

Capital Certamen 2003

Advanced level questions – Round 1

1. What is the first person singular pluperfect active indicative of *amo*? **amaveram**
 - a. How can this form be translated into English? **I had loved, I had been loving**
 - b. Give the future perfect form, keeping person, mood and voice the same. **amavero**

2. What prominent Roman, a contemporary of Julius Caesar, was married to Terentia? (Marcus Tullius) **Cicero**
 - a. What is the meaning of the Latin word “cicero”? **Chickpea**
 - b. In what year did Cicero die? **43 B.C.**

3. In the sentence “deo volente, Brutus mox aderit” what is the name for the construction of “deo volente”? **Ablative absolute**
 - a. What form of participle is “volente” (give tense and voice) **present active**
 - b. change “volente” to the plural, keeping the case the same. **volentibus**

4. Name the muse of epic poetry. **Calliope**
 - a. Of what was Thalia the muse? (**comedy**)
 - b. Who was the mother of the Muses? **Mnemosyne**

5. What poetic device is illustrated by the words “magno cum murmure montis”? **Alliteration OR onomatopoeia**
 - a. These words come from the *Aeneid*. What is the name for the meter of that poem? **Dactylic hexameter**
 - b. Give the full name of the poet. **Publius Virgilius Naso**

6. What Roman writer, renowned for his letters, witnessed the destruction of Pompeii? **Pliny the Younger.**
 - a. In what year did this event occur? **79 A.D.**
 - b. Name the famous volcano on the island of Sicily. (**Mt. Etna**)

7. Who wrote a poem beginning “vivamus, mea Lesbia, atque amemus”? **Catullus**
 - a. In what meter is it written? **Hendecasyllabics**
 - b. Give the person, tense and mood of “vivamus.” **First person plural present subjunctive.**

8. What is the genitive singular of “mater bona”? **matris bonae**
 - a. What English word meaning “motherly” comes from *mater*? **maternal**
 - b. What legal Latin expression means “in good faith”? **bona fide**

9. Name Hercules’ first wife. **Megara**
 - a. What terrible fate befell her? **Hercules killed her in a fit of madness**
 - b. Who was his second wife? **Deianeira**

10. Translate into Latin: The bad sailor sleeps. **nauta malus dormit** (in any order)
- Give the imperfect of *dormit* (same person, mood) **dormiebat**
 - How would you say “Let us sleep” in Latin? **dormiamus**
11. What culinary delights were called “glikes” in Latin? **dormice**
- What Latin noun is the root of “culinary” and what does the noun mean? **culina, kitchen**
 - What would be the genitive of *glikes*? **glirum**
12. Give the perfect passive participle (masculine singular) of *audio*. **auditus**
- How would you translate “vox magistri auditus erat”? **The teacher’s voice (the voice of the teacher) had been heard.**
 - How would you give this command in Latin: “Listen, Claudius!” **audi, Claudi!**
13. What was the name of the man who got into the rites of the Good Goddess disguised as a woman? **Clodius Pulcher**
- At whose house did this event take place? **Julius Caesar’s**
 - Caesar famously divorced his wife after the event. Whom did he marry next? **Calpurnia**
14. What is the meaning of the expression “ceteris paribus”? **Other things being equal.**
- Which of the following numbers might be described as “par”? tres, quinque, octo? (**octo**: par meaning “even”)
 - Express in Roman numerals 689. **DCLXXXIX**
15. Translate into Latin: we use swords **gladiis utimur.**
- Change this to “we can use swords” **gladiis uti possumus.**
 - Change *gladiis uti possumus* to the future. **gladiis uti poterimus.**
16. What was the name of Dido’s first husband? **Sychaeus**
- Who killed him? **Her brother OR Pygmalion**
 - What was the name of Dido’s sister? **Anna**
17. Which emperor succeeded Tiberius? **Caligula (Gaius)**
- What does the nickname Caligula mean? **“Little boots”**
 - What was the name of his favorite racehorse? **Incitatus.**
18. What is the name of the official who interprets the entrails of birds? **haruspex**
- On what hill were the Sacred Geese kept? **Capitoline**
 - The Sacred Geese achieved their status originally by warning the city of attackers. Who were these attackers? **Gauls**
19. St. Augustine heard the voice of a child saying “Tolle, lege.” What does that mean? **“pick up and read, pick it up and read it”**
- What are the principal parts of *tollo*? **tollo, tollere, sustuli, sublatum /us**
 - What is the gerundive (future passive participle) of *tollo*? (give the nominative singular masculine) **tollendus**

