

2016 specification
for exams in 2024-2026

A Level OCR Latin Set Texts Guide

Virgil, Aeneid 2

AS: Verse Literature for 2024–2025

A Level: Verse Literature (Group 3) 2025–2026

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Introduction for Teachers

One of the prescribed texts for AS (H043) and A Level (H443) Group 3 is Virgil, *Aeneid* 2, 40–249. I have included a summary of lines 1–39 as an introduction to Book 2. The text of *Aeneid* 2 in this Guide (and translations based on it) is that of the prescribed Bloomsbury edition. Consonantal *u* is printed as *v* and the accusative plural ending in *-is* has been changed to *-es* in line with OCR practice.

Remember!

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

There are other editions of Book 2. Gould and Whiteley's edition contains a vocabulary, while Austin's edition has excellent notes.

The main aim of this Guide is to complement, rather than replace, the prescribed edition. I have, therefore, divided the prescription into short sections with a translation and notes on each section. Following each section of the Latin text, there are two separate sections of notes: Grammar and translation notes; Context and style notes. The grammar notes should help candidates to answer the grammar questions in component 02 of the Advanced Level by seeing similar examples in Virgil. At the end of the Companion, there are two sets of exam-type questions with a Mark Scheme and a list of Grammatical and Stylistic points with examples.

The marks allocated to the verse section of the AS exam paper are as follows: Translation 5; Essay 10; Context questions 9; Style questions 16. Clearly, questions on style are the most important, as they constitute 40% of the overall mark for the paper. [At Advanced Level, there is a section on the Group 3 prescription for *Aeneid* 2 for 28 marks made up as follows: translation 5 marks, context questions 8 marks, and a style question for 15 marks.] As there are 16 marks out of 40 (40%) allotted to questions on style on the verse section, and answers to such questions are generally weaker than answers to other questions, I have concentrated on Virgil's style, though not to the exclusion of other important matters.

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 sections.
- Candidates should be advised to take note of the number of marks allotted to each sub-question and answer accordingly.

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 longer 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.

NB Virgil sometimes omits words, or uses them in two senses, necessitating additions to the translation to bring out the full meaning. On such occasions, I have inserted words in brackets which are not in the Latin text. Also, he tends to strain the meaning of words: as T E Page, *Virgil, Aeneid Books VII–XII*, page 417, states, 'Strict grammatical analysis is really impossible... due to the poet's desire of avoiding what is commonplace'. This makes strictly literal translation difficult, but one must keep close to the text for examination purposes. I have, therefore, tried to steer a course between the Scylla of stilted, literal translation and the Charybdis of overfree translation, which may not be accepted by examiners.

Note that alternative translations or bracketed versions are not accepted by OCR, unless they are equivalent, so that one should prefer the literal version to be on the safe side.

NB I have used Roman, rather than Greek, names for gods and goddesses, though occasionally I have referred to the Greek name when relating a specific Greek myth.

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Introduction to the *Aeneid*

Publius Virgilius Maro was born in 70 BC at Andes near Mantua in North Italy. Being educated at Cremona and Mediolanum (Milan), he went to Rome to which can be seen in the speeches in Book 2.

Virgil lived through probably the most violent of all periods of the Republic, a period which contained three civil wars, an attempted coup d'état and the assassination of Julius Caesar. Consequently, throughout the *Aeneid*, the futility and waste of war is consistently shown and stress is emphasised by the deaths of young men, Marcellus (Book 3), Euryalus ('the most handsome of the Trojans') in Book 9, Lausus ('outstanding in beauty') in Book 10 and Pallas in Books 10–11.



Virgil Reading the *Aeneid* to Augustus
by Jean-Baptiste Regnier

His first work, composed when he was a student, was a collection of short poems, which he called *Catalepton*. At some time after his education in Rome, he returned home to Andes, but a few years after Caesar in 44 BC, his farm was confiscated in order to provide land for the new army. Virgil appealed to Pollio, the governor of Cisalpine Gaul, who fortunately introduced him to Octavian, who restored Virgil's farm to him. Virgil's grief was expressed in several of the 10 *Eclogues*, a book of pastoral poems, published in 42 BC. He then wrote the *Georgics*, a poem about farming in four books, written between 37 and 29 BC. It was dedicated to Maecenas, one of Octavian's chief ministers, and dedicated to him when it was published. Maecenas became a great patron of the arts, supporting many young poets who had been introduced to Maecenas by Virgil. Maecenas gave Horace his farm. Horace had lost his ancestral farm in the confiscations after the final defeat of Brutus and Philippi in 42 BC.

The *Georgics* have been greatly admired, and the poet Dryden preferred them to the *Aeneid* because the *Georgics* were a finished product compared with the *Aeneid*. On the other hand, Dryden thought the *Aeneid* to be destroyed, because he felt it was unfinished and needed re-writing. He thought it was a number of half lines, and his overuse of Latin adjectives, e.g. *ingens* and *immensus*.

Virgil reveals his intention to produce a Roman epic on a par with Homer's *Iliad* in the first line of the *Aeneid*, when he states: *arma virumque cano*, 'I sing of arms and the man'. Virgil is going to write a Roman *Iliad* (*arma*) and *Odyssey* (*virum*). However, he is putting the journey of Aeneas from Troy to Italy first, then the war between Aeneas and Turnus. There are obvious parallels with Homer, as the *Iliad* ends with the victory of the Trojan champion, Hector, who had slain Achilles' friend Patroclus, and the killing of Turnus, who had killed Pallas, son of King Evander; the *Odyssey* tells of Odysseus' journey home from Troy, and the *Aeneid* tells of Aeneas's long journey from Troy to home in Italy.

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Another parallel with Homer's works is in the structure of the *Aeneid*, as by technique. In Book 5 of the *Odyssey*, Odysseus lands on the island of Scheria. In response to Alcinous's request in Book 8, Odysseus tells him of his previous wanderings. Then Homer resumes the story in Book 13. Similarly, in Book 1 of the *Aeneid*, Aeneas arrives in Carthage, and, in response to Queen Dido's request, tells her about the destruction of Troy and his wanderings over the Mediterranean. These make up Books 2–3, then, in Book 4, Aeneas resumes the story from where he had left it in Book 1. So, the chronological order of the destruction of Troy, Book 3, the wanderings across the Mediterranean, Book 4, Aeneas onto the shores of Africa, Book 4, the resumption of the story which resumes from Book 1. The remaining books are in chronological order.

Summary of Lines 1–39

Book 2 opens with a short speech by Aeneas expressing his grief over his loss of Troy. He then relates how the Greeks built a massive wooden horse, which they filled with soldiers, and sailed to the shore, claiming that this was an offering for their safe return to Greece. The Trojans, thinking the war was over, open the gates and flock to see the Wooden Horse. A debate ensues over the purpose of the horse; Thymoetes, probably a traitor, urged that it should be placed inside the citadel. Capys and others ordered that it should either be burned. At this point, Laocoön, priest of Apollo, arrives on the scene, which prescription begins.

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The Metre of the *Aeneid*

- NB** (i) All line references are to *Aeneid* Book 2, unless otherwise stated.
- (ii) From time immemorial, most editors have put the line which divides the syllable of a foot and the first syllable of the next foot after a single syllable. However, I would put the line at the end of the syllable, e.g. *horr-* instead of *horr|*. It makes the double consonant more obvious; secondly, it is easier to scan *horr-*. However, in the sample assessment material for the A Level, it simply states 'Foot divisions should be ignored', so don't worry.

Knowledge of scansion is required for the Unseen Translation paper at A Level. It is impossible to discuss literary techniques without reference to rhythm. In order to appreciate the *Aeneid* unless you understand how it is scanned, because it is written in the hexameter metre which is one of the many important features of his work. When you translate a line, you can tell from the metre whether syllables are short or long at the end of a line.

The scansion of English poetry depends on the word accent or stress, e.g.

The Assýrian came dówn like the wólf on the fólđ.

Latin poetry, however, depended primarily on the length of the syllable, though the word accent also affects the way the line would have been read. Some syllables are long, e.g. *ōdī*, others are naturally short, e.g. *quōquē*; however, if a short syllable is followed by a long syllable or *x*, it is normally scanned as a long syllable. There are exceptions to this: if a syllable is *r* or *l*, the preceding vowel can still be short. (For a full discussion see B H Kennedy's *Shorter Latin Primer*.)

NB Diphthongs are usually long. I have marked diphthongs on the second line. Final *i* and *o* are usually long; *ego*, *mihi*, *tibi* and *sibi*, however, can be short.

In the *Aeneid*, Virgil uses the hexameter metre. The hexameter line has six feet, each of which can be either a dactyl or a spondee. The dactyl has a long syllable, followed by two short syllables (— ∪ ∪), after the Greek for 'finger', and if you look at your own fingers, they usually divide into two shorter sections. The spondee has two long syllables (— —). In the hexameter line, the first four feet can be either dactyls or spondees, but the last two feet are nearly always spondees, occasionally, however, Virgil uses a spondee in the fifth foot, as in line 68, (see the note).

The last syllable of the line can be short, making the foot a trochee (— ∪). If it cannot be determined, you can mark the syllable with a cross (*anceps*); I have marked the last syllable of the line with a cross, as I do not have the requisite symbol. So, in line 68, always at the end, count back five syllables and mark off a dactyl. Then go back to the beginning and mark the first syllable long. Why? Because the line must be — — — — — or — — — — —.

To complicate matters further, words ending in a vowel or *m* are elided into the next syllable if the next syllable begins with a vowel or *h*, as in French, where *je aime* becomes *j'aime*. However, it is normal to put a bracket round the syllable elided, e.g. in line 68, *ante* is elided into *omnes*.

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Finally, there is a break in the middle of the line, after the first syllable of the caesura, which is marked with a double vertical line (||).

Now we are ready to scan two lines of the poem. I have inserted the numbers necessary when scanning a line. Let's take an easy line, 50, *sic fatus validis* will be printed in a larger font to make it easier to see the scansion marks.

First of all, mark the first syllable of the line, which has to be long, and then be | - - - | or | - - - | - - - |, viz. | *sic fatus validis ingentem* | *viribus* | *hastam* |.

Note that *h* does not count as a consonant, so *viribus* is | - - - | with a short syllable.

Now mark any syllable followed by two consonants or *x*.

1 4 5 6
| *sic fatus* | *ingentem* | *viribus* | *hastam* |.

Looking at the line, you will notice that there is only one syllable between *fatus*. Therefore, the unmarked syllable must be long. Why? Because you are scanning a hexameter line; you can only have - - -; also, the last syllable of the third foot must also be long, forming a spondee (two longs). Now we have:

1 3 4 5 6
| *sic fatus* | *validis* | *ingentem* | *viribus* | *hastam* |.

There is now only one unmarked foot left; count the number of syllables left. It must be a dactyl, not a spondee, which only has two syllables.

So the final line is 1 2 3 4 5 6
| *sic fatus* | *validis* | || *ingentem* | *viribus* | *hastam* |.

The caesura, which comes between two words, must be in the third foot, though there is no break in the fourth.

Now, a more difficult line, 96, *promisi ultorem, et verbis odia aspera movi*.

Read the line aloud, and you will notice that several words end or begin with elisions. How many are there in this line?

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Answer: three. Did you get the one ending in *-em*? Mark the elisions first, last five syllables as before.

1 5 6
| prōmīs | (i) ultor(em), et verbis odi(a) | āspērā | mōvī |.

Now, look for vowels followed by two consonants, and we have

1 5 6
| prōmīs | (i) ūltor(em), ēt vērbiſ odi(a) | āspērā | mōvī |.

Again, you will notice that there is only one syllable between two long syllables between *ūltor(em)* and *ēt*, so the unmarked syllable must be long. So now

1 2 3 4 5 6
| prōmīs | (i) ūltōr(em) | ēt vērbiſ | odi(a) | āspērā | mōvī |.

There is one syllable left, so it must be a dactyl. The final

1 2 3 4 5 6
| prōmīs | (i) ūltōr(em) | ēt vērbiſ || ōdī(a) | āspērā | mōvī |.

Sometimes, lines are a little more difficult, as there are fewer double consonants to help. Recourse to mathematics! Count the syllables in the first four feet (excluding the final foot). How does that help? Well, if there is a fraction left over, that is the number of dactyls. Thus, $8/4 = 2$, so all the feet are spondees; $9/4 = 2\frac{1}{4}$, so there is one dactyl; $10/4 = 2\frac{2}{4}$, so there are two dactyls; $11/4 = 2\frac{3}{4}$, so there are three dactyls; $12/4 = 3$, so all the feet are dactyls. If the remainder is not a whole number, something has gone wrong! Look for an elision.

Now, let's scan a line with few double consonants in the first four feet, line 10 of the *Aeneid*.

| effigiem statuere, nefas quae triste piaret. |

Elisions? No.

Mark off the first and last five feet and the double consonants:

1 5 6
| effigiēm statuere, nefās quae | trīstē pī | ārēt. |

Now count the number of syllables in the first four feet, including the marked ones.

The total is 11; $11/4 = 2\frac{3}{4}$, so there are three dactyls and one spondee. There are two long syllables, *fās* and *trī*. The spondee must, therefore, be in the first foot. The first two feet must be dactyls. NB Diphthongs *ae* and *oe* are usually long.

1 2 3 4 5 6
| effīciēs | tātū | re, nē | fās || quae | trīstē pī | ārēt. |

Note that the caesura is in the fourth foot, where there is a natural break.

In the first four feet, then, the hexameter line can be either a mixture of dactyls and spondees or composed wholly of dactyls or spondees. Lines which have spondees in all of the first four feet are called spondaic, while lines containing dactyls in all of the first four feet are called dactylic.

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Dactyls, containing short syllables, can be used to describe rapid motion or tend to describe slow deliberation or movement, as in line 202, where Lao

|sollemn|es taur|(um) ingent|em||mact|abat ad|aras. |

As can easily be seen, all the feet are spondees, apart from the compulsory

Undoubtedly the slowest line in the *Aeneid* is Book III, line 658, where Virg one-eyed Cyclops in another totally spondaic line,

|mōnstr (um) hōrr | ēnd(um), īn | fōrm(e), īng | ēns, cuī | lūmēn āc

'An awesome monster, shapeless, huge whose eye had be

Read the line aloud, and you will see a tremendous effect created by the reinforced by the assonance of *m* and an iteration of *m*. Note how the three slow the line down even further.

In the *Aeneid* as a whole, the most common pattern of the first two feet is a the second most common pattern is a spondee followed by a dactyl. Less at least common are two spondees, which, with the compulsory long first syll five long syllables, give a very ponderous or gloomy start to the line; when occur, the purpose is usually to emphasise the meaning.

The following section is not essential for AS or A Level, and can be omitted the understanding of the way Virgil writes poetry.

Finally, we come to word accent (or stress) and ictus. Every Latin word is syllables are stressed on the first syllable; words of three syllables are stress syllable if it is a long syllable; but if the penultimate vowel is short, the stre Thus, *amo* would be stressed on the first syllable, but *amāmus* would be stre *hōmines* would be stressed on the first syllable, because the penultimate vo would be stressed on the second syllable for the same reason. If the word word falls on the third syllable, there is also a word accent on the first syll

Ictus is the natural beat of the line, and always falls on the first syllable of containing the word accent is marked with a forward slash (/), the ictus will where they coincide, the vowel is marked with an X or a circumflex.

Note that the ictus and word accent usually coincide in the fifth and sixth vary between coincidence and conflict depending on what effect Virgil wa usually conflict in feet 2-3. Thus, the hexameter line starts smoothly, break feet, then reverts to coincidence in the last two feet. So, the hexameter line or conflict of word accent and ictus. This conflict is used to great advantage describes *Laocōon* trying to disentangle himself from the serpents' coils:

X / \ / \ / \ X X
| ille sim|ul mani|bus tend|it di|vellere nodos |

Where coincidence occurs in the fourth foot, it usually gives an added emp 204, where Virgil describes the snakes with their huge coils.

X X X
im|mensis|orbibus|angues.

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The Style of Virgil

Features of Virgil's style are best seen in context, and many examples can be found in the text. Style notes; all technical terms mentioned are included, with examples, in the notes.

A good acronym by which to remember features of Virgil's style is J S BACH.

J – juxtaposition

S – sibilance, similes, synecdoche, synonyms

B – balance

A – abstract nouns, alliteration, anaphora, anastrophe, assonance and asyndeton

C – chiasmus, choice of words, connecting relative clauses, contrast

H – hendiadys, historic infinitive, historic present, hysteron proteron, anacoluthon, anastrophe

This could be applied to many other Latin authors, particularly Tacitus and Suetonius.

These rhetorical devices will be dealt with as they occur in the text. For explanation of these points, see the glossary of stylistic points at the end of the guide. There are some points, however, which occur quite frequently, and are worth noting.

Balance and chiasmus

Perhaps the most common feature of Roman poetry was the way poets varied their phrases, particularly those involving two pairs of adjective and noun, or two pairs of noun and adjective.

NB To avoid lengthy explanations, the following abbreviations will be used: A = the noun agreeing with the first adjective, B = the noun agreeing with the second adjective; thus 'adjective a, adjective b, noun A, noun B' becomes 'a b A B'. This is abbreviated as 'vovo' or 'ovvo'.

