

CERTAMEN IN CONCORDIAM EUROPAE REGIONUMQUE ORBIS



CONCOURS CICERO
CICERO COMPETITION
CONCURSO CICERO
CONCORSO CICERO
2011

0	No attempt / meaningless string of words
1	Some hint of meaning conveyed / a few intelligible phrases
2	Reader can gain a partial understanding, but less than half the meaning clear
3	General idea can be understood, but one or more significant errors or omissions
4	Most of meaning conveyed in good English, but with several errors
5	Accurate communication of meaning in idiomatic English with good handling of metaphors
6.	Impressive translation: reads as if written in English rather than translated.

1.

M. Cicero, cum apud Damasippum cenaret et ille, mediocri vino posito, diceret
 “bibite Falernum hoc, annorum quadraginta est.”

“bene,” inquit, “aetatem fert!”

When M Cicero was dining with Damasippus and he, with a mediocre wine having been served, said: “Drink this Falernian: it is 40 years old.”

“It is wearing its age well!” he said.

2.

idem, cum Lentulum generum suum, exiguae altitudinis hominem, longo gladio adcinctum vidisset,
 “quis,” inquit, “generum meum ad gladium alligavit?”

The same person, when he saw his son-in-law Lentulus, a man of small stature, wearing a long sword, said,
 “Who has tied my son-in-law to a sword?”

3.

in consulatu Vatinii, quem paucis diebus gessit, notabilis Ciceronis urbanitas saepe referebatur :
 “magnum portentum, inquit, anno Vatinii factum est, quod, illo consule, nec bruma nec ver nec
 aestas nec autumnus fuit“.

In the consulship of Vatinius, which he held for a few days, the notable wit of Cicero was often scattered
 around.

“A great marvel happened in the year of Vatinius, because in his consulship there was neither winter, nor
 spring, nor summer, nor autumn.”

4.

querenti deinde Vatinio, quod male ferret Ciceronem non ad se aegrum domum venire, respondit:
 “volui in consulatu tuo venire, sed nox me comprehendit.”

Then to Vatinius, complaining because he was annoyed that Cicero had not come to see him at home when
 he was ill, he replied:

“I wanted to come in your consulship, but the night stopped me.”

5.

Caninius quoque Rebilus, qui uno die consul fuit, rostra cum ascendisset, pariter honorem iniit consulatus et exiit : Cicero omni gaudens occasione urbanitatis increpuit:

“vigilantem habemus consulem Caninium, qui in consulatu suo somnum non vidit.”

Also Caninius Rebilus, who was consul for one day, when he had ascended the rostrum, at the same time went into the honour of the consulship and left it. Cicero, rejoicing at every opportunity for wit, said sarcastically:

“We have a vigilant consul, Caninius, who did not see sleep during his consulship.”

6.

in Caesarem quoque mordacitas Ciceronis dentes suos strinxit.

cuidam legato Laodiceno, qui Romam venerat ut Caesarem de libertate patriae rogaret, Cicero ita expressit publicam servitatem:

“si bonum eventum habes, pro nobis quoque ora!”

The sarcastic wit of Cicero also sank its teeth into Caesar.

To a certain envoy from Laodice, who had come to Rome to ask Caesar about the freedom of his country, Cicero, deploring the state’s slavery, said “If you get a successful result, negotiate for us as well”

..... ***Year 13 only translate the final section AND answer the question below***

7.

in epistula ad C. Cassium dictatoris violatorem Cicero ita scripsit:

“vellem Idibus Martiis me ad cenam invitavisses, profecto reliquiarum nihil fuisset: nunc me reliquiae vestrae exercent.”

In a letter to C. Cassius, an assassin of the dictator, Cicero wrote thus:

“I would have liked you to invite me to dinner on the Ides of March; there would certainly have been no left-overs: as it is your left-overs are causing me problems.”

Year 13 students answer this question:

Explain in your own words what Cicero really means in his final sentence.

presumably meaning he would have killed Mark Antony as well, since Antony later had Cicero killed

7 sections for U6. Maximum mark 42 (but it is unlikely anyone will get anywhere near to this)

6 sections for L6. Maximum mark 36 (but ..)