

Junior reading competition

Here are passages for the Junior Reading competition. We have included a translation in case that is useful (and, in particular, we felt that there was a sentence at the end of the Greek passage which is surprisingly tricky, so wanted to show how we had taken it)

Latin prose passage

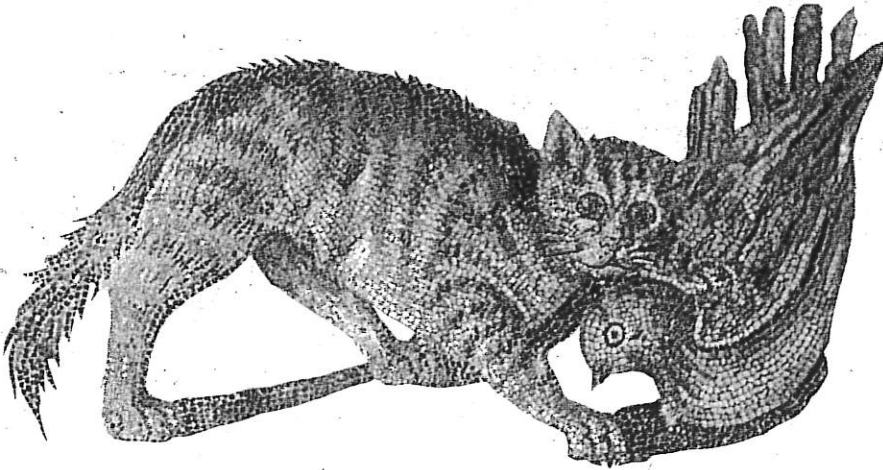
post cenam CLC Book 1, Stage 7, p88

The situation: Caecilius has been having a dinner party at which a scary story about a werewolf has been told. Then it has been reported that a missing dinner guest has been killed, it would seem, by the ghost of a gladiator who had previously been killed by a lion. This story takes place at the end of the dinner party.

post cēnam

postquam Caecilius rem explicāvit, omnēs amīcī tacēbant. mox 'valē' dīxērunt et ē villā discessērunt. per viam timidē prōcēdēbant. nūllae stēllae lūcēbant. nūlla lūna erat in caelō. amīcī nihil audīvērunt, quod viae dēsertae erant. amīcī per urbem tacitē prōcēdēbant, quod umbram timēbant.

5 explicāvit explained
valē goodbye
timidē nervously
prōcēdēbant were proceeding,
were advancing
nūllae stēllae no stars
in caelō in the sky
dēsertae deserted



subitō fēlēs ululāvit. amīcī valdē timēbant. omnēs per urbem perterritī ruērunt, quod dē vitā dēspērābant. clāmōrem mirābilem fēcērunt. multī Pompēiānī erant sollicitī, quod clāmōrem audīvērunt. Caecilius tamen clāmōrem nōn audīvit, quod in cubiculō dormiēbat.

10 fēlēs cat
ruērunt rushed
dē vitā dēspērābant were in
despair of their lives
fēcērunt made
sollicitī worried, anxious

Translation:

After Caecilius explained the situation, all his friends were silent. Soon they said 'Goodbye' and went out of the villa. They walked down the road fearfully. No stars were shining. No moon was in the sky. The friends heard nothing, because the streets were deserted. The friends were proceeding silently through the city, because they were afraid of the ghost.

Suddenly a cat howled. The friends were very scared. They all rushed terrified through the city, because they were in despair of their lives. They made an amazing uproar. Many Pompeians were worried, because they heard the uproar. Caecilius however, did not hear the uproar, because he was asleep in his bedroom.

Dramatic reading

Model sentences at the start of Stage 11 (CLC Book 1 p146-7) and Marcus and Quartus (CLC Book 1, Stage 11 p148).

1. cīvēs in forō candidātōs spectant.

2 agricolae clāmant,
'nōs candidātum optimum habēmus.'
'candidātus noster est Lūcius.'
'nōs Lūciō favēmus.'

3 mercātōrēs agricolis respondent,
'nōs candidātum optimum habēmus.'
'candidātus noster est mercātor.'
'nōs mercātōrī favēmus.'

4 pistōrēs in forō clāmant,
'nōs pistōrēs candidātum optimum
habēmus.'
'candidātus noster est pistōr.'
'nōs pistōrī crēdimus.'

5 iuvenēs pistōribus respondent,
'nōs iuvenēs candidātum optimum
habēmus.'
'candidātus noster est āthlēta.'
'nōs āthlētae crēdimus.'

6 fūrēs clāmant,
'nōs quoque candidātum habēmus.'
'candidātus noster est fūr.'
'nōs candidātō nostrō nōn crēdimus sed
favēmus.'

Marcus et Quārtus

Marcus Tullius et Quārtus Tullius erant frātrēs. Marcus et Quārtus in villā contentiōnem habēbant. Marcus Quārtō dīxit,

'Āfer candidātus optimus est. Āfer multās villās et multās tabernās habet. Pompēiānī Āfrō favent, quod vir dīves est.'

'minimē! Holcōnius candidātus optimus est', Quārtus frātrī respondit. 'Holcōnius est vir nōbilis. Pompēiānī Holcōniō crēdunt, quod pater senātor erat.'

Quārtus, quod erat irātissimus, ē villā discessit. Quārtus sibi dīxit,

'frāter meus est stultissimus. gēns nostra Holcōniō semper favet.'