Sometimes, they used balance, as in line 47, *inspectura domos venturaque...* or chiasmus, as in line 121, *cui fata parent, quem poscat Apollo* (ovvo).

Coincidence and conflict of ictus and word accent

See above, under 'The Metre of the *Aeneid*'. There are numerous examples of coincidence and conflict of ictus and word accent pointed out in the notes.

Enclosing order

Roman poets, especially Ovid, were keen on enclosing words inside other words. A noun will enclose the verb, or another noun, e.g. *primis huc misit ab annis*.

Similar to enclosing order is the arrangement of prepositional phrases, in which the preposition is tucked between the adjective and noun, e.g. line 41, *summa... ab arce*; the adjective is first and the noun is last, but there are exceptions, e.g. line 67, *conspectu in meo*.

Enjambment

Enjambment occurs when a sentence is carried over into the next line. This happens when the sense of the sentence is already complete and an extra word is added at the start of the next line, emphasising that particular word, e.g. line 119, *Argolica*, emphasising the sacrifice. (As enjambment is obvious when the sentence runs on into the next line, it is only commented on particularly noteworthy examples.)

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Although earlier poets had used this device, they used it somewhat sparingly. It is more common in Virgil, who uses it to throw emphasis onto the first word in the sentence, e.g. *tantorum* (51) or a participle tacked onto the rest of the sentence, e.g. *contorsit* (52).

Juxtaposition

Virgil is fond of putting two words or phrases next to each other to emphasise a point, e.g. Priam and Sinon, *ipse viro* (146).

Use of words

Virgil sometimes uses words with two meanings, e.g. *tor*, which are appropriate to the context.

Judging by the frequency of examples, Virgil seems to be very fond of the frequent use of derivatives, e.g. *fatebor* (77), *fateor* (134), *testor* (155), nouns in *-tor* or *-trix*, e.g. *ultor* (58), *ultorem* (96) and other nouns and adjective abstract nouns, e.g. *error* (48), *tremor* (121), *sudor* (174); there are also many words, e.g. *formidine* (76), *moror* (102), *pectore* (107), *oras* (117). He also likes words, especially *ingens* and negative words beginning with *in-*, e.g. *insontem infans* (100).

Another noticeable feature is the way Virgil uses material from other authors, regarded as plagiarism, but it was encouraged in the ancient world, possibly because people would enjoy recognising the earlier quotation. At all events, it was expected that authors would quote or adapt previous works. So, Virgil adapts Catullus's humorous line about the rape of the lock, *invita, o regina, tuo de vertice cessi*, 'Unwillingly, o queen, I have taken from your head', as part of Aeneas's defence for leaving Dido, *invitus, regina, tuo de litore cessi* (6). Virgil also echoes or adapts previous words or situations from his own works, as in line 1 of *Aeneid* 1, where the word of Virgil's) echoes *infandum* in line 3. Virgil has a particular purpose in using quotations, because the adaptation of an earlier quotation reminds the listener of the earlier one, thus enriching the later one.

Many other features are also best seen in context, as they occur only once or twice.

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Translation and Notes

Lines 40–56 – Laocoon warns the Trojans about the

primus ibi ante omnes, magna comitante caterva, 40
 Laocoon ardens summa decurrit ab arce,
 et procul: 'o miseri, quae tanta insania, cives?
 creditis avectos hostes? aut ulla putatis
 dona carere dolis Danaum? sic notus Ulixes?
 aut hoc inclusi ligno occultantur Achivi, 45
 aut haec in nostros fabricata est machina muros,
 inspectura domos, ut quae aesuper urbi,
 aut aliquid laqueum: equo ne credite, Teucri.
 quidem hoc est, timeo Danaos et dona ferentes.'
 sic fatus validis ingentem viribus hastam 50
 in latus inque feri curvam compagibus alvum
 contorsit. stetit illa tremens, uteroque recusso
 insonuere cavae gemitumque dedere cavernae.
 et, si fata deum, si mens non laeva fuisset,
 impulerat ferro Argolicas foedare latebras 55
 Troiaque nunc staret, Priamique arx alta maneres.

Translation

First there, before everyone, with a large crowd accompanying him, Laocoon
 top of the citadel, and from far away (shouted), 'O wretched citizens, what
 Do you believe the enemy have sailed away? Or do you think that any gift
 deceit? Is this what you know about Ulysses? Either Greeks are concealed
 or this machine has been designed (for use) against our walls, to look into
 upon the city from above, or some deception lies hidden: don't trust the horse,
 fear the Greeks, even when they bring gifts.' Having spoken thus, with his
 huge spear into the side and into the monster's belly, caving with its joint
 and as the womb recoiled, the hollow recesses recoiled and gave forth a
 gods, if our judgement had not been unfortunate, he would have driven his
 Greek hiding places with the spear. Troy would now be standing, and
 would (still) be remaining.

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Grammar and Translation notes

NB Grammatical terms and constructions which are listed in the specification

- 40 *magna... caterva*: ablative absolute*.
- 42 *procul*: understand a verb of saying, e.g. *clamavit*.
quae tanta insania: understand *est haec*.
- 43 *avectos*: understand *esse* to complete the indirect statement*.
- 44 *dolis*: ablative after *carere*, a verb which takes a direct object in the ablative.
- 45 *ligno*: ablative of place where; in prose, a preposition would be used, but in poetry, prepositions are avoided. See, also, the note on *urbi* in line 57.
- 46 *in* means 'against', here.
- 47 *inspectura... ventura*: future participles expressing purpose.
urbi: dative of motion: the dative alone is often used by Virgil instead of the accusative, possibly because he felt that a preposition slowed down the action.
- 48 *equo*: dative after *credite*, a verb which takes a direct object in the dative.
ne credite: a prohibition, sometimes used in poetry as an alternative to *noli* + infinitive*.
- 49 *et dona ferentes* means 'even when bearing gifts'.
- 50 *validis... viribus*: ablative of means, or description.
- 52 *illa* refers to the spear (*hastam*) from line 50.
utroque recusso: ablative absolute*.
- 53 *insonuere*: a shortened form of *insonuerunt*; poets frequently used *-ere* instead of *-erunt* probably because it was a more convenient metrical form; cf. *dedere* later.
- 54 *fata* and *mens* are both subjects of the singular *fuisset*; the singular was used by attraction to the nearer subject. There is some doubt as to whether it is 'the gods' or 'the Trojans'. Most of the gods and goddesses favour the Trojans, but the feelings would naturally be unfavourable to the Trojans, which is why they sent serpents to kill Laocoon, to convince the Trojans that Laocoon was wrong. On the other hand, most commentators, including Servius, an early commentator, refer to the Trojans, i.e. their judgement about the Horse was wrong.
- 55 *impulerat*: the indicative shows how near to completion Laocoon's was.
ferro: instrumental ablative*.
- 56 *staret... maneres*: the change of tense from the pluperfect *impulerat* to the present *staret* indicates a past unfulfilled condition, 'if the fates... had not been so, I would now be standing now'. The change from third to second person singular resulted in various versions of this line, where scribes, unhappy with the original, have changed *staret* to *stares* or *maneres* to *maneret*, but the OCT preserves the original principle that the more difficult reading is preferable because an easy change (from third to second person) would not be changed to different persons, whereas the original would.

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Context and style notes

- 41 *Laocoon*: traditionally, a priest of Apollo, but Virgil tells us in line 201 that he is as priest to Neptune. Austin has a long note on this. The story of Laocoon was invented by Virgil, but there is so much literature which has been lost.
- ardens*: a word which Virgil uses four times in this selection: here, 105, 110. In Book 2, he uses it 11 times. Most of the time, the use of the word implies doing something wrong in the **heat** of the moment, as here, where he vents his anger. Thus, the serpents' eyes were *ardentes* (201) as they made their way to kill the Trojans. Virgil frequently uses fire and flames as metaphors to describe anger and passion.
- 42–43 *o... puer*: apostrophe, addressing someone directly in the second person. A feeble Trojan man, as priests are often depicted. He runs down (*decurrit*) asking angry questions at the crowd and then hurls a spear at the Horse. Note the words at the beginning of the questions, *creditis* – 'Do you (really) believe?'; *sic* – 'Is this what you think Ulysses is like?'. Alliteration of *d* and assonance of *a* in *dona carere dolis Danaum*, which emphasise his anger. In addition, the two verbs, *creditis* and *putatis*, frame the line, stressing the anger. The metre also brings out the angry tone, viz.
- X X X
- | *tant(a) in | sania, | cives* | as it contains coincidence of ictus and word accent.
- 44 *Ulixes*: the Roman form of the Greek hero, Odysseus; according to some, he was the inventor of the Wooden Horse, but see the note on line 100. With Diomedes, he carries the Palladium, an image of Pallas Athene (see lines 164 foll.).
- 45–48 *aut... aut... aut*: tricolon, three similar clauses, the last of which is normally the most important. There is also anaphora, using the same word (*aut*) to introduce the clauses. Politicians are particularly fond of these two devices. Winston Churchill produced a famous, and very effective speech in 1940: 'We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall never surrender'.
- 45–46 *hoc... hoc*: using a different form of the same word.
- 45 *inclusi... vi*: internal rhyme, as in line 46, *nostros... muros* and line 47, *inspectura... venturaque*. The word in the middle of the line and immediately before the caesura rhyme with the word at the end of the line.
- 46 *haec... machina* and *in nostros... muros*: note the balance (abAB) and internal rhyme. A device which Virgil uses sparingly in the rest of the *Aeneid*, although it is used frequently in this section. The poet Ovid uses internal rhyme much more frequently. Note also the alliteration of *m* in *machina muros*, so this is a good example to memorise.
- 47 *inspectura... venturaque*: homoioteleuton, words close to each other with similar endings.

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- 49 *et dona ferentes*: see the grammar note; the term 'Greek gift' became proverbial, as it contained a hidden threat. Also, gifts from an enemy were regarded as treacherous. The sword given to him by the Trojan Hector, and the sword given her by Aeneas, whom she regarded as an enemy by the time of the fall of Troy.
- 50 *validis ingentem viribus hastam*: the same balanced order as line 46. The juxtaposition of *validis ingentem* to emphasise the strength with which the spear is hurled; *ingens* is a favourite word of Virgil; the bull slain by Laocoon is *ingens* (217). Altogether, Virgil uses *ingens* 11 times in the *Aeneid*.
- 51 *in... inque*: anaphora.
- 51–52 *curvam compagibus... contorsit*: various points: the alliteration of *c* (echoing the sound of the spear hitting the horse?) and assonance of *con/ on* – both words are compounds of *contorsit*, delayed until the following line. The long syllables and consonants in *contorsit* emphasise the effort involved in hurling the spear.
- 52 *contorsit utroque*: the alliteration of *t* imitates the quiver of the spear as it settles on the side of the Horse.
- 53 *cavae... cavernae*: assonance and enclosing order, which is apt, here, as the two sides of the Horse contain the groan (*gemitum*); there is also internal rhyme.
- 54 *si... si*: anaphora and asyndeton.
- non laeva*: litotes, two words with a negative connotation, 'not unfavourable'; cf. the English 'not bad'. *laeva*: in Roman times, any unusual event was regarded as unlucky, while an event occurring on the right was regarded as propitious; so *laeva* and *sinister*, which also means 'left', came to mean 'unlucky', it all depended which way one was facing! The tradition persisted, as *sinister* came to mean 'menacing, ominous'.
- 55 *ferro... foedare*: the alliteration emphasises the sacrilege of attacking a god. An interesting story that the Trojans hurled spears at the Horse, arguing that it was sent by the gods.
- 56 *maneres*: as Aeneas describes the fall of Troy, he clearly visualises the scene directly; this is called apostrophe.

Activity

See the note on lines 44–45 on *variatio*: excluding *dona*, find three different ways in which Virgil describes the Horse in this section.

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Lines 57–72 – Trojan shepherds bring in a Greek

ecce, manus iuvenem interea post terga revinctum
 pastores magno ad regem clamore trahebant
 Dardanidae, qui se ignotum venientibus ultro,
 hoc ipsum ut strueret Troiamque aperiret Achivis, 60
 obtulerat, fidens animi atque in utrumque paratus,
 seu versare dolos seu certae occumbere morti.
 undique visendi studio Troiana iuventus
 circumfusa ruit certantque inludere capto
 accipe nunc Danaum insidias et mihi, quod ab uno 65
 disce omnes.
 namque in conspectu in medio turbatus, inermis
 constans, neque oculis Phrygia agmina circumspexit,
 'heu, quae nunc tellus,' inquit, 'quae me aequora possunt
 accipere? aut quid iam misero mihi denique restat, 70
 cui neque apud Danaos usquam locus, et super ipsi
 Dardanidae infensi poenas cum sanguine poscunt?'

Translation

Behold, Trojan shepherds, meanwhile, with great shouting, were dragging hands tied behind his back, who had offered himself, a stranger, voluntarily to achieve this very purpose, and to open Troy for the Greeks, confident in either (eventuality), either to practise his wiles or to meet certain death. For he rushed, pouring around in their desire to see and vied (with each other) to hear, now, the treachery of the Greeks and from one (man's) crime, learning in the midst of their sight, confused, unarmed, and with his eyes looked around, said, 'Alas, what land, what seas can take me now? Or what, in short, now in my wretched plight, for whom there is no place among the Greeks anywhere, and Trojans themselves seek punishment accompanied by blood?'

Grammar and translation notes

- 57 *manus... revinctum*: *manus* is an accusative of respect; literally, it means 'hands'. The accusative case is a marking case; thus, the direct object like its particular object, and the prepositional phrase of time how long limits the length of action. I walked for three hours, *tres horas ambulabam*.
- terga*: plural, as only one back is involved; poets liked to use the plural, because the short syllable ending was easier to fit into the line.
- 59–61 The thread of the sentence is *qui obtulerat se venientibus, ut strueret hoc*.
- 59 *ultro*: the nearest English word for this is 'voluntarily'; see the note on *venientibus*: dative after *se obtulerat*, 'had offered himself to them, as the *pastoribus* with *venientibus*.
- 60 *ut strueret... aperiret*: purpose clauses*; take *hoc ipsum* inside the *ut strueret*.

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- 61 *animi*: either genitive after *fidens* or locative case; it means either 'confident of his courage'.
- utrumque*: 'for either (eventuality)'; it is a signpost to the alternatives for
- 62 *morti*: dative after a compound verb; see the note on line 64.
- 63 *studio*: ablative of cause; the Trojans come from everywhere because the
- 64 *capto*: dative after *includere*, which can take either accusative or dative, with marked preference for the dative case over a preposition with the accusative; cf. *urbi* (line 47) and *morti* (line 62).
- 65 *accipe*: this is addressed to Dido, who asked Aeneas in Book 1 to tell her about the Greeks *insidias*... *Danaum*: note the reversal of the two words here.
- Danaum* = *Danaorum*: see the note on line 44.
- 67 *ut*, here followed by a verb, indicates 'when'.
- 71 *cui*... *est*: *cui* is dative of possession*, understanding *est*; *neque* is a link to the following line.

Context and style notes

- 57 The line begins with three dactyls to express the bustle and excitement of the shepherds and their prisoner.
- 58 Contrasting with the previous line, this line is spondaic and includes a loud shouting of the excited crowd. The *or* sound, of which Virgil was fond, is a word accent falling on the *or* syllable, *pastóres*... *clamóre*.
- regem*: Priam, King of Troy; he was slaughtered later by Neoptolemus.
- 59 *Dardanidae*: 'descendants of Dardanus'; this is an example of *doctrina*, where a person or place by a name associated with that person or place. The name of the person who founded Troy. It is also an example of enjambment and *variatio*, as in line 48.
- 62 A heavy-sounding line, in keeping with the importance of the line; there is coincidence of ictus and word accent in every foot except the third.
- 63 *undique* at the beginning of the line and the sentence emphasises how many sides to see the captive.
- Troiana*: *variatio*, the third word for 'Trojan'.
- 64 The repeated *c/q* sound probably imitates the clucking cackle of the crow.
- 65 *uno*: Aeneas is saying that one example is enough to know what the result will be; that adjectives are rarely placed at the end of a line unless they are emphasised. A list of lines ending with an adjective in lines 40–142 is under 10 in the Introduction.
- 66 *disce omnes*: Austin tells us there are 10 incomplete lines in Book 2. Some lack of revision (Virgil died before he had time to look over the complete Introduction, page 2). Other lines, as this one, are very effective, as they give the reader time for reflection on what has been written.
- 67 *conspectu in medio*: note the order of words; see the Introduction, page 2.

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67 *inermis*: asyndeton, the lack of a coordinating particle. Note the prefix *in-*; *inermis* is very fond of using adjectives beginning with *in-*; see the Introduction, lines 72 and *improba*, line 80.

68 *Phrygia*: another word for Trojan (*variatio*).

agmina: *agmen* originally meant a column of troops on the march, cf. line 67. It came to mean a large group of men.

circūfusa: a very rare example of a spondee in the fifth foot; it is *circūfusa*, the lone, frightened Greek captive slowly looks around at the hostile (*infensi*) line aloud, slowly, to see the effect of the fifth foot spondee. The prefix *circūfusa*, so here, Sinon looks around at the Greeks pouring around him.

