Zig Zag Education

2016 specification
For exams in 2023–25

GCSE OCR Latin Set Texts: Student Guide

Prose Literature B:
Messalina and *avunculus meus*

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Contents

Introduction for Teachers

This Guide is intended to help candidates with Unit J282/03, Latin Prose Literature, Section B. The prescribed text for 2025 and 2026 is Extracts from the *Cambridge Latin Anthology* ISBN-13 978-0-521-57877-6. The extracts are Messalina (Adultery, Messalina is denounced, the death of Messalina) and *avunculus meus* (A day in the life of Pliny the Elder). The text in this Guide (and translations based on it) will, therefore, be that of the CLA.

> **Remember!**
> Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment material.

The main aim of this booklet is to complement, rather than replace, the Cambridge Anthology, which only provides the text and glossary. I have therefore provided a translation, vocabulary and notes on each section, following the division of each extract into sections, with exam-type questions at the end.

As there will be a translation question in the examination, the translations in this Guide will be literal, as far as possible, but occasionally a more idiomatic translation will be given where a literal one would be too stilted. Where words in the translations are put in brackets, it means that they are not part of the Latin text, but are essential to give the full, correct meaning. A vocabulary list is given under each section, and a general vocabulary list at the end of the Guide. Repeated words are glossed only on the first instance, unless they are repeated with a different meaning. Following my practice in earlier Guides, I have placed an asterisk against all words which are in the OCR Directed Vocabulary List, unless their meaning differs widely from that given in the DVL. In the grammar and translation notes, constructions which are listed in the syntax section of the specification are similarly marked.

I have inserted numbers over the Latin words, suggesting the order in which to translate them. In a list of items where Latin uses *et* or *-que* between each item, I have inserted the number over *et*/*-que* in brackets for all except the last one, as 'and' is only used in English between the last two items. Verbs consisting of two parts have the same number if they are grouped together, and are marked with dots before and after the number, e.g. ... 12 ... If the two parts are separated, both parts are marked with an asterisk. When numbering the order in which words are to be translated, I have usually put the possessive genitive after its noun, e.g. *dux agminis*, 'the leader of the group', but it could equally be translated 'the group's leader'. I have also not avoided using the English derivative, e.g. *addita securitate,* 'with added security', where using synonyms would not be as effective or accurate. In the very dim and distant past, learners were often penalised for using the English derivative, but that is no longer the case.

When numbering ablative absolutes and other participial phrases, I have often numbered the noun first, although when put into more idiomatic English, the verb sometimes comes first, e.g. *clamore audito* could be translated 'when the shout was heard', or 'on hearing the shout'. Compound verbs which are straightforward and whose prefix is in the DVL, e.g. *abeo*, are asterisked, but compound verbs which do not represent the meaning of the root + prefix, e.g. *refero* = 'reply', are not asterisked.

In the vocabulary list underneath the text, only the parts relevant to the text are given owing to space restrictions, i.e. only the first two parts of verbs, unless a perfect tense is used in the text. Where past participles are used as adjectives or nouns, I have usually glossed the word in the participle form, as passive participles are sometimes active in meaning, or change their meaning. Also, the words are listed in the order of their translation, not the order in which they appear in the text, although this may cause problems in a long sentence.

Historic presents have been translated sometimes as present, sometimes as past. Examiners will accept either tense.

Advice to learners: always read the question carefully. If it asks you to comment on lines 5–9, don't include anything from lines 1–4 or 10–12. On the style and essay questions, when you are halfway through your answer, read the question again, to ensure that you are still answering the original question, and have not strayed onto something else. When answering the translation question, make sure that you have translated all the words by checking the Latin against your translation, especially conjunctions and adverbs, which tend to be omitted.

The following points have been made in various examiner reports:

- Learners should answer the question set rather than the one they wanted to answer (i.e. they must adapt their prepared essay!).
- In answering questions on style, it is not sufficient to put the first and last word of the Latin sentence. Learners must quote **all** the Latin words involved in the point they are making, **translate them** and explain how the rhetorical device enlivens the content, as there is a tendency for learners to identify stylistic features without explaining their effect.
- Some learners need to spend more time considering their answers to content/style questions to ensure they are focused and relevant, rather than rush on to the essay.
- Doing the questions in the wrong order sometimes leads to omission of the shorter questions.
- On the essay question, credit is given for references to parts of the text outside the specified text.
- Candidates should be advised to take note of the number of marks allotted to each sub-question and answer accordingly.

Although only simple technical terms are mentioned in the specification, I make no apology for mentioning more complicated technical terms in the notes for various reasons: firstly, another quotation from an examiner's report: 'Examiners were very pleased to see such ready, precise and relevant use not merely of the ever-to-hand alliteration but also of assonance… enjambment, polyptoton, polysyndeton and several more.' Chiasmus was also mentioned in the 2018 report; secondly, several GCSE learners will go on to A Level, where knowledge of such terms is needed; thirdly, some learners love collecting abstruse terms! There is a list of stylistic points in Appendix 2, but they are best seen in context, under 'Context and style notes'.

Learners and their teachers are also advised to look at the OCR mark schemes, particularly the various grids for marking translation, style and essay questions in order to see what is required to achieve the higher levels of marking.

Remember! Always look at the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification, past papers and sample assessment material.

NB I have kept to virtually the same line arrangement as in the Cambridge Latin Anthology but have made minor rearrangements where there was an awkward break at the end of the line. I have started with shorter sections, increasing the length as learners become more confident and experienced.

The Messalina text has been considerably and admirably amended from the original Tacitus, which is far too difficult for GCSE level. Consequently, many points of style in the original text have either been omitted or amended. Therefore, one can rarely talk about Tacitus's style; one can only say, 'the style of the passage', or 'the writer of the passage'. I will indicate where a style point is the actual words of Tacitus. However, the Pliny extract is virtually the original text.

I sincerely hope that this Guide will help learners and teachers to understand the set texts.

June 2023

The Author: Tacitus

The exact date and place of Tacitus's birth are unknown. He was born around AD
Whether his *praenomen* was Gaius or Publius is also unknown. He was a great fr
he asked to write an account of the eruption of Vesuvius in AD 79 so that he mig
page 5). Ironically, Pliny's letter to Tacitus has survived, but the section of the *Hi*
have featured is lost.

Tacitus lived under probably the worst of the Roman emperors, Domitian, who
many senators and influential people, and discouraged the writing of literary wo
claim to have written without indignation or bias (*sine ira et studio*), Tacitus's pic
concentrat... b... points, to the exclusion of his good ones, though these m
books of the ...s.

The Messalina section is from *Annals*, Book 11; the 'Adultery' section is from Cha
denounced' is from Chapters 28–30, 32 and 34, and 'The death of Messalina' is f

The historical background

After the assassination of Julius Caesar, two civil wars took place: in the first, Ant
conspirators led by Brutus and Cassius; in the second Octavian finally defeated A
From then onwards, Rome was ruled by members of the Julian and Claudian fam
AD 68, firstly Augustus (Octavian), then Tiberius, Gaius, Claudius and, finally, Ner

On the assassination of the perverted emperor Gaius (Caligula) by the Praetoria
bodyguards), the guards eventually found Claudius in fear of his life hiding behin
and proclaimed him emperor.

Claudius was very clever, even adding ... ev... ers to the Latin language, but the
death, as was his suggestion ... dots be put between words to assist punctuatio
time. Opinions vary ... abilities. According to Suetonius *Claudius* 30, pr
stammered ... sl...bered, had a runny nose and limped because his knees we
However, o... ...cession, 'his health suddenly became excellent'. In Chapter 3
pretended to be stupid to avoid assassination, which is probably true, given the
the previous emperor Gaius (Caligula).

His choice of wives was very unfortunate; Suetonius states in Chapter 43 that Cla
seemed fated to marry wives 'who were unchaste but remained unchastened'. (
engagement to the first lady to whom he was betrothed because her parents off
died on what was to be her wedding day; he divorced his first two wives; his thir
only 15 when she married.

Tacitus as a historian

See Goodyear, *Tacitus*, Greece and Rome, Chapter III, wh... a very good summ
and sources.

Although the original text has be... ...ly adapted because of its inherent di
particularly Tacitus's use ... ...nouns; see lines 12–16, which contain eight
which are th... in ... ...s. These lines also contain three words containing t
of euphony ... her trait is the omission of parts of the verb *esse*, e.g. lines 7 a
words which ... e only found in poetry, e.g. *inhorruit* (line 27).

Tacitus is very economical in his choice of words, for one word often has a wealt
condense complicated thoughts into a few words is remarkable. Thus, in line 1,
Silius, he states that she was fired by a 'new' love. By using the phrase *novo... a*

have had **other** affairs. This conciseness is seen best in his epigrams, for in his su

he says he was *capax imperii, nisi imperasset*, meaning that he had the qualities

would have had, if he had not become emperor – an epigram typical of Tacitus.

Because the Messalina selection is so short, some points of style only occur once

explain them where they occur, rather than give a daunting list of such points he

Explanation of the terms and examples from the set text   iven at the end of

As is the case with all ancient historians,   es   re not reported *verbatim*;

historian to make up speeches   e context. Speeches made in the ser

the *acta senatus*, but T   to write his own speeches, as revealed by a

speech deli   by   is which is quite different from that reported in Tacit

poor speak   us would not have wanted his history to be marred by poor L

Although Tacitus depicts character more by the speeches which he attributes to

than by straight descriptions, as with Narcissus in lines 55–77, he does portray M

throughout the selection, calling her love *insano* (line 1), and using various word

see lines 67–68 and 83–84. Also, Claudius is described as 'heedless of plots but

Tacitus's bias

In the opening chapter of the *Annals*, Tacitus states that he intends to write with

studio. How far he succeeds, however, is debatable – Goodyear states in his mor

in the Classics, Greece and Rome) 'the sinister alternative tends to linger in the m

page 355, 'bad men are more interesting'.

Tacitus has a biased view of emperors, which has its ante   nts in Tacitus's ow

the emperor Domitian, who was undoubtedly an   e   ter monster than Ner

senators, Domitian forbade the publicat   ny rm of literature; consequen

Domitian's death to publish his f   rks in AD 98, the *Agricola*, a biography

and the *Germania*. In th   .3, Tacitus states that he will not be grieved

their forme   ry   hatred of Domitian clouds his portrayal of all the Ju

While they   ny bad points, on which Tacitus dwells at length, the better si

Claudius, who was an excellent administrator, is only occasionally seen. Howeve

the details of Claudius's cruelty and debauchery (Chapters 34–5), Tacitus rarely

Tacitus does praise Claudius on a number of occasions, e.g. in Book 12.3 he prais

his construction of an aqueduct and mentions his mildness towards foreign chief

led the revolt in Britain, and his wife and family (12.37). On the other hand, he d

the Fucine Lake (12.57) and uses it as a means of attacking Agrippina.

Tacitus's sources

There was plenty of evidence from which Tacitus derived most of his information
works have not been preserved, e.g. Aufidius Bassus and Servilius Nonianus. The
to considerable lengths to consult the evidence available to him, though he rarel
he refers to *auctoribus* or *scriptores*, or, as in line 72, where he writes *ferunt*, 'the
word wretched'. However, in Book 1, Chapter 69, he mentions Pliny the Elder, a
refers specifically to the memoirs of Agrippina's daughter or something about T
reported by other historians. In Book 14, Chapter names two sources, Cluv
states that the other authorities (*ceteri auctores*) agreed with Cluvius. Fabius Ru
times in Books 13, 14 and 1
Two main sources on which he relied heavily were the *acta senatus*, a report of t
and the *diurna acta*, a daily report of events, to which he refers in Book 3.3, whe
find any reference to Germanicus's mother, Antonia, attending her son's funeral
the daily records of events – *non apud scriptores rerum, non diurna actorum scri*
would have to be accurate, as they were written down for posterity, and descend
their own family records to check the veracity of Tacitus's account (*reperio apud*
litteras – Book 2, 88). However, these are not just plain accounts, as Tacitus enliv
personal comments, as in Book 4, Chapter 9, where he says that if Tiberius had f
of Drusus at that particular point, he would have earned the pity of his audience
rambling on about 'restoring the republic', which made the senators doubt his si
71, Tacitus reports the contents of two letters written to the senate by Tiberius.
included funeral orations, biographies and inscriptions.

Interestingly, Tacitus wrote to Pliny the Younger asking him for information abou
Pliny had witnessed first-hand. Pliny wrote two letters to him about the eruption
elsewhere, hoping to achieve immortality through Tacitus's writings. Ironically, t
which would have dealt with the eruption has not survived, whereas Pliny's lette

The Cast

Messalina   ...d wife of Claudius; she had two children, Britannicus and Octa
                 Appendix 1). She was married to Claudius at the tender age of 15,
                 She had numerous affairs, eventually going too far by going throug
                 consul designate Silius, while Claudius was away in Ostia. She was
                 and, according to Tacitus, *Annals* XI, 28.2, arranged the deaths of

Claudius   Weak-willed emperor and easily swayed; short-tempered; control
                 Executed many senators but did much good for the poorer citizens

Silius   Consul designate; too ambitious and incautious; controlled by Mes
                 taking part in the plot with Messalina.

Narcissus   Ex-slave; very rich and powerful adviser of Claudius. Takes charge
                 whom he murders without a trial.

Messalina: Translation and Notes

Adultery

Lines 1–8: Silius is forced to have an affair with Messalina

Aided Translation

Write a translation on a separate piece of paper; the numbers indicate a p

```
       1      3    4    5    6       7      ... 2 ...
Mes...novo et quasi insano amore incensa est.
   1    3    4    7     6          5       8    2
nam in C. Silium, iuventutis Romanae pulcherrimum, ita exarserat
   9  11       12         13       14          15      16
ut Iuniam Silanam, nobilem feminam, matrimonio eius
       10    19 17     20        18          3   1    5
exturbaret liberoque adultero potiretur. neque Silius flagitii
   6     7      4       2    1      2        3     6      7
aut periculi nescius erat: sed intellexit exitium, si abnueret,
   4    5   8 9       10         12          15      14
fore certum et, si consentiret, nonnullam facinoris celandi
  13   11   2  1    3       5        6         4
spem esse; simulque se magna praemia accepturum.
   1    2        3     4    5     7      6
igitur placuit neglegere futura et praesentib... ...
```

Messalina, -ae f	Me...	*nec, neque
*incendo, -ere, incensum		nescius, -a, -um
*novus, -a, -um	new	flagitium, -ii n
*et	and, also	aut
quasi	almost, virtually	*periculum, -i n
insanus, -a, -um	mad	*sed
*amor, -oris m	love	*intellego, -ere, -lexi
*nam	for	exitium, -ii n
exardeo, -ere, -arsi	burn (with love)	certus, -a, -um
*in + accusative	towards, for	*si
C. Silius, -ii m	Caius Silius	abnuo, -ere
*pulcher, -ra, -rum	handsome	consentio, -ire
*Romanus, -a, -um	Roman	*nonnullus, -a, -um
iuventus, -tutis f	youth	*spes, -ei f
*ita	so, to such an extent	*celo, -are
*ut + subjunctive	that	fa...nus, -oris n
exturbo, -are	drive out	*simul
Iunia Silana, -ae f	Junia Silana	*se, sui, sibi, se
nobilis, -e	nob...	*accipio, -ere, -ceptum
*femina, -ae f	...	*magnus, -a, -um
matrimonium, ... n	marriage	*praemium, -ii n
*eius, genit... ..., id	her	*igitur
*-que	and	placeo, -ere + dative
potior, -iri (dept.) + ablative	get possession of	neglego, -ere
liber, -a, -um	free, unrestricted	*futurus, -a, -um
adulter, -i m/f	adulterer	fruor, -i + ablative (de...
*sum, esse	am	praesentia, -ium (n pl...

