

ETA SIGMA PHI 67th Annual Latin Translation Contest (2017)

Intermediate Latin

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 papers should be your pen name.

The final words and actions of Alexander the Great

Intuentibus lacrimae obortae praebuere speciem iam non regem, sed funus eius visentis exercitus. Maeror tamen circumstantium lectum eminebat; quos ut rex aspexit, "Invenietis," inquit, "cum excessero, dignum talibus viris regem?" ...

Dimissoque vulgo velut omni vitae debito liberatus fatigata membra reiecit, propiusque adire iussis amicis--nam et vox deficere iam coeperat--detractum anulum digito Perdiccae tradidit adiectis mandatis, ut corpus suum ad Hammonem ferri iuberent. Quaerentibusque his, cui relinqueret regnum, respondit ei, qui esset optimus... Rursus Perdicca interrogante, quando caelestes honores haberi sibi vellet, dixit tum velle, cum ipsi felices essent. Suprema haec vox fuit regis, et paulo post extinguitur.

Ac primo ploratu lamentisque et planctibus tota regia personabat; mox velut in vasta solitudine omnia tristi silentio muta torpebant, ad cogitationes, quid deinde futurum esset, dolore converso... Qui extra regiam adstiterant, Macedones pariter barbarique, concurrunt. Nec poterant victi a victoribus in communi dolore discerni: Persae iustissimum ac mitissimum dominum, Macedones optimum ac fortissimum regem invocantes certamen quoddam maeroris edebant.

Vocabulary and Notes:

Line 1: *intueor, -tueri*: to look at, gaze at

oborior -oriri: to arise, appear

species, -ei f.: appearance, sight, spectacle

funus, -eris n.: funeral

Line 2: *exercitus*: in the genitive case, dependent on *speciem*, modified by the participle *visentis*, whose objects are *regem* and *funus*

maeror, -oris m.: grief, sorrow, mourning

lectum -i, n.: bed, here as the object of the participle *circumstantium*

emineo, -ere: to stand out, be conspicuous

Line 4: *debitum, -i n.*: here, obligation, duty

Line 5: *anulus, -i m.*: a finger or signet ring

Perdicca, -ae m.: Perdiccas, one of Alexander's trusted generals

Line 6: *Hammon, -onis m.*: i.e., the shrine of Zeus Ammon, located in the oasis of Siwah

Line 8: *vox*: here, translate as "utterance, word"

Line 10: *planctus, -us m.*: wailing, lamentation

regia, -ae f.: palace, royal quarters

persono -are: to sound through and through, resound, sound forth

Line 11: *torpeo, -ere*: to be inert, to be numb

Line 12: *Macedones, -um m.*: the Macedonians, countrymen of Alexander

barbari: referring to the Persians (*Persae*), who had been conquered by Alexander and the Macedonian army

Line 14: *edo, -dere*: to bring forth, produce, bring about, cause

certamen, -inis n.: a contest