20. On the subject of gerundives, what is the meaning of *Carthago delenda est*? **Carthage should be destroyed, ought be destroyed, is to be destroyed.**
- a. Who said *Carthago delenda est*? **(Marcus) Cato (the Elder)**
 - b. When was Carthage destroyed as Cato had demanded? **146 B.C.**

Capital Certamen 2003
Advanced Level – Round 2

1. What is the plural of *omne cornu*? **omnia cornua**
 - a. Which declension does *cornu* belong to? **The 4th**
 - b. What is a cornucopia? **A horn of plenty**

2. Who was the fourth of the Seven Kings of Rome? **Ancus Marcius**
 - a. In what century is he traditionally said to have lived? (**7th B.C.**)
 - b. Who succeeded him? **Tarquinius Priscus**

3. What officials were empowered to remove members of the Senate for bad behavior? **The censors**
 - a. How many censors were there at any one time? **Two.**
 - b. What toga were they entitled to wear? **The toga praetexta.**

4. Rewrite the following sentence in passive form: *porcae monstrum timebant.* **monstrum a porcis timebatur.**
 - a. What is the present passive infinitive of *timeo*? **timeri**
 - b. Using the passive voice in English, translate the sentence *monstrum a porcis timebatur.* **The monster was/used to be feared by the pigs.**

5. Who was married to Epimetheus? **Pandora**
 - a. What does the name “Pandora” mean? **“All gifts.”**
 - b. What remained in Pandora’s box when all the griefs and troubles had been let out? **Hope.**

6. What form of participle is found in the expression “*et iterum venturus est*”? **Future active part.**
 - a. In Latin, express the simple future, “He will come.” **veniet.**
 - b. Now express the future perfect, “He will have come.” **venerit.**

7. Listen to the Latin description. Who is being described? Give the Latin name. *dea magna est, filia Iovis; avis eius bubo est; dea sapientiae est.* **Minerva.**
 - a. She is said to have sprung from Jupiter’s head. What was she wearing at the time? **(armor)**
 - b. She was one of the goddesses at the Judgment of Paris. Who were the other two? **(Juno, Venus)**

8. Answer in English. *cuius filius Cupido est?* **He is Venus’s son.**
 - a. Translate “He is Venus’s son” into Latin. **filius Veneris est.**
 - b. What is the Greek name equivalent to Cupid? **Eros**

9. What city in England was known to the Romans as *Aquae Sulis*? **Bath**
 - a. What was the Roman name for London? **Londinium**
 - b. What Queen of the Iceni led a revolt against Roman rule? **Boudicca/Boadicea**