Lines 1–8: Silius is forced to have an affair with Messalina

Messalina novo et quasi insano amore incensa est.

nam in C. Silium, iuventutis Romanae pulcherrimur, ita exarserat

ut Iuniam Silanam, nobilem ... matrimonio eius

exturbaret lib ... pulcro potiretur. neque Silius flagitii

5   aut p ... nescius erat: sed intellexit exitium, si abnueret,

fore certum et, si consentiret, nonnullam facinoris celandi

spem esse; simulque se magna praemia accepturum.

igitur placuit neglegere futura et praesentibus frui.

Comprehension questions

1. *liberoque adultero potiretur*: what does Tacitus mean by this phrase?

2. What finally persuaded Silius to have an affair with Messalina?

NB Tacitus sometimes uses the plural where in English w ... uld use the singula
abstract nouns, e.g. line 11. It may be that Ta ... to convey that there
things, e.g. line 57, where *visus* prob ... 'repeated glances'. They will no

Grammar and transl ... notes

1   *quasi* ... normally means 'as if', means 'almost, virtually', here. It is u
     staten ... which have very strong meanings.

2   *in C. Silium*: *in*, here, means '(love) for', though its normal meaning with th

3–4   *ut... exturbaret*: a *result (consecutive) clause, signposted by *ita*, 'to such ...

4   *liberoque adultero*: ablative after *potior*, 'get possession of'; cf. *praesentib*
     here, in his peculiarly condensed way, is that Messalina could indulge in a ...
     was freed by his divorce (*libero*), but he was nevertheless an adulterer, be ...
     to Claudius.

4–5   *flagitii aut periculi*: genitive after *nescius*, as in English, 'ignorant of'.

5–7   *exitium... fore certum*: indirect statement after *intellexit,* 'he realised that ...
     futurum esse, the future infinitive. The indirect statement* continues in t ...
     nonnullam spem esse... se... accepturum (*esse* understo ... d).

5   *abnueret*: *nuere* means 'to nod', so *abnuer* ... 'n ... away from', meant 't ...
     nod towards', meant 'to agree'.

5–6   *abnueret... consentire* ... subordinate clauses in *oratio obliqua* c ...

6   *facin* ... la ... concealing the deed'; gerundival attraction, by which ...
     accu ... the case of the gerund (genitive), and the gerund is attracte ...
     (neut ...

8   *igitur*: Tacitus puts this word first in the sentence, but Cicero puts it secon ...

     placuit is used impersonally, here, with the dative, *ei* understood; 'it pleas ...

     futura et praesentibus: Tacitus is fond of using the neuter plural of adjecti ...
     futura means 'future events' and *praesentibus* means 'present circumstan ...

Context and style notes

1   *Messalina novo... amore*: Messalina was the third wife of Claudius. She ha ...
     Octavia, by him. Tacitus's insertion of *novo* implies th ... this was not her fi ...

1–2   *incensa est... exarserat*: both of these word ... nally associated with ...
     here, as in English. The associatio ... e w ... h fire was common in poetr ...
     Tacitus.

2   *Silium*: Si ... us ... designate in AD 48, probably to become a full cons ...
     year ... he ... llowing year. He was married to Silana but at the instigat ...
     divor ... r in order to marry Messalina.

     iuventutis, usually translated 'youth', actually meant of an age old enough ...
     so that Silius could have been old enough to be elected as consul (39), tho ...
     disregarded. Later, Nero became consul at the tender age of 20.

     pulcherrimum: Tacitus was very fond of using superlatives, though this is t ...

3 *Iuniam Silanam*: the wife of Silius, she belonged to a patrician family (*nobi*
her 'outstanding for her nobility, beauty and immorality'. Her father had
sister was the first wife of the emperor Gaius (Caligula). She was friendly
annoyed Messalina, hence Messalina's efforts to get Silius to divorce her.
Agrippina, because Agrippina had prevented her from remarrying; Silana
but the accusation failed, and she was exiled.

3–4 *matrimonio... exturbaret,... adultero potiretur*: balance, noun, ver

4–5 *neque... nescius*: 'not unaware' is l cf. e 6. Silius's full knowledge
contrasts with Claudius's i what was going on (line 12), which
Claudius was a cer st which the original text points out, for th
maint r

6–7 *nonn spem*: enclosing order, by which a word or phrase is enclose
very common usage in Latin, particularly in poetry; cf. *exitium... certum* in
line 7.

6 *nonnullam*, 'not none' = 'some', another example of litotes, the use of two n

facinoris: a variation on *flagitii* in line 4.

8 *neglegere futura... praesentibus frui*: chiasmus, where the order of paralle
object, object, infinitive (ABBA).

Aided Translation

Write a translation on a separate piece of paper; the numbers indicate a p

```
                                          1
                                  il  .  .  furtim
        6     8    7      9                3        11
sed multis cum co         .tat domum, egredienti
        10    1?      .5  14     1     2     3
adh.        .  .pes honoresque; postremo servi, liberti,
        4         5        8       9      6        7
paratus principis apud adulterum saepe videbantur.
    1     2          5      4      3
at Claudius matrimonii sui ignarus.
      1      2         3          4        5     7    8    9
iam Messalina propter facilitatem adulteriorum ad novas libidines
    ...6 ...   1     2     3       4     5    7       8
versa est.  Silius, sive fatali insania an ipsa pericula
          9          10          11       6      14
remedium imminentium periculorum ratus, abrumpi
            13            12       1      2       3
dissimulationem urgebat: quippe non exspectandum,
    4       5         6
dum princeps senesceret.
```

*ille, illa, illud	..e, ..., that	*suus, -a, -um
ventito, -are	visit frequently	*iam
*domus, -u	house	*propter + accusati
*non	not	facilitas, -tatis f
furtim	secretly	adulterium, -ii n
*sed	but	*verto, -ere, versum
*cum + ablative	with	*ad + accusative
multus, -a, -um	much, many	libido, -inis f
comes, -itis m/f	companion	sive
adhaereo, -ere	cling to	fatalis, -e
*egredior, -i (dept.)	go out	insania, -ae f
*do, dare	give	an
(ops), opis f	wealth	reor, reri, ratus su
honos, -oris m	honour	*ipse, -a, -um
postremo	finally	periculum, -i n
*servus, -i m	slave	remedium, -ii n
*libertus, -i m	freedman	imminens, -entis
paratus, -us m	. . .	urgeo, -ere
*princeps, -ipis m	. peror	dissimulatio, -onis
*saepe	often	abrumpo, -ere
*video, -ere	see	quippe
apud + accusative	at the house of	*exspecto, -are
at	but	*dum
Claudius, -ii m	Claudius	senesco, -ere
ignarus, -a, -um + genitive	ignorant of	

Lines 8–17: Messalina's visits to Silius become increasingly more freque

Latin	English
illa non furtim	She v
sed multis cum comitibus ventitat domum, e red	many
	him v
10 adhaeret, dat opes honore servi, liberti,	furni
	adult
para ncr adulterum saepe videbantur.	of) hi
at Cl matrimonii sui ignarus.	easin
iam Messalina propter facilitatem adulteriorum ad novas libidines	whet
	dang
versa est. Silius, sive fatali insania an ipsa pericula	the c
15 remedium imminentium periculorum ratus, abrumpi	wait
dissimulationem urgebat: quippe non exspectandum,	
dum princeps senesceret.	

Comprehension questions

1. How does Tacitus emphasise Messalina's passion for Silius?

2. Why does Silius decide not to keep their affair a secret?

Grammar and translation notes

8   *illa*: i.e. Messalina.

9   *ventitat*: the ending -*it.. ...ans* ...do something frequently; it is added to ...
    so it means, 'v.. ... ...quently'.

    dom.. ... usative of motion towards*, which normally requires a prepos...
    small ... ...*us*, *domus*, *rus* and *humus* do not require a preposition to expre...

    egredienti: i.e. Silius; *egredienti is* dative of the present participle after the...

11 *paratus*: literally, it means 'preparations', but Tacitus seems to be using it ...
    kind. Some editors translate it as 'furniture', Furneaux as 'household treas...
    more interested in the alliterative sound of the words, *paratus principis a...*
    convey disapproval, than their precise meaning. I have translated it as 'fu...
    have 'removed' a few ornaments from the palace, I hardly think she woul...

12 *matrimonii*: genitive after *ignarus*. *matrimonii* means the **state** of his mar...
    know what Messalina was up to.

    ignarus: understand *erat*.

13 *novas*: although the CAL only gives 'new' in the Vocabulary, it does not re...
    substitute for Tacitus's *inauditas*, 'unheard of', ...uld have been kep...
    therefore translated it 'unusual', as that is ...he ...s meanings. However, ...
    examination, I would be inclin... ... ...ew (i.e. unheard of)', which shou...

14 *versa est*: whereas ... ...s verbs both intransitively and transitively, e...
    turne... ...co... ...ny Latin transitive verbs cannot be used in this way...
    into ... ...ive, as here, or used reflexively. French has the same problem...

    fatali insania: ablative of cause.

14–15 *ipsa... ratus*: an indirect statement*, understanding *esse* with *remedium*, '...
       (were) the cure'.

16 *dissimulationem*: *simulare* meant to pretend that something was real, wh...
    be wise, so *dissimulare* meant to hide the fact that something was true, a...
    there is no need for Messalina and him to hide the affair any longer.

    quippe was sometimes used to express something which was blindingly o...

    exspectandum is the gerundive used impersonally, understanding *eis esse*...
    on from the previous sentence (*oratio obliqua*); '(he said that) they (*eis*, d...
    wait...'

17 *dum princeps senesceret*: *dum* is used in va... ...ys: with the indicative,...
    there is an idea of purpose, as ... ...bjunctive is used. The purpose ...
    to grow old.

Activity

Write down all the abstract nouns in this passage.

Context and style notes

As will be seen from the activity, this passage is full of abstract nouns, of which T...

9–10   *ventitat domum, egredienti adhae... ...opes*: asyndeton; there is also a ... object + verb, verb + obie... ...

        ventitat... dat... ... presents, which make the scene more vivid.

12   *at* is ... mark a change of person or scene. Here, the spotlight switch...

        ignarus: a compound of *in* + *gnarus*, 'not knowing', and so, *variatio* with n... of three words beginning with the prefix *in*; the other two are *insania* and ... using this prefix.

13   *iam Messalina... novas libidines*: although the transition here from Claudiu... smooth as Ernie Wise's wig, in the original Tacitus, there are some 13 chap... As stated in the Grammar notes, *novas* does not mean that the *libidines* w... that they were so vile that no one had heard of such lusts.

        Evidently, Messalina became bored with mere adultery (*facilitatem adulte...* more exciting; whether this was more exotic activities or bigamy, as Tacitu... 'desired the name of marriage because of the magnitude of the outrage'.

14–15   *sive... ratus*: this is an excellent example of Tacitus's use of *variatio*, when ... uses an ablative of cause, followed by an indirect st... ...ent. A similar, bu... *furtim sed multis cum comitibus* in lines 8–...

        pericula... periculorum: polypt... ...t... use of the same word or root with...

15   *remedium immine... ...culorum*: the alliteration of *m* and *n* emphasis... Silius... ...d ... frequently used, particularly in poetry, to emphasise ...

15–16   *abru... ...simulationem*: in the original Tacitus, these words are placed a... to emphasise that there was no longer any reason for hiding the affair.

Lines 17–26: Eventually, Messalina decides to marry Siliu[s]

Aided Translation

Write a translation on a separate piece of paper; the numbers indicate a p[ossible order]

```
                              1      2    3   4   5
                          se caeli era, orbum, nuptiis
         6        7          8              2        1        3
      et adoptando Britannicum.  eandem Messalinae potentiam
              4  5                    6      7      8         9
      mansuram esse, addita securitate, si praevenirent Claudium,
         10           12    14  16  17  15   11
      qui insidiis incautus sed ad iram celer esset.
           1      4     5      6       7      8    9   10   11
      Messalina, non amore in maritum, sed verita ne Silius
           13        12    15      14        3       2       1       2
      summa adeptus se sperneret, diu haesitavit; sed tandem
           3        3      1        4          2
      persuasum.  nomen enim matrimonii concupivit
         5           6            7      1    3     2
      ob magnitudinem infamiae.  nec ultra morata
         4     5       10      9      6       8              7
      quam dum sacrificii gratia Claudius Ostiam proficisceretur,
         12         14          13         11
      cuncta nuptiarum sollemnia celebrat.
```

caelebs, caelibis	single	adipiscor, -i, adeptu[s] sum (dept.)
orbus, -a, -um	childless	*summa, -orum n p[l.]
*paratus, -[a, -um]	ready, prepared	sperno, -ere
nuptiae, -a[rum f] pl.	marriage	*tandem
adopto, -are	adopt	*persuadeo, -ere, -su[asi]
Britannicus, -i m	Britannicus	*enim
*idem, eadem, idem	the same	concupio, -ere, -ivi
potentia -ae f	power	*nomen, -inis n
*maneo, -ere, mansum	remain	ob + accusative
addo, -ere, additum	add	magnitudo, -inis f
securitas, -tatis f	security	infamia, -ae f
praevenio, -ire	forestall	moror, -ari, -atus sum (dept.)
*qui, quae, quod	who, which	[g]ra[ti]a
incautus, -a, -um	oblivious	*quam
insidiae, -arum f pl.	treachery, plot	*proficiscor, -i (dept[.])
*celer, celeris, celere	quick, swift	Ostia, -ae f
*ira, -ae f	anger	gratia + genitive
haesito, -are, -avi	hesitate	sacrificium, -ii n
*diu	for a long time	celebro, -are
*maritus, -[i m]	husband	cuncti, -ae, -a
vereor, -eri, veritus sum (dept.)	fear	sollemne, -is n
*ne	lest, that	

Lines 17–26: Eventually, Messalina decides to marry Silius

se caelibem, orbum, nuptiis

et adoptando Britannico paratum. eandem Messalinae potentiam

mansuram esse, addita securitate, si praevenirent Claudium,

20   qui insidiis incautus, sed ad iram celer esset.

Messalina non amore in maritum, sed verita ne Silius

summa adeptus se sperneret, diu haesitavit; sed tandem

persuasum. nomen enim matrimonii concupivit

ob magnitudinem infamiae. nec ultra morata

25   quam dum sacrificii gratia Claudius Ostiam proficisceretur,

cuncta nuptiarum sollemnia celebrat.

