

**ST EDWARD'S  
OXFORD**



**14+ ENTRANCE EXAMINATION  
2012**

**LATIN**

1 hour

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## The varied life of Alcibiades, before and after his exile from Athens.

1. Study the following passage (do **NOT** write a translation), and answer the questions below in English. Complete sentences are not required.

**Alcibiades**, vir **Atheniensis**, optimus dux militum erat, et de omnibus rebus semper **consilium** suum civibus dabat. alii vitam eius bonam fuisse dicebant, alii malam. sed tres **gravissimi** scriptores eum maxime laudaverunt; inter quos **Thucydides** erat, qui eodem tempore vivebat.

ille haec scribit: "**Alcibiades**, **Athenis** natus, urbe omnium pulcherrima, etiam ibi 5 plus **dignitatis** habebat quam omnes alii cives. **Alcibiades** cum multis militibus ad insulam Siciliam missus est. sed cum abiisset, **inimici** eum de **crimine aliquo** accusabant...

Alcibiades, -is (m.) = Alcibiades

Atheniensis -e = Athenian

consilium, i (n.) = advice

gravissimi = very important

Thucydides, -idis (m.) = Thucydides,  
(a Greek historian)

Athenae, -arum (f.pl.) = Athens

dignitas, -tatis (f.) = status, importance

inimicus, -i (c.) = personal enemy

crimen, -inis (n.) = (*here*) crime

aliqui, a, od = some

- [15]**
- (a) (i) What does the writer say about Alcibiades as a general in line 1? [1]  
(ii) What else does he say in the first sentence about what Alcibiades used to do? [2]
  - (b) What different views were expressed about his life in lines 2-3? [2]
  - (c) What information does the writer give in line 3 which would help his readers take a more favourable view of Alcibiades? [2]
  - (d) (i) What detail does he add about the historian Thucydides? [1]  
(ii) Briefly explain why this detail could be important in finding out the truth about Alcibiades' life. [1]
  - (e) How is the city of Athens described in line 5? [2]
  - (f) What made Alcibiades a well-known person in Athens (lines 5 – 6)? [2]
  - (g) What happened in Athens while Alcibiades was away, campaigning in Sicily (lines 7 – 8)? [2]



2(a) Translate on alternate lines the next section of the story which follows straight on.

[25]

his rebus **cognitis**, **Alcibiades** primo se defendere volebat. domum igitur navigabat; in nave etiam custodes erant ut eum **Athenas** ducerent. 10

**Alcibiades**, quod tandem periculum suum bene **intellexit**, e custodibus effugit et ad aliam Graeciae urbem pervenit; in qua urbe, audivit se absentem condemnatum esse. ex illa urbe expulsus, **Thebas** venit; cives eius urbis **viribus** corporis magis quam **ingenio noti** erant; **Alcibiades** eos **imitabatur ita ut** nemo eum **aequare** in labore posset. et ubi apud **Thraces**, homines **vinolentos**, habitabat, omnes 15 mirabantur quantum vini biberet.

cognosco, ere = discover

Thebae, Thebarum (f.pl.) = Thebes (a Greek city)

ingenium, i (n.) = intelligence

imitor, imitari = imitate, copy

aequo, aequare (here) = equal, match

Thracia, ae (f.) = Thrace (a Greek region)

intellego, ere = understand

vires, ium (f.pl.) = strength

notus, a, um = well known

ita ut = in such a way that

Thrax, Thracis (m.) = a Thracian

vinolentus –a –um = wine-drinking

2(b) Using this second section as a guide, try to put the following phrase into Latin:

[5]

**When these things had been heard, the exiled citizens wanted to defend their well-known city.**



3. Do NOT translate, but answer the questions that follow this final section of the story.

[25]

ibi **penitus** in **Thraciam se abdidit**. sed **Thraces** postquam eum cum magna pecunia venisse senserunt, **insidias fecerunt**. ille **cernens** nullum locum sibi tutum in Graecia, in **Persiam** transiit, ubi cum magna **comitate** acciperetur. qua fortuna **Alcibiades** non erat contentus neque Athenas victas **Lacedaemoniis servire** poterat 20 pati. **Lacedaemonii** igitur **Persis** persuadebant ut milites mitterent qui **Alcibiadem** interficerent. illi cum ferro **aggredi** non auderent, noctu **ligna** tulerunt circa casam in qua dormiebat, eamque incenderunt. ille autem **sonitu** flammae excitatus est domo effugit. quem cum **Persae** incendium effugisse vidissent, telis **eminus** emissis interfecerunt **caputque** eius ad regem suorum rettulerunt. 25

Nepos, Alcibiades, 4-5, 9-11 (adapted)

penitus = deep within  
insidias facio, ere = lay a trap  
Persia, -ae (f.) = Persia  
servio, ire = be a slave  
aggredior, i = attack  
lignum, i (n.) = wood  
eminus = from afar

se abdo, ere = hide oneself  
cerno, ere = realise  
comitas, atis (f.) = warmth, friendliness  
Lacedaemonii, orum (m.) = Spartans  
Persae, arum (m) = Persians  
sonitus, us (m.) = sound  
caput, itis (n.) = head

- (a) From this passage give one example of:  
(i) an imperfect subjunctive verb  
(ii) a deponent infinitive  
(iii) a present participle [3]
- (b) In what case are the nouns? (i) *Graecia* (line 19)  
(ii) *Persis* (line 21)  
(iii) *caput* (line 25) [3]
- (c) Account for the Ablative case of *noctu*. (line 22) [1]
- (d) Write out and translate a complete example of:  
(i) an Indirect/Reported Statement  
(ii) an Indirect/Reported Command  
(iii) an ablative absolute [6]
- (e) Why did Alcibiades decide nowhere was safe for him in Greece? (lines 17-18) [2]
- (f) What method did the Persians use to try to kill Alcibiades? (lines 22-23) [3]
- (g) What stopped this method from working? (lines 23-24) [2]
- (h) How was he killed finally and what proof of his death was conveyed to the Persian king? (lines 24-25) [1+1]
- (i) After reading this story, in your opinion, to whom was Alcibiades most loyal? Give a reason for your answer. [3]





