

## A2 Latin Unseen Prose (Caesar) Past Paper: 2010 (Sabinus becomes a source of hate for the Gauls)

### Unprepared Translation and Comprehension

- 3 Read the passage and answer all the questions.

*Sabinus, one of Caesar's deputies who has been left in command in Caesar's absence, attempts to lull the Gauls into a false sense of security, taking advantage of the confidence the Gauls have gained from the war. Caesar is also being forced to fight against the Veneti.*

Sabinus now deliberately became a source of contempt for the enemy.

tantamque opinionem<sup>1</sup> timoris dedit ut iam ad vallum castrorum hostes accedere auderent. (id faciebat quod cum tanta multitudine hostium pugnandum esse non existimabat, nisi opportunitate aliqua data.) hac opinione<sup>1</sup> timoris confirmata, Gallum quendam hominem idoneum et callidum delegit. huic magnis praemiis persuadet ut ad hostes transeat, et dicit quid fieri velit. qui ubi pro perfuga<sup>2</sup> ad eos venit, timorem Romanorum proponit, et dicit Sabinum proxima nocte clam ex castris exercitum educturum esse, et ad Caesarem auxilii ferendi causa profecturum.

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quod ubi auditum est, conclamant omnes occasionem oppugnandi amittendam non esse: ad castra ire oportere. multae res ad hoc consilium Gallos hortabantur: superiorum dierum Sabini cunctatio, perfugae<sup>3</sup> confirmatio, inopia frumenti, cui rei non satis ab eis provisum erat, spes Venetici belli, et quod homines libenter credunt id quod volunt. his rebus adducti, Viridovicem ceterosque duces ex concilio non dimittunt antequam ab iis concessum sit ut arma capiant et ad castra contendant. qua re concessa laeti, ut explorata<sup>4</sup> victoria, virgultis<sup>5</sup> collectis quibus fossas Romanorum compleant, ad castra pergunt.

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Caesar *Gallic War* III 17–18 (adapted)

#### Names

*Gallus*, -i m.

a Gaul

*Sabinus*, -i m.

Sabinus, a Roman legatus, one of Caesar's deputies

*Veneti*, -orum m.pl.

Veneti, a tribe with whom Caesar is at war

*Veneticus*, -a, -um

Venetian

*Viridovix*, -icis m.

Viridovix, leader of the Gauls fighting Sabinus

#### Vocabulary

<sup>1</sup> *opinio*, -onis f.

impression

<sup>2</sup> *pro perfuga*

as a deserter

<sup>3</sup> *perfuga*, -ae m.

deserter

<sup>4</sup> *exploratus* -a -um

certain, assured

<sup>5</sup> *virgulta*, -orum n.pl.

brushwood