He w

Brita

with

obliv

hesit

husb

powe

she c

the i

set o

a saci

celeb

rites

Comprehension questions

1. What **two** things does Tacitus say about Claudius?

2. Why did Messalina hesitate?

Grammar and translation notes

17–18	*se… paratum*: Silius's speech continues in c̲ː̲ː̲ c̲ː̲ː̲, *esse* being under⸝ the indirect statement*. The *orat̲ː̲ː̲ː̲ː̲* continues in the next sentenc⸝
	nuptiis et adoptando ̲ː̲ː̲ː̲ː̲: ablatives of purpose. *adoptando Britannicȯ* attractiȯn: see ̲ː̲ː̲ː̲ on line 6.
19	*addi̲ː̲ː̲ː̲ː̲tate*: ablative absolute*.
19–20	*si praevenirent… esset*: see the note on lines 5–6. Presumably *si praeveniret̲*
21	*amore*: causal ablative.
21–22	*verita ne… sperneret*: verbs of fearing take *ne* + subjunctive* to express a ̲ː̲ː̲ the negative is *ne non* or *ut*. Note that *se* refers back to the subject of the⸝
22	*summa adeptus*: Latin frequently used participles instead of clauses. *ade̲ː̲* clause, 'if he obtained supreme power'.
23	*persuasum*: understand *ei esse*. Verbs which take the dative or ablative cȧ passive; instead, the impersonal form was used, literally, 'it was persuade̲ː̲
25	*gratia* is used as a preposition with the genitive and follows the noun it gȯ
	dum… proficisceretur: *dum*, here, means 'until' and tak̲ː̲s the subjunctive* involved; see the note on line 17.

Context and style notes

17	*caeliber̲ː̲ː̲ː̲ ̲ː̲ː̲ː̲ is… paratum*: the asyndeton emphasises Silius's eli̲ː̲
18	*Brita̲ː̲ː̲ː̲* Agrippina II, who became the fourth wife of Claudius after the̲ː̲ Claudi̲ː̲s to make her son Nero coheir, and shortly after Nero became emp̲ː̲ poisoned in AD 55, thus establishing Nero's position as emperor.
19	*addita securitate*: an example of 'tacking on', adding a phrase or clause to⸝ complete. Tacitus often uses the ablative absolute for this purpose.
20	*insidiis incautus*: note the compound words beginning with the prefix *in*.
21	*non amore in maritum*: an understatement! Tacitus is probably being sarċ had little love and even less regard for her husband, given her numerous ḁ Messalina's character by giving two possibilities, the second worse than th̲ː̲ only wanted the title of marriage for the disgrace that it would involve.
21–22	*Silius summa adeptus se sperneret*: the sibilance m̲ː̲ː̲ː̲ intentional to exp̲ː̲ both characters.
23	*matrimonii*: variatio, as *nuptii̲ː̲ː̲ː̲ː̲ ̲ː̲* or 'marriage' in line 17 and *nupt̲ː̲*
25	*Ostiam*: Ostia wa̲ː̲ ̲ː̲ː̲ː̲ː̲ small town on the left bank at the mouth of⸝ Rom̲ː̲ ̲ː̲oḭ ̲ː̲ː̲ːme increasingly dependent on supplies of foreign cȯ tow̲ː̲ ̲ː̲ː̲n the opposite bank. Suetonius, *Claudius* 20, describes this w̲ː̲ clearly̲ː̲concerned for the welfare of the citizens, as he also had aqueducts̲ː̲ temple to Castor and Pollux, which Claudius may have founded. As high p̲ː̲ there to pray to these gods for fair weather, so that the corn supplies wou̲ː̲ constant shortages in Rome.
26	*celebrat*: historic present focusing attention on the celebration of the mar̲ː̲

Messalina is denounced

Lines 27–38: Widespread knowledge of the affair prompts

Aided Translation

Write a translation on a separate piece of paper; the numbers indicate a p

```
        1      2       3        4                   7   8
     igitur domus principis inhorruit maximeque ei qui
          10       9             12 13       14
     potentiam habebant timuerunt ne res verterentur:
        3          2    4      6     7     8       9        5
     spem tamen habebant, si Claudio de atrocitate sceleris persuasissent
          10        11     15    13    14        12
     Messalinam posse opprimi sine quaestione damnatam;
        1      3      2   4    5        7           6
     sed periculum esse ne ille defensionem audiret,
        9 8     13      10   14      15      11    12      1
     neve clausae aures etiam confitenti non essent.  Narcissus,
            3         2      4      5      7    8     9      6
     occasiones quaerens, cum Caesar diu apud Ostiam moraretur,
        11   13    12       14    15    16        10
     duas eius paelices largitione et promissis perpulit
          18       17     1      2        3    5      6       4
     delationem subire.  exim Calpurnia (id alteri paelici nomen),
        7     ...9...     8      11    12        13
     ubi datum est secretum, ad genua Caesaris provoluta
        16        15      17                    2
     nupsisse Messalinam exclamat; altera paelice
        4       3                8      7       6
     haec cum confirmaret, Calpurnia cieri Narcissum postulat.
```

inhorresco, -ere, -horrui	shudder	occasio, -onis f
*maxime	particularly	*cum + subjunctive
*habeo, -ere	have, hold	Caesar, -aris m
potentia, -ae f	power	perpello, -ere, -puli
*timeo, -ere, -ui	fear	*duo, duae, duo
*res, rei f	state, thing	paelex, -icis f
*verto, -ere	overturn	largitio, -onis f
*tamen	nevertheless	promissum, -i n
*de + ablative	about	subeo, -ire
atrocitas, -tatis f	enormity	delatio, -onis f
*scelus, -eris n	crime	exim
*possum, posse	can, be able	Calpurnia, -ae f
damno, -are, -atus	condemn	is, ea, id
*sine + ablative	without	*alter, -era, -erum
quaestio, -onis f	trial	*ubi
*opprimo, -ere	overthrow	secretum, -i n
*audio, -ire	listen to, hear	provolvo, -ere, -volutu
defensio, -onis f	defence	genu, -us n
-ve	or	exclamo, -are
auris, -is f	ear	nubo, -ere, nupsi
claudo, -ere, clausum	close	confirmo, -are
*etiam	even	*hic, haec, hoc
confiteor, -eri (dept.)	confess	postulo, -are
Narcissus, -i m	Narcissus	cieo, -ere
*quaero, -ere	seek	

Lines 27–38: Widespread knowledge of the affair prompts Narcissus to t

igitur domus principis inhorruit, maximeque ei qui

potentiam habebant timuerunt ne res verterer̲e̲

spem tamen habebant, si Cl_____ ___tate sceleris persuasissent,

30   Messali___m p_____ _n, sine quaestione damnatam;

sed p____m esse ne ille defensionem audiret,

neve clausae aures etiam confitenti non essent. Narcissus,

occasiones quaerens, cum Caesar diu apud Ostiam moraretur,

duas eius paelices largitione et promissis perpulit

35   delationem subire. exim Calpurnia (id alteri paelici nomen),

ubi datum est secretum, ad genua Caesaris provoluta

nupsisse Messalinam Silio exclamat̲ ____ p____

haec confirmante, Ca_____ ____ Narcissum postulat.

Comprehension questions

1. Who were particularly afraid?

2. What did they hope?

Grammar and translation notes

27 *domus* means 'household', her... s and freedmen/women.

28 *res*: this is often us... the state, even in the plural.

    ne... ...aring clause*

29 *Claud... ersuasissent*: *persuadeo* takes an object in the dative case*. The
    an original future perfect, 'if we persuade (shall have persuaded) Claudius...
    the future perfect becomes pluperfect subjunctive because it is part of the i

31 *ille*: i.e. Claudius.

    ne... audiret: another fearing clause; *audiret* means 'listen to', rather than
    was a trial, Claudius would be influenced by Messalina's beauty and his ow

32 *confitenti*: as in line 22, the participle stands for a conditional clause '(clos

33 *cum... moraretur*: *cum** could mean either 'while' or 'since', probably the

34 *largitione et promissis*: ablatives of means*.

35 *paelici*: dative of possession with *erat* understood; *alter* means 'one or oth
    here, and 'the other' in line 37.

36 *ad genua... provoluta*: the original Tacitus has ... *provoluta*, as he p
    compound verbs, rather than *ad... tive*, as in lines 9–10, *egredienti*

37–38 *altera... confirmante* ...absolute*.

Context a... yle notes

27 *ei*: probably the freedmen Callistus, Narcissus and Pallas, who were very p
    Tacitus, Book 11, page 398, states that the fall of Messalina was as much d
    and Claudius's incapacity to rule as it was about Messalina's self-destructi
    that in the event of a revolution, they might lose this power.

    Freedmen and women were often given Greek names, Callistus being con
    'most beautiful', Narcissus being a famous mythological person and Pallas
    Athene. Others were given the names of previous members of the family,
    Caesar.

29–30 *Claudio... Messalinam*: the balanced placement of the names (not in the o
    the destruction of Messalina depended on the rea... of Claudius.

30 *quaestione*: the first of four abstract nouns wh... nominative ends in -io:
    occasiones (33) and *delatione*...). ...tus is definitely fond of this endi

    damnatam: the p... phatic; 'condemned'.

32 *Narc... a... sus* was one of Claudius's chief advisers. He was very rich
    seste... 0 million more than Pallas, who is mentioned by Pliny as one
    When Messalina was executed, there was a debate as to whom Claudius s
    Narcissus 'backed the wrong horse', while Pallas backed Agrippina, whom
    days were numbered, and at the instigation of Agrippina, he was forced to
    Nero became emperor.

33 *Caesar*: *variatio* on *Claudio* in line 29 (this does occur in the original Tacitu[...] greatly adapted).

Ostiam: see the note on line 25.

34 *duas eius paelices*: *eius* shows that these concubines are the mistresses of [...] The original Tacitus follows this phrase with a reference to their frequent [...] Therefore, they would be only too keen to accuse M[...]alina of adultery, a[...] affections of Claudius.

36 *ad genua... provoluta*: it was c[...] [...]ctice in the ancient world to gra[...] whom you were asking [...] you[...]

37 *nupsis[...]es[...]*: [...]ilio: note the juxtaposition of the couple marrying, [...] word[...] [...]hrase, which emphasises the enormity of the offence; it is al[...] that M[...]ina had married Silius, rather than that Silius had married Mes[...] the prime mover in this association.

nubere was the word used for women marrying, as the root means 'veil'; t[...] *in matrimonium ducere*, 'to lead into marriage'.

altera paelice: her name was Cleopatra, which means that both concubine[...] Caesar: Calpurnia was the name of Caesar's wife, and Cleopatra was the q[...] had an illegitimate son, Caesarion.

Lines 39–49: The marriage becomes known to Claudius

Aided Translation

Write a translation on a separate piece of paper; the numbers indicate a p[...]

```
  1       6    3    5    2    4     1        3
qui 'discidiumne tuum' inquit 'novisti? nai[...] rimonium
  9    7      2   (3)  4   [...]    1  2    4    3
Silii vidit populus et [...] tus [...]ilites; ac nisi celeriter agis,
  6    7
tene[...] n [...]us.'
  2            4    1    5    6      7     9      10
non solum rumor interea, sed undique nuntii ad Messalinam
      8      11     13      15         14    16   17
contendunt, qui Claudium omnia cognovisse et venire
      18       19     12    1      2        7
promptum ultioni adferrent. igitur Messalina Lucullianos
  5    6      3        10         11   8    9       4
in hortos, Silius dissimulando metui ad forum digrediuntur.
  1    2       3       5      4        7          6
illa tamen, quamquam res adversae consilium eximerent,
 ... 10 ...   11  12  13  14    8      9      15    16
ire obviam et aspici a marito statim constituit, quod saepe
 19  17     18        2   1  3      4      5      6
ei fuerat subsidium; misitque ut Britannicus et Oct[...]via
  8    9      10     7
in complexum patris irent.
```

*inquit	[...]e said	*venio, -ire	
*-ne	introduces a question	promptus, -a, -um	
novi (perfec[...] sco)	I know	ultio, -onis f	
*tuus, -a, -um	your	digredior, -i	
discidium, -ii n	divorce		
*nam	for	*hortus, -i m	
populus, -i m	people	Lucullianus, -a, -um	
senatus, -us m	senate	*forum -i n	
*miles, -itis m	soldier	dissimulo, -are	
*ac, atque	and	metus, -us m	
*video, -ere, vidi	see	*quamquam	
*nisi	unless	adversae	
*ago, -ere	act	eximo, -ere	
*celeriter	quickly	*[...]nsilium, -ii n	
*teneo, -ere	hold, possess	*statim	
*urbs, urbis f	city, Rom[...]	*constituo, -ere, -ui	
*interea	i[...] a [...]time	ire obviam	
solum	[...]y	aspicio, -ere	
rumor, -ori[...]	rumour	*a, ab + ablative	
undique	from all sides	subsidium, -ii n	
*nuntius, -ii m	messenger	*mitto, -ere, misi	
contendo, -ere	hasten, hurry	Octavia, -ae f	
adfero, -ferre	report	complexus, -us m	
*cognosco, -ere, -novi	discover, get to know	*pater, patris m	
*omnis, -e	all		

Lines 39–49: The marriage becomes known to Claudius

qui 'discidiumne tuum' inquit 'novisti? nam matrimonium

40 Silii vidit populus et senatus et milites; ac ni... ce... ... agis,

tenet urbem maritus.'

non s... ru... ...ea, sed undique nuntii ad Messalinam

conte... qui Claudium omnia cognovisse et venire

promptum ultioni adferrent. igitur Messalina Lucullianos

45 in hortos, Silius dissimulando metui ad forum digrediuntur.

illa tamen, quamquam res adversae consilium eximerent,

ire obviam et aspici a marito statim constituit, quod saepe

ei fuerat subsidium; misitque ut Britannicus et Oc...

in complexum patris irent.

Comprehension questions

1. What does Narcissus mean by *discidium tuum... novisti?*?

2. What did the messengers report?

Grammar and translation notes

39 *qui*: Narcissus.

'*discidiumne tuum... n̶o̶v̶i̶s̶t̶i̶?*: literally, 'Do you know your divorce?', i.e. do [you know you are?] divorced? Divorce was easy in Roman times, even for women. All that wa[s] state[d] in front of two witnesses, which, presumably, Messalina had do[ne. But Claudius] woul[d also h]ave to agree, and Claudius was unlikely to do that.

novisti is the perfect tense of *nosco*, 'get to know'; so, 'I have got to know[. Compare] *cognovisse* in line 43.

40 *vidit* means 'has seen', rather than 'saw'. Although the subject is plural, th[e verb is singular] if the nearest subject is singular, as here, *populus.*

43–44 *qui... adferrent*: purpose clause* 'to report'. If the subject of the purpose [clause is a person,] *qui* normally replaces *ut.*

43 *Claudium... cognovisse et venire* is an indirect statement*.

45 *dissimulando metui*: dative of purpose; see the notes on lines 16 and 17–1[8.]

46 *quamquam... eximerent*: although Cicero and Caesar regularly used the in[dicative,] Tacitus used the subjunctive, by analogy with other words meaning 'altho[ugh'] which were followed by the subjunctive.

consilium: the most common mean[ing is] 'p[lan]', but it probably means 'ti[me,' time] happening so quickly that t[ime was of] the essence, and she had no time t[o make a plan.]

