



# Latin A-level

2023/24

# Content: 50% Language

## PAPER ONE: UNSEEN TRANSLATION (33%)

- One prose translation from set author Livy
- One verse translation from set author Ovid
- ✓ Builds on vocabulary studied for GCSE. Vocabulary list + own list.
- ✓ Little new grammar. About spotting the grammar in less adapted texts
- ✓ Are very familiar with the works, style and language of these authors by the exam
- ✓ A Level is more about using the language to translate interesting pieces of work – Livy describes the History of Rome, Ovid writes a range of poetry

## PAPER TWO: UNSEEN COMPREHENSION OR PROSE COMPOSITION (17%)

- Translation and comprehension and grammar questions from an unseen prose passage
  - Or Prose Composition
- ✓ Same vocabulary and grammar as for paper one

# Content: 50% Literature: Texts in Context

## PAPER THREE: PROSE LITERATURE (25%)

- Cicero's *Pro Caelio*— defends a man accused of murder
  - Pliny's Letters
- Exam – translation and comprehension questions, style questions, one essay question
- ✓ Translations for the set extracts are prepared in advance of the exam in class, and style points are made – there is no 'unseen' element
  - ✓ Same language skills as paper one
  - ✓ Links with other subjects – English, Politics, History, Law
  - ✓ An opportunity to study model oratory and examine historiography
    - ✓ Lots of time to translate and explore the text in class

# Content: 50% Literature: Texts in Context

## PAPER FOUR: VERSE LITERATURE (25%)

- Virgil's *Aeneid* – explore the Trojan war, the mythological foundation story of the Roman race, its role within the propaganda of Augustan Rome, the problems of empire, what it means to be dutiful
  - Exam – translation and comprehension questions, style questions, one essay question
- ✓ Translations for the set extracts are prepared in advance of the exam in class, and style points are made – there is no 'unseen' element
- ✓ Uses the same language skills as paper one – a key point made by previous students is that they enjoy that there is much more use of the language at A Level rather than having to learn it for the sake of exams
- ✓ Questions that still pervade today – political/war exile, how should war be viewed, the cost of empire, idea of free will and piety, what makes a hero

# A-level Exam Success

## CONSISTENTLY HIGH RESULTS

100% A\*-B

2022: 50% A\*

## WHY THESE RESULTS? GENERAL BENEFITS

Little new grammar content

Small classes – individual focus & feedback, more than enough time to cover the course in depth, develops skills needed for seminars at university – there is a chance for everyone to express their view each lesson, to listen and possibly shape their views, to argue their point verbally

2 year course – time to develop skills

# Why Choose Latin A-level?

- Fascinating literature and history that builds upon GCSE
- A recognised 'facilitating' subject by Russell group universities and Oxbridge.
- Skills developed – analysis, mental agility, literacy, communication, accuracy and flexibility of thought and understanding of a language's structure
- Links to a wide range of degrees due to the skills developed both through the language and literature elements: Classics, Law, History, English, PPE, Maths, MFL, Theatre studies, Theology
  - Commonly studied alongside English, History, Drama, RS, Maths, MFLs, Drama
  - A lot of the themes link to contemporary subjects
- Incredibly helpful for any profession that requires good communication, analytical abilities etc.
- Seminar style teaching and discussion time
- Rome October 2023