

A2 Latin Unseen Prose (Livy) Past Paper: 2004 (Decius Magius pays the price for urging his fellow citizens to oppose Hannibal)

- 1 Translate the following passage into English. Write your translation on alternate lines.

Decius Magius, a leading citizen of Capua in Southern Italy, pays the price for urging his fellow citizens to oppose the Carthaginian Hannibal, who is in Italy trying to gain allies and who has concluded a treaty of alliance with the Capuan senate. Capua had previously been allied to Rome.

The sending of an embassy to Hannibal had been opposed by Decius Magius, a man who would have attained the highest authority if the citizens had had more sense. Hannibal then sent a detachment of troops to garrison Capua.

ubi vero praesidium¹ missum esse ab Hannibale audivit, primo ne reciperetur² praesidium¹ hortatus est, deinde ut receptum² aut eiceretur aut ut interfecto Punico³ praesidio¹ se Romanis restituerent. haec cum relata Hannibali essent, primo nuntios misit qui vocarent Magium ad sese in castra; deinde, cum is ferociter negavisset se iturum esse, concitatus ira Hannibal comprehendi hominem vinctumque adtrahi ad sese iussit. qui cum negaret lege foederis⁴ id cogi⁵ posse, tum iniectae sunt catenae, ducebaturque in castra. quoad⁶ capite aperto est ductus, contionabundus⁷ incessit⁸, ad circumfusam multitudinem vociferans⁹: 'habetis libertatem, Campani¹⁰, quam petivistis: foro medio, luce clara, videntibus vobis vinctus ad mortem rapior. ite obviam Hannibali, exornate urbem diemque adventus eius consecrate.' haec vociferanti⁹, cum moveri vulgus videretur, obvolutum¹¹ caput est, celeriusque rapi extra portam iussus est. ita in castra perductus est extemploque impositus in navem et Carthaginem¹² missus.

Adapted from LIVY XXIII. vii and x

- ¹praesidium, -i n.
²recipio, recipere, recepi, receptus
³Punicus, -a, -um
⁴foedus, -eris n.
⁵cogo, cogere, coegi, coactus
⁶quoad
⁷contionabundus, -a, -um
⁸incedo, incedere, incessi
⁹vociferor, vociferari, vociferatus sum
¹⁰Campani, -orum m. pl.
¹¹obvolvo, obvolvere, obvolvi, obvolutus
¹²Carthago, -inis f.

- (here) a detachment of troops
I admit, let in
Carthaginian
treaty
(here) I enforce
as long as
delivering a speech
I stride
I protest
Campanians (inhabitants of the region round Capua)
I cover up
Carthage

[45]