47 *aspici* is the pr[esent] in[finiti]ve passive.

mari[tus]: [C]laudius, as opposed to line 41, where it means Silius.

48 *ei* is dative of advantage.

misitque: understand 'instructions'; the children were evidently not with h[er] in the palace, so she has to send instructions for them to greet their fathe[r... arouse] Claudius's pity for their mother.

48–49 *ut... in complexum... irent*: indirect command*: it means 'should go to emb[race.']

Context and style notes

40 *populus et senatus et milites*: the tricolon covers all sections of the popula[tion. The] Guard, the only soldiers allowed to carry arms inside It[al]y.

41 *tenet urbem maritus*: the word order is the [rev]er[se] of the normal, *maritus* [tenet urbem.] Narcissus/Tacitus is making two p[oints: Cl]au[di]us has not agreed to the div[orce so he is still] Claudius, but Narcissus me[ans i]t; *tenet* emphasises the fact that Rome [is] already **is** (not 'w[ill] [be]') [in the] possession of Silius.

43 *con[tinuatur]* t[he] historic present resumes after the brief speech, dramatis[ing the events.]

venire: [C]laudius was on the way back from Ostia; see line 25.

44–45 Note the balance of *Messalina Lucullianos in hortos, Silius... ad forum* cont[rasting the places] the lovers go to, which are emphasised by the prefix *di(s)*, 'different'.

Lucullianos in hortos: Lucullus, a very successful general in the first century [...] gardens in Rome and even more beautiful ones in Neapolis (Naples), for w[...] enormous expense.

45 *forum*: the forum was the hub of Rome, where most of the political, judici[...] religious affairs took place, as the senate house, courts, shops and temple[...] numerous moneylenders.

47–48 *quod... subsidium*: this is a reference to the [...] ssalina had over Claud[...] political matters, just as Agrippina [...] r, [...] ause of her beauty. What i[...] sexual desires, as he had se[...] ibines (Calpurnia and Cleopatra are s[...] there were clearly [...] his weakness in allowing them to use their b[...]

48 *Brita[...] et [...] via*: Britannicus was about seven years old at this time, [...] old, a[...] g to Mallock. Messalina ordered them to come and embrace[...] that this reminder of their love, and that executing Messalina would leave[...] save her.

Lines 49–59: Silius hides and Messalina appeals to Claud[ius]

Aided Translation

Write a translation on a separate piece of paper; the numbers indicate a p[...]

```
        1       2          3         4           5
atque interim, tribus omnino comitantibus
     6    7      8      9                 13   14
– tam repens erat sollitudo – postquam per urbem
   12    11                    19      20        21          22
pedi[...]it, [vehi]culo, quo purgamenta hortorum eripiuntur,
            17    15     2          3
Ostiensem viam intrat.  nullam misericordiam
    4     1       5       7          6        8
civibus commovit quia flagitiorum deformitas praevalebat.
 1  2    3   4    5        6          8     7  9    10
et iam erat in aspectu Claudii clamitabatque ut audiret
    12    13    14      11       1     2       3
Octaviae et Britannici matrem.  Narcissus tamen obstrepuit,
    5    6       7      4       1      3          5       4
Silium et nuptias referens; simul codicillos libidinum indices
   2       6     8      9        7      1    2     3
tradidit, quibus visus Caesaris averteret.  nec multo post
   7        6        5      4     8      9
urbem ingredienti offerebantur liberi, sed Narcissus
   12    11    10
amoveri eos iussit.
```

interim	meanwhile	*civis, -is m	
*tres, tria	three	quia	
omnino	at the most	deformitas, -tatis	
comitor, -ari (dept.)	accompany	praevaleo, -ere	
*tam	so	aspectus, -us m	
repens, repentis	sudden	clamito, -are	
sollitudo, -inis f	isolation	*mater, matris f	
*postquam	when, after	obstrepo, -ere, -ui	
*eo, ire, ivi	go	*refero, -ferre	
*pes, pedis m	foot	*trado, -ere, -didi	
*per + accusative	through	codicilli, -orum n	
*intro, -are	enter	index, -icis m	
Ostiensis, -e	Ostian	averto, -ere	
*via, -ae f	road	visus, -us m	
vehiculum, -i n	cart	nec multo post	
purgamenta, -orum n pl.	[ref]use	*liberi, -orum m [pl]	
*eripio, -ere, -ui	[t]ake away	offero, -ferre	
commove[o, -ere]-i, vi	arouse	*ingredior, -i	
*nullus, -a, [-um]	no	*iubeo, -ere, iussi	
misericordia, -ae f	pity	*amoveo, -eri	

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Lines 49–59: Silius hides and Messalina appeals to Claudius

atque interim, tribus omnino comitantibus

50 — tam repens erat sollitudo — postquam ̣ ̣r ̣rb ̣,

pedibus ivit, vehiculo, q ̣ ̣ ̣ urg ̣ ̣ ̣ ̣ ̣ ̣ hortorum eripiuntur,

Osti ̣ ̣ ̣ ̣ vi ̣ ̣ ̣ ̣ ̣ ̣ nullam misericordiam

civibu ̣ ̣ ̣ ̣ movit quia flagitiorum deformitas praevalebat.

et iam erat in aspectu Claudii clamitabatque ut audiret

55 Octaviae et Britannici matrem. Narcissus tamen obstrepuit,

Silium et nuptias referens; simul codicillos libidinum indices

tradidit, quibus visus Caesaris averteret. nec multo post

urbem ingredienti offerebantur liberi, sed Narciss ̣ ̣ ̣ ̣

amoveri eos iussit.

Comprehension questions

1. How does Tacitus distinguish the two ways Messalina went to meet Claudiu[s]

2. Why did the citizens not pity Messalina?

Grammar and translation notes

49 *tribus... comitantibus*: ablative of attendant circumstances or ablative abso[lute]

53 *civibus*: 'in/among the citizens'

54 *ut audiret*: indirect command.

56 *Siliu[m]... [r]e[ferre]... refero* normally means 'report', so either we must under[stand] trans[late] s 'referring to'.

57 *quibus... averteret*: a purpose clause*; *quibus*, ablative of means, refers ba[ck to] lines 43–44.

58 *ingredienti*: dative of the present participle, referring to Claudius.

offerebantur: probably the conative use of the imperfect, 'tried to present' the passive, as *fero* is a transitive verb, and its use here is reflexive; see the

Activity

Write down the abstract nouns in this section.

Context and style notes

49 *interim*: a *variatio* on *interea* in line 42.

tribus... comitantibus: in the chapters [om]it[t]ed, [Ta]citus describes a riotous [party] was broken up by news that Cl[audi]us [k]new about the plot. The guests sca[ttered] were arrested by cen[turion]s of the Praetorian Guard. This is why she only [had] *comitantibus* [an] [exa]mple of homoioteleuton, words having the same en[ding]

50 *sollit[udo]*: [ab]stract nouns ending in *-do* are quite frequent in Tacitus, but n[o] gerun[d] [e]nding in *-do* is frequent.

50–51 *postquam per... pedibus... purgamenta*: the alliteration of *p* is possibly inte[nded] at Messalina's behaviour and the desperate situation she was in. Certainl[y the] cart was unnecessary, unless he wanted to disparage Messalina.

52 *Ostiensem viam intrat*: she goes on this road in order to meet Claudius, wh[o] Note the use of the historic present.

52–53 There is marked alliteration of *m* in these lines, which was often used to e[xpress] *nullam* emphasises the lack of it in Messalina's case; instead, Tacitus uses [three] consecutive words, *civibus commovit quia* to express his dislike of Messali[na] compound of *prae*.

54 *et iam in aspectu*: in the section omitted, the movem[ent]s of Messalina ar[e] that she must have left the cart when she saw [Cla]us [a]pproaching from [one part of] the journey, Tacitus tells us that Narcis[su]s, [who] [w]as trying to take control that he take control of the Pra[etori]a[n] [gu]ard. Later, he joined Claudius and[d]

clamitabatque: se[e] [note] [o]n line 9. Note the contrast between the imp[erfect] tense *clamitab[at]* [Messal]ina was shouting repeatedly (incomplete action), b[ut] (com[pleted] ac[ti]on). The same sentence construction is used in line 58, wh[ere] them[selve]s (imperfect), but Narcissus ordered them to be taken away (pe[rfect])

57 *quibus visus... averteret*: Narcissus prevents Claudius from looking at Mess[alina] her beauty and dismisses the accusations; see lines 31–32. He also orders prevent the sight of them from influencing Claudius; see line 48.

58 *liberi*: *variatio* on the names in line 55.

Aided Translation

Write a translation on a separate piece of paper; the numbers indicate a p

```
       5    3     4      1              2        1
mirum inter haec silentium, omnia liberto oboediebat;
   1      3          6      2      1   2
qui contionem in castris paravit.  apud eos
                    4      5      7      8      6
praemonente Narcisso princeps pauca verba fecit:
    2       1      3        4       6       7    8    9
continuus dehinc clamor militum nomina reorum et poenas
     5           2       1   3     4      6       7
flagitantium.  ductus Silius ad tribunal non defensionem,
   8      9        5       10      ...11 ... 12   13        14
non moras temptavit, sed precatus est ut mors acceleraretur.
   1      2          7        5     6        3       4
interim Messalina Lucullianis in hortis prolatare vitam,
     8        9        10    11 12 13    4        5
componere preces, nonnulla spe et ira: tantam superbiam
   1     2      3      1   2    6    5     3          4
etiam tum gerebat.  ac nisi caedem eius Narcissus properavisset,
    8       7    9     10
vertisset pernicies in accusatorem.
```

silentium, -ii n	silence	tribunal, -alis n	
*inter + accusative	amid, during	tempto, -are, -avi	
*hic, haec, hoc	this	mora, -ae f	
mirus, -a, -um	surprising	precor, -ari, -atus est	
oboedio, -ire + dative	obey	*mors, mortis f	
*paro, -are, -avi	prepare	accelero, -are	
contio, -onis f	meeting	prolato, -are	
*castra, -orum n pl.	camp	*vita, -ae f	
apud + accusative	in the presence of	compono, -ere	
praemoneo, -ere	advise beforehand	preces, -um f pl.	
*facio, -ere, feci	(here =) compose, speak	*ira, -ae f	
*pauci, -ae, -a	few	*etiam	
*verbum, -i n	word	*tum	
dehinc	then	gero, -ere	
continuus, -a, -um	continuous	*tantus, -a, -um	
*clamor, -oris m	shouting	superbia, -ae f	
flagito, -are	demand	propero, -are, -avi	
*nomen, -inis n	name	caedes, -is f	
*poena, -ae f	punishment	pernicies, -ei f	
reus, -a, -um	accused, guilty	accusator, -oris m	
*duco, -ere, ductum	bring, lead		

Lines 60–69: Narcissus arranges the assassination of Messalina

60   mirum inter haec silentium Claudii: omnia liberto oboediebat;

qui contionem militum in castris paravit, apud quem

praemonente Narcisso princeps pauca verba fecit:

continuo clamore et flagitant militum nomina reorum et poenas

flagitabant. ductus Silius ad tribunal non defensionem,

65   non moras temptavit, sed precatus est ut mors acceleraretur.

interim Messalina Lucullianis in hortis prolatare vitam,

componere preces, nonnulla spe et ira: tantam superbiam

etiam tum gerebat. ac nisi caedem eius Narcissus properavisset,

vertisset pernicies in accusatorem.

Grammar and translation notes

60	*mirum*: understand *erat*.
	omnia liberto oboediebat: *omnia* is accusative of respect, 'in every respect⸝ verb *oboediebat*.
61	*qui* is a connecting relative referring to Narcissus, *eos* ⸝fers to the soldier⸝
62	*praemonente Narcisso*: ablative absolute*; ⸝⸝ ⸝ll⸝, Narcissus warning be⸝ warning by Narcissus'. There is n⸝⸝ ⸝ perfect participle, so the present⸝ instead.
63	*clamor⸝* de⸝ ⸝⸝⸝t.
65	*ut... ⸝⸝retur*: indirect petition*.

Context and style notes

This section is considerably condensed; before taking the emperor to the camp, ⸝ of Silius; there, Claudius sees the statue of Silius's father, which had been erecte⸝ following the trial and suicide of his father in AD 24 during the reign of Tiberius. I⸝ threatening and is led to the soldiers' camp. In addition to Silius's execution, a f⸝ executed; two others were acquitted. Then Tacitus returns to the flight of Mess⸝

60	*mirum... silentium*: enclosing order; *mirum* emphasises that it was remark⸝ while various people (including Vibidia, a vestal virgin, who was objecting ⸝ were making various pleas. However, given Claudius's known hesitation a⸝ note on line 62), he was glad to let Narcissus take contr⸝l (*omnia liberto o*⸝ that Tacitus uses *liberto*, rather than Narciss⸝s ⸝⸝ ⸝p⸝asise the power a⸝
62	*praemonente Narcisso*: note the u⸝ ⸝ ⸝e ⸝⸝fix *prae-*, and the alliteratio⸝ *pauca* emphasising Claudi⸝⸝ ⸝⸝ ⸝⸝own stutter.
	Narcissus's pr⸝⸝ ⸝ ⸝ng of the Praetorian Guard (*militum*), presumably g⸝ Clau⸝⸝ ⸝si ⸝nu warning the troops to be quiet, obviates the need for ⸝ *verba*⸝for which he would be very grateful. Tacitus, however, states⸝ brevity was because shame prevented him from expressing his righteous ⸝
63	*continuus... clamor*: the soldiers' shouting over the outrageous conduct of⸝ earlier silence of the emperor. The original Tacitus has *continuus... cohort*⸝ here is clearly intentional.
64	*tribunal*: this would be a mound of earth constructed to form a platform f⸝ address the troops, and which would serve as a temporary court.
64–65	*non defensionem, non moras*: anaphora (repetition of the same word at t⸝ phrases or clauses), and asyndeton.
66	*Lucullianis in hortis*: see the note on lines 44–45. Evidently, she had retur⸝ with Claudius.
66–67	*prolatare vitam, componere preces*: hist⸝ri⸝ ⸝inf⸝⸝ves, making the scene ⸝
67	*nonnulla spe et ira*: anothe⸝ ⸝⸝ ⸝⸝⸝or 'tacking on' in the ablative case.
	*tantam superb⸝⸝⸝ ⸝it⸝⸝has probably inserted this to justify her murde⸝ remi⸝⸝⸝f k⸝⸝ ⸝⸝arquinius Superbus, so named because of his excessive⸝ out o⸝⸝⸝⸝ in 510 BC.
68–69	*Narcissus properavisset, vertisset pernicies*: chiasmus (subject + verb, verb⸝
69	*accusatorem*: i.e. Narcissus.

Lines 70–79: Narcissus orders a tribune to murder Messa[lina]

Aided Translation

Write a translation on a separate piece of paper; the numbers indicate a p[...]