69 *heú, quae nūc téllus*: the three monosyllables at the beginning of the line emphasise successive word accents. The spondee emphasises Sinon's (fearful) fate. He may have had in mind Catullus's four monosyllables in Poem 3, line 1: *dead* *man* *is* *going* *to* *the* *Underworld*, *qui nunc it per iter tenet* (fancifully). He does adapt Catullus elsewhere, notably in Book 6, line 1: *quae... quae*: anaphora and asyndeton.

69–70 *quae... quid*: polyptoton; see the note on lines 45–46.

70 *iam misero mihi*: alliteration; *m* was often used to denote grief, as here.

71 *et super ipsi*: each word adds to Sinon's plight; the Greeks want to sacrifice that were not enough, on top of that, the Trojans themselves (*ipsi* is emphatic) are after his blood.

72 *infensi*: see the note on line 67.

poenas cum sanguine poscunt: the alliteration of *p*, a menacing letter, the *p*'s emphasise Sinon's plight.



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Lines 73–90 – Sinon begins his lying tale

quo gemitu conversi animi compressus et omnis
 impetus. hortamur fari quo sanguine cretus,
 quidve ferat; memoret quae sit fiducia capto. 75
 [ille haec deposita tandem formidine fatur:]
 'cuncta equidem tibi, rex, fuerit quodcumque, fatebor
 vera,' inquit; 'neque me Argolica de gente negabo.
 hoc primum. nec, si miserum Fortuna Sinonem
 finxit, vanum etiam mendacemque improbum 80
 fando aliquod si forte tuas peruenit aures
 Belidae nomen Palamidae incluta fama
 gloriolum in eis sub prodicione Pelasgi
 insonant. infando indicio, quia bella vetabat,
 demisere neci, nunc cassum lumine lugent 85
 illi me comitem et consanguinitate propinquum
 pauper in arma pater primis huc misit ab annis.
 dum stabat regno incolumis regumque vigeat
 conciliis, et nos aliquod nomenque decusque
 gessimus.' 90

Translation

By this groan our feelings were changed and every hostile feeling was checked from what race he was sprung, or what (news) he brought; he should state captive. [Having laid aside his fear, he finally spoke these words:] He said, 'I will confess to you the whole truth whatever will be, and I will not deny that I am a liar. If, by chance, in conversation, some (mention of the) name of Palamus and his renown, celebrated in story, has reached your ears, whom the Greeks with abominable evidence, consigned to death though he was innocent, but (but) now they mourn him deprived of life: it was as companion and close friend that my poor father sent me here to war from my country years ago. While he reigned in his kingdom and flourished in the councils of his state, too, had some reputation

Grammar and Translation Notes

- 73 *quo*: correlative relative pronoun; translate it as 'this'.
conversi: understand *sunt*, and *est* with *compressus*.
- 74 *fari*: *hortor* normally takes *ut* + subjunctive, as it is an indirect command; here it uses the infinitive, as in Greek.
quo... cretus: understand *sit*, as it is an indirect question*; *cretus* is from *creta*, 'clay', 'origin', 'from what race he was sprung'.
- 75 *quidve ferat* is an indirect question*; *ferat* means 'relate, report', so 'what he will report'. The Bloomsbury edition wrongly prints *quid-ve*.

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75 *memoret*: indirect command* with *ut* omitted.

quae sit: another indirect question*.

capto: dative of possession*.

77 Line 76 is bracketed as it is the same as Book 3, line 612, and is not rega

77–78 *cuncta... vera*: literally, 'everything true', so, 'the whole truth'.

77 *fuertit*: future perfect. Translate as a simple future.

78 *neque... negabo*: understand *esse* to complete the indirect statement*.

81 *fando*: ablative of the gerund, 'in speaking', i.e. in conversation.

aliquod... nomen: it would appear to mean 'some name', but it is likely accusative, 'in some way, at all'. However, I have translated it as 'any' is surely the meaning in this case.

pēr | vē | *an* | *s* | *scansion* tells us that the tense is perfect, not present.

82 *Belidae*: father of Palamedes was Nauplius, so this must mean 'des-

82-83 |*inclūtă*|*fāma*|*glōriă*||: although it is impossible to determine the length of the scansion makes it clear that *incluta* agrees with *gloria*, so *fama* must be famous) in story'.

85 *demisere* = *demiserunt*: see the note on line 53.

neci: '(sent down) to death', dative of motion; see the note on line 47.

lumine: ablative of separation, as Palamedes was separated from the li

86 *illi*: i.e. Palamedes.

consanguinitate: ablative of respect.

87 *primis ab annis*: literally 'from the first years'; first years of what? Sinon certainly the former, but Virgil often had two meanings in mind when appropriate here. Against the former meaning is the fact that Sinon mentions line 138, but that is yet another lie to gain the Trojans' sympathy, and notice the inconsistency (*si mens non laeva fuisset*).

88 *dum stabat*: if the actions of the *dum* clause and of the main verb are happening at the same time, the imperfect tense is used; if something happens which interrupts the action, the present tense is used with *dum*, e.g. *dum per urbem ambulabam, amicum*

88–89 *regno... conciliis* are both ablatives of place: see *note* on line 45.

89 *et* means 'too', here.

90 *gessimus*: poetic plural, but only refers to Sinon. One might have expected to *habe* 'have', but the perfect was often used to describe something with any loss of time is here. As Panthus warns Aeneas in line 325, '*fuimus Troes*' they were Trojans once, but are Trojans no more and Troy is no more.

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Context and style notes

- 73 *conversi... compressus*: the use of the prefix *con/com* = 'together' emphasises the Trojans in changing from hostility to sympathy. The rare position of the line reinforces this unanimity; see the note on line 65.
- 74 *hortamur*: historic present, making the scene more vivid.
- 75 *quid... quae*: polyptoton; see the note on lines 45–46.

Activity

Scan lines 77–84: what do you notice? See the end of these notes.

- 77 *equidem tibi*: the juxtaposition emphasises the difference between the commoner king Priam. *equidem* is merely an emphatic form of *ego*.
- 78 *vera*: enjambment forcing Sinon's claim to be telling the truth. This sentence is complete at the end of the previous line.
- neque... negabo*: assonance and litotes: see the note on line 54.
- Argolica*: *variatio*, a different word for Greek; the word is formed from *Argos*, whose capital was Mycenae, and whose king was Agamemnon, leader of the expedition. The city was inhabited by early inhabitants of Greece, Pelasgi, whom Virgil mentions in *variatio*.
- 79 *Sinonem*: Sinon reveals his name. Ironically, the root *sin-* recurs at line 80, where both are connected with something sinister.
- 79–80 There are six spondees and only two dactyls in the first four feet of the line. The alliteration of *m* and *n* and the two elisions in line 80, they reinforce Sinon's claim to be telling the truth.
- 80 *finxit... finget*: polyptoton, made more effective by their position at the end of the line. The irony is that the verb means 'invent', and Virgil is cleverly pointing out that the story is pure fiction.
- improba*: another compound adjective with the prefix *in-* (*im-* for purpose 'not'; cf. *incluta* in line 82, though the prefix there is not negative, and *improba* is not a verb).
- 81 *tuas... aures*: enclosing order.
- 83 *gloria* enjambment, emphasising Palamedes' renown.
- |prôditi|ône Pellâsgil|*: see the note on line 72; note the alliteration of *p* and *l* and is strengthened by the juxtaposition of these two words, linking the two lines; this is further reinforced by the coincidence of ictus and word accent at the end of the first syllable, where a caesura also occurs.
- 84 *|însôn|în|jâa(o)|îndîci|o*: three very powerful words; note the following:
- the assonance of *in*, 'not guilty, not to be mentioned, a speech against the innocence of Palamedes (see the note on line 67);
 - the two elisions, which make the opening two spondees sound heavier than the fourth foot;
 - the ictus falling on *in*, the first syllable of each foot, and the word accent on the second syllable of the foot, creating conflict of ictus and word accent in the first foot, which contrasts strongly with the coincidence in the previous line.

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- 84 *indicio*: there are various accounts of this episode, of which the most common (Ulixes) hated Palamedes because he had foiled Odysseus's attempt to return to Troy. Odysseus therefore bribed a slave to put a letter, allegedly from Palamedes' bed. The Greeks invaded Palamedes' tent, found the letter. He was found guilty and stoned to death. In revenge, Palamedes' father built a dangerous promontory on the route the Greeks were taking to return to Greece, and several of their ships.
- 85 *nunc cassum lumine lugent*: the assonance of *u, lu* and the two successive *n*'s emphasise the mourning of the Greeks over Palamedes' death.
- 86 *illi me comitem*: the juxtaposition of *illi me* emphasises the closeness of the relationship. The repetition of the prefix *com/con* = 'together with'. *comitem* is a compound of *com* + *item* = 'together with'. The caesura normally falls in the middle of the third foot, but here it is a natural break, it comes before *comitem*, between the end of the second foot and the beginning of the third. This is not unusual in Virgil, see lines 96 and 104. In this line, the apparent intent is to emphasise the strong bond between Sinon and Palamedes.
- 87 The position of *pauper*, emphasising the poverty of Sinon's father, *comitem* and *r* in an attempt to gain the sympathy of the Trojans.
- 88 *regno... regum*: polyptoton.
- 89 *aliquod nomenque decusque* is a recasting of lines 81–83, showing the refutation of the claims as a result of being Palamedes' companion, with the synonym *comitem*.

Answer to the activity: every line has a different rhythm. If two are the same, it is a coincidence.

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Lines 90–104 – Palamedes' death spells trouble

'invidia postquam pellacis Ulixi 90
 (haud ignota loquor) superis concessit ab oris,
 afflictus vitam in tenebris luctuque trahebam
 et casum insontis mecum indignabar amici.
 nec tacui demens et me, fors si qua tulisset,
 si patrios umquam remeassem victor ad Argos, 95
 promisi ultorem et verbis odia aspera movi.
 hinc mihi prima mali labes, hinc semper Ithacae
 criminibus terrere novis, hinc erant, et voces
 in vulgum ambiguas, et scire conscius arma.
 nec me vitio prius, donec Calchante ministro— 100
 sed quod ego haec autem nequiquam ingrata revolve,
 quidve moror? si omnes uno ordine habetis Achivos,
 idque audire sat est, iamdudum sumite poenas:
 hoc Ithacus velit et magno mercentur Atridae.'

Translation

'When he departed from the shores of the upper world through the spite of talking about matters which are not unknown), despondent, I dragged out and was angry within myself at the fate of my innocent friend. Nor did I vowed that I would avenge (him), if some chance allowed, if I ever returned victorious, and I aroused fierce hatred with my words. As a result of this for me, as a result Ulysses was always frightening me with new accusations, dubious words among the crowd and deliberately sought (to take up) arms until with Calchas as his accomplice – but why, indeed, do I vainly relate this? why do I delay? If you regard all Greeks in the same category, and hearing punishment which is long overdue: this is what the Ithacan would want, at pay a high price for.'

Grammar and translation notes

- 90 *invidia*: ablative of cause, 'because of / through envy'; take it inside the sentence.
 92 *tenebris* means 'darkness', or 'gloom'; what Virgil is implying is either the way of Ulysses, or 'the gloom', as a synonym for *luctu*, possibly both.
 94–96 *et me*: the thread of this part of the sentence is *et promisi me ut ultorem* 'and I vowed that I would avenge'. Austin takes *ultorem* as predicate, but an infinitive is a proper indirect statement, in view of the following subjunctives.
fors... tulisset: take *fors* inside the *si* clause (postposition). *tulisset* and *remeassem* are original future perfects in the direct speech. Translate it as 'if any chance allowed'.
 95 *Argos*: accusative plural, from *Argi*, *-orum* m., the more frequent alternative to *Argivi*.
 97 *mihi*: either dative of disadvantage, or, possibly, dative of possession, 'for my understanding *erat*'.

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- 97 *labes* has the same root as *labor*, 'slip', so, 'slip towards disaster' (Austin *Latin Dictionary*, translate it as 'the first blow of misfortune'. Either way).
- 98 *criminibus*: ablative of means, the means by which Ulysses terrified him.
- 98–99 *terrere... spargere... quaerere*: historic infinitives, an extension of the historic scene more vivid. The historic infinitive is rare in poetry, more common in prose, particularly Sallust.
- 99 *consciis*: Latin authors often used adjectives as adverbs, as here, 'deliberately'.
- 100 *enim* means 'indeed / in fact', here; cf. line 164.
- Calchante ministro*: ablative absolute*, with 'being' understood; it is an example of *me consule, Caesare duce*.
- 103 *iamdudum* was regularly used with the present tense to express something that has been going on for some time, and here, Sinon is implying that the Trojans have known him some time; I have used 'long overdue' to bring this out.
- 104 *velit... ut*: potential subjunctives, understanding a conditional clause.
- magno*: ablative of price: the genitive was used to express the value of something, but the ablative was used to express the price it cost.

Context and style notes

Activity

Virgil uses enclosing order frequently in this section. How many examples can you find?

- 90 *postquam pellacis*: the alliteration of *p* emphasises Sinon's contempt of the Trojans.
- 91 *haud ignota*: litotes, 'not unknown', so, 'well known'; see the note on line 89.
- superis*: *superi* means 'upper', i.e. the upper world as opposed to the lower world. The phrase is a dignified way of saying that he died – Austin has a good note on this.
- 92–96 There are only five dactyls, but 15 spondees in the first four feet of the line, which emphasise Sinon's grief and anger over the death of his friend. *insontis* further emphasises his anger – his friend was innocent, an echo of the *insontis* of line 89.
- 93 *insontis... indignabar*: the use of the prefix *in* and the repetition of *inson* emphasises the innocence of Palamedes; he was **not** guilty and Sinon considers his death a tragedy. There is also considerable alliteration of *m* and *n* imitating Sinon's anger. One example of this chiastic alliteration is striking: *in nunc mactantem*.
- 94 *nec tacui*: litotes; 'I did not see the light' = 'I was quite vociferous'.
- demens*: Virgil uses *amens* and *furor* three times each and *furens* five times. In most cases, but not here, these words are used to describe people who were acting against the interests of their country (244) or against their own interests.
- 96 *promisi... movi*: Virgil is quite fond of beginning and ending the line with *promisi* and *movi*. The elision *ultor(em) et* means that the only break is in the second foot, as in lines 99 and 104.
- 96 *verbis* is in an emphatic position, emphasising Sinon's mistake – he spoke too soon.
- 97–98 *hinc... hinc... hinc*: anaphora and tricolon, with the last clause the longest.

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- 97–100 The pace quickens as Virgil uses historic infinitives and more dactyls on each line.
- 99 *quaerere conscius*: the alliteration of *q/c* emphasises Sinon's condemnation.
- 100 *Calchante*: a very wise soothsayer, who foretold the length of the Trojan war and the need to build the Wooden Horse.
- 101 *sed... haec*: this phrase was regularly used by Plautus, a Roman writer of comedy, in his narrative. Virgil sometimes adapted a phrase from comedy to a more serious context. See the Introduction, page 9.
- 101–103 The pace slows down again with a preponderance of spondees and five instances of self-pity.
- 102 Note the juxtaposition of *omnes* and *novis*, emphasising that the Trojans probably belong to the same category.
- Achivos*: *variatio* from *Achilles*. Virgil has used three other words to describe the Greeks: *Achivae*, *Achivum* and *Achivum*.
- 104 *Ithacus*: *variatio* from *Ulixes* in line 97; Ulysses was King of Ithaca, an example of a common practice in Roman literature not to use a person's name when speaking contemptuously; learners who have chosen to study Cicero's *pro Caelio* will know that Cicero rarely refers to the infamous Clodia by name, calling her *mulier* instead. *Ithacus* was probably used contemptuously, as Ovid later uses it in *Metamorphoses* 12.100. *magno mercentur Atridae*: Sinon's contempt for and hatred of Agamemnon and Menelaus is set out by the alliteration of *m* and *n*, letters often used in contempt, and by the reference to Atreus, who killed the sons of Thyestes and served them up to him as food.

Answer to the Activity: there are eight, viz. *superis... ab oris, insontis ... ambigua, labes, criminibus... novis, voces ambiguas, haec... ingrata, omnes... Achivos*.

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'tum vero ardemus scitari et quaerere causas, 105
ignari scelerum tantorum artisque Pelasgae.
prosequitur pavitans et ficto pectore fatur:
'saepe fugam Danaï Troia cupiere relictā
moliri et longo fessi discedere bello;
fecissentque utinam! saepe illos aspera ponti 110
interclusit hiems et terruit Auster euntes.
praecipue cum iam hic trabibus contextu ac
staret equus, toto sonuerunt caelestibus aethera limbi.
suspensi Eurypylos inque tam oracula Phoebi
mitti, quae adytis haec tristia dicta reportat: 115
"sanguine placastis ventos et virgine caesa,
cum primum Iliacas, Danaï, venistis ad oras;
sanguine quaerendi reditus animaque litandum
Argolica."

Translation

'Then indeed, we burn to find out and seek the reasons, ignorant of such guile. He continues, fearful, and with feigned heart he speaks: 'Often the Greeks undertake flight and, weary, to depart from the long war; and would that a rough storm of the ocean and the south wind frightened them as they tried. A horse, constructed with beams of maple, was already standing here, thundered over the whole sky. In doubt, we sent Eurypylus to enquire of the oracle of Apollo. In this sanctuary these gloomy words: "With blood and a slaughtered maiden you must first, o Greeks, you came to the Trojan shores; with blood must your return must be made with a Greek life."