10. Identify the tense, mood and voice of the verb: *ab omnibus laudaretur*. **imperfect subjunctive passive**
- Translate: *si pecuniam daret, ab omnibus laudaretur*. **If he gave money, he would be praised by everybody.**
 - What would be the Latin form for “he would have been praised”? **laudatus esset.**
11. Identify the verse form of the following two lines:
non amo te, Sabidi, nec possum dicere quare:
hoc tantum possum dicere: non amo te (**elegiac couplet**)
- Who is the author of this couplet? (**Martial**)
 - Translate the first line. (The reader should repeat it twice.) **“I don’t love you, Sabidius, and I can’t say why.”**
12. A medieval song begins, “*Gaudeamus igitur, iuvenes dum sumus.*” What is the tense and mood of *gaudeamus*? **Present subjunctive**
- The principal parts of *gaudeo* are *gaudeo, gaudere, gavisus sum*. what do you call this kind of verb with a mixture of active and passive forms? **semideponent verb.**
 - If we add a –b- to *gaudeamus* and get *gaudebamus*, now what tense and mood do we have? **imperfect indicative**
13. Traditionally, how many Fates were there? **Three.**
- Name one of them. The three are **Clotho, Lachesis, Atropos.**
 - Name the other two.
14. A Roman dining room was designed for how many people to eat together? **Nine.**
- What was the Latin name for this room? **triclinium**
 - A complete feast in Roman times was said to run “*ab ovo ad ...*” what? Give the Latin word. (**malum or mala**)
15. What emperor was originally named L. Domitius Ahenobarbus? **Nero.**
- What emperor adopted Nero? **Claudius.**
 - What daughter of Claudius did Nero marry only to divorce her later and have her put to death? **Octavia.**
16. What is the meaning of the expression “*caveat emptor*”? **Let the buyer beware.**
- What is the case and number of *emptor*? **Nominative singular.**
 - Rewrite the sentence in the plural, “*Let the buyers beware*” **caveant emptores**
17. What relative pronoun should be used in translating the sentence “This is the woman to whom he gave the poison”? **cui**
- What would be the plural of *cui* (same case)? **quibus**
 - What is the difference between the interrogative pronoun and the relative pronoun in the masculine nominative singular? **The first is QUI, the other is QUI.**
18. What is the perfect active infinitive of *rideo*? **risisse**

- a. What English word meaning “laughable” comes from *rideo*? **ridiculous**
 - b. What English word meaning “laughable” comes from the Latin word for game or entertainment? **ludicrous**
19. How many eyes did the creature Argus have? **100**
- a. What woman was turned into a cow by Hera and guarded by Argus? **Io**
 - b. What god managed to get Argus to close all 100 eyes? **Hermes/Mercury**
20. The motto of St. John’s College in Annapolis is “facio liberos ex liberis libris libraque.” What are two meanings of *liberi*? free men/children.
- a. What sort of ablative is used in *libris libraque*? ablative of means
 - b. What is the meaning of *libris libraque*? **by means of books and a scale**

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Advanced Questions – Round 3

1. Give the plural imperative of *duco*. **ducite**
 - a. What is the singular imperative of *duco*? **duc**
 - b. Name three other verbs which do not add a vowel in the singular imperative: **fac, fer, dic**

2. In Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, what god pursues Daphne? **Apollo**
 - a. What kind of being is Daphne's father? (**A river/river god**)
 - b. How is Daphne saved from Apollo's unwelcome advances? (**She becomes a tree**)

3. In the expression "mirabile dictu" what is the name of the form of *dictu*? **Supine**
 - a. What is the case and number of the word *dictu*? **Ablative singular**
 - b. *Mirabile dictu* means "wonderful to say." How would you render "wonderful to see" in Latin, using the same construction? **Mirabile visu**

4. In the line of Cleopatras in Egypt, what was the number of the one who was involved with Julius Caesar? In other words, she was known as Cleopatra the Howmanyeth? (**seventh**)
 - a. What was the name of her brother? **Ptolemy**
 - b. What was the name of the child claimed to be hers and Caesar's? **Caesarion**

5. What book by Charles Darwin contains a word derived from the Latin word for "appearance" or "particular sort"? **Origin of Species**
 - a. What would be the genitive plural of *species* in Latin? **Specierum**
 - b. What seven-letter English adjective is derived from this noun? **Special**

6. In what profession was the *groma* a useful tool? **surveying, roadbuilding, army**
 - a. What was the name of the curved implement used to scrape down after working out in the gymnasium? **strigil**
 - b. What implement was used to write on a wax tablet? **stilus**

7. What building in Rome had a Greek name referring to "all the gods"? **Pantheon**
 - a. What was the Latin word for the round opening at the top of the Pantheon? **oculus**
 - b. What was the triangular structure above the columns in front called? **pediment**

8. Rewrite this sentence in the pluperfect: *Troia magna est*. **Troia magna fuerat**.
 - a. Translate *Troia magna fuerat*. **Troy had been great**.
 - b. Rewrite *Troia magna fuerat* in the future perfect. **Troia magna fuerit**.

