

Mill Hill School Classics

Entrance Examination : Latin (Specimen Paper)

You are advised to read the whole paper first as the three sections are three parts of one complete story. Follow the instructions carefully. Answer all three sections.

Section 1 [30 marks]

Midas celebrated when Silenus was captured and brought to him.

Midas erat rex **Phrygiae**. olim pauci Phrygii senem **ebrium** in silvis ceperunt. hic senex erat **Silenus** qui amicus dei **Bacchi** erat. Phrygii senem ad Midam duxerunt. ubi rex cognovit quis **esset**, laetus fuit. decem dies noctesque omnibus civibus **epulas** dedit. Silenus enim **hospes illustris** erat. **honoribus** ita datis, Midas senem Baccho reddidit.

Names & vocabulary

Midas, Midae : Midas Phrygia, Phrygiae : Phrygia (a country in Asia)
Silenus, Sileni : Silenus Bacchus, Bacchi : Bacchus (a god)

ebrius : drunk epulae : feast/ banquet hospes : guest illustris : famous
honor : honour esset : (in this case = 'erat')

1. Who was Midas ? [2]
2. *olim pauci Phrygii senem **ebrium** in silvis ceperunt* : explain how and where Silenus was captured. [4]
3. *hic senex erat **Silenus** qui amicus dei **Bacchi** erat* : what **two** things are we told about Silenus here ? [4]
4. What did the Phrygians do with Silenus ? [2]
5. *ubi rex cognovit quis esset, laetus fuit* : explain how the king felt and why. [4]
6. How, and why, did Midas celebrate the arrival of Silenus ? [4]
7. What were given, and what did Midas do after the celebration ? [4]
8. From the text, give an example of each of the following : [6]
 - a noun in the **genitive** case
 - an **adjective**
 - a noun in the **accusative** case (singular)
 - a verb in the **perfect** tense
 - a noun in the **dative** case
 - an **adverb**

Section 2 [45 marks]

Midas was delighted to choose a reward from Bacchus

amico reddito deus promisit se donum Midae daturum esse. 'tibi dabo' inquit rex '**quidquid** vis'. Midas deo respondit : 'omnia quae **tango** in **aurum** verte'. quamquam deus **tristis** fuit quod Midas **tam** stultus erat, ei donum quod petiverat dedit.

rex abiit gaudens. **ramum** ab **arbore** abripuit : statim ramus **aureus** factus est. ubi ianuam domus suae **tetigit**, ianua quoque aurea fuit. etiam aqua in qua manum posuit aurea fuit. ita rex **sperabat** se mox **divitissimum** futurum esse.

Vocabulary

quidquid : whatever
tam : so
arbour, arboris : tree
dives, divitis : rich

tango, tangere, tetigi, tactus : touch
ramus, rami : branch
aureus, aurea : made of gold

tristis : sad
aurum, auri : gold
spero : I hope

1. *amico reddito deus promisit se donum Midae daturum esse. 'tibi dabo' inquit rex 'quidquid vis'. Midas deo respondit : 'omnia quae tango in aurum verte'. quamquam deus tristis fuit quod Midas tam stultus erat, ei donum quod petiverat dedit.* Translate this section into good English. [20]

2. Why was the god going to reward Midas ? [2]

3. Why was the god sad ? [2]

4. From the text, give an example of each of the following : [6]

- an **imperative**
- an **adjective**
- a **present participle**
- a verb in the **future** tense
- a noun in the **dative** case
- an **adverb**

5. What exactly is **divitissimum** ? [2]

6. What tense is **petiverat** ? [2]

7. How did Midas feel having received his reward ? Also give the Latin word that tells us this. [1 + 2]

8. What happened when Midas tore off a branch from a tree ? [2]

9. What happened at his home's doorway ? [2]

10. What did the king hope for ? [4]

Section 3 [25 marks]

Midas regrets his choice of gift because it has some unforeseen consequences; he realises he has been foolish, and tries to rectify the situation.

deinde servi cenam regi posuerunt. rex **panem** ad **os tulit**, sed panis **durus** fuit. vinum ex aureo **poculo** bibere voluit, sed cum vinum os tetigisset, aureum factum est. iam Midas intellexit quam stultus fuisset. **bracchiis splendidis** ad caelum **sublatis**, deum **oravit** ut sibi **parceret**. Bacchus, quod **benignus** erat, regem **servavit**.

Vocabulary

panis, panis : bread	os, oris : mouth	durus, dura : hard	poculum, poculi : cup
brachium, bracchii : arm	splendidus : shining/ gleaming		
tollo, tollere, sustuli, sublatus : I raise		oro, orare, oravi, oratus : I beg	
parco, parcere, peperci + dative : I spare		benignus : kind	
servo, servare, servavi : I save			

1. Translate the passage into good, grammatically correct, English. [25]

This is the end of the examination. Remember : the three sections follow on from each other. The vocabulary in each section may help you with the other sections, so keep checking the vocabulary that you have been given. Re-read your answers, and ensure you have left no blanks or questions unanswered.