

**2022 TEXAS STATE JUNIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE
READING COMPREHENSION TEST: LEVELS 1/2A, 1/2B, & I**

DIRECTIONS: Please mark the letter of the correct answer on your scantron answer sheet.

Passage I

pūlex ad leōnem advēnit; “tē nōn timeō,” inquit. “tū nihil facere potes quod ego nōn possum. fortasse tū scābere et mordēre potes. sed ego pūncta huiusmodī floccī nōn faciō. ego sum rōbustior quam tū et ad pugnam parātus.”

itaque pūlex, ubi tubam īnflāvit, leōnem petīvit, et illam partem capitis quae prope nārēs est momordit; nam ibi leō crīnēs nōn habet. mox leō sē ipsum scābēbat; deinde ē pugnā fūgit. 5

pūlex, quī ita victor exstiterat, tubam iterum īnflāvit et domum festīnābat. Sed arānea eum statim cēpit. mox arānea pūlicem cōnsūmēbat.

“ēheu!” inquit pūlex. “quam crūdēlis est fortūna! arānea enim, quam omnēs dēspiciunt, mē cōnsūmit, quamquam cum fortissimō omnium bēstiārum pugnāre poteram.”

pūlex, pūlicis, m.- flea

puncta huiusmodi- pinpricks of this kind

dēspicio, -ere, dēspēxi- despise

scābo, scābere, scābī- scratch

nārēs, pl.- nostrils

exsistō, -ere, exstitī- emerge as

arānea, -ae, f.- spider

mordeō, mordēre, momordī- bite

crīnēs, pl.- hair

sē ipsum- himself

1. What tense is *advēnit* in line 1?
 - a. Present
 - b. Future
 - c. Perfect
 - d. Imperfect
2. What can the flea do?
 - a. Bite
 - b. Whatever the lion can
 - c. Scratch
 - d. Not care
3. What is the best translation of *floccī nōn faciō*?
 - a. I do not do the wool
 - b. I did not take a care
 - c. Wools don't do
 - d. I don't care
4. How does the flea describe himself in lines 2-3?
 - a. Weak & timid
 - b. Stronger & ready to fight
 - c. Stronger & faster
 - d. Small & weak
5. What is the best translation of *ubi* in line 4?
 - a. Where
 - b. Why
 - c. After
 - d. When
6. Where did the flea attack the lion?
 - a. The nostrils
 - b. The mane
 - c. The tail
 - d. The paw
7. What case is *crīnēs* in line 5?
 - a. Nominative
 - b. Accusative
 - c. Vocative
 - d. Ablative
8. Having been bitten, what did the lion do?
 - a. He won
 - b. He fought
 - c. He roared
 - d. He ran away
9. What tense is *exstiterat* in line 6?
 - a. Perfect
 - b. Imperfect
 - c. Present
 - d. Pluperfect
10. Why is fate cruel in line 8?
 - a. The flea has won
 - b. The flea has been caught
 - c. The flea is loved
 - d. The flea is full
11. What tense is *poteram* in line 9?
 - a. Future
 - b. Present
 - c. Imperfect
 - d. Pluperfect
12. At the end of the passage, who won?
 - a. The spider
 - b. The nostril
 - c. The lion
 - d. The flea

Passage II

Aeschylus erat poëta Graecus; iam senex erat, sed tragoediās nōtissimās scrīpserat. ubi iuvenis erat, longōs capillōs habuerat, sed nunc erat calvus.

Aeschylus ex urbe ambulābat. tum cōnsēdit et novam tragoediam cōgitābat.

aquila in caelō volābat. aquila testūdinem, quam cēperat, unguibus tenēbat. lapidem lēvem quaerēbat. aquilae enim testās, quae testūdinēs prōtegunt, in lapide frangere solent. postea testūdinēs cōnsūmere possunt.

5

aquila rem candidam in terrā cōspexit. “ecce! lapis est!” sibi dīxit aquila, et testūdinem dēmīsit. rēs candida tamen, quam aquila cōspexerat, nōn erat lapis sed Aeschylī calvum caput. testūdō in caput Aeschylī incidit. sīc dēcessit magnus poëta.

