

## A2 Latin Unseen (OVID) Past Paper: 2004 (Hercules speaks to Myscelus)

Myscelus is persuaded in a dream by the threats of the god Hercules to leave his home in Argos in Greece, thereby breaking the law, in order to found a new city in Italy.

There was a certain Myscelus, son of Alemon of Argos, the man of all that generation most beloved of heaven.

hunc super incumbens pressum gravitate soporis<sup>1</sup>  
 Claviger<sup>2</sup> adloquitur: 'patrias, age, desere sedes;  
 i, pete<sup>3</sup> diversi lapidosas<sup>3</sup> Aesaris<sup>4</sup> undas!  
 et, nisi paruerit, multa ac metuenda minatur;  
 post ea discedunt pariter somnusque deusque;  
 surgit Alemonides<sup>5</sup> tacitaque recentia mente  
 visa refert<sup>6</sup>, pugnatque diu sententia secum:  
 numen abire iubet, prohibent discedere leges;  
 poenaeque mors posita est patriam mutare volenti.  
 candidus Oceano<sup>7</sup> nitidum caput abdiderat Sol,  
 et caput extulerat densissima sidereum<sup>8</sup> Nox:  
 visus adesse idem deus est eademque monere  
 et, nisi paruerit, plura et graviora minari.  
 pertimuit patriumque simul transferre parabat  
 in sedes penetrare<sup>9</sup> novas.

A B B A

prohibeo, ēre  
 lex, legis (f)

OVID, *Metamorphoses* XV, 21–35

- <sup>1</sup>sopor, -is m.  
<sup>2</sup>Claviger, -is m.  
<sup>3</sup>lapidosus, -a, -um  
<sup>4</sup>Aesar, -is m.  
<sup>5</sup>Alemonides, -is m.  
<sup>6</sup>refero, referre, rettuli, relatus  
<sup>7</sup>Oceanus, -i m.  
<sup>8</sup>sidereus, -a, -um  
<sup>9</sup>penetrare, -is n.

- sleep  
 the Club-bearer, i.e. Hercules  
 rocky  
 the Aesar (a river in southern Italy)  
 son of Alemon (i.e. Myscelus)  
 I recall  
 Ocean  
 starry  
 shrine

(b) Scan lines 6–7.

[4:

### Notes:

**Line 3:** i, pete diversi lapidosas Aesaris undas!

**Line 4:** et, nisi paruerit, multa ac metuenda minatur;

