

Eta Sigma Phi
Fifty-fifth Annual Greek Translation Contest (2004)
Advanced

To be written as an examination, under supervision, with 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.

A defendant in an Athenian court asks his jurors for careful deliberation and consideration of the evidence. He defends himself by claiming that he has been a good citizen and has generously discharged his commitments to the state.

ἐγὼ τοίνυν δέομαι ὑμῶν μὴ τοὺς τοιούτους λόγους πιστοτέρους
ἡγήσασθαι τῶν ἔργων, μηδὲ περὶ ὧν αὐτοὶ σύνιστε, τοιαῦτ' ἀνασχέσθαι
τῶν ἐμῶν ἐχθρῶν λεγόντων, ἐνθυμουμένους καὶ ἐκ τῶν εἰρημένων καὶ ἐκ
τῆς ἄλλης πολιτείας. ἐγὼ γὰρ τὰ ἐμοὶ προστεταγμένα ἅπαντα
προθυμότερον πεποίηκα ὥς ὑπὸ τῆς πόλεως ἠναγκαζόμενην, καὶ
τριηραρχῶν καὶ εἰσφορὰς εἰσφέρων καὶ χορηγῶν καὶ τᾶλλα λητουργῶν
οὐδενὸς ἥττον πολυτελῶς τῶν πολιτῶν. καίτοι ταῦτα μὲν μετρίως
ποιῶν ἀλλὰ μὴ προθύμως οὐτ' ἂν περὶ φυγῆς οὐτ' ἂν περὶ τῆς ἄλλης
οὐσίας ἡγωνιζόμενην, πλείω δ' ἂν ἐκεκτήμην, οὐδὲν ἀδικῶν οὐδ'
ἐπικίνδυνον ἑμαυτῷ καταστήσας τὸν βίον· ταῦτα δὲ πράξας, ἃ οὗτός
μου κατηγορεῖ, ἐκέρδαινον μὲν οὐδέν, ἑμαυτὸν δ' εἰς κίνδυνον καθίστην.
καίτοι πάντες ἂν ὁμολογήσαιτε δικαιότερον εἶναι τοῖς μεγάλοις χρῆσθαι
τεκμηρίοις περὶ τῶν μεγάλων, καὶ πιστότερα ἡγεῖσθαι περὶ ὧν ἅπαντα ἡ
πόλις μαρτυρεῖ, μᾶλλον ἢ περὶ ὧν μόνος οὗτος κατηγορεῖ.

σύνιστε from σύνοιδα be aware of, privy to
ἀνασχέσθαι from ἀνέχομαι, tolerate
ἐνθυμουμένους from ἐνθυμέομαι, think deeply, consider
πολιτεία citizenship
προστεταγμένα from προστάσσω, assign
πρόθυμος ready, willing, eager
εἰσφορὰς taxes, monies paid to the state
πολυτελῶς lavishly, extravagantly
οὐσίας property, possessions
ἐκεκτήμην from κτάομαι, obtain, procure
καταστήσας from καθίστημι, put into a state/condition, get into a state/condition
ἐκέρδαινον from κερδαίνω, make a profit, gain.
τεκμηρίοις from τεκμήριον, proof
μαρτυρεῖ from μαρτυρέω, be witness to