



# MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL

## 16+ Entrance Exam: **Latin**

Time allowed: 45 minutes

Name: .....

Current School: .....

### Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided – there may be more space than you need.

### Information

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- Dictionaries are not allowed.
- This passage is designed to challenge a GCSE pupil; do not worry if there are some words you do not recognise. Sensible, educated guesses will be rewarded.

### Advice

- Read the explanation of the passage carefully before starting to translate, taking care to note down any names, as most of these will not be glossed.
- Keep an eye on the time.
- Write your answers neatly.
- Check your writing if you have time at the end.

**Total**      \_\_\_\_\_ /60      \_\_\_\_\_ %

1. Translate the passage below into good English.

*During the civil war, Caesar's general Curio besieges Utica, a town in North Africa held by Publius Attius. The inhabitants favour surrender but then hear of help arriving. Curio's confidence is at first unshaken, but he eventually withdraws to his camp.*

postridie Curio obsidere Uticam et vallo circummunire coepit. erat in oppido multitudo insolens belli; Uticenses Caesari erant amicissimi. itaque de deditione omnes iam palam loquebantur et P. Attio persuadebant ne sua pertinacia omnium fortunas deleret. haec cum agerentur, nuntii missi ab rege Iuba venerunt qui illum adesse cum magnis copiis dicerent et de defensione urbis hortarentur. quae res eorum perterritos animos confirmavit. nuntiabantur haec eadem Curioni, sed primo credere nolebat; tantam habebat fiduciam ut regem nihil contra se temptaturum esse putaret. sed ubi certis nuntiis cognovit minus XXV milibus longe ab Utica eius copias abesse, relictis munitionibus se in castra recepit. huc frumentum transportare et castra munire coepit, statimque in Siciliam nuntios misit ut duae legiones et reliquus equitatus ad se mitteretur.

### Vocabulary

obsideo	I besiege
vallum	rampart
munio	I fortify
insolens	unaccustomed to (+ gen.)
deditio	surrender
palam	openly
pertinacia	obstinacy
Iuba	Juba, King of Numidia (allied with Attius against Caesar)
fiducia	confidence
tempto	I attempt an attack
munitiones	fortifications
frumentum	grain
equitatus	cavalry

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2. Explain why the following verbs are subjunctive.

a) deleret (line 3)

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

b) putaret (line 7)

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

c) mitteretur (line 10)

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

3. The last word of this passage in some versions is written as *mitterentur*. Explain in your own words why that would be equally acceptable grammatically.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

4. Give the case of these nouns and briefly say why they are in that case.

a) P.Attio (line 3)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

b) regem (line 7)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

c) munitionibus (line 9)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

**END OF PAPER**

**Total marks available: 60**