Quārtus per viam ambulābat et rem cōgitābat. subitō parvam tabernam cōspexit, ubi scrīptor habitābat. scrīptor Sulla erat. Quārtus, postquam tabernam vīdit, cōsiliū cēpit. tabernam intrāvit et Sullam ad villam suam invītāvit.

postquam ad villam vēnerunt, Quārtus Sullae mūrū ostendit.

'scrībe hunc titulum!' inquit. 'scrībe "Quārtus et frāter Holcōniō favent. Quārtus et frāter Holcōniō crēdunt".'

Quārtus scrīptōrī decem dēnariōs dedit.

'placetne tibi?' rogāvit Quārtus.

'mihi placet', Sulla Quārtō respondit. Sulla, postquam dēnariōs accēpit, titulum in mūrō scrīpsit.

candidātus *candidate*

favent *favour, give support to*

5 vir dīves *a rich man*

vir nōbilis *a man of noble birth*

crēdunt *trust, have faith in*

sibi dīxit *said to himself*

10 gēns nostra *our family*

rem cōgitābat *was considering
the problem*

scrīptor *sign-writer*

cōsiliū cēpit *had an idea*

15

mūrū *wall*

scrībe! *write!*

titulum *notice, slogan*

20

placetne tibi? *does it please
you? does it suit you*

scrīpsit *wrote*

The citizens are watching the candidates in the forum

The farmers shout: 'We have the best candidate.'

'Our candidate is Lucius.'

'We support Lucius.'

The merchants reply to the farmers: 'We have the best candidate.'

'Our candidate is a merchant.'

'We support the merchant.'

The bakers shout in the forum: 'We bakers have the best candidate.'

'Our candidate is a baker.'

'We trust the baker.'

The young men reply to the bakers: 'We young men have the best candidate.'

'Our candidate is an athlete.'

'We trust the athlete.'

The thieves shout: 'We also have a candidate.'

'Our candidate is a thief.'

'We do not trust our candidate – but we support him.'

Marcus and Quartus

Marcus Tullius and Quartus Tullius were brothers. Marcus and Quartus were having an argument in the house. Marcus said to Quartus,

'Afer is the best candidate. Afer has many houses and many shops. The Pompeians support Afer because he is a rich man.'

'No! Holconius is the best candidate,' Quartus replied to his brother. 'Holconius is a noble man. The Pompeians trust Holconius, because his father was a senator.'

Quartus, because he was very angry, went out of the house. Quartus said to himself, 'My brother is very stupid. Our family always supports Holconius.'

Quartus was walking through the street and thinking about the situation. Suddenly he caught sight of a small shop where a sign-writer lived. The sign-writer was Sulla. Quartus, after he saw the shop, had an idea. He entered the shop and invited Sulla to his own house.

After they reached the house, Quartus showed Sulla a wall.

'Write this slogan!' he said. 'Write "Quartus and his brother support Holconius. Quartus and his brother trust Holconius."'

Quartus gave the sign-writer 10 denarii.

'Does it please you?' asked Quartus.

'It pleases me,' Sulla replied to Quartus. Sulla, after he received the denarii, wrote the slogan on the wall.

Greek prose

A thirsty stag came to a spring. After drinking he noticed his own reflection in the water. He was proud of his magnificent antlers, but dissatisfied with his spindly legs. At that moment a lion appeared and ran towards him. The stag started to run away.

ὁ ἔλαφος, διότι ταχιστα τρεχειν οἷος τ' ἦν, ῥαδιως ἐξεφυγεν. και μεχρι οὐκ ἦν δενδρα ἐν τοις ἀγροισ, ὁ λεων τον ἔλαφον οὐκ ἔλαβεν. ἀλλα ἐπει εἰς την ύλην εἰσεδραμον, ὁ ἔλαφος ἐν κινδυνῳ ἦν. οἱ γαρ των δενδρων κλαδοι ἐνεποδισαν τα του ἔλαφου κερατα. ὁ οὖν ἔλαφος οὐκετι οἷος τ' ἦν 5 τρεχειν. ὁ δε λεων προσεδραμεν. ὁ οὖν ἔλαφος προ του θανατου εἶπε· "προτερον μεν ἐθαυμασα τα κερατα, οὐ τα κωλα. νυν δε τα κερατα ἐμε ἀπεικτεινεν."

ὁ μυθος φαινει ὅτι ἐν κινδυνῳ ῥαδιον ἐστι φιλοις κακοις πιστευειν.

	ἐλαφος -ου ὁ	stag
	ταχιστα	very fast
	οἷος τ' εἰμι	I am able (formed as adjective + εἰμι)
	ῥαδιος -α -ον	easy
1	ἐκφευγω ἐξεφυγον	I escape
	μεχρι	as long as, while
	ἀγρος -ου ὁ	field
	λεων ὁ	lion
	ύλη -ης ἡ	forest
4	κλαδος -ου ὁ	branch
	ἐμποδιζω ἐνεποδισα	obstruct, get in the way of
	κερατα -ων τα	antlers
	οὐκετι	no longer
	προ	before
6	κωλον -ου το	leg
	ἐμε	me
	φαινω	I show

Translation

The deer, because he was able to run very fast, escaped easily. As long as there were no trees in the fields, the lion did not capture the deer. But when they ran into the wood, the deer was in danger. For the branches of the trees got in the way of the deer's antlers. Therefore, the deer was no longer able to run. The lion ran up. Therefore, the deer, before his death, said: 'Previously I admired my antlers, not my legs. But now my antlers have killed me.'

The story shows that in a dangerous situation it is easy to trust things which seem beneficial, but turn out to be bad (literally 'friendly evils').