

A2 Greek Unseen Prose (Arrian) Past Paper: 2006 (Nearchos tricks his way into a city for food)

Translate the following passage into English. Please write your translation **on alternate lines**.

Nearchos tricks his way into a city in order to obtain the provisions he and his men require.

The Greeks continued to sail along the coast inhabited by tribes of Fish-Eaters, from whom they could obtain nothing but fish to eat. At last they saw a city which had some cultivable land, which Nearchos thought must produce grain. Leaving Archias at the ships, he and some of his men approached the gates and asked the inhabitants if they had any grain. They said they would give them fish.

ὁ δὲ Νέαρχος ἔφη ταῦτα μὲν ἀσμένως δέξεσθαι, ἐθέλειν δὲ θεάσασθαι τὴν πόλιν. οἱ δὲ εἶασαν εἰσελθεῖν. ἐπεὶ δὲ εἶσω¹ τῶν πυλῶν εἰσῆλθε, δύο μὲν τῶν τοξοτῶν κελεύει λαβεῖν τὴν πυλίδα,² αὐτὸς δὲ μετὰ δύο ἄλλων καὶ τοῦ ἑρμηνέως,³ ἐπὶ τὸ τεῖχος ἀνελθῶν, ἐσήμνη⁴ τοῖς ἀμφὶ τὸν Ἀρχίαν ποιῆσαι τὸ τεταγμένον.⁵ οἱ δὲ, ἰδόντες τὸ σημεῖον, ἐπώκελλον⁶ τε τὰς ναῦς καὶ ἐξεπήδησαν εἰς τὴν ἀκτὴν. οἱ οὖν βάρβαροι φοβούμενοι ἐπὶ τὰ ὄπλα ἔδραμον. ὁ δὲ ἑρμηνεύς³ ἐκήρυξε τοῖς πολίταις σῖτον διδόναι τῇ στρατιᾷ, εἰ σώαν⁷ ἐθέλουσι τὴν πόλιν. οἱ δὲ οὐκ ἔφασαν ἔχειν, καὶ ἅμα προσέβαλον τῷ τείχει, ἀλλὰ οἱ τοξόται αὐτοὺς ἠμύναντο. μαθόντες δὲ τὴν πόλιν ἤδη ἐχομένην καὶ σχεδὸν δεδουλωμένην, τότε δὴ ἐδέοντο τὸν Νέαρχον, τὸν μὲν σῖτον ὃν εἶχον ἀπάγειν, τὴν δὲ πόλιν μὴ διαφθεῖραι.

ARRIAN, Indica 28 (adapted)

WORDS

¹εἶσω + gen

²ἢ πυλῖς πυλίδος

³ὁ ἑρμηνεύς ἑρμηνέως

⁴σημαίνω [aor ἐσήμνηα]

⁵τάσσω

⁶ἐποκέλλω

⁷σῶος adj

inside

gateway

interpreter

I signal

[here] I order

I beach; row towards land

unharmd

NAMES

ὁ Νέαρχος

ὁ Ἀρχίας

Nearchos, a Greek admiral

Archias, one of Nearchos's officers