Grammar and translation notes

- 105 *ardemus*: its basic meaning is 'burn', and here it is used metaphorically as 'eager'. Ironically, 'burn' is what the Greeks are about to do, literally.
- 106 *scelerum... artisque*: genitive after *ignari*; certain adjectives, particularly those of ignorance, take the genitive case; cf. *conscia veri* in line 141.
- 107 *ficto pectore*: fictitiousness of description.
- 108 *Troia relictā*: ablative absolute*.
cupiere = *cupierunt*; see the note on line 53.
- 110 *fecissent*: the pluperfect subjunctive denotes a wish for the past which was not fulfilled.
- 110–111 *aspera ponti... hiems*: I have translated this literally, but a more stylish 'weather at sea'.
- 111 *euntes*: the present participle represents an original conative imperfect. They were not 'going', because they did not start.

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- 112 *hic* is the adjective, 'this', agreeing with *equus*, not the adverb 'here'. It implies that Sinon was pointing to the Horse as he said 'this'.
trabibus... acernis: ablative of description.
- 113 *toto... aethere*: ablative of place; the preposition is usually omitted with the noun; see the note on line 45.
- 114 *scitatum*: supine, used to express purpose, here; Horace has an amusing viz. '*lulum it Maecenas, dormitum ego Virgiliusque.*', 'Maecenas goes off to sleep.'
- 115 *adytis*: 'from the sanctuary'; ablative of place whence; see the note on line 45.
- 116 *sanguine et virgine caesa* is a hendiadys for 'with the blood of a slaughtered animal'; *anima* are ablatives of means.
placastis = *placavistis*.
- 118 *quaerendum*: understand *sunt* and *est* respectively. *quaerendum* is gerundive of obligation; *quaerendi* agrees with *reditus*, 'must be sought impersonally, 'atonement must be made'. Gould and Whiteley state that Virgil probably had in mind all the individual Greek returns to the

Context and style notes

- 105–107 *ardemus... prosequitur... fatur*: historic presents, making the scene more dramatic; the two verbs frame line 107; see the note on line 96 and cf. line 115.
- 105–106 The spondees, conflict of ictus and word accent and elisions emphasise the need to find out the reason for the Horse and their unawareness of the deception.
- 106 Note the balance of noun + adjective, N, A, N, A (or AaBb).
- 107 The alliteration of *p*, *t* and *f* emphasises Aeneas's disgust at the lying Greek. Alliteration, *p, t, p, t, (t), f, t, p, t, f, t*.

The rhythm is interesting; the first two feet are dactyls, with conflict of ictus and word accent emphasising Sinon's outward fear, while there is coincidence in the last two feet emphasising growing inner confidence, viz.

\ / \ / \ / X X X
|prōsēquī|tūr pāvōit|āns||ēt|fictō|pēctōrē|fātūr|

- 108 *Danai Troia*: the juxtaposition emphasises the close proximity of the Greeks to the city. *Danai* emphasises their wish to get away from Troy as quickly as possible.
- 108–109 There are quite a few points in these lines:
- The rhythm of these two lines is very different: in line 108, there are three dactyls, emphasising the Greeks' desire to get away from Troy as quickly as possible, while in line 109, there are five spondees, emphasising the Greeks' reluctance to leave the city.
 - the enclosing order *longo... bello*, enclosing *discedere*, the desire to leave the city.
 - the assonance of *re* in *cupiere relictā*; as *re* can mean 'back', this emphasises the Greeks' desire to go back home;
 - the juxtaposition of *longo fessi*, emphasising their weariness caused by the long war;
 - assonance of *o* and a rare example of internal rhyme, *longo... bello*;
 - enjambment of *moliri*, as the sentence could have ended at *relictā* (the city of *cupiere*).

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- 110 The repetition of *saepe* from line 108 is anaphora and emphasises the number of times the Greeks had wanted to leave, only to be thwarted each time by bad weather and contrary winds (see the map).

Clearly, the Greeks would want a wind blowing from the north-east, not the Auster, which blows from the south.



- 110–111 The word order is interesting: the two subjects and verbs are balanced, *interclusit hiems* *Auster*, but the verbs *interclusit* and *terruit* form a chiasmus, *interclusit*, *terruit*.
- 112–113 Note the order of the four-word phrase *trabibus contextus acernis equis*: agree are balanced, but the parts of speech form a chiasmus (noun, adjective, noun, adjective).
- 112 *acernis*: 'made of maple wood' is at variance with line 16, *abiete*, 'made of fir'. Consider this a mistake, but Austin suggests that it is 'a brilliant Virgilian inaccuracy of Sinon's story, which is surely the right interpretation, of the adjective *acernis* at the end of the line; cf. line 73.
- 113 The coincidence of ictus and word accent in the last three feet adds to the storm clouds – I have used a circumflex accent to denote the coincidence. The coincidence continues in the next two lines, emphasising the sense of the storm: *toto sonuerunt aethere*: a good example of enclosing order, as the whole sentence is enclosed by *toto* and *aethere*.
- 114 *oracula Phoebi*: i.e. the temple of Apollo at Delphi, where people went to consult the priestess of Apollo gave, usually in very ambiguous terms. King Croesus, who invaded the neighbouring kingdom, was told that if he crossed the river (the kingdom), he would destroy a great kingdom. He did so, and destroyed it.
- 115 Note the switch to the historic present, as the description becomes more vivid.
- 116–118 *sanguine... sanguine*: the anaphora, epanalepsis (repetition of the same word in the same position at the beginning of the sentence and the line emphasise the bloodshed and sacrifice as the only way to secure the Greeks' return).
- 116 *virgine*: when the Greeks gathered at Aulis on their way to Troy, they consulted the oracle and the priest Calchas said that because Agamemnon had offended the gods, he must slay Iphigenia, his young daughter, in order to get the right weather. Iphigenia's mother, Clytemnestra, at Mycenae, asking her to bring her back to her father. Iphigenia came to Aulis, but when she was about to be sacrificed, a deer and whisked Iphigenia off to the land of the Taurians. Agamemnon returned to Mycenae after the war, Clytemnestra slew him.
- 117 *Iliacas... oras*: internal rhyme.
- 118 Note the balance of *sanguine quaerendi... animaque litandum*.
- 119 *Argolica*: a very effective example of enjambment; 'atonement must be made for the reaction 'OK, we'll just sacrifice a Trojan captive' – (NO), 'a Greek or Trojan ran through the bones of the Greeks (line 120).

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Lines 119–131 – The reaction of the Greeks to Calchas

'vulgi quae vox ut venit ad aures,
 obstipuerunt animi gelidusque per ima cucurrit 120
 ossa tremor, cui fata parent, quem poscat Apollo.
 hic Ithacus vatem magno Calchanta tumultu
 protrahit in medios; quae sint ea numina divum
 flagitat, et mihi iam multi crudele canebant
 artificis scelus, et taciti ventura videbant. 125
 bis quinos silet ille dies tectusque recusat
 prodere voce sua quemquam, nec fore morti.
 vix tandem, magnis clamoribus actus,
 comitumque vocem et me destinatae arae.
 adserunt omnes et, quae sibi quisque timebat, 130
 unius in miseri exitium conversa tulere.'

Translation

'When this utterance came to the ears of the crowd (of Greeks), their minds shudder ran through the deepest part of their bones, (as they wondered) for preparing (death), (and) whom Apollo was demanding. At this point, the Ithacan with a mighty hullabaloo into the midst (of the crowd). He demands of the gods. And already many were prophesying the cruel wickedness of Calchas. And silently saw what was to come. For twice five days that man was silent, and refused to betray anyone with his voice or expose him to death. Finally, with the mighty shouts of the Ithacan, by agreement, he burst into speech and marked the fate of each person. All agreed and what each person feared for himself, they directed onto the person and bore it.'

Grammar and translation notes

- 119 The order for translation is *ut* ('when') *quae* ('this') *vox venit ad aures* ('the voice came to the ears') relative pronoun; cf. line 73.
 120 *obstipuerunt* = *obstipuerunt*; cf. lines 130 and 131.
 121 *cui... parent, quem poscat* are indirect questions dependent upon an indirect question. The tense of the subjunctive is strictly historic. Possibly the present is used as the verbs relate to the present.
 123 *quae* is an indirect question*.
 124 *mihi*: the dative is frequently used to denote a person and his reaction to a situation or disadvantage.
 125 *taciti*: Latin often used adjectives as adverbs, as here, 'silently'.
 126 *bis quinos*: poets, partly because of metrical constraints, often used the number five (twice five times) to express the normal number. Here, the reason was almost certainly epic flavour, as Virgil could easily have used *decem*.
quinos... dies: accusative expressing length of time* ('time how long')

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- 127 *voce sug*: instrumental ablative*.

opponere morti: Virgil was fond of using the dative case after compound preposition with the accusative, e.g. *ad mortem*. Learners who opt to read prose author will find the same preference in Tacitus, who frequently

- 129 *rumpit vocem*: the Latin expression differs from English, where the nearest equivalent is 'burst into song', though English has 'burst into silence', though English has 'burst into song', so I have translated it as 'burst into song'.

Context and style notes

- 119 Note the alliteration of *v* on alternate words, possibly to emphasise it

- 120** Note the position of the verbs, framing the line and emphasising the dactyls in all but the last foot emphasising the speed of the icy tremor

- 120–121** Note the chiastic arrangement of the two adjective + noun phrases *gelidus... tremor* (abBA). The English order of *gelidus... tremor* and the position of *gelidus* corresponds to the Latin order of *gelidus... tremor* and the position of *gelidus* in the Latin text. The English order of *gelidus... tremor* and the position of *gelidus* in the Latin text corresponds to the Latin order of *gelidus... tremor* and the position of *gelidus* in the Latin text.

- 121 *cui...* polyptoton; see the note on lines 45–46.

- 122 *Ithacus vatem*: the juxtaposition emphasises the contrast between the (protrahit) the seer out (presumably from his tent), and the seer, who (back in his tent, *tectus*) for 10 days. The contrast is also brought out name Ulysses, while naming Calchas in the same line.

magno Calchanta tumultu: the enclosing order is very apt, here, as Calchanta's crowd and the noise, which probably included his own protests at being taken to Ulysses. Dragging the seer out in this way was sacrilege, as priests and prophets were to be treated with great respect. Note the assonance of the consecutive *a* and *u* in the noise, *a* representing Calchas's outrage and *u* the crowd's reaction.

- 123** Note the switch to the historic present from the three past tenses in line 123. The narrator now takes over from the hypothesising.

- 124 *flagitat*: the enjambment emphasises the continuing violence. Ulysses 'demands' to know.

Note the pattern of alliteration, *m, m, c, c*; *m* imitates the murmuring Ulysses.

- 124–125** The repetition of the same rhyming ending of the lines, *-ebant... -ebant*. Note, also, another example of alliteration, *ventura videbant* to close the *taciti*, first word in its clause, emphasising the importance of keeping

- 125 *artificis*: again, Sinon refuses to mention Ithys by name; cf. *Ithaci* in 121 and the beginning of *scelus* (*cis* *scelus*) in 126. *la* well denote Sinon's hatred and spluttering of the crowd over the situation.

- 128 *vix tandem*, marked by the opening monosyllable and disyllable echo line
explains why he kept quiet for 10 days – the decision was difficult. He
by the opening five long syllables and the use of synonyms (*taciti...*

- 129 *composito*: the emphatic placement of this word at the beginning of its clause suggests that Calchas's reluctance (*vix tandem*) is merely a show; he was in cal-

- 130–131** Virgil would have made a great psychologist, as his knowledge of human nature is profound. He is at his sardonic best here, expressing the relief of the crowd that they were not the one chosen, rapidly agree with the choice (which is why they are not chosen) and ends with 'put up with it' (*tulere*), just the opposite reaction to 'I am too glad to do so.'

Lines 132–145 – Sinon tells of his escape and begs for mercy

'iamque dies infanda aderat; mihi sacra parari
 et salsae fruges et circum tempora vittae.
 eripui, fateor, leto me et vincula rupi,
 limosoque lacu per noctem obscurus in ulva 135
 delitui dum vela darent, si forte dedissent.
 nec mihi iam patriam antiquam spes ulla videndi
 nec dulces natos exoptatumque parentem,
 quos illi fors et poenas ob nostra reposceret
 effugia, et culpam hanc miserum in me plabunt. 140
 quod te per superos, quod caelestia numina veri,
 per sanctosque deos restet adhuc mortalibus usquam
 inter homines fides, oro, miserere laborum
 tantorum, miserere animi non digna ferentis.'
 his lacrimis vitam damus et miserescimus ultro. 145

Translation

'And now the abominable day was here; the sacred rites were being prepared
 garlands around my forehead. I snatched myself away from death, I confessed
 in a muddy lake throughout the night unseen I lay hidden in the sedge until
 perchance they did. And now I had no hope of seeing either my former home
 and longed for father, from whom, perchance, they will even demand punishment
 atone for this fault with the death of these poor people. Wherefore, by the
 powers that know what is true, by any undefiled faith that may still exist among
 beg you, pity such great troubles, pity a soul which is bearing unworthy troubles
 granted life, and went further, pitying him.

Grammar and translation notes

- 132 *mihi*: definitely a dative of disadvantage, here!
parari: historic infinitive, see the note on line 98.
 133 *tempora* means 'temples, forehead', here
 136 *dum... darent*: *dum* is followed by the subjunctive when there is an idea of time
 here, when Sinon is waiting for the Greeks to sail; *dedissent* represents the perfect
 which becomes the perfect subjunctive in *oratio obliqua* because a verb of wishing.
 137 *antiquam* means 'former', here, rather than 'ancient', as Sinon states to return to his
 land again. It is in the past, as far as he is concerned.
spes: understand *erat*, which makes *mihi* a dative of possession* = 'I had hope'.
 139 *quos... poenas... reposceret*: *posco* and its compounds, can be used with
 both what is demanded and the person from whom it is demanded;
quos as 'from whom'.
fors et: *fors* means 'perhaps' and *et* means 'even', or, less effectively, 'also'.

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- 140 *effugia*: poetic plural for metrical reasons; *effugium* would have fitted but might have caused problems.
- 141 *quod*, a connecting relative pronoun, means 'wherefore', here.
veri: genitive after *conscia*; see the note on line 106.
- 142 *per* governs *fides*, which is attracted into the conditional clause and *quod* is a generic subjunctive, frequently used after an indefinite subject.
- 143 *miserere* is the imperative of *misereri*, 'pity', which takes an object in the dative.
- 145 *his lacrimis*: dative, 'to these tears' or ablative, 'because of these tears'. *ultra* (another favourite word of Virgil's) is a difficult word to translate. It is a comparative, 'beyond', 'further', 'more'. What it means is 'going further', 'going beyond what was expected', given his powerful appeal, but to go further! I have therefore translated it somewhat freely as 'went further'.

Context and style notes

- 132 *iamque*: Virgil often uses this to introduce a new phase in an event, as in *infanda*: literally, 'not to be spoken of'; Virgil seems to be quite fond of *infanda*: seven times in Book 2, *fando* in lines 6, 81 and 361, *infandus* (3, 84 and 361) and indeed, Aeneas starts his tale to Dido with *infandum* (line 3). Also, he uses *infandi* (Book 3, line 644). Virgil is also fond of words beginning with *in-*, see the note on line 67, and cf. line 84.
- 133 *salsae fruges et... vittae*: *salsae fruges* were cakes sprinkled over the head, *vittae* were garlands tied around his forehead.
- 134 Note the position of the verbs and the assonance of *eripui... rupi*. Also note the description of his sudden escape and the spondaic feet 3–4 with an elision from which he had escaped.
- 135 The combination of *l*, *o*, *u* and *s* in *limosoque lacu... obscurus in ulva* brings to mind Sinon's hiding place. The assonance of *u* and alliteration of *l* continue the way to alliteration of *d*, *delitui dum vela darent... dedissent*. *ulva* is virtually *ulva*, remembering that *v* was a semi consonant, in effect, a consonantal *u*, so *ulvua*, conjuring up the slimy sedge. The assonance of *ul* in *ulva* recurs in *culpa* and *culpa*, but this may be accidental. The Loeb edition translates *ulva* as 'muddy mere', preserving the alliteration.
- 136 *darent... dedissent*: homoioteleuton; see the note on lines 124–5. There is a caesura after *darent*. As the note points out, Sinon does not expect to die without making the necessary sacrifice, but the Trojans do not notice.
- 137 *mihī* is in a spondaic position, as in line 132. In both examples, Sinon invokes pity and danger in this lying tale. The alliteration of *m* in this line is to arouse pity.
- 138 A spondaic line; note the balance of *dulces natos exoptatumque parentes*. Aeneas states that his father sent him to Troy 'from his early years', so, even if he had not have had children, so this is pure fiction, but, again, the Trojans are to be pitied.
- 139 Although *illi*, as subject, is in its normal position, I can't help feeling that it is a bit awkward.