<pre>
 1   3   5   4   2   7   8   6
nam Claudius domum regressus, ub[i cena vino]que incaluit,
   10   11   13   12   [18]   19   16
imperavit ut femina [mise]ra ([ha]ec enim verbo Claudium
  ...17.   [15]   [22] [24]   23   21   20
usu[m] [fe...nt] ad causam dicendam postridie adesset.
   4   2   3   5   8   7   10
quod ubi Narcissus audivit et languescere iram redire
    9   6   11   14   15   12   13
amorem vidit, timebat, si moraretur, propinquam noctem
 16   18   19   17   1   2   4   3
et uxorii cubiculi memoriam; igitur prorumpit denuntiatque
       5   6   7   8   9   10   11
centurionibus et tribuno, qui aderat, exsequi caedem:
  1   2   3   5   4   1   2   3
ita imperatorem iubere. missus quoque unus e libertis:
  1   3   4   5   2   6   7
is raptim in hortos praegressus repperit Messalinam,
   9   8
humi fusam;
</pre>

---

*regredior, -i, -gressus sum (dept.)	memoria, -ae f
incalesco, [...] [u]i	uxorius, -a, -um
*cena, -ae	be heated, warm	cubiculum, -i n
*vinum, -i n	meal	prorumpo, -ere, -[...]
*impero, -are, -avi	wine	denuntio, -are
*miser, -a, -um	order	centurio, -onis m
*fero, ferre	wretched	tribunus, -i m
utor, uti, usus sum (dept.)	say, report	exsequor, -i
*adsum, -esse	use	*imperator, -oris [m]
postridie	be present	*unus, -a, -um
ad + gerundive	the next day	*e, ex + ablative
*dico, -ere	in order to	*quoque
causa, -ae f	plead, say	praegredior, -i, -g[...] sum (dept.)
languesco, -ere	case	[r]aptim
*redeo, -ire	abate, decline	reperio, -ire, repp[...]
propinquus, -a, -um	return	fusus, -a, -um
*nox, noctis f	appr[oaching]	humus, -i f
	[ni]ght	

Lines 70–79: Narcissus orders a tribune to murder Messalina

70   nam Claudius domum regressus, ubi cena vinoque incaluit,

      imperavit ut femina misera (hoc enim verbo traditum

      usum esse ferunt) ad causam dicendam postridie adesset.

      quod ubi Narcissus audivit et languescere iram redire

      amorem vidit, timebat, si moraretur, propinquam noctem

75   et uxorii cubiculi memoriam; igitur prorumpit denuntiatque

      centurionibus et tribuno, qui aderat, exsequi caedem:

      ita imperatorem iubere. missus quoque unus e libertis:

      is raptim in hortos praegressus repperit Messalinam,

      humi fusam;

Grammar and translation notes

70	*domum*: accusative of motion*; see the note on line 9.
71	*verbo*: ablative after *utor*.
71–72	*ut... adesset*: indirect command*.
	Claudium usum esse: indirect statement*.
72	*ad causam dicendam*: 'to plead her case' is used with the gerundive to alternative to *ut* with the subjunctive.
73	*quod* is a connecting relative as in line 61; translate it as 'this'.
73–74	*langu... amorem*: indirect statement* introduced by *vidit*.
77	*imperatorem iubere*: *oratio obliqua*, understood from *denuntiatque*.
79	*humi*: locative case, 'on the ground'; no preposition was used with *humus*.
	fusam: understand *Messalinam*.

Context and style notes

70	*cena*: Tacitus wrote *tempestivis epulis*, 'an early banquet'. *cena* was the e... evidently takes early and combines it with binge drinking, for which he wa...
72	*ferunt*: Tacitus does not commit himself, relying on rumour.
73–74	*languescere... amorem*: note the balance (infinitive, accusative, repeated)... fear in *uxorii cubiculi memoriam*; it's not just the love that Narcissus fears... Messalina can sway Claudius's judgement.
74	The alliteration of *m* is quite noticeable in this line and continues in *memo...* possible effect of Claudius's love for Messalina. For anyone dubious of the instances of *m*... with only one in the previous line.
75	*prorue...* a strong word used several times by Virgil, once of the sea bu... use of the historic present and another violent word, *denuntiat*, which imp... the speed and violence of Narcissus's pre-emptive actions.
76	*tribuno*: there were two types of tribune: the *tribunus plebis*, a political of... the interests of the common people; the *tribunus militum*, six of whom we... were in charge for two months each. It is the latter to whom Tacitus is ref...
76	*aderat*: polyptoton, as *adesset* was used in line 72.
77	*imperatorem*: polyptoton as *imperavit* was used in line 71; it is, perhaps, s... *imperator* in relation to Claudius after Messalina's affair becomes known;... Tacitus has a marked preference for *princeps*, which he uses 25 times in B... used only eight times, three of which do not refer to Claudius. Is Tacitus i... his senses, here, and acts more like an emperor rather than acquiescing i...
77	*iubere*: *variatio*, as *imperavit* was used in line 71 and *denuntiatque* in line...
	unus: Euodus, who had been appointed to carry out the execution.

Activity

Write down and translate the words which reveal Narcissus's state of mind.

Lines 79–89: Messalina is killed by the tribune

Aided Translation

Write a translation on a separate piece of paper; the numbers indicate a p[...]

```
        1        2        3        4        9        8
     adsidebat mater Lepida, quae floren[?] f[?]ae
        5        7        6        1        [?]              4
     haud concors fuera[?] [?] sup[?]mis eius necessitatibus
        6             7                8        9        11           10
     ad n[?]io[?] [?]versa suadebat ne percussorem opperiretur:
        [?]        1        4        5        6        8        7
     transiisse vitam neque aliud quam mortem decoram
        3        1        3        4        2        6        5
     quaerendum. sed nihil honestum inerat Messalinae animo,
        8        9        7        1        2        4        3        5
     per libidines corrupto; lacrimae et questus inriti effundebantur,
        6        9        10           ... 8 ...        7
     cum impetu venientium pulsae sunt fores
        13   11        12        1        2        3        6        5
     adstititque tribunus.  tunc primum Messalina fortunam suam
        4        9        7        8        2        3        4        5
     intellexit ferrumque accepit; quod frustra iugulo aut
        6        7        8        1        11        10        9
     pectori per trepidationem admovens, ictu tribun[?] [?]ansigitur.
        1        3        2
     corpus matri concessum.
```

adsideo, -e[?]	sit beside	inritus, -a, -um	
Lepida, -ae	Lepida	questus, -us m	
haud	not	effundo, -ere	
concors, -cordis + dative	in harmony with	foris, -is f	
*filia, -ae f	daughter	pello, -ere, pulsum	
floreo, -ere	flourish	adsisto, -ere, -stiti	
supremus, -a, -um	final, last	tunc	
necessitas, -tatis f	(hour of) need	primum	
miseratio, -onis f	pity	fortuna, -ae f	
suadeo, -ere	advise	ferrum, -i n	
opperior, -iri (dept.)	wait for	*admoveo, -ere	
percussor, -oris m	assassin	*frustra	
transeo, -ire, -ii	be past, over	[?]ulum, -i n	
*alius, -a, -ud	else, other	*pectus, -oris n	
decorus, -a, -um	nob[?]	trepidatio, -onis f	
*insum, -esse	[?]i[?]	transigo, -ere	
*nihil	nothing	ictus, -us m	
honestus, [?]	honourable	*corpus, -oris n	
*animus, -i	mind	concedo, -ere, -cess[?]	
corrrumpo, -ere, -ruptum	corrupt		
lacrima, -ae f	tear		

Lines 79–89: Messalina is killed by the tribune

adsidebat mater Lepida, quae florenti filiae

80 haud concors fuerat; sed supremis eius nec essitat[...]

ad miserationem versa su[...]bat [...] percussorem opperiretur:

trans[...] ita [...] aliud quam mortem decoram

quaer[...]m. sed nihil honestum inerat Messalinae animo,

per libidines corrupto; lacrimae et questus inriti effundebantur,

85 cum impetu venientium pulsae sunt fores

adstititque tribunus. tunc primum Messalina fortunam suam

intellexit ferrumque accepit; quod frustra iugulo aut

pectori per trepidationem admovens, ictu tribuni t[...]it[...].

corpus matri concessum.

Grammar and translation notes

80 *supremis... necessitatibus*: time when*.

81 *versa*: see the note on line 14, where *verto* is also used intransitively, as he

ne... opperiretur: indirect command*.

82 *transiisse vitam*: Tacitus goes into *oratio obliqua*, following on from the in
what Lepida goes on to say.

83 *quaerendum*: gerundive of oblig... understand *ei* and *esse*, 'she shoul

animo: dative after a ... of *esse*.

84 *effu... tu ...* the note on line 14; as *effundere* is a transitive verb, Ta
for the ...sitive sense. *cf.* line 81.

85 *cum... pulsae sunt*: when the *cum* clause follows the main verb, the indicat
effect, the main clause or more important part of the sentence.

87 *quod*: connecting relative, referring to the sword (*ferrum*).

89 *corpus matri concessum*: understand *est* with *concessum*.

Context and style notes

79 *Lepida*: see Appendix 1; she was married three times and had Messalina b
the sister-in-law of Agrippina with whom she was not on good terms beca
Nero and Britannicus, were coheirs to the throne. Lepida was not on good
Messalina either (*filiae haud concors fuerat*), possibly because Messalina h
third husband, Silanus, whom Messalina falsely accuse of plotting agains
consequently executed. In Book 12, 64.4, she is ... ed as 'immodest, a
said to rival Agrippina in vices.

80 *sed supremis eius necessitc...* ... is considerable sibilance here, poss
Tacitus's disgust at the ... ar pair.

81 *mise... m ... cussorem*: Tacitus is fond of nouns ending in *-io* and *-o*
e.g. i... or (line 77) and *amor* (74), others are not, e.g. *accusator* (69) a
actual text of Book 11, there are over 40 examples of nouns ending in *-tor*

He seems fond of the sound *o* in general, as in the assonance of *mortem d*

82 *transiisse*: the position of the verb at the beginning of the sentence is emp

82–83 *decoram... honestum*: *variatio*, as both words mean 'honourable'.

84 *per... corrupto*: this looks like 'tacking on', but Tacitus puts this phrase befo
noteworthy, however, is Tacitus's inability to resist adding a derogatory st

85 *venientium*: another favourite stylistic feature of Tacitus, the use of the pa
people arriving'.

86 *adstititque tribunus*: the original text contrasts the tribune standing there
of the doors and the freedman, presumably Eu... ... uting insults. The
between the sitting mother and daughter (... *le* ..., line 79) and the trib
(*adstititque*), emphasised by the ... po...ion of both words at the be

87 *ferrum*: the drama is ... ed by the use of a poetical word, *ferrum*, rath
prose word; *p... ... th...* next line, is also largely poetic.

88 *pect... nsigitur*: the hesitation and panic of Messalina is expressed by
allitera... of *p*, and, possibly, the assonance of *pe*, while the execution is
words, with alliteration of *tr* and assonance of *u*.

trepidationem: another abstract noun ending in *-io*, which Livy also used s

89 *corpus matri concessum*: another three-word clause. So, after the lengthy d
Tacitus disposes of her in six terse words.

The Author: Pliny

Pliny the Younger was born in either AD 61 or 62 at *Comum* (Como, situated on t
Northern Italy). His full name was Gaius Plinius Caecilius Secundus (Caecilius bei
and Plinia that of his mother). He is generally referred to as Pliny the Younger, a
three of the same names – Gaius Plinius Secundus. His uncle a man of immense
work, *Natural History.*

When he was quite young, Pliny the Y... ather died, and his upbringing an
between his mother, his gua... Vei_inius Rufus (to whom Pliny refers with ad
uncle, who adopted P... Younger as his son and heir. Pliny was later taught
famous or... v... er on style.

In AD 79, when Pliny was 17 and staying at Misenum on the Bay of Naples, Moun
who commanded the fleet in that area, died trying to save some of the local inha
and his friend Tacitus asked Pliny to write an account of the eruption so that Tac
Histories. Pliny sent Tacitus a letter about another famous event (VII 33), though
Histories will become immortal; therefore, I am all the more keen to be included
his character!

The death of his uncle made Pliny very rich, as he inherited his uncle's estate. He
of grateful gifts from various clients whom he defended in numerous court cases
inheritance disputes or provincial misgovernment. However, Pliny did not hoard
charitable gifts, especially to his native town Como. One of these gifts was to pro
locally, as boys previously had to travel to Milan for their education (Letter IV 13
describes his humanity towards his slaves in allowing them t... write wills and set
Elsewhere (Letter V 19), he describes how he sent ... u... is ...eedmen to Egypt
Pliny belonged to the order of *equites* (kni... b... ...ecame a member of the se
elected quaestor and worked his ... t... ...nsul in AD 100. In 110 he became g
Asia Minor, where he died ... ... in AD 112.

Pliny's earli... k was a tragedy written in Greek at the age of 14. He was also k
this has bee... , as have his speeches, apart from a speech in praise of Trajan de
his 10 books of letters have survived, as they refer to many features of Roman life

The style of the letters is quite different from that of earlier writers like Cicero an
verb at the start or in the middle of sentences, and omits unimportant words wh
line 13, *haec inter medios labores urbisque fremitum*, where a verb has to be sup
managed'); see also the notes on lines 17 and 21. The sentences are also merciful
easier for us to understand. One should remember that Pliny is writing letters to
for a large literary audience, so obvious words, e.g. parts of *esse*, would be regul
costly, and Romans often used to write on the back of it as well, in order to save
immediately after the end of this selection, his uncle used to do.

Pliny the Elder (AD 23/24–79)
The Elder Pliny was a very industrious ... ...e following letter proves. Pliny
that he himself was very lazy c... par... ...th his uncle. Pliny the Elder wrote nur
which is his *Natural His... ...* ...ily book which has survived. He also wrote tw
from Julius ... d ... ...o Tiberius, which included a reference to Germany, wh
other cover... ...ts from Claudius to Vespasian and may well have been a sour
several administrative roles, finally being appointed as prefect of the fleet at Mis
eruption, trying to save other people.

