

## Revising A2 Latin

The Latin A2 exam consists of the following **three papers**:

- |                                |                |                          |
|--------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| • Literature 3                 | 1 hour 45 mins | 40% of the final A2 mark |
| • Unprepared Translation 2     | 1 hour 30 mins | 30% of the final A2 mark |
| • Composition or Comprehension | 1 hour 15 mins | 30% of the final A2 mark |

### SET TEXTS FOR LITERATURE 3

#### *Cicero Pro Roscio Amerino*

- 15-29 (Sex. Roscius ... tradiderunt), 62-75 (de parricidio ... magistra est)
- 79-88 (conveniat mihi ... filius), 92-104 (video igitur ... videamini)

#### *Juvenal Satires*

- Satire Three lines 21-322
- Satire Ten lines 56-366

**Remember that the sections you do not read in Latin you must read in English**

### HOW SHOULD YOU REVISE FOR THE LITERATURE PAPER?

- Be organised, and sort out your revision materials **now**. If you need further copies of translations and notes, ask us in the Classics Department Room.
- Read your translations and notes/commentaries very carefully. Remember, though, that your notes may not have all the 'right answers' on the passage that comes up in the exam. You will need to give a detailed response to some aspect (language, argument, characterisation) of the passage, but applying sound principles of literary criticism is as important as making the 'correct points'.
- Be organised, and sort out your revision materials **now**. If you need further copies of translations and notes, ask us in the Classics Department Room.
- Look carefully at past exam papers and mark schemes: you can work out what examiners are looking for, and what they give good marks for. You will find downloads on the OCR website at [http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as\\_alevelgce/latin/documents.html](http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as_alevelgce/latin/documents.html)

- Practise answering context questions under timed conditions.

## HOW SHOULD YOU REVISE FOR THE UNSEEN TRANSLATION PAPER?

- Remember that you will have to do a prose and a verse unseen translation in this paper.
- To prepare for this paper you need to concentrate on revising **vocabulary** and **grammar**. There is no prescribed vocabulary for A2, but it would certainly be a good idea to revise the AS vocabulary. This can be found on the OCR website at [http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as\\_alevelgce/latin/documents.html](http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as_alevelgce/latin/documents.html)  
Scroll down to **Support** materials and then click on **Defined vocabulary list**.
- For essential grammar, follow the Latin Grammar link - [http://www.clsb.org.uk/downloads/examinations/revision\\_info/Latin\\_Grammar.pdf](http://www.clsb.org.uk/downloads/examinations/revision_info/Latin_Grammar.pdf). This page has been designed primarily for GCSE, and the information has been kept to a useful minimum. For a complete grammar, use the Cambridge Latin Grammar. Copies are available from the Classics Room.
- The Latin Sentence Structure page - [http://www.clsb.org.uk/downloads/examinations/revision\\_info/Latin\\_Sent\\_Structure.pdf](http://www.clsb.org.uk/downloads/examinations/revision_info/Latin_Sent_Structure.pdf) has some basic advice on analysing sentences. Again, it is aimed at GCSE candidates. For more advanced syntax, Colebourn is good.
- An online programme for testing A2 Latin vocabulary is available at [http://www.cambridgescp.com/ws2\\_tlc/vocab/aqa\\_a2.html](http://www.cambridgescp.com/ws2_tlc/vocab/aqa_a2.html)  
This in fact is the prescribed list for the AQA board, but it should still be useful. Alternatively use the OCR AS vocabulary tester at [http://www.cambridgescp.com/ws2\\_tlc/vocab/ocras/ocras.html](http://www.cambridgescp.com/ws2_tlc/vocab/ocras/ocras.html)
- Be organised, and sort out your revision materials **now**. If you need further copies of translations and notes, ask us in the Classics Department Room.
- Software for testing AS Latin vocabulary and grammar is available free from the Classics Department for use at home. Open the AS Latin folder, click on the **Catullus** icon, and follow the instructions.

- As part of the verse unseen question, you will have to scan a few lines of hexameters. For help with this, follow the Latin Scansion link - [http://www.clsb.org.uk/downloads/examinations/revision\\_info/Latin\\_Scansion.pdf](http://www.clsb.org.uk/downloads/examinations/revision_info/Latin_Scansion.pdf).
- The key to success is practice. If you need material just ask us in the Classics Department room.

### HOW SHOULD YOU REVISE FOR THE PROSE COMPOSITION PAPER?

- Revise the most important **constructions** very carefully. This means going through roughly the first half of Colebourn. You should have some useful outline notes in your notebook.
- Revise **prose vocabulary** from the English-Latin sheets you have been given over recent weeks. These contain the most useful words and phrases in the full vocabulary in Colebourn.
- Practise plenty of past papers, asking us for material if you need any. Remember that you are aiming to write clear and accurate Latin. A few golden rules apply here:
  - Try and keep your Latin simple: if it is simple, it is likely to be accurate.
  - As far as possible, write Latin that sounds like real Latin. For example, avoid abstract nouns ('the size of') by using indirect questions ('how large it was').
  - Latin makes heavy use of the ablative absolute. Where appropriate, use this construction in your proses.
  - Use a variety of constructions. For example, purpose can be expressed with *ut* + subjunctive, *qui* + subjunctive, *ad/causa* + gerund/gerundive.
  - Think carefully about word order. As a rule, subjects come before objects, and verbs come at the end of clauses/sentences.