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- 140 The alliteration of *m* returns, combining with assonance of *or* and the word accent in *mīser|lōrūm| mōrtē*, as Sinon repeats the reference to his (miserorum). What a rogue!
- 142 *usquam* is emphatic, because adjectives and adverbs are only placed as intended to emphasise something; here, Sinon is doubting the existence of this denial. This denial is intended to rouse the Trojans into saying, 'But we respect you!'
- 143 *intemerata*: another adjective beginning with *in* = 'not'; cf. lines 67 and 142.
- 143–144 *miserere... miserere*: the assonance of *er* (or *re*), anaphora and asyndeton for pity.
- 144 *tantorum*: enjambment, emphasising the great size of his troubles.
- non digna ferentis*: Sinon ends with a pathetic 'It's just not fair, I don't deserve this!'
- 145 *miserescimus*: polyptoton as *miserere* was used in the previous lines.

Activity

Pick out the words which Sinon uses to arouse pity for his plight.

Discussion

Do you think the Trojans were stupid to believe Sinon?

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Lines 146–161 – Priam spares Sinon and asks him

ipse viro primus manicas atque arta levare
 vincla iubet Priamus dictisque ita fatur amicis:
 'quisquis es, amissos hinc iam obliviscere Graios
 (noster eris) mihique haec edissere vera roganti:
 quo molem hanc immanis equi statuere? quis auctor? 150
 quidve petunt? quae religio? aut quae machina belli?'
 dixerat, ille dolis instructus et arte Pelasga
 sustulit exutas vinclis ad sidera palmas:
 'vos, aeterni ignes, et non violabile numen
 testor numen,' ait, 'virescentesque nefandi, 155
 quos ego vitae quae deum, quas hostia gessi:
 fas maiorum sacrata resolvere iura,
 fas odisse viros atque omnia ferre sub auras.
 si qua tegunt, teneor patriae nec legibus ullis.
 tu modo promissis maneat servataque serves 160
 Troia fidem, si vera feram, si magna rependam.'

Translation

Priam himself is the first to order the handcuffs and tight chains to be released and addresses him as follows with friendly words: 'Whoever you are, henceforth you will be one of us, and explain these things truly to me. For what purpose have they set up this massive structure of a huge horse? Who was it they seeking? Is it some religious duty? Or is it some engine of war?' He then turned, versed in tricks and Greek cunning, raised to the stars his palms (now) straight. 'I call you to witness, eternal fires, and your divine power, which is not to be broken by unspeakable swords, which I escaped, and the gods' garlands, which I wore right (and proper) for me to break the sacred laws of the Greeks. It is right for everything to be light, if any are hidden, nor am I bound by any laws of my nation. I will just abide by your promises and, since you have been saved, keep faith, if I can repay you greatly.'

Grammar and translation notes

- 146 *viro*: either dative of address, 'the man's handcuffs', or, more likely, the man himself.
primus: English idiom differs from the Latin; translate it as 'is the first'.
 148 *amissos... Graios*: understand *esse* to complete the indirect statement, which is an imperative; cf. *miserere*, line 143.
 150 *quo* means 'for what purpose'.
statuere = *statuerunt*.

150–151 *est* must be supplied with *quis auctor? quae religio? and aut... belli?*

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- 153 *vinclis* = *vinculis*, which cannot be fitted into a hexameter line. It is an error.
- 154–155 *vos* and *numen* are the objects of *testor*, 'I call (you) to witness'.
- 156 *deum* = *deorum*, a common contraction in verse.
quos fugi: *fugi* means 'escaped from'; *effugi* would be the normal verb but Virgil uses the simple verb instead of a compound.
- 158 The Bloomsbury edition has a full stop after '*auras*', but this is probably a mistake; it should have a comma, as *qua* refers to *omnia*.
- 160 *maneas... serves*: jussive subjunctives, expressing a wish.
- 161 *feram... rependam*: future tenses, but translated as present tenses to show the use of the future, 'if I shall tell the truth, perhaps he will tell the truth at present!'

Context and style notes

- 147 *amicus*: stated earlier, adjectives placed at the end of lines are emphatic, stressing the kindness of Priam in treating Sinon as a friend. The implication is clearly, the other Trojans would have done the same as Priam, but he did not.
- 148–149 *quisquis es... noster eris*: Austin has an interesting note on this. Servius on Virgil, quotes a fragment of Livy in which Livy states that these words were asked of a deserter by the commander of a Roman army, so this is an allusion. In the ancient, pre-passport world, one of the first questions asked of a stranger was 'Tell me your name', as King Alcinoos asked Odysseus, when he arrived. Another method of identification was a token, which a host broke and gave back the next time they met to prove their identity.
- 148 *Graios*: another synonym for 'Greeks' (*variatio*). Of the nine different names for Greeks in Book 2, *Danaï* is by far the most common (33 times); of the other words, *Argivi* and *Graii* occur four times, *Pelasgi* and *Myrmidones* three times, *Argoï* twice. Austin tells us that Virgil never used *Graecus* (which is metrically equivalent) – strange, given its frequency in other authors.
- 149 *edissere*: this is the only time Virgil uses this word in the *Aeneid*; he uses *disserere* (line 204) – *variatio*.
- 150–151 The five short questions emphasise the eagerness of Priam to find out who Sinon is. Note the long syllables at the beginning of lines 150 and 151, emphasising the urgency, followed by three dactyls as he rushes through the question. Note also the repetition of *quid... quae*.
- immanis*: another favourite word of Virgil; see the Introduction, page 10.
- 152 *arte*: cf. line 106, *artisque Pelasgae* and see the note on line 148. *Graio*: cf. line 148.
- 153 *exutas... palmas*: enclosing order and internal rhyme. Note the three dactyls, imitating the slow raising of the hands to the stars.
- 154 foll. When praying to the gods, or uttering a curse, it was customary in the ancient world to use repetition, particularly triple, and alliteration, in the belief that this was more effective. So Sinon uses repetition, *vos... vos, quos... quas* (polyptoton in an important position), *si... si*: (alliteration and assonance), *violabile vestrum*.

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serves (polyptoton again), and *fidem... feram*; sibilance, *promissis man*
accomplished orator, young Sinon!

In addition, the rhythm is particularly solemn, as befits an oath; in the
the ratio of spondees to dactyls in the first four feet is 12:4; three of the
of ictus and word accent in the fourth foot as well as in the first two.
Sinon tries to bolster up his lying tale.

154 *aeterni ignes* is *variatio* on *sidera*, though Austin thinks it refers to the
violabile: Austin states that this is a Virgilian invention, but *inviolabile*
Lucretius, so *non violabile* is hardly an 'invention'. In any case, it could
vast amount of lost Roman literature.

155 *vos arae* is an echo of *vos aeterni* in the previous line.

nefandi: see the note on line 13.

157–158 *fas...* *leges* originally meant 'divine law', but came to mean 'right, proper'.
Priam told Sinon to forget the Greeks and that he is now a Trojan.
OK to betray his original country.

160–161 apostrophe, as he calls on Troy to keep faith with him.

161 *feram*: polyptoton with *ferre* in line 158.

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Lines 162–179 – Sinon begins to explain the reasons

'omnis spes Danaum et coepti fiducia belli
 Palladis auxiliis semper stetit. impius ex quo
 Tydides sed enim scelerumque inventor Ulixes,
 fatale adgressi sacrato avellere templo 165
 Palladium caesis summae custodibus arcis,
 corripuere sacram effigiem manibusque cruentis
 virgineas ausi divae contingere vittas,
 ex illo fluere ac retro sublapsa referri
 spes Danaum, fractae vires, aversa iura mens. 170
 nec dubiis ea signis, oia monstris.
 vix per ora cecis simulacrum: arsere coruscae
 luminis flammae arrectis, salsusque per artus
 sudor iit, terque ipsa solo (mirabile dictu)
 emicuit parmamque ferens hastamque trementem. 175
 extemplo temptanda fuga canit aequora Calchas,
 nec posse Argolicis exscindi Pergama telis
 omina ni repetant Argis numenque reducant
 quod pelago et curvis secum avexere carinis.'

Translation

'Every hope of the Greeks and their confidence in the war which they had
 the help of Pallas. But in fact, since the time when the ungodly son of Tydeus
 crimes, undertook to tear the fateful Palladium from its blessed temple, has
 highest citadel, snatched the sacred image and with bloodstained hands the
 garlands of the goddess, from that time the hopes of the Greeks ebbed, and
 backwards, their strength was broken, the mind of the goddess turned away
 doubtful portents Minerva gave signs of this. Scarcely had the image been
 flames blazed from her uplifted eyes, a salty sweat flowed over her limbs
 leapt from the ground (wondrous to relate), bearing a shield and quivering
 prophesied that the seas should be attempted in fear and that Pergamum
 completely by Greek weapons unless they took heed again the omens at Argos
 being which they carried away from the sea and in their curved ships

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Grammar and translation notes

- 162 *Danaum* = *Danaorum*. *Danaum* and *belli* are good examples of the subjective genitive; this use of the genitive depends on the verbal idea in the main clause. *Danaum* depends, so *Danaum* is subjective, because the Danai are the subject of the confidence. *belli* is objective because it is the object of the confidence.
- 163 *auxiliis* is not a poetic plural, as the singular would have fitted the meaning. It is used to stress the number of occasions on which Pallas had helped the Greeks. The comparable English word used in the plural. Another reason for the use of *s* is to the other four words containing *s*, thus creating a considerable assonance. Sinon uses to express his hatred of the Greeks.
- ex quo*: understand *tempore*, literally, 'from which time' (connecting relation).
- 164 *scelerum* is an objective genitive, as it is the object invented.
- 165 *adgressus* = 'undertook', almost 'dared', rather than its normal meaning 'approached'. *tempore* is relative of separation or place whence.
- 166 *caesis... custodibus* is an ablative absolute*.
- 167 *corripuere* = *corripuerunt*; cf. *arsere* in line 172.
- 168 *ausi*: understand *sunt*.
- 169 *ex illo* ends the episode which started at *ex quo*.
- fluere... referri*: historic infinitives; see the note on lines 98–99.
- 170 Understand *sunt* with *fractae*, and *est* with *aversa*.
- 171 *dubiis... monstribus*: ablative of means*, the means by which Minerva speaks.
- 172 *positum*: understand *erat*.
- castris*: ablative of place without a preposition; see the note on line 43.
- 174 *solo*: ablative of place whence.
- dictu*: ablative of the supine; literally, 'in the telling', but the natural sense is 'by telling'.

Activity

Scan line 176, *extemplo temptanda fuga canit aequora Calchas*, to see which words in a go together. The answer is at the end of these notes.

- 176 Understand *esse* with *temptanda... aequora* to complete the indirect statement.
- 177 *Argolicis... telis*: instrumental case, 'with spears'.
- 178 *omina ni mihi* introduces a negative conditional clause. The conditional clause (postposition).
- Argis*: locative case, 'at Argos'.
- repetant... reducant*: subordinate clauses which are part of an indirect statement.
- 179 *pelago... carinis*: *pelago* is ablative of place where without a preposition; *carinis* is ablative of means, the means by which they were to carry the image.
- avexere* = *avexerunt*: the indicative shows that this is a detail added by Calchas's prophecy; otherwise, it would have been in the subjunctive.

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Context and style notes

- 162** *omnis* is emphatic. *omnis* implies that Athene was the only divine being of the Greeks, so when Ulysses and Diomedes stole her image (*Palladium*) it implies that there was no other god/goddess supporting them, which was foolhardy. Indeed, the majority of the gods supported the Greeks, only Hephæstus (Vulcan), her husband, and Ares (Mars), who had an affair with Helen, supported the Trojans.

coepti is not superfluous; it is a subtle way of reminding the Trojans of the start of the fighting. ('He started it, miss!')

- 163** *Palladis*: i.e. Athene, who supported the Greeks. Because the Trojan Paris had judged the beauty contest between the three goddesses, Juno, Athene and Venus, as she promised to give him the most beautiful girl in the world, he chose Venus, as she promised to give him the most beautiful girl in the world. Surprisingly, Helen, who was already married to Menelaus, King of Sparta, was taken to Troy. Menelaus asked his brother Agamemnon, King of Mycenae, to help him. He raised a huge army to attack Troy.

impius: note how Virgil puts the epithets *impius* and *scelerum* first when describing Diomedes and Ulysses, emphasising the impiety of the former and the latter.

- 164** *Tydides*: i.e. Diomedes, son of Tydeus, another example of *doctrina*, where a person or place is named by a name associated with that person or place. A full name is used where Virgil refers to Minerva as *Tritonia* (see below). Diomedes was a hero, wounding both Aphrodite and Ares in battle. His exploit with the shield is described in the following lines.

- 165** A spondaic line, in keeping with the description of the sacrilege. The preponderance of spondees.

- 166** *Palladium*: enjambment, delaying what was *fatale*. According to one legend, the Palladium was built in memory of Pallas, whom she accidentally slew. In the story, whereupon Zeus threw it down from heaven and it landed on the site of the city and erected a temple for it. The reason for stealing the Palladium was a prophecy which stated that Troy could not be taken as long as the Palladium remained in the city and Diomedes undertook to steal it by night.

caesis summae custodibus arcis: note the balance of the two-word phrase and the use of *c*, a harsh letter which emphasises the brutality of the slaughter.

- 167** *corripuere sacram*: the alliteration of *c* and *r* gives the emphasis on the sacrilege. The line has five successive dactyls, giving the speed with which the sacrilege was committed. *manibusque cruentis*: the sacrilege is emphasised by the adjective *cruentis* at the end of the line; so the sacrilege is emphasised. Horace refers to Minerva to atone for this sacrilege (*nefas*, line 184); he asks the gods to take the Penates, because Aeneas's hands were stained with blood.

- 168** *virgineas... vittas*: the sacrilege is further emphasised by framing the sacrilege with the assonance of *vi*.

- 169** The hopes of the Greeks ebb, like the sea, accentuated by the alliteration of *b* and *p* in 'back', just like the sound which retreating waves make over pebbles.

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- 170 Virgil rarely inserts a monosyllable at the end of the line; there is only one 210-line selection. The reason for its rare use is that the monosyllable coincides with the coincidence of ictus and word accent in the fifth and sixth foot. Compare the previous line,

X X X / \ /
sub|lapsa re|ferri| with this line, *a|versa de|ae mens|*. The conflict
 obvious, and well suited to the context, as the change from the norm
 mirrors Athene's change of mind.

- 171 *dubiis... monstris*: enclosing order.

Tritonia: doctrina; Athene (Minerva) was so called because (according to legend) she was born near Lake Tritonis or born from a nymph of the lake Tritonis.

- 172-173 Note the arrangement of *conspice in amibus flammæ arrectis* – adjective 2, which is balance, and the *obis* sinus of the parts of speech.

- 172–173 Fire plays a large part in this book, literally and metaphorically; *ardens* (154), *ardens* (172), *flammae* (173) and *ardentes* (210), and all the actual fire

- 173 *arrectis*: 'uplifted'; Virgil uses this word with other parts of the body serpents are *arrecta* (line 206), Aeneas, listening to the sounds of burn *auribus*, 'with his ears pricked' (303), and, when visited by Mercury, *arrectaeque horrore comae* (4.280). Clearly, Virgil liked this word, probably which is associated with scenes of terror, as here, *arsere coruscae... ar*

- 173–174 *salsusque... sudor*: enclosing order, which is apt, here, as the sweat comes from the mouth, as in the case of the *artus sudor* in *salsusque... artus sudor*.

- 174 *terque*: three was a significant number for the Romans. See the note on

- 175 *hastamque trementem*: an echo of lines 50–52 *hastam... tremens*, but Minerva is more terrified than Laocoon.

- 177 *Argolicis... telis*: enclosing order.

Pergama: the citadel of Troy, here standing for the whole of Troy, so of *doctrina* and synecdoche.

- 178 *omina*: the Romans were very superstitious and consulted the entrails proposed course of action, e.g. attacking the enemy, was advisable. lightning, how chickens ate, were all significant. Anything unusual considered unlucky. The Latin for 'left' is *sinister*, which came through. The system gradually became abused, and when Julius Caesar's fellow unfavourable omens in order to block Caesar's legislation, Caesar then Later, he was murdered because.

repetar... *re-*... the use of the prefix *re-* = 'back' emphasises that the bringing of the Palladium to Troy; cf. line 108. Note, also, the homoioteleuton which occurs in the following line, also, *curvis... carinis*.

- 179 *carina* literally means 'the keel (of a ship)', but is used, here, to mean synecdoche, using part of something to represent the whole, as in the 'the keel row'.

Answer to the activity: |ēxtēmpl||ō tēmp|tāndā fūg|ā || cānīt| aēquōrā|Cālchā
So, *temptandā* agrees with *aequora* ‘the seas must be attempted’, and *fugā* is

Lines 180–194 – Sinon continues to give the reasons

'et nunc quod patrias vento petiere Mycenae, 180
 arma deosque parant comites pelagoque remenso
 improvisi aderunt; ita digerit omina Calchas.
 hanc pro Palladio moniti, pro numine laeso
 effigiem statuere, nefas quae triste piaret.
 hanc tamen immensam Calchas attollere molem 185
 roboribus textis caeloque educere iussit,
 ne recipi portis aut duci in moenia posset
 neu populum antiqua sub religione iei.
 nam si vestra manus violat dona Minervae,
 tum mihi ipsum (quod di prius omen in ipsum 190
 convenit) Priami imperio Phrygibusque futurum;
 sin manibus vestris vestram ascendisset in urbem,
 ultro Asiam magno Pelopea ad moenia bello
 venturam, et nostros ea fata manere nepotes.'