calvus, -a, -um- bald

volō, -āre- fly

lēvis- smooth

dēcēdō, -ere, dēcessī- depart, pass

away

cōnsīdō, -ere, cōnsēdī- sit down

testūdō, testūdinis- tortoise

testa, -ae, f.- shell

aquila, -ae, f.- eagle

unguibus- with his talons

candidus, -a, -um- white, light-colored

13. Who was Aeschylus?
 - a. Greek farmer
 - b. Greek poet
 - c. Greek philosopher
 - d. Greek youth
14. What did Aeschylus write?
 - a. Arcane poems
 - b. Famous poems
 - c. Very famous tragedies
 - d. Obscure books
15. Over the course of his life, what has Aeschylus lost?
 - a. His hair
 - b. His fame
 - c. His love
 - d. His skill
16. What is the best translation of the phrase *novam tragoediam cōgitābat*?
 - a. He thought about a new tragedy
 - b. He is thinking on a new tragedy
 - c. He was thinking of a new tragedy
 - d. He was understanding a new tragedy
17. What case is *unguibus* in line 4?
 - a. Ablative
 - b. Dative
 - c. Genitive
 - d. Nominative
18. What was the eagle doing in lines 4-5?
 - a. Eating
 - b. Looking for a rock
 - c. Dreaming
 - d. Speaking
19. What case is *testūdinēs* in line 5?
 - a. Nominative
 - b. Vocative
 - c. Ablative
 - d. Accusative
20. *cūr aquila lapidem quaerēbat*?
 - a. *testās frangere*
 - b. *testūdōnem cōnsūmere*
 - c. *Aeschylum necāre*
 - d. *poētam audīre*
21. What did the eagle see?
 - a. Aeschylus' hair
 - b. Aeschylus' production
 - c. A rock
 - d. A white thing
22. Having noticed the rock, what did the eagle do?
 - a. Drop the turtle
 - b. Fly down
 - c. Pick it up
 - d. Eat it
23. What was the rock?
 - a. A rock
 - b. The Parthenon
 - c. The *scaena*
 - d. Aeschylus' head
24. What gender is *poëta*?
 - a. Neuter
 - b. Feminine
 - c. Masculine
25. How is Aeschylus feeling at the end of the passage?
 - a. Perfectly fine
 - b. A little under the weather
 - c. Deathly ill
 - d. Dead

Passage III

quis nōmen Herculis nōn audīvit? dē magnīs factīs illīus nunc pauca dīcam.

Herculem, virum Graecum cuius vīrēs erant extraōrdināriae, in servitūtem fortūna dūxerat. Eurystheus eī miserō duodecim gravēs labōrēs dederat. sed metus Herculem nōn vīcerat; neque nova animalia terrēre poterat, neque hominēs eius generis quod Herculēs numquam sceleribus caret. magnum leōnem sōlīs manibus Herculēs superāvit; celerem cervam, cuius cornua aurea erant, cēpit et ex eō locō in quō 5 eam invēnerat Mycēnās trāxit. Deinde Eurystheus illum mīsit contrā Cerberum, ācrem canem; etiam hunc āmovēre poterat ab ipsā portā Plūtōnis!

post haec et alia facta Herculēs labōribus līberātus est. quod autem praemium eī fuit? nūllum. quī erat frūctus labōrum eius? glōria memoriaque perpetua in versibus poētārum.

cerva, -ae, f. - deer

Mycēnās- to Mycenae

līberātus est- was freed

26. To whom does *illīus* refer?
 - a. Hercules
 - b. Eurystheus
 - c. The narrator
 - d. Cerberus
27. What gender is *vīrēs* in line 2?
 - a. Neuter
 - b. Masculine
 - c. Feminine
28. What is the best translation of *in* in line 2?
 - a. In
 - b. into
 - c. on
 - d. against
29. What is the subject of *dūxerat* in line 2?
 - a. Herculem
 - b. vīrēs
 - c. servitūtem
 - d. fortūna
30. Which noun agrees with *miserō* in line 3?
 - a. Eurystheus
 - b. eī
 - c. gravēs
 - d. labōrēs
31. What did not overcome Hercules according to line 3?
 - a. Fortune
 - b. Labors
 - c. Eurystheus
 - d. Fear
32. Which of the following animals is **NOT** mentioned in lines 4-6?
 - a. Deer
 - b. Bird
 - c. Lion
 - d. Dog
33. How did Hercules overcome the first of his labors?
 - a. His club
 - b. His face
 - c. Archery skills
 - d. His hands
34. Where did Hercules bring his other labors?
 - a. Thebes
 - b. Mycenae
 - c. Athens
 - d. Erymanthia
35. From where did Hercules bring his last labor?
 - a. Crete
 - b. The gates of Pluto
 - c. The streets of Athens
 - d. Erymanthia
36. Which of the following words is the antecedent for *quō* in line 6?
 - a. eam
 - b. Mycēnās
 - c. manibus
 - d. locō
37. Having finished these labors, what happened to Hercules?
 - a. He died
 - b. He was freed
 - c. Nothing
 - d. He remarried
38. What was his reward for these labors?
 - a. Death
 - b. Freedom
 - c. Nothing
 - d. Glory
39. What was the fruit of his labors?
 - a. Death
 - b. Freedom
 - c. Nothing
 - d. Glory
40. How is Hercules remembered according to line 9?
 - a. Songs
 - b. Legends
 - c. Poetic verse
 - d. Tales

Passage IV and tie-breaker questions on next page.

Passage IV

sōl lūcēbat. Terentia iānuam post sē clausit et patrem intuita est, quī in lectō iacēbat. tum ad eum accessit et manum eiusprehendit. pallida erat.

Terentius filiam intuēns, “Tempus est mē,” inquit, “Terentia, abire. doleō quod tibi nōn multum relinquō. dīvitēs ōlim fuimus! meministīne?”

Terentia patrī respondit: “meminī, ō pater, sed tibi dormiendum est.”

5

tum Terentius, “mea fīlia,” inquit, “audī: ante mē sunt tenebrae. mox moriar.”

From *Pugio Bruti* (2018) p. XIII

intuita est- looked at

dormiendum est- must sleep

96. What was the weather like during our passage?
 a. Rainy b. Cloudy c. Sunny d. Foggy
97. Where was Terentia’s father?
 a. In the garden b. In the bedroom c. In bed d. In the study
98. Who is the subject of the sentence beginning *tum ad eum...* (lines 2-3)?
 a. Terentius b. Terentia c. The bed d. The rich
99. In what state was Terentia’s family a long time ago?
 a. Rich b. Poor c. Enslaved d. Ruling
100. What is Terentius about to do?
 a. Make a great business deal
 b. Die
 c. Restore the family’s honor
 d. Marry off Terentia