

Marking criteria

Prepared translations

First (70%+): completes the translation very well, with only a few minor slips or one major error; demonstrates a command of the Latin/Greek exceptional for the level; demonstrates excellent grasp of grammar and syntax; generally good English of an appropriate register; independent work.

Within this class the following bands should also be distinguished:

(80-89%): fulfils the above criteria to an outstanding degree; extremely accurate and independent translation, with no major and only a few minor slips; English deployed in such a way as to communicate the nuances and tone of the original.

(90-100%): fulfils the above criteria to an exceptional, virtually publishable, degree.

Upper second (60-69%): completes the translation well, with no more than 2 or 3 major errors and a few minor ones; demonstrates a sound grasp of the Latin/Greek and of grammar and syntax; gives good sense of the original, though may be rather literal in places

Lower second (50-59%): completes the translation satisfactorily, with no more than 5 or 6 major errors and some minor ones; demonstrates a fair grasp of Latin/Greek and of grammar and syntax; translation is largely accurate, but may not make entirely continuous sense, may be unidiomatic, or depart significantly from the original in the direction of paraphrase; does not bring out overall sense of original, but most of the important elements are discernible.

Third (40-49%): at least half of the translation is rendered satisfactorily; demonstrates deficiencies in the grasp of Latin/Greek and of grammar and syntax; translation likely to make only intermittent sense and exhibit reliance on guesswork; general line of narrative or argument is left obscure and important elements of original are not brought out.

Fail (0-39%): less than half of the translation is rendered satisfactorily; demonstrates inadequate or no understanding of Latin/Greek and widespread ignorance of grammar and syntax.

Within this class the following bands should also be distinguished:

(20-39%): some attempt has been made to translate the passage, but less than half of the translation is rendered satisfactorily, and the translation shows little or no understanding of grammar and syntax.

(0-20%): no attempt has been made to translate the passage, or only a few isolated words have been translated correctly.

Unseen Translations

First (70%+): completes the translation very well, with only a few minor slips or one major error; demonstrates a command of the Latin/Greek exceptional for the level; demonstrates excellent grasp of grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, and possibly stylistic sensitivity both in Latin/Greek and in English.

Within this class the following bands should also be distinguished:

(80-89%): fulfils the above criteria to an outstanding degree; extremely accurate and independent translation, with no major and only a few minor slips; English deployed in such a way as to communicate the nuances and tone of the original.

(90-100%): fulfils the above criteria to an exceptional degree.

Upper second (60-69%): translation is largely accurate, although with intermittent errors; demonstrates a sound grasp of the Latin/Greek and of grammar, syntax, and vocabulary; demonstrates a degree of fluency.

Lower second (50-59%): translation is accurate in parts, but may show substantial misunderstandings in others; demonstrates a fair grasp of Latin/Greek and of grammar, syntax, and vocabulary; may not make entirely continuous sense, may be unidiomatic.

Third (40-49%): at least half of the translation is rendered satisfactorily; may not make continuous sense; likely to exhibit reliance on guesswork; demonstrates some knowledge of Latin/Greek and of grammar, syntax, and more common vocabulary, but also substantial deficiencies.

Fail (0-39%): less than half of the translation is rendered satisfactorily; makes only occasional sense, is lacunose, and exhibits heavy reliance on guesswork; demonstrates inadequate or no understanding of Latin/Greek and widespread ignorance of grammar, syntax, and even common vocabulary.

Within this class the following bands should also be distinguished:

(20-39%): less than half of the translation is rendered satisfactorily; the translation may show a few of the more positive qualities of third class work, but not in any sustained way.

(0-20%): no attempt has been made to translate the passage, or only a few isolated words have been translated correctly.