Translation

'And now, regarding the fact that they have sought their native Mycenae with arms, they are preparing arms and gods as their companions, and having retraced their steps, will be here unforeseen; thus Calchas interprets the omens. Having been warned by the image instead of the Palladium, instead of the injured divine power, to atone for the crime. However, Calchas ordered (them) to erect this huge structure with interworked beams to the sky, so that it could not be received inside the gates or led inside the city under its previous sanctity. For if your hand violates the gifts to Minerva, the gods will bring destruction – may the gods turn this omen on (Calchas) himself before (the city) is destroyed by the empire and the Trojans; but if it climbs into your city by your hands, then the walls of Pelops with a mighty war, and this fate awaits our descendants.'

Grammar and translation notes

- 180 *quod* means 'regarding the fact that'.
vento, literally 'with the wind' means 'with the help of the wind', or 'by wind'.
petiere = *petierunt*: use the perfect with 'have', as with *statuere* in line 183.
- 181 *comites* is the dative complement, 'as companions'.
pelagoque remenso is an ablative absolute*; *remenso* (from *remetio*) literally means 'having retraced', so, 'retraced'.
- 183 *pro* means 'instead of'; its real meaning is 'as an atonement for' as Atreus was too free for an examiner.
- 184 *nefas quae... piaret*: purpose clause*, introduced by the relative pronoun *quae*. Take *nefas* inside the purpose clause (postposition of *quae*).

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186 *roboribus textis*: ablative of description.

caeloque: dative of motion; in prose this would be *ad caelum*. In Book 6, the Horse is shown in motion when he writes that the entrance to the Underworld is easy, (no great problem), *facilis descensus Averno*. It is also an example of hyperbole.

187 *ne... posset*: purpose clause*.

portis: 'within the gates', ablative of place, rather than = *per portas*, as in line 189.

189 *si... violasset*: the pluperfect subjunctive represents an original future violate (in the future, but as that would happen before the destruction of the city, so the future perfect is used; see the note on line 136).

191 *futurum*: understand *esse* to complete the indirect statement*.

190–191 *quod... convertant*: a wish for the future, which is expressed in the present tense. The connecting relative *quod* is in the accusative, agreeing with *omen*; translate it as 'this'.

192 *sin r...* (but it):

manibus vestris: ablative of means.

ascendisset: see the note on line 189. The subject is the Horse understood.

193 *ultro*: see the note on line 145; 'even' gets somewhere near the meaning of 'without'.

194 *venturam*: as in line 191, *esse* is needed to complete the indirect statement*.

Context and style notes

180 *patrias... Mycenae*: enclosing order and internal rhyme. Mycenae was a city in Greece and is used here as another word for Greece (*variatio*).

181 A dactylic line, emphasising the Greeks' rush to get to Argos to fetch the Horse. *remenso*: see the notes on lines 108 and 178. Here, *re-* can mean 'again' or 'back', it emphasises the trouble and danger involved in going back again.

182 *improvisi*: another compound of *in* = 'not'; see the note on line 67 and 181. Being first word in the line, it stresses the likelihood of an unforeseen event.

183–184 *hanc... effigiem* is in an important position; *hanc* may indicate that Sinon is pointing to the Horse.

183 *pro... pro*: anaphora and asyndeton.

Palladio... laeso: internal rhyme.

185 *tamen* is a little strange, as the sentence is not a contradiction of the previous one. The sense would be as follows: Calchas is saying that the Horse is a very big one, as advised by the seer, but make sure it's a very big one'.

immensam: see the note on line 67; Virgil is very fond of this word, which is used to describe the snakes (lines 204 and 208). The opening dactyl is for emphasis, which, with the alliteration of *m* and *n* in *hanc tamen immensam*, stresses the huge bulk of the Horse (and, perhaps, the wondering amazement of the Greeks).

189 *gestra... violasset*: the alliteration stresses the possible violence.

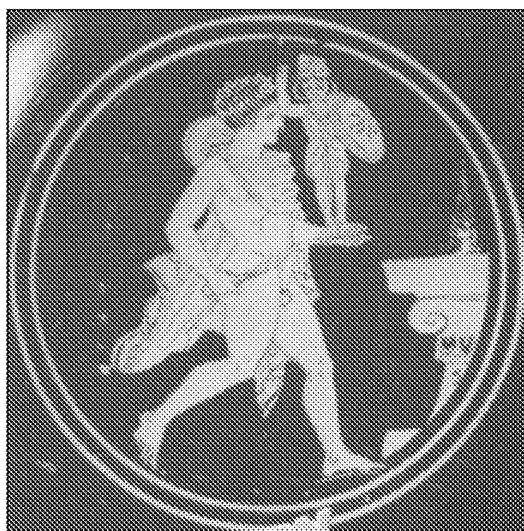
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- 189–193 Note the *doctrina*, which gives the passage an epic flavour: *dona Minerva* allegedly a gift to Minerva because of the theft of her image; *Priami* is the city which he ruled; *Phrygibus* = Trojans, the Phryges originally being who crossed the Hellespont and settled in the area around Troy; *Asiam* = Asia; *Pelopea moenia* refers to the cities of the Peloponnese, which included Argos, Mycenae, Agamemnon and Menelaus, the grandsons of Pelops, ruled.
- 191 *Priami imperio Phrygibusque*: the alliteration of *p* and *r* emphasises the authority of Priam.
- 192 *vestris vestram*: the polyptoton and alliteration of *v* (as in line 189) emphasises the ownership of the city.
- 192–194 The last three lines of Sinon's speech contain coincidence of ictus and foot, adding weight and veracity to his words.
- 193 *Asiam... venturam*: this part of the prophecy was, in fact, fulfilled (as in the Persian invasions of Greece in 490 and 480 BC and by Mithridates in 88 BC).
- 194 *nostris... opotes*: enclosing order and, possibly, alliteration of *n*.

Activity

Throughout this passage Sinon makes various references to religion and divinity to bolster his rather weak account. List these words.



Diomedes and the Palladium

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Lines 195–208 – Sinon's story is apparently confirmed by

talibus insidiis periurique arte Sinonis 195
 credita res, captique dolis lacrimisque coactis
 quos neque Tydides nec Larisaeus Achilles,
 non anni domuere decem, non mille carinae.
 hic aliud maius miseris multoque tremendum
 obicitur magis atque improvida pectora turbat. 200
 Laocoon, ductus Neptuno sorte sacerdos,
 sollemnes taurum ingentem mactabat ad ara
 ecce autem gemini a Tenedo per alta
 (horresco referens) antris orbibus angues
 incu- 205
 pectora quorum inter fluctus arrecta iubaeque
 sanguineae superant undas, pars cetera pontum
 pone legit sinuatque immensa volumine terga.

Translation

Because of such deceit and the skill of the lying Sinon the story was believed by his guile and forced tears, (we) whom neither the son of Tydeus, nor Achilles tamed, nor a thousand ships.

Hereupon something else greater and more to be feared presented itself to disturb our unsuspecting hearts more. Laocoon, chosen by lot as priest to slay the huge bull at the customary altars. Moreover, behold, twin serpents with heads from the sea from Tenedos over the peaceful depths (I shudder as I relate this) and to the shores; their breasts upraised amid the waves and crests red as blood rise and the remaining part sweeps the sea behind and bends its huge backs in a fold.

Grammar and translation notes

195 *insidiis... arte*: ablative of cause.

196 *credita*: understand *est*.

dolis and *lacrimis* are ablative of means, 'by means by which the Trojans were captured'; understand *nos* and *sit* is 'remember that it is Aeneas speaking'; *lacrimisque coactis* 'and tears' to arouse the Trojans' sympathy, 'forced', because of the deceit.

198 *domuere*: 'to subdue'.

199 *miseris* is the indirect object after *obicitur*, which is used reflexively in the text. Verbs can be used both transitively, e.g. 'move house', and intransitively. In French have to use the passive or insert a reflexive pronoun to use certain verbs intransitively; so here, *obicitur* literally means 'is exposed to' or 'exposed to', but in English is 'presents itself'.

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- 199 *multoque*: ablative of the measure of difference, as it shows by how much from another. It is usually found with a comparative, but the gerund *multoque* with *tremendum... magis*, 'and much more to be feared'.
- 200 Take *magis* with *turbat*.
- 201 *Neptuno sorte sacerdos*: *sacerdos* is the complement, '(chosen) as priest'.
- 202 *ad* means 'at' here.
- 204 *immensis orbibus*: ablative of description.
- 205 *pelago*: dative after a compound verb; see the note on line 127.
- 206 *pectora quorum*: take *pectora* inside the relative clause (postposition of relative pronoun).

Context and style notes

- 195 *insidiarum*: the assonance of *i* and the sibilance of *s* help to make this word almost onomatopoeic.
- 196 *coactis*: as stated elsewhere, adjectives placed at the end of the line are an exception, as Aeneas is stressing the fact that the tears were unreal.
- 197–198 *neque... nec... non... non*: *variatio*.
- 197 *Tydides... Larisaeus*: *doctrina*, again; the 'son of Tydeus' is Diomedes, because he came from Larissa, which is situated in Thessaly, in North Greece.
- 198 *anni... decem... mille... carinae* is another example of chiasmus (noun phrase). *domuere decem*: the alliteration of *d* possibly emphasises the pride of the Trojans fought for 10 years, undefeated, and were only overcome. *mille carinae*: '1000 ships' became the legendary total for the Greek fleet in the *Iliad*, Book 2, Homer gives a catalogue of ships amounting to 1186. He says 'face that launch'd a thousand ships' (Marlowe); *carinae* is synecdoche for ships.
- 199 *aliud maius miseris multoque tremendum*: the assonance of *u* and alliteration of *m* create a frightening atmosphere.
- 200 *improvida*: another adjective with the prefix *im* = *in*; cf. *improvisi* in line 198.
- 200–201 There is coincidence of ictus and word accent in the fourth foot of both lines, and the sibilance of *sorte sacerdos sollemnes* (hissing of the approaching sea) adds to the coming horror.
- 201 *Laocoon*: see lines 41 foll. It was his impiety in throwing a spear at the image of Minerva, with the immortal words *timeo Danaos et dona ferentes*, which brought about his revenge here.
- Neptuno*: it is ironic that Laocoon is priest to the god of the sea, but he is killed by his own son.
- 202 The solemnity of the sacrifice is emphasised by the combination of the following features:
- The line is spondaic;
 - The elision over the third foot, delaying the caesura until the fourth foot;
 - The enclosing order of *sollemnes... aras*;
 - The alliteration of *m* and *n*;
 - The use of the favourite word *ingentem*;
 - The chiasmus *sollemnes taurum ingentem... aras* (aBbA).

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203 As in line 57, *ecce* marks a new twist to the story. Here, the transition combination often used by the comic poets, Plautus and Terence. Virgil uses it in other poems; see the Introduction, page 9, for a similar example of taking Catullus and adapting it to a very serious situation.

As if Sinon's story was not powerful enough to convince the Trojans of the death of the Horse's opponent, Laocoon, to clinch the matter.

203–204 Note how Virgil delays the subject until the end of line 204, building up the suspense: 'Behold, twin (twin what?) from Tenedos, over the sea (it's pretty hot here, isn't it?) SNAKES'!! Note, also, the lengthy enclosing order *gemini... angues*.

203 *a Tenedo*: it is significant that the snakes come from Tenedos, as this is the place of hiding (line 24) and from where, like the snakes, the fleet would sail.

204 *horresco referens*: the long *h* and *r* in *horresco* and *referens* with alliteration of *r* to denote the horror of the scene. Note the use of the *h* and *r* in *horresco*; see the note on line 173.

immensa: see the note on line 185 and cf. line 208, *immensa*.

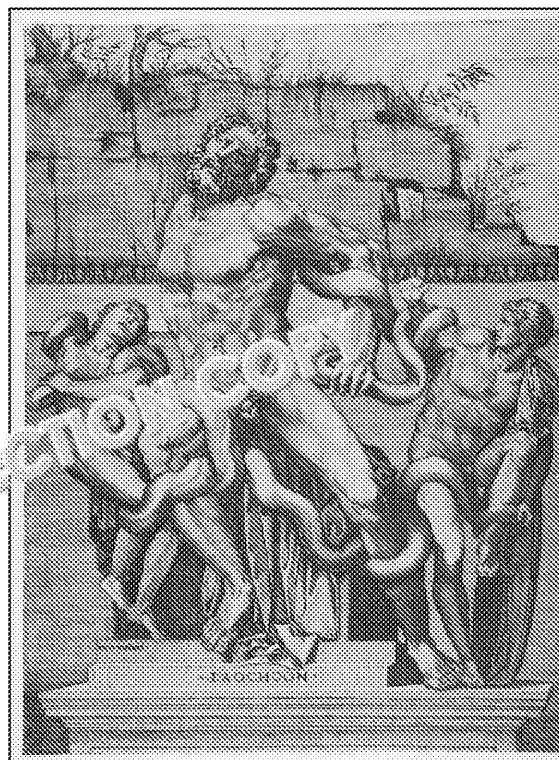
203–207 *alta*: the first of five different words for sea, *alta*, *pelago*, *fluctus*, *undas*.

205 *pelago pariter(que)*: the alliteration and identical rhythm (˘ ˘ –) accentuates the snakes through the sea.

206 *arrecta*: see the note on line 173, where the word is used in connection with the supernatural scene.

207–208 The sibilance of *sanguineae superant undas, pars* (imitating the snakes' hiss) give way to alliteration of *p* and assonance of *pon*. Note, also, the open *o* in *superant* imitating the snakes' steady progress through the sea, while the accent in the last three feet of line 208 emphasises the huge size of the snakes.

208 *volumine* is *variatio* on *orbibus* in line 204.



Laocoon and his sons

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Lines 209–224 – The snakes kill Laocoon and

fit sonitus spumante salo; iamque arva tenebant
ardentesque oculos suffecti sanguine et igni 210
sibila lambebant linguis vibrantibus ora.
diffugimus visu exsanguis. illi agmine certo
Laocoonta petunt; et primum parva duorum
corpora natorum serpens amplexus uterque
implicat et miseros morsu depascitur artus; 215
post ipsum auxilio subeuntem ac tela ferentem
corripiunt spirisque ligant inguina; nec iam
bis medium amplexu circum squamea circum
terga supplex capite et cervicibus altis.
ille simul manibus tendit divellere nodos 220
perfusus sanie vittas atroque veneno,
clamores simul horrendos ad sidera tollit:
quales mugitus, fugit cum saucius aram
taurus et incertam excussit cervice securim.

Translation

A noise occurs as the sea foams: and now they were reaching the fields, and with blood and fire, they were licking their hissing mouths with flickering, drained of blood. In unswerving line, they make for Laocoon; and first of all round the little bodies of the two sons clings to them and feeds on their wounds; they seize Laocoon himself as he approaches from below to help and bring them fast with their huge coils; and now, having embraced him twice round the backs around his neck twice, they tower (above him) with their head and tail; he tries to tear apart the knots with his hands, the garlands steeped in blood; at the same time he raises horrific cries to the stars: such bellowings as when a warrior raises an altar and has shaken an ill-aimed axe from its neck.

Grammar and translation notes

- 209 *spumante salo*: ablative absolute*, 'as the sea foamed'.
- 210 *oculos*: accusative of respect; *suffecti*, literally, 'stained as to the eyes'.
- 211 *linguis*: instrumental ablative*.
- 212 *visu*: ablative of the supine, used here in a causal sense, but best translated 'because of'.
- illi* refers to the snakes.
- agmine certo*: ablative of description.
- 216 *post* is an adverb, here, meaning 'next'.
- ipsum* = Laocoon.
- auxilio* is a predicative dative, usually with an idea of purpose; literal

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- 218–219 *circum... dati*: take the two words together, *circumdati*; this splitting of verb is used reflexively, here, with a direct object, *terga*, 'putting their backs'. The Greek middle voice, a mood extra to the normal active, is used here. The Greek middle has the same forms as the passive in all tenses except the present, though its forms are passive, it has an active meaning, which Virgil uses in lines 510–511, where Priam girds on the useless sword, *inutile ferrum*.
- 219 *capite et cervicibus*: ablative of means*.
- 221 *vittas*: accusative of respect after *perfusus*; see the note on line 57.
- 223 Take *fugit* inside the *cum* clause (postposition). The tense is perfect, but it is a gnomic perfect, which is often used in simile to express something that has happened in the past and will go on happening.
- 224 *cervice*: ablative of separation.
securim: accusative. A few other words have the same ending, e.g. *vinum*.