Wikipedia has a very extensive and interesting article on him.

avunculus meus: Translation and

Lines 1–12: How Pliny's uncle spent the day

Aided Translation

Write a translation on a separate piece of paper; numbers indicate a p

```
    1     2     3   4                         5             7   8     9
ante lucem ibat ad Vespasianum imperatorem (nam ille quoque
      11            12   13    14    16    15
noctu vigilabatur), deinde ad officium sibi delegatum.
    1       2         4       5        6       3
reversus domum reliquum tempus studiis dabat.
    1     2     3     4     6     5     7     9
saepe post cibum (qui veterum more interdiu levis
  10  11   8     12    13  15    16  14    17    18  19
et facilis erat) aestate, si quid otii erat, iacebat in sole,
  20    21          22        24   23   3    1     2
liber legebatur, adnotabat excerpebatque. nihil enim legit
    4     5         6       3      1     2       4     5
quod non excerperet; dicere etiam solebat nullum librum
    6   7     8     9  10    12    13     11     1     2
esse tam malum ut non aliqua parte prodesset. post solem
      3       6     5       4         7        8
plerumque aqua frigida lavabatur, deinde gustabat
        10    9     11    1   2     3  4   5
dormiebatque minimum; mox quasi alio die studebat
  6     8     7     1     2         4         5
in cenae tempus. super cenam liber legebatur adnotabatur,
(6)
et quidem cursim.
```

ante + accusative	before	*lego, -ere	
*lux, lucis f	dawn, light	adnoto, -are	
Vespasianus, -i m	Vespasian	excerpo, -ere	
*deinde	then	*soleo, -ere, solitus sum	
officium, -i n	duty	*malus, -a, -um	
delegatus, -a, -um	assigned	prosum, -desse	
*revertor, -i, -versus sum (dept.)	return	aliqui, -qua, -quod	
*tempus, -oris n	time	*pars, partis f	
studium, -i n	study	plerumque	
*post + accusative	after	lavor, -ari	
*cibus, -i m	food	frigidus, -a, -um	
mos, moris m	custom	*aqua, -ae f	
vetus, -eris	former	gusto, -are	
interdiu	during the day	*dormio, -ire	
levis, -e	light	*minimus, -a, -um (sup)	
*facilis, -e	easy (on the stomach)	*mox	
aestas, -atis	summer	quasi	
*quis, quid	any	*alius, -a, -ud	
otium, -ii n	leisure, free time	*dies, diei m/f	
*iaceo, -ere	lie	studeo, -ere	
sol, solis m	sun	super + accusative	
*liber, -ri m	book	cursim	

Lines 1–12: How Pliny's uncle spent the day

ante lucem ibat ad Vespasianum imperatorem (nam ille quoque

noctibus utebatur), deinde ad officium sibi delegatum.

reversus domum reliquum tempus studiis dabat.

saepe ... citi ... veterum more interdiu levis

5   et fac....at) aestate, si quid otii erat, iacebat in sole,

liber legebatur, adnotabat excerpebatque. nihil enim legit

quod non excerperet; dicere etiam solebat nullum librum

esse tam malum ut non aliqua parte prodesset. post solem

plerumque aqua frigida lavabatur, deinde gustabat

10   dormiebatque minimum; mox quasi alio die studebat

in cenae tempus. super cenam liber legebatur adnotabatur,

et quidem cursim.

Grammar and translation notes

1. *ibat*: all the imperfect tenses in this section express habitual action; transl…

2. *noctibus*: ablative after *utor*.

3. *domum*: accusative of motion towards*; see the note on *Messalina*, line 9

4. *veterum more*: 'after the custom of his forefathers' … *us* normally means … noun, meaning 'forefathers'.

5. *facilis* means 'easy'; editors … et … us in different ways, varying betwe… 'digestible' (CLA). I h… … the CLA and translated it 'easy on the st…

   aest… … …me when*.

   otii: p… genitive, expressing the whole, 'leisure', of which *quid* is a p… so, 'any leisure'.

6. *legebatur… excerpebatque*: there is an awkward change of subject, here; t… but the subject of the following two verbs is Pliny the Elder.

7. *quod non excerperet*: the subjunctive is generic, expressing the type of thi… indefinite subjects, as here, 'nothing'.

8. *ut non… prodesset*: result clause*, hence the negative *non*, not *ne*. The ve… when a part of *sum* begins with a vowel, *d* is inserted to make it easier to …

   aliqua parte: ablative of respect, expressing the part in respect of which th…

9. *aqua frigida*: instrumental ablative*.

   lavabatur: in the active, *lavare* means to wash, in the passive, it means ba…

10. *alio die*: ablative of time when*.

Context and style n…

1. *Vesp… …n*: … AD 68, there were four emperors, the first three of which … The la… … Vespasian, who defeated Otho, and reigned from AD 69–79. … to have come from the *Equites*, and the first emperor to be succeeded by … the building of the Colosseum, which was completed by his son Titus in AD…

2. *noctibus*: Suetonius, *Vespasian* 21, tells us that in addition to working befo… council at dawn, which must have been very popular!

   officium: his command of the fleet at Misenum. Evidently, he conducted t…

4. *cibum*: Sherwin-White, *Fifty Letters of Pliny*, states that *cibum* was a light … hour (shortly before noon), followed by another light meal (*gustabat*) at t… meal (*cena*) at the ninth hour. In winter, the timing would be different.

   veterum: like his friend Tacitus, Pliny sometimes uses adjectives as nouns;…

10. *quasi alio die*: the midday snack usually mar… … end of the working da… siesta, but Pliny the Elder kept it to a … in … and started work again as …

Lines 13–23: His uncle even studies when travelling

Aided Translation

Write a translation on a separate piece of paper; the numbers indicate a p[...]

```
     1    2      3        4      7    5       6                    2
haec inter medios labores urbisque fremitu, in secessu
     3     4       5        7                    8      9    10
solum balinei tempus studiis eximebatur (cum dico 'balinei',
    12     13                 1       2       3        5     4
de interiore loquor; nam dum destringitur tergiturque,
    6        7      8       9       1    2      3      4
audiebat aliquid aut dictabat). in itinere quasi solutus
     5     6    8     9     7    1    2       3     4    5
ceteris curis, huic uni vacabat: ad latus notarius cum libro
    6      7          8      9      12      11        10
et pugillaribus, cuius manus hieme manicis muniebantur,
   13 14* 16    14*       15       18    19      20     17
ut ne caeli quidem asperitas ullum studii tempus eriperet;
    2    1    3      6      7      5    4        1
qua ex causa Romae quoque sella vehebatur. repeto
    2       3      4  5    6       7        2      1
me correptum ab eo, quod ambularem: 'poteras' inquit
    5    6     3    4      1      5      3     4
'has horas non perdere'; nam perire omne tempus
         2        6    9     7       8
arbitrabatur, quod studiis non impenderetur. vale.
```

*medius, -a	the middle of	*manus, -us f	
*labor, -oris	toil, task	hiems, -is f	
fremitus, -us m	noise	manicae, -arum f	
secessus, -us m	retreat	munio, -ire	
balineum, -i n	bath	ne… quidem	
studium, -ii n	study	asperitas, -tatis f	
interior, -ius	inner	*caelum, -i n	
*loquor, -i (dept.)	talk	ullus, -a, -um	
destringo, -ere	scrape	causa, -ae, f	
tergeo, -ere	wipe	vehor, -i	
aliquis, -quid	someone, something	sella, -ae f	
dicto, -are	dictate	repeto, -ere	
*in + ablative	on	*o, me, mei, mihi,	
*iter, itineris n	journey	corripio, -ere, -reptu	
solvo, -ere, solutum	release	*quod	
*ceteri, -ae, -a	[...]other	*ambulo, -are	
*cura, -ae f	care, anxiety	*hora, -ae f	
vaco, -are	have time for	perdo, -ere	
*ad + accus	(*here* =) at	arbitror, -ari (dept.)	
latus, -eris n	side	*pereo, -ire	
notarius, -ii m	secretary	impendo, -ere	
pugillares, -ium m pl.	writing tablet	vale	

Lines 13–23: His uncle even studies when travelling

haec inter medios labores urbisque fremitum. in secessu

solum balinei tempus studiis eximebatur (cum dico 'balinei',

15   de interioribus loquor; nam dum destringitur tergiturque,

audiebat aliquid aut dictabat). in itinere quasi solutus

ceteris curis, huic uni vacabat: ad latus notarius cum libro

et pugillaribus, cuius manus hieme manicis muniebantur,

ut ne caeli quidem asperitas ullum studii tempus eriperet;

20   qua ex causa Romae quoque sella vehebatur. repeto

me correptum ab eo, quod ambularem: 'poteras' inquit

'has horas non perdere'; nam perire omne tempus

arbitrabatur, quod studiis non impertiretur. vale.

Comprehension question

What two activities were **not** devoted to study by Pliny?

Grammar and translation notes

13 *haec*: understand a verb, e.g. *agebat*, 'he used [...]

secessu means 'withdrawal, retreat', [...] his country villa.

14 *studiis*: ablative of sep[...] on [...] 'from (his) studies'; cf. *curis* in line 17.

15 *interio[...]*: [...] and 'rooms/parts', as there were several rooms where[...]
Pliny[...] is referring to the inner parts/rooms of the bath complex, for t[...]
being [...], etc. Clearly, while in the bath rooms themselves, Pliny would [...]
scraped free of oil (*destringitur*) and wiped down (*tergitur*), a slave would [...]
he dictated.

The fact that Pliny had his own baths shows how wealthy he was, as few R[...]
The vast majority would use the various public baths.

dum destringitur: see the note on *Messalina*, line 17.

17 *notarius*: understand *sedebat* ('sat') or *erat*.

18 *hieme*: ablative of time when*; cf. line 5.

manicis: some editors translate this as 'long sleeves', but the root of the w[...]
something to cover the hands, not the arms, so translate it as 'gloves/mitt[...]
the fingers would need to be free in order to write.

19 *ut... eriperet*: purpose clause*.

studii: the original Pliny text ha[...] *[...]* 'from studies', which is easier to u[...]
genitive, which can on[...] an [...] of study'.

20 *qua* is [...] n [...] ative, agreeing with *causa*; translate it as 'for this re[...]
Rom[...] ome', the locative case*.

21 *correptum*: understand *esse* to complete the indirect statement, because [...]
impenderetur (line 23) are in the subjunctive; see the note on *Messalina*, [...]

22 *perire* is used as the passive of *perdere*, so this is virtually an example of p[...]

Context and style notes

13 *fremitum*: Juvenal gives a semi-humorous account of life in Rome, compla[...]
noise and danger of heavy carts rolling along the streets at night, the only[...]
transport was allowed at Rome; so in the daytime, Pliny has to travel in a s[...]
(*sella*, line 20), in which he could still study and also sa[...]e time, which is wh[...]
his nephew for walking (lines 21–22).

15 *interioribus*: there were several p[...] he [...]man baths; in addition to th[...]
themselves, there was a h[...] [...] *[...]ldarium*), a warm room (*tepidarium*)[...]
room (*frigidarium*[...] R [...] [...]so had their bodies massaged, then oiled an[...]
with [...]l. [...]s also used a strigil after exercising.

17 *man[...]us muniebantur*: the alliteration of *m* and *n* may be intended[...]
emphasise the cold of winter.

Exam-type questions

NB The Pliny section is so short and devoid of stylistic points that I have set a full Messalina section only, with some separate questions on Pliny afterwards.

Messalina (non-write-on)

we. all the questions.

Quality of extende ~~d~~ will be assessed in the question marked with

1. Read t. age and answer the questions.

   illa non furtim sed multis cum comitibus ventitat domum, egredie
   honoresque; postremo servi, liberti, paratus principis apud adulte
   at Claudius matrimonii sui ignarus.

   (a) *illa... domum* (line 1): how did the way Messalina visited Silius make th
   Make **two** points.

   (b) *postremo... videbantur* (line 2): who else were seen at Silius's house?

   (c) *at... ignarus* (line 3): in your own words, what does Tacitus suggest wa

2. Read the passage and answer the qu

   se caelibem, orbum. Sti. adoptando Britannico paratum. ean
   mansu.am. dia securitate, si praevenirent Claudium, qui i
   cel. t. .essalina, non amore in maritum, sed verita ne Silius s
   spe. t, diu haesitavit; sed tandem persuasum.

   How does Tacitus contrast the attitudes of Silius and Messalina towards ma
   refer to the Latin.

3. Read the passage and answer the questions.

   spem tamen habebant, si Claudio de atrocitate sceleris persuasisse
   opprimi sine quaestione damnatam; sed pericu¹.m esse ne ille def
   clausae aures etiam confitenti non esse... N. .is.us, occasiones q
   apud Ostiam moraretur, duas .u. ac. es largitione ac promissis

   (a) s. .ar.matam (lines 1–2): what did the household hope?

   (b) *sed periculum... essent* (lines 2–3): what was the danger?

   (c) *Narcissus... subire* (lines 3–4): what did Narcissus do about the danger?

4. Read the passage and answer the questions.

> non solum rumor interea, sed undique nuntii ad Messalinam cont[e]
> omnia cognovisse et venire promptum ultioni adferrent. igitur Me[s]
> hortos, Silius dissimulando metui ad forum digrediuntur. illa tam[e]
> consilium eximerent, ire obviam et aspici a marito statim constituit
5 > subsidium; misitque ut Britannicus et Octavi[a] [c]omplexum patri[s]

(a) *sed... adferrent* (line[s] [1-]2): [w]h[at] two pieces of information did the me[s]

(b) I[n] [the bo]x [bel]ow, write down and **translate the Latin** word, from line 1
   m[eaning 'me]ssages.

Latin word	E[n]

(c) *Silius... digrediuntur* (line 3): Why did Silius go to the forum?

(d) *illa tamen... irent* (lines 3–5): what **two** things was Messalina relying on
   Claudius?

5. Read the passage and answer the question.

> atque interim, tribus omnino comitantibus — [tam] repens erat solli[t]
> urbem pedibus ivit, vehiculo, quo pur[gam]en[to] [h]ortorum eripiuntu[r]
> nullam misericordiam civib[us] [com]ov[it] quia flagitiorum deformi[t]
> et iam erat in aspect[u] [Cl]aud[ii] [cl]amitabatque ut audiret Octaviae et [...]

Transl[ation]
And me[anw]hile, with three at the most accompanying her — so sudden wa[s]
foot through the city, she entered the Ostian road in a cart, by which the refu[...]
away. She aroused no pity in the citizens, as the hideousness of the scanda[l]

And now she was in sight of Claudius and kept shouting that he should list[e]
and Britannicus.

How does Tacitus portray the misery and dreadful plight of Messalina?
Make **two** points and refer to the **Latin**.

6. Translate the passage into English.

> mirum inter haec silentium Claud[ii] [o]m[nia lib]erto oboediebat; qui
> castris paravit. apud eo[s] [...] [a]nte Narcisso princeps pauca ve[l]
> clamor militum [...] [fact]orum et poenas flagitantium.

7. Read the passage and answer the question.

> adsidebat mater Lepida, quae florenti filiae haud concors fuerat; se
> necessitatibus ad miserationem versa suadebat ne percussorem op
> neque aliud quam mortem decoram quaerendum. sed nihil hones
> animo, per libidines corrupto; lacrimae et questus inriti effundeba
> 5 pulsae sunt fores adstititque tribunus. tunc p... am Messalina for
> ferrumque accepit; quod frustra iugul...at ...ctori per trepidation
> transigitur. corpus matri con...s...

How c... it... make this a vivid and dramatic scene?

You should refer to the **Latin** and discuss a range of stylistic features such a
position of words.

*8. 'All the characters in Tacitus's *Annals* are bad.' How true is this in the sectic
You may refer to the passages printed in this question paper, but you shoul
that you have read. You should support your answer with examples (in Engl

END OF QUESTION PAPER

Exam-type questions

Pliny (non-write-on)

1. Read the passage and answer the questions.

> ante lucem ibat ad Vespasianum imp...or... (nam ille quoque
> noctibus utebatur), deinde a... ...u... ibi delegatum.
> reversus domum reli...a... ...pus studiis dabat.
> saepe post cib...a... ...veterum more interdiu levis
> e...s e... ...aestate, si quid otii erat, iacebat in sole,
> lib...ebatur, adnotabat excerpebatque. nihil enim legit
> quod non excerperet; dicere etiam solebat nullum librum
> esse tam malum ut non aliqua parte prodesset. post solem
> plerumque aqua frigida lavabatur, deinde gustabat
> dormiebatque minimum; mox quasi alio die studebat
> in cenae tempus. super cenam liber legebatur adnotabatur,
> et quidem cursim.

avunculus meus, lines 1–12

(a) *quoque* (line 1): what can be deduced from Pliny's use of this word?

