

Formative assignment 4 - Reading Latin G&E, pp.216-217 (Sections 4F & 4G)

Module: Intensive Latin 2 (HPLA7014)

Name: Angeliki Papastamati (2504330)

Date of submission: 6th March 2026

Reading exercise

itaque ad magistrātum Māmertīnum statim dēdūcitur Gavius, eōque ipsō diē cāsū Messānam Verrēs vēnit. rēs ad eum defertur, esse cīvem Rōmānum quī sē Syrācusīs in lautumiīs fuisse quererētur; quem iam ingredientem in nāvem et Verrī nimis atrōciter minitāntem ab sē retractum esse et adservātum...agit hominibus grātiās et eōrum benevolentiam ergā sē dīligentiamque conlaudat, ipse īnflammātus scelere et furōre in forum vēnit; ārdēbant oculī, tōtō ex ōre crūdēlitās ēminēbat...repente hominem prōripī atque in forō mediō nūdarī ac dēligarī et virgās expedīrī iubet. clāmābat ille miser sē cīvem Rōmānum mūnicipem Cōnsānum; meruisse cum L. Raeciō, splendidissimō equite Rōmānō, qui Panhormī negōtiārētur, ex quo haec Verrēs scīre posset. tum iste, sē comperīsse eum...in Siciliam ā ducibus fugitīvōrum esse missum...deinde iubet undique hominem vehementissimē verberārī. caedēbātur virgīs in mediō forō Messānae cīvis Romānus, iūdicēs, cum intereā nūllus gemitus, nūlla vōx alia illūs miserī inter dolōrem crepitumque plāgārū audiēbātur nisi haec ‘cīvis Rōmānus sum.’ hāc sē commemorātiōne cīvitatis omnia verbera depulsūrū cruciātūque ā corpore dēiectūrū arbitrābātur; is nōn modo hoc nōn perfēcit, ut virgārū vim dēprecārētur, sed cum implōrāret saepius ūsūrpāretque nōmen cīvitātis, crux – crux, inquam – īnfēlicī et aerumnōsō, quī numquam istam pestem vīderat, comparābātur. (Cicero, *In Verrem* II 5, 62.160-2)

Translation

Therefore Gavius was immediately brought(led) before the magistrate of Messana and on that very day Verres came to Messana by chance. It was reported to him that there was a Roman citizen who was complaining that he had been in the stone quarries at Syracuse; and while already embarking the ship and continually threatening Verres excessively cruelly, he was dragged back by them (the people reporting to Verres) and kept in custody...He (Verres) thanked the people, and praised their good will and their care towards him, (but) that man came into the forum inflamed by crime and rage; his eyes were burning, and cruelty stood out from/was evident in his whole face...Suddenly he (Verres) ordered that the man be

dragged forward, and be stripped naked in the middle of the forum, and be bound, and the rods to get prepared. That wretched man (Gavius) kept crying out that he was a Roman citizen, of the free town of Consa; (he kept crying out) that he had served (in the army) with Lucius Raecius, a most distinguished Roman knight, who was doing business at Palermo, (and) from whom Verres could learn these (things). Then that man (Verres) (said) that he himself had found out that he (Gavius)...had been sent to Sicily by the leaders of the deserters ...Then he ordered that the man be flogged very violently from all sides. A Roman citizen, members of the jury, was beaten with rods in the middle of the forum of Messana, while in the meantime, no groan, no other voice was heard from that wretched man amidst the pain and the noise of the blows, except these (words), 'I am a Roman citizen'. By this mention of his citizenship, he thought that he would turn away all the blows and drive away the torture from his body; but not only did he fail to bring it about that he might avert the force of the rods, but (also) while he kept imploring and repeatedly invoking the name of the citizenship, the cross – the cross, I say – was being prepared for that unfortunate and miserable man, who had never before seen that (such a) curse.