Context and style notes

- 209 *salo*: the sixth word for sea; see the note on lines 204–207. Note the sibilant *salo*, which continues into the next line. Although the sibilance is linked with bloodstained eyes, it is probably meant to imitate the hissing of the snakes as they describe in line 211.
- 210 *ardentesque... igni*: another reference to fire; see the notes on lines 41–43. *sanguine*: cf. line 207, where the snakes' crests were red as blood.
- 211 *sibila... ora*: enclosing order, which is appropriate, here, as the mouths are open. *lambeant linguis*: the alliteration of *l* emphasises the licking of their mouths. The assonance of *ant* in *lambeant... vibrantibus*.
- 212 *diffuginus*: it is rare to start the sentence with the verb, so, here, it is to emphasise the immediate effect on the Trojans – they flee in different directions, and also, the change of tense from imperfect to historic present, making it more vivid (if possible!).
- 212–213 There is a military sound to this line: *agmen* means a column of troops, and *impetum* mean 'attack'.
- 213–214 *parva duorum corpora natorum*: note the balance (abAB), the homoioteleuton, the triple plaintive -or sound, rousing our sympathy for the little children.
- 215 *miseros morsu depascitur artus*: the alliteration of *m* and assonance of *o* in *miseros morsu* describe the snakes' attack on the children. Virgil lived through so many wars, present Ukraine, Syria, and many other wars, inevitably involved people's deaths. The descriptions of the deaths of many innocent people in the rest of the *Aeneid*, particularly the second book.
- 216 *subeuntem*: 'as he approaches'; the prefix *sub* means 'below', and the *tem* is the ending of the gerundive, 'approaching the monster 'from below', as the serpents tower over him. *subeuntem... ferentem*: homoioteleuton.

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217 *corripuit*: enjambment; in its position, first in the line, but last in its clause, the double *r* adds to the horror of the scene.

spirisque... ingentibus: enclosing order, which is very effective, here, as it surrounds Laocoon. Note the use of the favourite word *ingens*. Enjambment continues in this part of Book 2.

et iam: the ending of the line with two monosyllables is rare, because it destroys the normal rhythm of the end of the line, cf. line 170. It is effective here.

218 *bis... bis*: anaphora and asyndeton. The three successive spondees in the line emphasise the horror, which is intensified by the slimy sound of *squid* in the last three words in the line, which is repeated in the next line.

amplexi: a good choice of word, as it is often used of persons embracing in affection; but Virgil gives it a sinister meaning, as he is emphasising the embrace of serpents' embrace.

219 *terga... terga*: 'backs', which is how I have translated it, but it probably means 'the backs of the serpents'. It is, in effect, an example of synecdoche, using a part to represent the whole.

221 The sibilance in the first three words combines with alliteration of *v* to emphasise the horror.

222 *clamos... horrendos*: the two words, each with three long syllables, together with the alliteration of *r* combine to imitate the noise Laocoon makes. Virgil uses this here, as in line 204. The root *horr-* occurs six times in Book 2. In addition, the long foot, delaying the caesura to the fourth foot. This has the effect of the noise.

223–224 The simile is apt, because Laocoon is now the victim, like the bull he is comparing. Line 223 is spondaic, imitating the long bellows of the bull, and line 224 has three spondees in feet 2–4; note the use of the word *mugitus*, an onomatopoeic word sounding like 'moo'; the assonance of *u* continues in the next three words.

224 *taurus*: enjambment. Note the assonance of *taurus* and *saucius* in the line. *incertam... securim*: enclosing order. The alliteration of *c* is well suited to the action of shaking out the axe from its neck. *incertam* is emphatic, as it means that the axe is not yet out.



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Lines 225–234 – The Trojans decide to take the Horse

at gemini lapsu delubra ad summa dracones 225
 effugiunt saevaeque petunt Tritonidis arcem,
 sub pedibusque deae clipeique sub orbe teguntur.
 tum vero tremefacta novus per pectora cunctis
 insinuat pavor, et scelus expendisse merentem
 Laocoonta ferunt, sacrum qui cuspide robur 230
 laeserit et tergo sceleratam intorserit hastam.
 ducendum ad sedes simulacrum orandaque divi
 numina conclamant.
 dividimus muros et moenia pandimus urbis.

Translation

But the two snakes with a gliding motion escape to the highest shrine, make
 Minerva, and hide themselves beneath the feet of the goddess and the rim
 new fear worms its way into the trembling chests of all, and (people) say I
 for his crime because he damaged the sacred oak with a lance and hurled
 They shout together that the image should be led to the abode of the godde
 should be entreated. We divide the walls and open up the city's fortificati

Grammar and translation notes

- 225 *lapsu*: ablative of manner, expressing the way the snakes reached the
- 227 *teguntur* has a reflexive meaning, here; see the note on line 199.
- 228 *cunctis*: dative of possession* with *pectora*.
- 229 *merentem*: the participle is used as an adverb, here, as in lines 99 and
- 230 Take *sacrum* with *robur* inside the causal clause (postposition).
cuspidē: instrumental ablative*.
- 231 *laeserit... intorserit*: the perfect subjunctive shows that these are causal
tergo: dative after a compound verb, or dative of motion, instead of *in*
- 232 *ducendum... orandaque*: gerundives of obligation, cf. line 118. Underst
 gerundives, in order to complete the indirect statement.
- 234 *moenia* can mean 'walls' or 'fortifications', but as 'walls' have already
 is more likely.

Activity

Write down examples of enclosing order in this section and discuss whether or not. Examples are at the end of the notes.

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Context and style notes

225 *at* introduces a change, either of characters in the story or of events. the snakes leave the scene and the Trojans make the fatal decision to. As Austin points out, the end of the episode is further signposted by line 203, the start of the snakes episode.

gemini... dracones: the words form the outer part of a chiasmus, *gemini* (aBbA). Note, also, the assonance of *u* in *lapsu delubra ad summa*, emphasis of the snakes.

delubra ad summa: an echo of line 41, where Laocoön comes down *summa* to return to the same place. The episode is over.

dracones: a variant on the earlier *serpentes* (204) and *serpens* (214).

226 *effugiunt*: the enjambement and historic present emphasise the snakes' swift escape. *saevaeque Tritonidis*: enclosing order, which is pointed here, as the temple of Triton. See the note on line 171. *Tritonidis arcem* is an explanation that the snakes escape to the safety of Minerva's temple convinces the Trojans sent by Minerva to punish Laocoön for throwing a spear at the Horse must be true, and they take the Horse inside the city.

227 The line is dactylic, emphasising the swift and smooth escape of the snakes.

228–229 *per pectora... pavor*: the alliteration of *p* emphasises the new fear which (quicken the heartbeats?). Note the balance of *tremefacta novus...*

229 *scelus expendisse*: the sibilance reminds the reader of the hissing snake. *penalty* for the crime.

231 *sceleratam*: polyptoton, as the same root occurs in line 229, *scelus*; note the contrast from Laocoön to his spear. The elision after this word and coincidently the last three feet make a heavy-sounding line, in keeping with the end of the spear, echoing lines 50–52, where Virgil uses *hastam* and *contorsit intorserit*, here.

232 *ducendum... orandaque*: the position of the gerundives at the beginning emphasises their importance – the image **must be taken** to the temple and the disaster **entreated**. Note, also, the balance of the gerundive phrases (*gerundive*).

233 See the note on line 66. Whether Virgil intended to complete this is a matter of debate. The pause at the end of the line creates a pause, which makes one think on the fact that the Trojans are now in the hands about the Horse, which will have fatal consequences. Aeneas opens the walls and open up the gates of the city' – end of story.

234 Note the chiasmus: object, object, verb, and the alliteration of *dis* in *disa* and *decision*.

Answers to the activity: *gemini... dracones, saevaeque... Tritonidis, tremefacta pavor, sacrum... robur, sceleratam... hastam* and *orandaque... numina*.

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Lines 235–249 – The Trojans take the Horse

accingunt omnes operi pedibusque rotarum 235
 subiciunt lapsus, et stuppea vincula collo
 intendunt; scandit fatalis machina muros
 feta armis. pueri circum innuptaeque puellae
 sacra canunt funemque manu contingere gaudent;
 illa subit mediaeque minans inlabitur urbi. 240
 o patria, o divum domus Ilium et incluta bello
 moenia Dardanidum! quater ipso in limine portu
 substitit atque utero sonitum quater intra dedere;
 instamus tamen immo caecique furore
 et muros in penetralia sacra sistimus arce. 245
 tunc ubi iatis aperit Cassandra futuris
 ora dei iussu non umquam credita Teucris.
 nos delubra deum miseri, quibus ultimus esset
 ille dies, festa velamus fronde per urbem.

Translation

All gird themselves to the work and place gliding wheels under the feet and the neck; the fateful engine climbs the walls, full of armed men. Boys and girls (songs) around (it) and delight in touching the rope with their hand; the machine (fortifications) and glides threateningly into the middle of the city. O my native land and fortifications of the Trojans renowned in war! Four times it stuck in the gate, and four times the arms gave forth a sound from the belly; however, blind in our madness, place the unlucky monster in the consecrated citadel. She opened her lips to reveal future destinies, (lips) never believed by the Trojans. We pitiable souls, for whom that day was to be the last, veil the shrines of the gods with festive foliage.

Grammar and translation notes

- 235 *accingunt*: normally a transitive verb, but here understood, as it is in line 236; *pedibusque*: dative after a compound verb, as in *collo* in line 236; *pedibusque* is understood *sub*, as the examples with *sub* in Lewis and Short show; the accusative, since a motion is involved.
- 235–236 *rotarum*: 'gliding of wheels'; the use of a noun + dependent genitive, expressing an adjective + noun, 'gliding wheels'. The usage is plural adjective + noun. In either case, the usage throws stress onto the genitive, so, here, Virgil is stressing the fact that the wheels glide along the walls.
- 238 *feta armis*: in view of line 20, where the Greeks *uterumque armato milite* 'armed soldiers', *feta* is clearly an echo of *uterum* and *armis* an echo of *armato*; probably means 'soldiers' a possible, though rarer, meaning.
- 239 *manu* is instrumental ablative*.

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- 240 *illa* refers to *machina* in line 237.
minans: the participle is used as an adverb; see the note on line 99 and
urbi; dative after the compound verb; cf. lines 235 and 236.
- 241 *divum* = *divorum*.
- 243 *utero*: ablative of place whence, 'from the belly'.
dedere = *dederunt*.
- 244 *furore*: ablative of cause, as their blindness was caused by their madness.
- 245 *sacrata... arce*: ablative of place where without a preposition; see the note on line 178 and 179.
- 246 *fatis... futuris*: G + W take it as 'at the fates to be', Austin states 'Either way, Cassand' reveals the future fates.'
- 247 *iussu*: ablative of the supine; cf. lines 174 and 212.
creditis... is: dative of the agent, sometimes found in poetry instead of *creditis*.
- 248 *deum* = *deorum*.
esset: the subjunctive is hard to explain; G + W take it as concessive, 'even if' (explaining why Aeneas calls the Trojans '*miseri*', but that seems far-fetched; another explanation seems the most likely though potential is another possibility (something prevented it)).
- 249 *festis... fronde*: ablative of means.

Context and style notes

- 235 *accingunt omnes*: the two opening spondees are in stark contrast to the previous line, which may be intentional to show the initial problem of getting the Horse moving and the enthusiasm when the solution is found.
rotarum: whether the Horse had wheels originally, as in some accounts, or whether after Sinon's story is uncertain. As Austin points out, the Trojans might be suspicious if the wheels had been already on the Horse, but if they were not, it was a mammoth task to lift the Horse in order to put the wheels underneath. This is especially when one considers the building of the pyramids and Stonehenge.
- 237 A spondaic line, well suited to the slow movement of the Horse climbing the hill. The alliteration of *m* in the last two words and the caesura after *scandit* are a jambic line. *scandit*: an odd choice, as the engine is on the hill, not the walls, which are demolished. Is this a play on words, as *scindit*, 'splits' would be more appropriate? *dividimus muros* (line 234).
- 238 In the 4th century BC, there was much experimentation in sound, with the use of alliteration and onomatopoeia, and Virgil is no exception to this. Look at the combination of *innuptaeque puellae* and *ri... ir* in *pueri circum*. Surely this double repetition is showing boys and girls dancing alternately?
- 239 *manu contingere*: they touched the rope for good luck.
- 241 *o patria*: apostrophe: see the note on lines 42–43.
Ilium: another name for Troy (*variatio*); it was named after Ilos, great-grandfather of the founder of Troy. See the note on line 163.

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- 241–242 *divum domus... Dardanidum*: the alliteration of *d* is quite noticeable, as
- 243 A dactylic line, with conflict of ictus and word accent feet 2–4, imitating the Horse banging against each other, viz.
 X X /
 | substitit | at(que) uter |
- substitit*: enjambment; it was bad luck to stumble over the threshold, the very (threshold) and the repetition of *quater*; once should have been taking the Horse inside, but 'four times'?
- sonitum... arma dedere*: another warning, but the Trojans are deaf, as
- 244 *immemores*: another adjective with the prefix *im* (= *in*); see the Introduction that the postponement of the caesura to the fourth foot (because *immemores* indicates the hurry of the Trojans) indicates the condemnation of the decision. The three consecutive words, *immemores caecique furore*: the Trojans are blind because of their madness.
- furore*: see note on line 94. *furore* in Virgil usually describes action of anger, either of the state or against the will of the gods. So, although Aeneas is from the city, he madly rushes out to fight, which Virgil describes as
- 245 A spondaic line, with an elision and sibilance (*sacrata sistimus*), emphasising the consequences of bringing the Horse into the city.
- monstrum*: another favourite word of Virgil, and another instance of a word with two different meanings, as it also means 'sign of bad omen', as in line 245 emphasising the huge size of the Horse, he is also implying that it was a variant for the Horse, described elsewhere in the specified lines as *monstrum* (237), *equo* (48, 113 and 150), *feri* (51), *Argolicas... latebras* (55), *molem* (113), *dona Minervae* (189), *robur* (230), *simulacrum* (232) and *monstrum* (245).
- 246 *fatīs... futuris*: internal rhyme.
- Cassandra was Priam's daughter, with whom Apollo fell in love. Her prophecy, provided she slept with him. Cassandra accepted the gift of the bargain, whereupon Apollo ensured that she would never be believed (*credita*). When Troy was captured, Agamemnon took her back to Mycenae, where she was slain, along with Agamemnon, by Clytaemnestra, his wife; see the notes on line 246.
- 247 *dei*: i.e. Apollo; G + W wrongly state, 'no particular god is meant'.
- 248 *delubra deum*: alliteration of *d*, but not assonance of *de*, as the length of *deum* is long.
- 248 *miseri*: an odd choice of word, as the Trojans were happy, not miserable. The saying is that the Trojans were to be happy because they were bringing the Horse into the city (*ultimus... illi*).
- 249 *festa fronde*: alliteration of *f*, emphasising the Trojans' happiness.

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Examination-type Questions

There are two papers set in this resource, one on lines 1–144, so that these can be used early on in the year, if the teacher wishes; the other is on lines 145–247, but the teacher could take one passage from each paper.

Paper A

NB Quality of extended response will be tested in the question marked with a star.

1. Read the following passages and answer the questions.

primus ibi ante omnes magna constitit caetera,
Laocoon ardens summa facie iuxta ab arce,
et procul a muris, quae tanta insania, cives?
quidam avectos hostes? aut ulla putatis
dona carere dolis Danaum? sic notus Ulixes? 5
aut hoc inclusi ligno occultantur Achivi,
aut haec in nostros fabricata est machina muros,
inspectura domos venturaque desuper urbi,
aut aliquis latet error; equo ne credite, Teucri.
quidquid id est, timeo Danaos et dona ferentes.' 10
sic fatus validis ingentem viribus hastam
in latus inque feri curvam compagibus alvum
contorsit. stetit illa tremens, uteroque recusso
insonuere cavae gemitumque dedere cavernae.
et, si fata deum, si mens non laeva fuisset, 15
impulerat ferro Argolicas foedare latebras.

Virgil, *Aeneid* 2, 40–55

- (a) *primus... procul* (lines 1–3): how does Virgil show that Laocoon was in a bad position? Make **three** points, referring to the Latin.
- (b) *creditis... Ulixes* (lines 4–5): what reasons does Laocoon give, here, for not believing the Horse?
- (c) *aut hoc... Teucri* (lines 6–9).
- (d) *sic fatus... latebras* (lines 11–16): how does Virgil make this passage dramatic? Make **four** points and support your answer with reference to the Latin.

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'bis quinos silet ille dies tectusque recusat
 prodere voce sua quemquam aut opponere morti.
 vix tandem, magnis Ithaci clamoribus actus,
 composito rumpit vocem et me destinat arae.
 adsensere omnes et, quae sibi quisque timebat, 5
 unius in miseri exitium conversa tulere.
 iamque dies infanda aderat; mihi sacra parari
 et salsae fruges et circum tempora vittae.
 eripui, fateor, leto me et vincula rupi,
 limosoque lacu per noctem obscurus aeva 10
 delitui dum vela darent, si forte dedissent.
 nec mihi iam iam antiquam spes ulla videndi
 iuvenis natos exoptatumque parentem.'

Virgil, *Aeneid* 2, 126–138

- (e) Name *ille* (line 1).
- (f) *adsensere... tulere* (lines 5–6): what was the Greeks' reaction to the sacrificial victim?
- (g) *iamque... parentem* (lines 7–13): how does Sinon arouse the Trojans? Make **four** points and support your answer with reference to the text.
- (h)* 'The prescribed section of Book 2 is a story of deception.' How is this statement supported? Support your answer with examples from the prescribed text, which may be in English or Latin.

NB Teachers may restrict this to lines 1–144 or relate it to the whole book if taken.