(b) What was Pliny's *officium* (line 2)?

(c) *reversus domum* (line 3): when Pliny ret...rned home, what did he do?

(d) *aestate... sole* (line 5... ...hat ... Pliny do in summer if he had the time?

(e) (i) ...at ...r other things did he do?
   (ii) ...e down and translate the **Latin** word which tells that he did n...

Latin word	Engl...

2. Read the passage and answer the questions.

> haec inter medios labores urbisque fremitum. in secessu
> solum balinei tempus studiis eximebatur (cum dico 'balinei',
> de interioribus loquor; nam dum destringitur tergiturque,
> audiebat aliquid aut dictabat). in itinere quasi solutus
> ceteris curis, huic uni vacabat: ad latus notarius cum libro
> et pugillaribus, cuius manus hieme manicis muniebantur,
> ut ne caeli quidem asperitas ullum studii tempus eriperet;
> qua ex causa Romae quoque sella vehebatur. repeto
> me correptum ab eo, quod ambularem: 'poteras' inquit
> 'has horas non perdere'; nam perire omne tempus
> arbitrabatur, quod studiis non impenderetur. vale.

avunculus meus, lines 13–23

(a) What was the only thing which prevented Pliny from working in the da[y]

(b) Translate lines 17–21 (*ad latus… ambularem*).

(c) (i) What rebuke did Pliny's uncle make?
    (ii) What reason did he give for the rebuke? Answer fully.

Exam-type questions

Messalina (write-on)

Answer **all** the questions.

Quality of extended response will be assessed in any question marked with

1. Read the passage and answer the questions.

   illa perfuror multis cum comitibus ventitat domum, egredier
   hor que, postremo servi, liberti, paratus principis apud adulter
   at Claudius matrimonii sui ignarus.

   (a) *illa... domum* (line 1): how did the way Messalina visited Silius make the
       Make **two** points.

       1 ....

       ....

       2 ....

       ....

   (b) *postremo... videbantur* (line 2): who else were in Silius's house?

       ....

   (c) *at... ignarus* (li ... your own words, what does Tacitus suggest was

       ....

       ....

       ....

       ....

2. Read the passage and answer the question.

> se caelibem, orbum, nuptiis et adoptando Britannico paratum. ea[m]
> mansuram esse, addita securitate, si praevenirent Claudium, qui i[n]
> celer esset. Messalina, non amore in maritum, sed verita ne Silius s[e]
> sperneret, diu haesitavit; sed tandem persuasum.

How does Tacitus contrast the attitude[s] [of] Silius and Messalina towards ma[rriage?]
refer to the Latin.

1 ....

....

....

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2 ....

....

....

....

3. Read the passage and answer the questions.

> spem tamen habebant, si Claudi[um] a [atroc]itate sceleris persuasisse[nt]
> opprimi sine quaestion[e....] [pos]se; sed periculum esse ne ille def[e]
> clausae aures et [con]f[it]enti non essent. Narcissus, occasiones qu[...]
> ap[...]ia [rep]aretur, duas eius paelices largitione ac promissis

(a) *spem... damnatam* (lines 1–2): what did the household hope?

....

....

(b) *sed periculum... essent* (lines 2–3): what was the danger?

....

....

....

(c) *Narcissus... subire* (lines 3–4): what did Narcissus do about the danger?

....

....

4. Read the passage and answer the questions.

non solum rumor interea, sed undique nuntii ad Messalinam conte
omnia cognovisse et venire promptum ultioni adferrent. igitur Me
hortos, Silius dissimulando metui ad forum digrediuntur. illa tame
consilium eximerent, ire obviam et aspici a marito statim constituit
5   subsidium; misitque ut Britannicus et Octavi... omplexum patri

(a) *sed... adferrent* (lines ... two pieces of information did the me

1 ....

   ....

2 ....

   ....

(b) In the box below, write down and **translate the Latin** word, from line 1
many messages.

Latin word	E

(c) *Silius... digrediuntur* (line 3): Why did Silius go to ... forum?

....

(d) *illa tamen... irer...* ... what **two** things was Messalina relying on
me... au...

1 ....

   ....

2 ....

   ....

5. Read the passage and answer the question.

> atque interim, tribus omnino comitantibus — tam repens erat sollit
> urbem pedibus ivit, vehiculo, quo purgamenta hortorum eripiuntu
> nullam misericordiam civibus commovit quia flagitiorum deformi
> et iam erat in aspectu Claudii clamitabatque ut audiret Octaviae et

Translation
And meanwhile, with three at the most accompanying her — so sudden was
foot through the city, she entered the Ostian road in a cart, by which the refu
away. She aroused pity in the citizens, as the hideousness of the scanda
And now was in sight of Claudius and kept shouting that he should liste
and Britannicus.

How does Tacitus portray the misery and dreadful plight of Messalina?
Make **two** points and refer to the **Latin**.

1 ....

....

....

....

2 ....

....

....

....

6. Translate the passage into English.

> mirum inter haec silentium Claudii: omnia liberto oboediebat; qui
> castris paravit. apud eos praemonente Narcisso princeps pauca ve
> clamor militum nomina reorum et poenas flagitantium.

....

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....

....

7. Read the passage and answer the question.

adsidebat mater Lepida, quae florenti filiae haud concors fuerat; se
necessitatibus ad miserationem versa suadebat ne percussorem op[...]
neque aliud quam mortem decoram quaerendum. sed nihil hones[...]
animo, per libidines corrupto; lacrimae et questus inriti effundeba[...]
5   pulsae sunt fores adstititque tribunus. tunc [...]m Messalina for[...]
ferrumque accepit; quod frustra iugul[...]tori per trepidation[...]
transigitur. corpus matri c[...]

How c[...] it [...] make this a vivid and dramatic scene?

You should refer to the **Latin** and discuss a range of stylistic features such a[s]
position of words.

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*8. 'All the characters in Tacitus's *Annals* are bad.' How true is this in the sectio
You may refer to the passages printed in this question paper, but you shoul
that you have read. You should support your answer with examples (in Engl

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END OF QUESTION PAPER

Exam-type questions

Pliny (write-on)

1. Read the passage and answer the questions.

> ante lucem ibat ad Vespasianum imp........ (nam ille quoque
> noctibus utebatur), deinde ad ...... u..... ibi delegatum.
> reversus domum reli..... .....pus studiis dabat.
> saepe post c.b.. .... veterum more interdiu levis
> e...... e ....aestate, si quid otii erat, iacebat in sole,
> li.....ebatur, adnotabat excerpebatque. nihil enim legit
> quod non excerperet; dicere etiam solebat nullum librum
> esse tam malum ut non aliqua parte prodesset. post solem
> plerumque aqua frigida lavabatur, deinde gustabat
> dormiebatque minimum; mox quasi alio die studebat
> in cenae tempus. super cenam liber legebatur adnotabatur,
> et quidem cursim.
>
> *avunculus meus*, lines 1–12

(a) *quoque* (line 1): what can be deduced from Pliny's use of this word?

....

(b) What was Pliny's *officium* (line 2)?

....

(c) rev..... o.... .... .e 3): when Pliny returned home, what did he do?

....

....

....

....

(d) *aestate... sole* (line 5): what did Pliny do in summer if he had the time?

....

(e) (i) What **three** other things did he do?

   1 ....

   2 ....

   3 ....

(ii) ....e down and translate the **Latin** word which tells that he did n.

Latin word	Engl..

2. Read the passage and answer the questions.

> haec inter medios labores urbisque fremitum. in secessu
> solum balinei tempus studiis eximebatur (cum dico 'balinei',
> de interioribus loquor; nam dum destringitur tergiturque,
> audiebat aliquid aut dictabat). in itinere quasi solutus
> ceteris curis, huic uni vacabat: ad latus .... cum libro
> et pugillaribus, cuius manus hieme ...... muniebantur,
> ut ne caeli quidem asp...... ... studii tempus eriperet;
> qua ex causa P...... ...que sella vehebatur. repeto
> m...... ...eo, quod ambularem: 'poteras' inquit
> 'h...... ...s non perdere'; nam perire omne tempus
> arbitrabatur, quod studiis non impenderetur. vale.

avunculus meus, lines 13–23

(a) What was the only thing which prevented Pliny from working in the da...

....

(b) Translate lines 17–21 (*ad latus... ambularem*).

....

....

....

....

....

....

....

....

....

....

(c) **(i)** What rebuke did Pliny's uncle make?

....

(ii) What reason did he give for the rebuke? .... r fully.

....

....

....

Preview of Answers Ends Here

Appendix 1: The Julio–Claudian fa[mily]

NB Some members have been omitted for simplicity's sake. The table shows ho[w]
were because of the number of marriages! The emperors are in bold. For a mor[e]
translation of the *Annals* or Cary's *History of Rome*. Wikipedia is also very usefu[l]

```
                              ( O[ctav]ius = Atia
        ┌───────────────────────────┘
Scrib[o]nia (1) [=] O[CTA]VIUS = Livia (2) = Tiberius Claudius Nero (1) M. An[tony]
              │          ┌──────────────────────┴──────────┐
Agrippa (2) = Julia = TIBERIUS = Vipsania       Nero Drusus = Anto[nia]
     ┌────────────┘                    ┌────────────────┴─────────┐
  Gaius   Agrippina I = Germanicus  Messalina*(3) = CLAUDIUS = Paetina(2)
     │                            ┌───────┴───────┐         │
     │                       Britannicus     Octavia*    Antonia
  ┌──────┬─────────┬──────┬──────┘                    ┌────┘
Nero Caesar Drusus Caesar GAIUS  (1) Agrippina II* = Cn. Domitius Ahenobar[bus]
                                              │
                                    NERO = [O]ctavia*
```
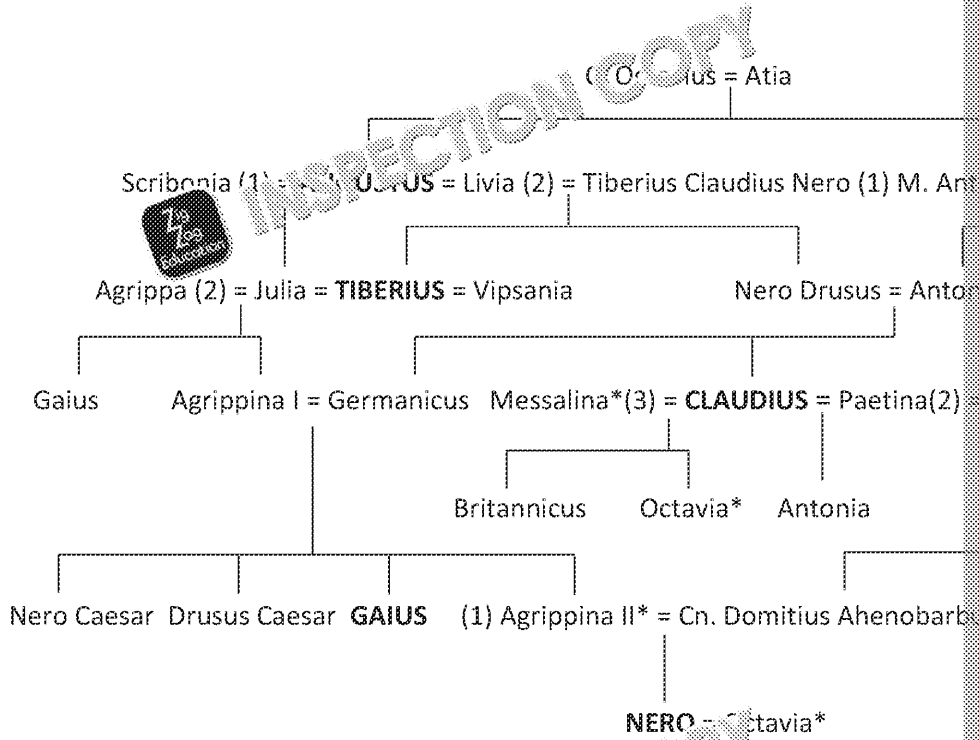
Numbers in brackets de[note th]e first or second marriage. *denotes the same pe[rson.]
The emper[ors are] in [bo]ld.

Appendix 2: Glossary of Grammatical and Sty
Chapter References

NB References to Messalina are in bold, Pliny in italics. References to grammati
the heading 'Grammar and translation notes', linguistic terms under the heading
there are more than six examples, I have inserted 'etc.'

Grammatical terms

NB Simple uses of the cases a free and indirect object, possessive genitive and

	Cases
ACCUSATIVE	
accusative of motion	The accusative is used without a preposition to express names of towns, *domus, rus* and *humus*
accusative of respect	The accusative expresses the respect in which a stateme
GENITIVE	
genitive after adjectives or verbs	Certain adjectives and verbs take an object in the geniti
partitive genitive	used to denote the whole of which something is a part, *militum,* 'some of the soldiers'
DATIVE	
after compound verbs	(i) **Compound verbs**: the dative is used after compou sometimes instead of a preposition to complete th the verb. This is found more often in poetry than i (ii) **Simple verbs**: certain ve ke an object in the d *impero, pareo,*
dative of advantage or disadvantage	This ex s person affected favourably or advers
dative of a	u instead of *a* + ablative to denote the person by wh done; it is regularly found after the gerundive of obligati rare, and usually after the perfect passive
dative of possession	The dative is used to express the person to whom some is usually found with the verb 'to be', expressed, or mor
dative of purpose	the dative is sometimes used to express purpose, usuall or gerundive
ABLATIVE	
ablative absolute	use of a participle and noun instead of a subordinate cla
ablative of cause	the ablative expresses the reason for an action or feelin *Neronis –* 'because of hatred of Nero'
ablative of means	the ablative is used to express the means by which som is very similar to the instrumental ablative
ablative of respect	this expresses the point of view from which something i
ablative of separation	this is used after verbs or adje e.g. *vacuus,* 'free fr
ablative of time	the ablative is used to exp the time when
after verbs and adjectives	certain a jectives take the ablative case, e.g.
instrumental ablative	xp es the instrument or means by which somet u ally found after passive verbs, e.g. *gladio necatus est* with a sword'
The locative case	the locative is a separate case, though it usually has the other cases; in the first declension singular, it has the sa the genitive, e.g. *Romae,* 'at Rome'; in the plural, it has the ablative, e.g. *Athenis,* 'at Athens'
connecting relative	the use of the relative pronoun rather than the demons sentence to the previous one

Verbs

GERUND + GERUNDIVE	
accusative of the gerund(ive)	this is used with *ad* to express purpose
gerundival attraction	the noun is attracted into the case of the gerund, and th into the number and gender of the noun
gerundive of obligation	this is used to express what should be done

INDICATIVE	
historic (or inverse) cum	when the cum clause follows the main verb, and is, in ef more important part of the sentence, the indicative is us in past time
historic present indicative and infinitive	The **present** indicative or infinitive is often used instead tense to make the passage more vivid

INFINITIVE	
indirect statement	A statement which becomes indirect as it is dependent o previous verb of saying, thinking, knowing (that), etc. Th verb is put into the infinitive.