9. Finish the following translation of "Clodia said that she did not love Catullus." *Clodia dixit se ...* **Catullum non amare**.
 - a. Change the form of *amare* to make the sentence mean "Clodia said that she *had not loved* Catullus." **amavisse**.
 - b. What is the form of the verb *amavisse*? **perfect active infinitive**

10. What princess did Perseus rescue from a sea dragon? **Andromeda**

- a. Who was Perseus's mother? **Danae**
 b. What did Perseus do with the Gorgon's head once he had cut it off? **Gave it to Athena/Minerva.**
11. "corruptio optimi pessima" What is the degree of the adjectives in this saying?
superlative
 a. Replace *optimi* with the comparative degree in the same case: **melioris**
 b. What English verb meaning "to make better, to improve" derives from *melior*?
ameliorate.
12. Who said "Vare, redde legiones!" **Augustus**
 a. What disastrous Roman defeat prompted his words? **Battle of Teutoburger Forest**
 b. What was the year? **9 A.D.**
13. What Roman fighting formation was named after an animal? **testudo**
 a. What was the task of the *signifer*? **To carry the standard**
 b. What was the military rank of the *primipilus*? **Centurion**
14. What mountain range runs up and down the "spine" of Italy? The **Appennines**
 a. What mountain was the traditional home of the major gods? **Mt. Olympus**
 b. What mountain was the traditional home of the Muses? **Mt. Helicon**
15. The motto of Hogwarts School is "Draco dormiens nunquam titillandus." What is the form of the word *titillandus*? (**gerundive/future passive participle**).
 a. According to this motto, what should one not do to a sleeping dragon? **tickle it.**
 b. Change *draco dormiens* to the accusative singular. **draconem dormientem**
16. Why was Styx rewarded by being made a river by which the gods swear unbreakable oaths? **For coming to Zeus's aid when the Titans attacked.**
 a. Who was the father of Styx? **Oceanus**
 b. What river in the Underworld made people forget? **Lethe**
17. In the Roman calendar, what were the *nundinae*? **Market days**
 a. How often did they occur? **Every eight days**
 b. In October, on what day did the Ides fall? **On the 15th day.**
18. What rhetorical device is illustrated by the repetitions in "quod semper, quod ubique, quod ab omnibus"? **anaphora**
 a. What Greek term is used for understatement, such as "Hercules was not a very weak man"? **litotes**
 b. What about the reverse, exaggeration, such as "I have told you a million times not to snort during class"? **hyperbole**
19. The Romans have provided us with many fine words to suggest that people resemble animals. What Latin-based English word mean "piglike"? **porcine or suine.**
 a. What about "donkeylike"? **asinine**

b. And “sheeplike”? **ovine**

20. What torture would Procrustes inflict upon unwitting passers-by? **stretch them out or chop them up to fit his bed.**

a. Who finally put Procrustes out of business? **Theseus.**

b. Who helped Theseus to escape from the labyrinth? **Ariadne.**

Capital Certamen 2003
Advanced Questions – Round 4

1. What use of the genitive is illustrated by the expression “satis vini”? **partitive, gen. of the whole**
 - a. What does “satis vini” mean? **enough wine**
 - b. Similarly, how would you say “more wine” in Latin? **plus vini**

2. What is the ablative singular of *res publica*? **re publica**
 - a. What declension does *res* belong to? **The fifth**
 - b. What is the genitive plural of *res publica*? **rerum publicarum**

3. What kind of objects were a *quadrans* and a *sestertius*? **coins**
 - a. What was a denarius made of? **silver**
 - b. What coin was made of gold, as its name indicates? **aureus**