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NB Quality of extended response will be tested in the question marked

1. Read the following passages and answer the questions.

‘fatale adgressi sacrato avellere templo
Palladium caesis summae custodibus arcis,
corripuere sacram effigiem manibusque cruentis
virgineas ausi divae contingere vittas,
ex illo fluere ac retro sublapsa referri 5
spes Danaum, fractae vires, avexere domum.
nec dubiis ea signa dedit Troia monstros.
vivis simulacrum: arsere coruscae
flammae arrectis, salsusque per artus
sudor iit, terque ipsa solo (mirabile dictu) 10
emicuit parmamque ferens hastamque trementem.

extemplo temptanda fuga canit aequora Calchas,
nec posse Argolicis excindi Pergama telis
omina ni repetant Argis numenque reducant
quod pelago et curvis secum avexere carinis.’ 15

Virgil, *Aeneid* 2, 165–179

- (a) *caesis... vittas* (lines 2–4): what **three** crimes does Sinon mention?
- (b) *ex illo... trementem* (lines 5–11): show how Virgil makes the result of the Trojan capture of the Palladium believable. Make **four** points and support your answer with reference to the text.
- (c) Translate lines 12–15 (*extemplo... carinis*).
- (d) To what does *numen* (line 14) refer?

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diffuginus visu exsangues. illi agmine certo
 Laocoonta petunt; et primum parva duorum
 corpora natorum serpens amplexus uterque
 implicat et miseros morsu depascitur artus;
 post ipsum auxilio subeuntem ac tela ferentem 5
 corripuiunt spirisque ligant ingentibus; et iam
 bis medium amplexi, bis collo squamea circum
 terga dati superant capite et cervicibus altis.
 ille simul manibus tendit divellere nodos
 perfusus sanie vittas atroque repleto, 10
 clamores simul horrendos, quos sidera tollit:
 ovisque mactantem, flagit cum saucius aram
 et incertam excussit cervice securim.

Virgil, *Aeneid* 2, 212–224

- (e) *diffuginus... petunt* (lines 1–2): how does Virgil emphasise the danger to the Trojans and the snakes?
- (f) *et iam... securim* (lines 6–13): how does Virgil make this scene vivid? Make **four** points and support your answer with reference to the text.
- (g) *qualis... securim* (lines 12–13): how appropriate is this simile? Make **two** points.
- (h)* How realistic are the emotions and qualities which the characters in Book 2 of *Aeneid* display? Consider the characters of Book 2 which you have read? Support your answer with examples from the text, which may be in English or Latin.

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Indicative Answers

Teachers should refer to the OCR marking grids for the 5, 6, 8 and 10 mark questions.

NB The answers are in note form; Latin references would need to be in full comment in the Introduction).

Paper A

- (a) *primus* or *ante omnes*, he gets there first.
ardens, he is 'fired up'.
decurrit, he runs down.
procul, he shouts from far away.
Award 1 mark per point up to a maximum of 3 marks.

- (b) Greek gifts are treacherous. (1) Don't they know Ulysses better than that?

- (c) Refer to the OCR 5 mark grid.

Translation:

'Either Greeks are concealed, enclosed within this wood, or this machine is set against our walls, to look into our homes and to come down upon the city; deception lies hidden; don't trust the horse, Trojans.'

- (d) Refer to the OCR 8 mark grid. Any four points supported by the Latin text.

Content	
Mighty strength, huge spear	Juxtaposition of <i>validis</i> in <i>validis ingens</i> , balance of line 1
Hurled the spear	Enjambment of <i>contorsit</i>
into the curved belly	Anaphora of <i>in</i> , alliteration of <i>in</i>
The quivering spear	Alliteration of <i>t</i> , position of <i>t</i>
Noise from within the Horse	Assonance of <i>cavae... cave</i>
Aeneas's comment about gods' hostility	Anaphora and asyndeton <i>variatio</i> of <i>Argolicas/Danaos</i>

- (e) Calchas.

- (f) All agreed (1), put up with it (1) because someone else was chosen and is

- (g) Refer to the OCR 8 mark grid. Any four points supported by the Latin text.

Content	
'The unspeakable'	<i>infanda</i> : <i>fand</i> -favourite word
Sacrifice prepared for him	<i>parari</i> , historic infinitive
Detail of fruit and garlands	Spondees
The escape	<i>eripui</i> , first word in the sentence (assonance?) at end, front
Hiding in muddy lake	alliteration of <i>l</i> , assonance of <i>l</i>
Reference to Greeks setting sail	alliteration of <i>d</i>
No hope of seeing family again, or country	assonance of <i>am</i> , balance of <i>parentem</i> , spondees

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- (h) Refer to the OCR 10 mark grid. Plenty of examples needed.

NB I have only included references to the first half (apart from 145–6)
Deception

The Horse – Ulysses and Calchas.

Sinon's story – 'poor father'; friendship with Palamedes, his murder; Del for sacrifice; details of escape, hiding in muddy lake arouses sympathy, etc. (too young to have had children).

Not all deception: Laocoon's anger (*ardens*), physical attack on the Horse not taken in, 'Don't trust the Horse', Greek gifts, etc. Trojans' sympathy about the Horse.

Comment about the gods being against Troy (54–56)

Attack of the sea serpents; no deception here.

Youths making fun of Sinon (64).

Trojans completely taken in by Sinon (145).

(If whole episode is included, add snake episode and taking Horse into

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Paper B

(a) Slew guards (1) seized sacred image (1) defiled the garlands of the goddess

(b) Refer to the OCR 8 mark grid. Any four points supported by the Latin text

Content	
Hopes of the Greeks ebbed	Historic infinitives; alliteration of <i>r</i>
Strength broken, goddess turned against them	Balance of <i>fractae...</i>
Clear signs of goddess's disapproval	<i>nec dubiis</i> , litotes; <i>da...</i>
Almost immediate reaction	Position of <i>vix</i>
Eyes blazing with flames	Balance of <i>coruscae...</i>
Salty sweat	Enclosing order of <i>...</i>
Description of spear	<i>trementem</i> last word

(c) Refer to the OCR 8 mark grid.

Translating

Immediately Calchas prophesied that the seas should be attempted in flight; they could not be destroyed completely by Greek weapons unless they sought and brought back the divine being which they carried away with them on curved ships.

(d) The Palladium.

(e) The Trojans fled in different directions (*diffugimus*) (1). The snakes attacked (*agmine certo*) (1).

(f) Refer to the OCR 8 mark grid. Any four points supported by the Latin text

Content	
Snakes wind round Priam's middle	<i>amplexus</i> , 'embraced'; snakes' grip
Twice	Anaphora of <i>bis</i>
They surround his neck	Tmesis of <i>circum...</i>
They tower above Priam	Position of <i>superant...</i>
Efforts to undo the knots	Opening dactyls show tightness; spondees show tightness
Description of gore and poison	Alliteration of <i>v</i>
Horrific shouts	Assonance of <i>or</i> ; spondee
Bellowing of the bull	Onomatopoeia of <i>m</i>

(g) Award 1 mark for each point up to a maximum of 3:

The bellowing of the bull is similar to Priam's shouts;

Priam is now the victim, just as the bull is;

Priam had been sacrificing a bull at the altars (*aras*);

BUT the bull has escaped, there is no escape for Priam;

The bull has shaken off the axe, Priam cannot undo the snakes' coils;

The axe missed its mark (*incertam*), the snakes' hold is inescapable.

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(h) Very realistic usually:

Anger: Laocoon (*ardens*) throws spear at the horse; chides Trojans for not believing him.
Bravery: Laocoon attacks the Horse; Sinon daring to give himself up in the name of his country; Diomedes and Ulysses entering Troy and seizing the Palladium and his sons.

Distrust: Laocoon clearly distrusts the Horse (*equo ne credite, Teucri*).

Trust: Priam's acceptance of Sinon's story and the Trojans also believe him.

Deception and guile: Sinon's tale (*periuri*, 195); Ulysses also described as a deceiver.

Sacrilege: D + U's touching the Palladium with bloodstained hands (167).

Religious belief: consultation of Delphic oracle; slaughter of Iphigenia at Aulis; the sacrifice of a bull (202).

Happiness: reaction of the Trojans to Sinon's story (238-9).

Compassion: *miserescimus ultro* (145).

Naivety: Trojan acceptance of Sinon's story (*caecique furore*, 244).

Accept any other valid points.

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Appendix

Glossary of Grammatical and Stylistic Terms with

NB References to grammatical terms are to be found under the heading 'Context and style notes', stylistic terms under the heading 'Context and style notes'. Where a reference has an asterisk, it means that the reference is to be found under style notes as the point has more relevance to that section. If there are many examples of a term, they are listed, with *passim* following.

Grammatical terms

NB Simple uses of the cases, e.g. direct and indirect object, possessive genitive and

Cases		
The Accusative Case	accusative after verbs	passive verbs are sometimes used in a reflexive construction, e.g. <i>seipsum</i> (162)
	accusative of respect	the accusative limits the action of a verb or adjective (e.g. <i>seipsum</i> (162, 221))
	accusative of time	the accusative is used to express length of time (e.g. <i>seipsum</i> (162, 221))
The Genitive Case	genitive after adjectives or verbs	certain adjectives and verbs of filling and emptiness, e.g. <i>seipsum</i> (162, 221)
	objective genitive	used to express the object of the verbal idea (e.g. <i>seipsum</i> (162, 221))
	subjective genitive	used to express the subject of the verbal idea (e.g. <i>seipsum</i> (162, 221))
The Dative Case	dative after verbs	a. compound verbs : the dative is sometimes used to complete the meaning of the verb. This is more common in poetry than in prose. (62, 64, 127, 205, 231, 235, 236) b. simple verbs : certain verbs take an object in the dative case, e.g. <i>seipsum</i> (162, 221)
	dative of advantage or disadvantage	the dative expresses the person to whom something is an advantage or disadvantage (96, 124, 131)
	dative of motion	the dative is occasionally used instead of <i>ad</i> to express motion, e.g. <i>seipsum</i> (162, 221)
	dative of possession	the dative is used to express the person to whom something belongs, usually found with the verb 'to be', expressed or implied (75, 96, 137, 146, 228)
	dative of the agent	used instead of <i>ab</i> (+) dative to denote the person doing the action, regularly found after the gerundive (e.g. <i>seipsum</i> (162, 221))
	dative of the instrument	used instead of <i>ab</i> (+) dative to denote the person doing the action, regularly found after the perfect passive (247)
The Ablative Case	ablative of comparison	use of a participle and noun instead of a substantive (181, 209)
	ablative after verbs	certain verbs take the ablative case, e.g. <i>seipsum</i> (162, 221)
	ablative of cause	the ablative expresses the reason for an action (e.g. <i>seipsum</i> (162, 221))
	ablative of description	the ablative is used to describe an external characteristic (50, 107, 112, 186, 204, 212)
	ablative of manner	the ablative is used to express the way something is done (e.g. <i>seipsum</i> (162, 221))
The Ablative Case	ablative of means	this expresses the means by which something is done (e.g. <i>seipsum</i> (162, 221))
	ablative of instrument	the ablative is used to express the means by which something is done (e.g. <i>seipsum</i> (162, 221))

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Cases		
The Ablative Case (continued)	ablative of origin	the ablative is used to express the origin of goddess' (74)
	ablative of place	the ablative is used to express the place where usually with a preposition, apart from <i>dome</i> small islands and towns (45, 88–89, 113, 115)
	ablative of price	the ablative is used to express the price paid
	ablative of respect	this is similar to the accusative of respect (8)
	ablative of separation	the ablative expresses the separation of one (165, 224)
	ablative of the measure of difference	this expresses by how much one thing is different usually found with comparative, e.g. <i>multo</i>
	instrumental ablative	this expresses the instrument or means by which an action is done and after passive verbs, e.g. <i>gladio</i> 'sword' (55, 127, 177, 211, 230, 239)
The Locative Case		a special ending to denote the place where 'at Rome' (61, 178)
Adjectives		adjectives and participles are sometimes used
Connecting Relative		use of the relative pronoun rather than the one to the previous one (73, 119, 141, 163, 190, 218)
Tmesis		occasionally, compound verbs are split (218)

Verbs		
Gerund + Gerundive	ablative of the gerund	sometimes found after adjectives (81, 174)
	gerundive of obligation	the gerundive may be used in all cases to express obligation (118, 232)
Supine		a verbal noun, which is only used in the accusative instead of ut + subjunctive (114) and in the

Tenses		
Indicative + Infinitive	historic present	a. the present indicative is frequently used in past tense to make the passage more vivid (226*) b. the infinitive is also used in the same way (226*)
	indirect statement (<i>oratio obliqua</i>)	a statement which becomes indirect as it is dependent on a verb of saying, thinking, knowing (that), etc. is expressed by the infinitive (43, 78, 94–96, 148, 176, 191, 194, 218)
Subjunctive	causal clauses	the subjunctive is used in relative clauses and clauses of alleged (231)
	conditional clauses	the subjunctive is used in ideal conditions relating to the present and past (142)
	generic subjunctive	the subjunctive is used, normally in a relative clause, when a person or thing is involved (142)
	indirect command	a command or petition which becomes indirect after a previous verb of ordering, asking (to), etc. (75)
	indirect question	a question which becomes indirect as it is dependent on a verb of asking (why), knowing (who), etc. (74, 75, 121, 190–191)
	jussive subjunctive	the use of the subjunctive to express a command (190–191)
	potential subjunctive	the subjunctive represents the apodosis of a conditional clause being understood, e.g. 'I wouldn't do that (if I did)'
	purpose clause	a clause which expresses the purpose behind an action
	subordinate clauses in <i>oratio obliqua</i>	subordinate clauses which are part of the original statement or subjunctive (178)

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Stylistic terms

alliteration	the repetition of the same letter or consonantal sound in two or more words (44, 46, 50, 51, 52, 55, 63, <i>passim</i>)
anaphora	the repetition of the same word at the beginning of successive lines (45–48, 51, 54, 69, 97–98, 108–110, 116–118, <i>passim</i>)
apostrophe	the use of the second person in appeals, etc. (42–43, 56)
assonance	the repetition of the same vowel sound in nearby or connected words (53, 72, 78, 84, 85, <i>passim</i>)
asyndeton	two or more clauses or phrases joined without any connecting word, or subordinated to each other (54, 67, 69, 143–144, 183, 210)
balance	two corresponding phrases placed in the same order, e.g. <i>non sum, non sum</i> – the opposite of chiasmus (46, 50, 106, 111–112, 118, 135)
caesura	a natural break in a line, usually in the third foot (84, 88)
chiasmus	inversion in the second of two parallel phrases of the form <i>noun + verb, verb + noun</i> – the opposite of balance (93, 172–173, 193, 198, <i>passim</i>)
dactyl	a foot composed of one long and two short syllables (41, 107, 108, <i>passim</i>)
doctrina	learned references to people or places (59, 104, 164, 171)
enclosing order	where two words which agree with each other, e.g. <i>non sum, non sum</i> , begin at the beginning and the end of a longer phrase or sentence, enclosing the other words. Enclosing order often consists of four words, as in <i>non sum, non sum</i> , in a balanced way (41, 53, 81, 109, 113, 120–121, 153, 171, <i>passim</i>)
enjambment	where a sentence, often complete in itself, has an extra line at the beginning of the next line (52, 59, 78, 83, 109, 119, 124, <i>passim</i>)
epanalepsis	repetition of the same word (116, 118)
homoioteleuton	the use of two words with the same ending (47, 124–125, <i>passim</i>)
ictus	the beat of the line, which always falls on the first syllable of the first foot. It may coincide or conflict with the word accent . a. coincidence of ictus and word accent: where the ictus falls on the first syllable of the first foot (42, 62, 83, 107, 113, 141, <i>passim</i>) b. conflict of ictus and word accent: where the ictus falls on a syllable other than the first of the first foot (52, 84, 105–106, <i>passim</i>)
internal caesura	where the last syllable of a word before the caesura rhymes with the last syllable of the line (45, 46, 53, 109, 117, 136, 153, <i>passim</i>)
juxtaposition	two words placed next to each other for emphasis, often in a chiasmus (50, 83, 86, 93, 102, 108, 109, <i>passim</i>)
litotes	the use of two negative words to form a positive word, e.g. <i>non parum</i> = ‘pretty good’ (54, 78, 91, 94)
metaphor	a word used not in its original sense, but resembling it (41, 105, 154, 172, 173, 210)

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onomatopoeia	where the sound of a word imitates the meaning, e.g.
polyptoton	the repetition of a word with the same root, but in a different form of speech (45–46, 69–70, 75, 80, 88, 121, 144, <i>passim</i>)
postposition	placing a conjunction after one or more words which it governs, introduced by that conjunction (90, 94, 178, 184, 200, 207)
sibilance	use of the letter <i>s</i> , making a hissing sound expressing something sinister (163*, 173–174, 195, 201, 207, 209, <i>passim</i>)
simile	comparing an action or person with another, e.g. 'The wolf on the fold.' (223–224)
spondee	a foot containing two long syllables (43, 45–46, 58, 62, 177, 179, 198, 219)
synecdoche	the use of a part of something to stand for the whole thing (177, 179, 198, 219)
tricolon	three successive phrases, the last of which is usually the longest (45–48, 97–98)
variatio	variation in the way two or more parallel ideas are expressed (44–45, 55, 59, 63, 68, 78, 83, <i>passim</i>)

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