

Eta Sigma Phi
Fifty-fourth Annual Greek Translation Contest (2003)
Advanced

To be written as an examination, under supervision, within a maximum of two hours. No lexicon or other help is permitted. Please write in ink on every other line of the paper provided. The only identification on the contest paper should be your pen name. **Translate the passage below into clear, idiomatic English.**

The following account shows something about the international culture of the Greek-speaking world in the second century AD. Pausanias describes his own encounter with a man from Sidon (in Phoenicia) at the sacred precinct of Asclepius near the town of Eileithyia. The passage relates a disagreement between Pausanias, the Attic traveler, and the Sidonian, each holding not-so-entirely different views of Apollo.

τῆς δὲ Εἰλειθυίας οὐ μακρὰν Ἀσκληπιοῦ τέ ἐστι τέμενος καὶ ἀγάλματα Ὑγείας καὶ Ἀσκληπιοῦ· ἱαμβεῖον δὲ ἐπὶ τῷ βάθρῳ τὸν Μεσσήνιον Δαμοφῶντα εἶναι τὸν εἰργασμένον φησίν. ἐν τούτῳ τοῦ Ἀσκληπιοῦ τῷ ἱερῷ ἐς ἀντιλογίαν ἀφίκετο ἀνὴρ μοι Σιδόνιος, ὃς ἐγνωνέειν τὰ ἐς τὸ θεῖον ἔφασκε Φοίνικας καὶ τὰ τε ἄλλα Ἑλλήνων βέλτιον καὶ δὴ καὶ Ἀσκληπιῷ πατέρα μὲν σφᾶς Ἀπόλλωνα ἐπιφημίζειν, θνητὴν δὲ γυναῖκα οὐδεμίαν μητέρα· Ἀσκληπιὸν μὲν γὰρ ἀέρα γένει τε ἀνθρώπων εἶναι καὶ πᾶσιν ὁμοίως ζῶοις ἐπιτήδειον πρὸς ὑγίειαν, Ἀπόλλωνα δὲ ἥλιον, καὶ αὐτὸν ὀρθότατα Ἀσκληπιῷ πατέρα ἐπονομάζεσθαι, ὅτι ἐς τὸ ἀρμόζον ταῖς ὥραις ποιούμενος ὁ ἥλιος τὸν δρόμον μεταδίδωσι καὶ τῷ ἀέρι ὑγείας, ἐγὼ δὲ ἀποδέχεσθαι μὲν τὰ εἰρημένα, οὐδὲν δὲ τι Φοινίκων μᾶλλον ἢ καὶ Ἑλλήνων ἔφην τὸν λόγον, ἐπεὶ καὶ ἐν Τιτάνῃ τῆς Σικωνίων τὸ αὐτὸ ἄγαλμα Ὑγείαν τε ὀνομάζεσθαι καὶ † παιδὶ ἦν, δῆλα ὡς τὸν ἡλιακὸν δρόμον ἐπὶ γῆς ὑγίειαν ποιοῦντα ἀνθρώποις.

Notes and vocabulary:

ἄγαλμα, -ατος, τό: “image, cult statue”

ἱαμβεῖον, -ου, τό: “[inscription in] iambic verse”

ἐπιτήδειος, -α, -ον: “fit *or* adapted for *something*; suitable; useful”

ἀρμόζω, ἀρμόσω, ἤρμοσα, ἤρμοσμαι, ἤρμόσηθην: “fit; fit together: join; adapt”

Titane was a town in Sicyonia

† παιδὶ: An editor has written here: “The MSS. reading παιδὶ ἦν is meaningless. Scholars for the most part consider that a name has fallen out of the text.” TRANSLATE THE UNDERINED PORTION HERE with the word “Asclepius.”

δῆλα = δηλαδὴ (adv.): “clearly; manifestly; for δῆλα δὴ καὶ ταῦτα...”