolis interfecisset, ne qua seditio aut bellum oriretur anxius erat. 25

His difficultatibus circumventus ubi videt neque per vim neque insidiis opprimi posse hominem tam acceptum popularibus, quod erat Iugurtha manu promptus et appetens gloriae militaris, statuit eum obiectare periculis et eo modo fortunam temptare. Igitur bello Numantino Micipsa cum populo Romano equitum atque peditum auxilia mitteret, sperans vel ostentando virtutem vel hostium saevitia facile eum occasurum, praefecit Numidis quos in Hispaniam mittebat. 30

26. The best translation of *Bellum scripturus sum* (1) is:
 a. I am writing about a war b. I must write about a war
 c. I am about to write about a war d. I am the writer of the war
27. The war was all of the following EXCEPT (1-3):
 a. different from others b. of varying success c. horrible d. big

28. What happened for the first time in this war (1-3)?
- the arrogance of the nobility was challenged
 - the nobility did not exhibit its excellence
 - the Numidians rebelled against Jugurtha
 - victory created arrogance
29. The author reviews a few things before he begins his narrative (5-6) because:
- new facts have come to light
 - other writers have not provided the proper background
 - the well-known facts cloud the important ones
 - he wants everything to be understood more clearly
30. According to this passage, what had Hannibal done during the 2nd Punic War (7-8)?
- weakened the power of Italy
 - destroyed the wealth of Italy
 - revealed Roman cowardice
 - tested the valor of the Romans
31. The best translation of *in amicitiam receptus a P. Scipione* (8-9) is:
- receiving kindness from P. Scipio
 - received into friendship by P. Scipio
 - having received the kindness of P. Scipio
 - being received into friendship by P. Scipio
32. Why did Scipio receive the nickname Africanus (8-10)?
- he was born there
 - his excellence
 - it was the homeland of his father
 - he was adopted by Africus
33. What happened to Syphax (10-12)?
- the Romans befriended him
 - he was captured
 - the Romans took his cities
 - the Carthaginians killed him
34. What word best describes the relationship between Masinissa and the Romans (10-13)?
- hostile
 - positive
 - ambivalent
 - nonexistent
35. How did the brothers of Micipsa meet their death (13-16)?
- battle
 - murder
 - old age
 - disease
36. Who was the father of Hiempsal (13-16)?
- Adherbal
 - Masinissa
 - Micipsa
 - Jugurtha
37. Jugurtha grew up in the home of (13-16):
- Masinissa
 - Micipsa
 - Mastanabal
 - a concubine
38. Which of the following did NOT describe Jugurtha in his youth (17-21)?
- wealthy
 - good-looking
 - smart
 - strong
39. TRUE OR FALSE: Jugurtha was modest about his talents (17-21).
- true
 - false
40. What did everyone feel towards Jugurtha (17-21)?
- love
 - hatred
 - jealousy
 - pity
41. In what manner did Jugurtha spend much of his youth (17-21)?
- hunting
 - talking
 - boasting
 - hiding
42. What Latin word is in contrast to *loqui* (21)?
- agere*
 - venando*
 - ferire*
 - facere*
43. What did Micipsa fear might happen if he killed Jugurtha (22-28)?
- a rebellion might rise up against him
 - his own children might be killed
 - the royal palace might be surrounded
 - the Numidians might push for a treaty with the Romans

44. What drives even average men to go astray (22-28)?
a. the dream of immortality b. the hope of immortal glory
c. the hope of gain d. the thought of royal wealth
45. Why was Micipsa at first happy with Jugurtha and his popularity (22-28)?
a. he thought it would be an honor to his kingdom
b. he wrongly guessed that it was short-lived
c. it deflected attention from his nefarious plans
d. he did not believe that it posed a danger
46. Whom did Jugurtha command during the Numantine War (29-34)?
a. the Romans b. the Spaniards c. Micipsa himself d. the Numidians
47. In line 30, *hominem* refers to:
a. Jugurtha b. Micipsa c. Micipsa's son d. Masinissa
48. What did Micipsa hope would happen during the Numantine War (29-34)?
a. the Romans would be defeated b. Jugurtha would die
c. Jugurtha would be victorious d. the Spaniards would be defeated
49. On whose side was Micipsa during the Numantine War (29-34)?
a. the Romans b. the Spaniards c. the Carthaginians
50. What word best describes Jugurtha prior to the Numantine War (29-34)?
a. unknown b. ambitious c. cowardly d. arrogant