4. What Republican era poet wrote a lengthy poem called *De Rerum Natura*? **Lucretius**
 - a. What philosophical school did this poem and poet espouse? **Epicurean**
 - b. What did he describe as the smallest components of all matter? **atoms**

5. What do you call a sentence that reads the same backwards and forwards, like “MUS NON SUM”? **a palindrome**
 - a. What does *mus non sum* mean? I am not a mouse.
 - b. What verb meaning “he holds” is also a palindrome? *tenet*

6. What was the Latin name of the shrine for the household gods? **lararium**
 - c. What did they call the offering of wine poured out on the ground? **libation**
 - c. What festival celebrated on April 21st was intended to secure the health and safety of the flocks? **Parilia**

7. What cliff-top fortress was the site where Jewish rebels chose to commit suicide rather than surrender to the besieging Romans? **Masada**
 - a. In what year did this siege end? **AD 73**
 - b. What son of the emperor led the troops for this siege? **Titus**

8. Describe the physical appearance of the Sirens. **They had the bodies of women and the wings and legs of birds.**
 - a. How did Odysseus’s sailors avoid being drawn to their doom by the Sirens? **wax in their ears**
 - b. Who punished the Muses by taking away their wings? **The Muses.**

10. Rewrite in the active voice (same tense): *Caesar a multis viris occisus est.* **multi viri Caesarem occiderunt.**
 - a. What is the underlying Latin verb from which *occiderunt* “they struck down” is derived? **caedo**
 - b. What about the verb “occido” with a short i? What verb is it derived from? **cado**

11. How would you say (using just one Latin word) “she used to be carried”? **ferebatur, portabatur**
- Give the principal parts of *porto* **porto, portare, portavi, portatum/us**
 - Give the principal parts of *fero* **fero, ferre, tuli, latum/us**
12. Numa Pompilius is said to have added two months to the original ten-month calendar. What two months did he add? January and February
- Who reformed the calendar in 45 B.C.? **Julius Caesar**
 - What was the original name of the month renamed Julius? **Quinctilis**
13. What was the priestess of Apollo called? Pythia
- What animal was associated with Apollo? The python
 - Where was Apollo born? Delos
14. Answer in Latin: Divide the number of tablets of Roman law by the number of Graces and add this to the number of years a consul served in office. **quinque**
- quinque is five, but what is fifty? **quindecim.**
 - And fiftieth? **quintus decimus**
15. What English noun comes from the present participle of the verb ago? **agent**
- Name an English noun derived from the perfect passive participle of ago? **act, action, activity, etc.**
 - Name an English noun derived from the future passive participle of ago. **agenda.**
16. In the sentence “veni huc quam celerrime” translate the phrase *quam celerrime*. **as quickly as possible.**
- How would you say in Latin “more quickly”? **celerius**
 - Give the masculine, feminine and neuter nominative singular of the positive adj. on which celerius is based. **celer, celeris, celere**
17. What man survived Zeus' nine day flood and repopulated the Earth with men by casting stones over his shoulder? **Deucalion**
- Who was Deucalion's wife, who repopulated the Earth with women the same way? **Pyrrha**
 - Deucalion was warned of the flood by his father who had the ability to see into the future. Who was Deucalion's astute father? **Prometheus**
18. What English word derives from the Latin word that means “things that must be done”? **agenda**
- “Agenda” is just one of many future passive participles that have come to English unchanged. For your bonus, give these English words that are Latin future passive participles.
- “something that must be brought back (to the people)” **referendum**
 - “something that must be remembered” **memorandum**

19. When Dido finally dies in the Aeneid whom does Juno send to take a lock of her hair as an offering in the underworld? **Iris**

- a. Speaking of Dido, what was her dead husband's name? **Sychaeus**
- b. Who was her evil brother? **Pygmalion**

20. Translate "leader" in the following sentence: He knew that the leader would come to Rome.

Ducem

- a. From the same sentence, translate "would come." **Venturum esse**
- b. Make "venturum esse" a perfect infinitive. **Venisse**