SUBJUNCTIVE	
concessive clauses	Clauses introduced by 'although' in English
fearing clauses	The subjunctive is used after verbs of fearing; positive fe introduced by *ne* and negative fears by *ut* or *ne non*
generic subjunctive	This denotes the **type** of person who does something
indirect command/petition	A command or petition which becomes indirect as it is de on a previous verb of ordering, asking (to), etc
purpose clause	A clause which carries the purpose behind an action
result (or consecutive) clause	The subjunctive is used to express the result of a statem or clause
subordinate clauses in *oratio obliqua*	Subordinate clauses which are part of *oratio obliqua* go into the subjunctive
temporal clauses	*dum* takes the subjunctive when there is an idea of purpose involved

Stylistic terms

abstract nouns:	nouns expressing emotion, *etc.* (10–16, 30–35)
alliteration:	the repetition of the same **letter or consonant** adjacent or closely connected words (**11***, **14,**
anaphora:	the repetition of the same word at the beginnin sentences (**64–65**)
assonance:	the repetition of the same **vowel** sound in near
asyndeton	the lack of a coordinating conjunction or particl
balance:	two or more phrases placed in the same order, this is the opposite of chiasmus (**3–4, 29–30, 44**
chiasmus:	inversion in the second of two parallel phrases e.g. noun + verb, verb + noun – the opposite of
choice of words:	Tacitus has a preference for certain types of wo beginning with *-in*: (**12, 14, 15, 20**); beginning w (**16, 81, 88**): ending in *-or* (**69, 74, 77, 81**); striki participles as nouns (**8**, *4*)
enclosing order:	where two words which agree with each other at the beginning and the end of a longer phrase the other words. Enclosing order often consists chiastically or in a balanced way. (**5–7, 60**)
homoioteleuton:	words with the same ending (**49**)
juxtaposition:	two words placed next to each other for emph asyndeton (**37**)
litotes (or meiosis):	an understatement, consisting of two negative not bad = 'quite good' (**4–5, 6**)
metaphor:	a word used not in its original sense, but resem love' (**1–2**)
poetic words and phrases:	Tacitus sometimes uses words or phrases whic poetry (**87, 88**)
polyptoton:	the repetition of a word with the same root, bu part of speech (**14–15, 76, 77,** *22*)
sibilance:	use of the letter *s*, making a hissing sound and contempt (**21–22, 80**)
superlative:	Cicero often uses the superlative adjective or a
tacking on:	extra phrases or clauses added after the appare (**19, 67**)
variatio:	variation in the way two or more parallel ideas synonyms (**6, 12, 14–15, 33, 77, 82–83**)

Vocabulary List

*a, ab + ablative	by	*celer, celeris, celere
abnuo, -ere	reject, refuse	*celeriter
abrumpo, -ere	cast aside	*celo, -are
*ac, atque	and	*cena, -ae f
accelero, -are	hasten, speed	centurio, -onis m
*accipio, -ere, -ceptum	receive, take up	certus, -a, -um
accusator, -oris m	accuser	*ceteri, -ae, -a
*ad + accusative	to, towards, at	*cibus, -i m
*ad + gerundive	in order to	cieo, -ere
addo, -ere,	add	*civis, -is m
adfero, -ferre	report	clamito, -are
adhaereo, -ere	cling to	*clamor, -oris m
adipiscor, -i, adeptus sum (dept.)	obtain	Claudius, -ii m
admoveo, -ere	apply	claudo, -ere, clausum
adnoto, -are	take notes	codicilli, -orum m
adopto, -are	adopt	*cognosco, -ere, -novi
adsideo, -ere	sit beside	*comes, -itis m/f
adsisto, -ere, -stiti	stand nearby	comitor, -ari (dept.)
*adsum, -esse	be present	commoveo, -ere, -movi
adulter, -i m/f	adulterer	complexus, -us m
adulterium, -ii n	adultery	compono, -ere
adversus, -a, -um	unfavourable	concedo, -ere, -cessum
aestas, -atis f	summer	concors, -cordis + dative
*ago, -ere	act	concupio, -ere, -ivi
aliqui, -qua, -quod	some	confirmo, -are
aliquis, -quid	someone, something	*fiteor, -eri (dept.)
*alius, -a, -ud	else, other	consentio, -ire
*alter, -era, -erum	one (of two), other	*consilium, -ii n
*ambulo, -are	walk	*constituo, -ere, -ui
*amor, -oris m	love	contendo, -ere
*amoveo, -eri	take away	continuus, -a, -um
an	or	contio, -onis f
*animus, -i m	mind	*corpus, -oris n
ante + accusative	before	corripio, -ere -reptum
apud + acc.	at the house of, in the presence of	corrumpo, -ere, -ruptum
		cubiculum, -i n
*aqua, -ae f	water	*cum + ablative
arbitror, -ari (dept.)	consider, think	*cum + subjunctive
aspectus, -us m	sight	cuncti, -ae, -a
asperitas, -tatis f	harshness	*cura, -ae f
aspicio, -ere	see	cursim
at	but	damno, -are, -atus
atrocitas, -tatis f	enormity	*de + ablative
*audio, -ire	listen to, hear	decorus, -a, -um
auris, -is f	ear	defensio, -onis f
aut	or	formitas, -tatis f
averto, -ere	divert	dehinc
balineum, -i n	bath	*deinde
Britannicus, -i m	Britannicus	delatio, -onis f
C. Silius, -ii m	C. Silius	delegatus, -a, -um
caedes, -is f	slaughter	denuntio, -are
caelebs, cae	single	destringo, -ere
*caelum, -i n	weather	*dico, -ere
Caesar, -aris m	Caesar, Claudius	dicto, -are
Calpurnia, -ae f	Calpurnia	*dies, diei m/f
*castra, -orum n pl.	camp	digredior, -i
causa, -ae f	case, cause	discidium, -ii n
celebro, -are	celebrate	dissimulatio, -onis f

dissimulo, -are — hide, conceal
*diu — for a long time
*do, dare — give
*domus, -us f — house
*dormio, -ire — sleep
*duco, -ere, ductum — bring, lead
*dum — until, while
*duo, duae, duo — two
*e, ex + ablative — of, out of
effundo, -ere — pour forth
*ego, me, mei, mihi, me — I
*egredior, -i (dept.) — go out
*eius, genitive ... ei — her
*enim — for
*eo, ire, ivi — go
*eripio, -ere, -ui — take away
*et — and, also
*etiam — even
exardeo, -ere, -arsi — burn (with love)
excerpo, -ere — take extracts
*exclamo, -are — shout
exim — then
eximo, -ere — take away
exitium, -ii n — ruin, destruction
exsequor, -i — carry out
*exspecto, -are — wait
exturbo, -are — drive out
*facilis, -e — easy (on the stomach)
facilitas, -tatis f — easiness
facinus, -oris n — deed
*facio, -ere, feci — compose, speak
fatalis, -e — fateful
*femina, -ae f — woman
*fero, ferre — say, report
ferrum, -i n — sword
*filia, -ae f — daughter
flagitium, -ii n — disgrace
flagito, -are — demand
floreo, -ere — flourish
foris, -is f — door
fortuna, -ae f — fate
*forum, -i n — forum
fremitus, -us m — noise
frigidus, -a, -um — cold
fruor + ablative (dept.) — enjoy
*frustra — in vain
furtim — secretly
fusus, -a, -um — prostrate, lying
*futurus, -a, -um — future
genu, -us n — knee
*gero, -ere — display
gratia + genitive — for
gusto, -are — take a snack
*habeo, -ere — have, hold
haesito, -are — hesitate
haud — not
*hic, haec, hoc — this
hiems, -is f — winter
honestus, -a, -um — honourable
honos, -oris m — honour
hora, -ae f — hour

*hortus, -i m
humus, -i f
*iaceo, -ere
*iam
ictus, -us m
*idem, eadem, idem
*igitur
gnarus, -a, -um + genitive
*ille, illa, illud
imminens, -entis
impendo, -ere
*imperator, -oris m
*impero, -are, -avi
*in + ablative
*in + accusative
incalesco, -ere, -ui
incautus, -a, -um
*incendo, -ere, incensum
index, -icis m
infamia, -ae f
*ingredior, -i
inhorresco, -ere, -horrui
*inquit
inritus, -a, -um
insania, -ae f
insanus, -a, -um
insidiae, -arum f pl.
*insum, -esse
*intellego, -ere, -lexi
*inter + accusative
interdiu
*interea
interim
interior, -ius
*intro, -are
*ipse, -a, -um
*ira, -ae f
ire obviam
*is, ea, id
*ita
*iter, itineris n
*iubeo, -ere iussi
iugulum, -i n
Iunia Silana, -ae f
iuventus, -tutis f
*labor, -oris m
lacrima, -ae f
languesco, -ere
lenitio, -onis f
latus, -eris n
lavor, -ari
*lego, -ere
Lepida, -ae f
levis, -e
liber, -a, -um
*liber, -ri m
*liberi, -orum m pl.
*libertus, -i m
libido, -inis f
*loquor, -i (dept.)
Lucullianus, -a, -um

Latin	English
*lux, lucis f	dawn, light
magnitudo, -inis f	magnitude
*magnus, -a, -um	great
*malus, -a, -um	bad
*maneo, -ere, mansum	remain
manicae, -arum f	gloves, mittens
*manus, -us f	hand
*maritus, -i m	husband
*mater, matris f	mother
matrimonium, -ii n	marriage
*maxime	...
*medius, -a, -um	middle of
memoria, -ae f	memory
Messalina, -ae f	Messalina
metus, -us m	fear
*miles, -itis m	soldier
*minimus, -a, -um (sup. of parvus)	very small, short
mirus, -a, -um	surprising
*miser, -a, -um	wretched
miseratio, -onis f	pity
misericordia, -ae f	pity
*mitto, -ere, misi	send
mora, -ae f	delaying tactic
moror, -ari, -atus sum (dept.)	delay
*mors, mortis f	death
mos, moris m	custom
*mox	soon
*multus, -a, -um	much, many
munio, -ire	protect
*nam	for
Narcissus, -i m	Narcissus
*-ne	introduces a question
*ne	that, that not
ne... quidem	not even
nec multo post	not long afterwards
*nec, neque	(and) not, neither
necessitas, -tatis f	(hour of) need
neglego, -ere	ignore, neglect
nescius, -a, -um	unaware of
*nihil	nothing
*nisi	unless
nobilis, -e	noble
*nomen, -inis n	title, name
*non	not
*nonnullus, -a, -um	some
notarius, -ii m	secretary
novi (perfect of nosco)	I know
*novus, -a, -um	new
*nox, noctis f	night
nubo, -ere, nupsi	marry
*nullus, -a, -um	no
*nuntius, -ii m	message
nuptiae, -arum f pl.	marriage
ob + accusative	because of
oboedio, -ire	obey
obstrepo, -ere	shout down
occasio, -onis f	opportunity
Octavia, -ae f	Octavia
*offero, -ferre	present
officium, -i n	duty
omnino	at the most

Latin
*omnis, -e
opes, opum f pl.
opperior, -iri (dept.)
*opprimo, -ere
orbus, -a, -um
Ostia, -ae f
Ostiensis, -e
otium, -ii n
paelex, -icis f
*paratus, -a, -um
paratus, -us m
*paro, -are, -avi
*pars, partis f
*pater, patris m
*pauci, -ae, -a
pectus, -oris n
*pello, -ere, pulsum
*per + accusative
percussor, -oris m
perdo, -ere
*pereo, -ire
*periculum, -i n
pernicies, -ei f
perpello, -ere, -puli
*persuadeo, -ere, -suasi
*pes, pedis m
placeo, -ere + dative
plerumque
*poena, -ae f
populus, -i m
*possum, posse
*post + accusative
*postquam
postremo
*postridie
postulo, -are
potentia, -ae f
potior, -iri (dept.) + abla
praegredior, -i, -gressus sum (dept.)
praemium, -ii n
praemoneo, -ere
praesentia, -ium (n pl.)
praevaleo, -ere
praevenio, -ire
preces, -um f pl.
precor, -ari, -atus est (dept.)
primum
princeps, -ipis m
proficiscor, -i (dept.)
prolato, -are
promissum, -i n
promptus, -a, -um
propero, -are, -avi
propinquus, -a, -um
*propter + accusative
*prorumpo, -ere, -rupi
prosum, -desse
provolvo, -ere, -volutus (semi dept.)
pugillares, -ium m pl.

Latin	English
*pulcher, -ra, -rum	handsome
purgamenta, -orum n pl.	refuse
*quaero, -ere	seek
quaestio, -onis f	trial
*quam	than
*quamquam	although
quasi	almost, virtually, as if
*-que	and
questus, -us m	complaint
*qui, quae, quod	who, whi...
quia	b...cau...
quippe	...ainly
*quis, quid	any
*quod	because
*quoque	also
raptim	swiftly
*redeo, -ire	return
*refero, -ferre	refer to
*regredior, -i, -gressus sum (dept.)	return
remedium, -ii n	cure
reor, reri, ratus sum (dept.)	think
repens, repentis	sudden
reperio, -ire, repperi	find
repeto, -ere	recall
*res, rei f	state, event
reus, -a, -um	accused, guilty
*revertor, -i, -versus sum (dept.)	return
*Romanus, -a, -um	Roman
rumor, -oris m	rumour
sacrificium, -ii n	sacrifice
*saepe	often
*scelus, -eris n	crim...
*se, sui, sibi, se	..., sh..., ...ney
secessus, -us m	...treat
secretum, -i	secret audience
securitas, -ta...	security
*sed	but
sella, -ae f	sedan chair
senatus, -us m	senate
senesco, -ere	grow old
*servus, -i m	slave
*si	if
silentium, -ii n	silence
*simul	at the same time
*sine + ablative	without
sive	whether
sol, solis m	sun
*soleo, -ere, solitus sum (semi dept.)	be accustomed
sollemne, -is n	rite
sollitudo, -inis f	isolation
*solum	only
solvo, -ere, solutum	...ease
sperno, -ere	...purn, reject
*spes, -ei f	hope
*statim	immediately
studeo, -ere	study
studium, -ii n	study

suadeo, -ere
subeo, -ire
subsidium, -ii n
*sum, esse
summa, -orum n pl.
super + accusative
superbia, -ae f
su...remus, -a, -um
*suus, -a, -um
*tam
*tamen
*tandem
*tantus, -a, -um
tempto, -are, -avi
*tempus, -oris n
*teneo, -ere
tergeo, -ere
*timeo, -ere, -ui
*trado, -ere, -didi
transeo, -ire, -ii
transigo, -ere
trepidatio, -onis f
*tres, tria
tribunal, -alis n
tribunus, -i m
*tum
tunc
*tuus, -a, -um
...i + indicative
ullus, -a, -um
ultio, -onis f
ultra
undique
unus, -a, -um
*urbs, urbis f
urgeo, -ere
*ut + subjunctive
utor, uti, usus sum (dep...
uxorius, -a, -um
vaco, -are + dative
vale
-ve
vehiculum, -i n
vehor, -i
*venio, -ire
ventito, -are
*verbum, -i n
vereor, -eri, veritus sum
...to, -ere
Vespasianus, -i m
vetus, -eris
*via, -ae f
*video, -ere, vidi
*vinum, -i n
visus, -us m
*vita, -ae f