

2013 Classical Literacy Exam Level III

1. What is the Latin name for the Field of Mars where Roman armies trained and assembled?
2. What term, derived from the Latin word for the common people, means a referendum of the people?
3. What is the Latin legal writ requiring a person who has been arrested to be brought before a judge?
4. What is the group name for the 49 sisters who all murdered their husbands on their wedding night?
5. What Latin phrase, meaning “in accordance with one’s duty,” designates a person whose membership on a committee derives from his or her position of authority or superior office?
6. What is the Latin for the gladiatorial shout: “We who are about to die salute you!”?
7. Who was carried to the safety of Aetes’ court on a golden ram?
8. What is the Latin for the sentence, “Thus passes the glory of the world”?
9. Who were the female followers of Dionysus?
10. With what mortal girl did Cupid fall in love after he scratched himself with one of his own arrows?
11. What is the Latin for Francis Bacon’s pronouncement, “Knowledge itself is power”?
12. What is the Latin for the classical ideal: “a healthy mind in a healthy body”?
13. What Latin phrase is used in court by a defendant who does not wish to contend his guilt or innocence but rather pleads “no contest”?
14. What is the term for a victory won at too great a cost, named after a Greek general who had three such victories against the Romans?
15. What Latin phrase, literally meaning, “to each his own,” suggests that each person has his or her own personal preferences?
16. What Roman orator delivered four orations against Catiline and wrote 14 Philippics against Mark Antony?
17. What is the customary name for the *Corpus Juris Civilis* that was issued during the 6th century A.D. and continues to have influence on public international law?
18. What was the name of Lucretius’ long poem espousing Epicurean philosophy?
19. What was the name of the association of city-states founded in the 5th century B.C., under the leadership of Athens?
20. What is the Latin for Horace’s line, “It is sweet and right to die for one’s country”?
21. What adjective, derived from the name for a funeral poem, means “mournful”?
22. Who was the Greek goddess of discord who, uninvited to the marriage of Peleus and Thetis, was responsible for the Apple of Discord?
23. What Latin phrase literally means “God willing”?
24. What is the name for the portals of true and false dreams?
25. What is the Latin for the abbreviation *fl.*, meaning “he flourished,” used to designate the approximate life span of ancient personages whose exact dates are uncertain?



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26. What is the name for the type of architectural column that is crowned with scroll-like ornamentation?
27. What Latin phrase means “beneath one’s dignity”?
28. What is the name for the dynasty of emperors from Augustus to Nero?
29. What woman took her own life to preserve her honor after she was raped by Sextus Tarquinius?
30. What is the name for the Greek practice of sending an individual into exile for a period of ten years? The name is derived from the pottery shards by which the vote for expulsion was conducted.
31. What was the name for the statue of Athena that protected Troy while it remained in the city? It was stolen by Odysseus and Diomedes.
32. What were the names of the tragic sisters, daughters of Pandion, who were changed into a nightingale and a swallow?
33. What was the name of the pre-Socratic philosopher who proposed that water was the basic element of all things?
34. What Greek playwright wrote *Antigone* and *Oedipus Rex*?
35. What Persian king was defeated at the Battle of Thermopylae by the Spartans and their allies?
36. What blind prophet counseled Odysseus in the Underworld on how to appease the wrath of Poseidon?
37. What is the Greek word for excellence of any kind, whether that of a craftsman, a poet, or a man of virtue?
38. What is the Latin phrase that means “let arms yield to the toga” or, in common parlance, “let war yield to diplomacy”?
39. What Roman senator ended every speech before the Third Punic War with “Carthago delenda est”?
40. What Greek word, for which kudos and panegyric are synonyms, means “the praise of a person or thing”?
41. What Latin phrase refers to a criminal being caught in the act of committing an offense?
42. Give the Latin phrase that means “All Gaul is divided into three parts”?
43. What pre-Socratic philosopher proposed that one could not step twice in the same river?
44. What is the Latin for the phrase “Master of Arts” and is abbreviated *M.A.*?
45. What Roman poet claimed that he had been sent into exile by Augustus on account of a “carmen et error”?
46. What Latin phrase refers to incidental or passing remarks?
47. What English adjective, deriving from the Latin for “almost last,” refers to the next to the last item in a series?
48. What Latin phrase, uttered by the Gallic leader Brennus when the Romans complained about the scales used to determine the amount of gold to be paid as ransom, means “Woe to the conquered”?
49. What Roman Silver Age poet was famous for his short, witty poems that gave rise to the literary form known as epigrams?
50. What Greek phrase, meaning “Know thyself,” is said to have been engraved on the Temple of Apollo at Delphi?

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