

## A2 Latin Unseen Prose (Livy) Past Paper: 2009 (Spurius tries to break the siege)

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

*One of the consuls, Spurius Furius, besieged by the Aequi in his camp near Rome, tries unsuccessfully to break the siege. His brother, also called Furius, is cut off by the enemy and killed.*

During these days both sides engaged in manoeuvres and attacks. The enemy, relying on superior numbers, continually harassed the Roman forces, hoping they would be unable to defend themselves.

simul castra oppugnabantur, simul pars exercitus ad populandum<sup>1</sup> agrum Romanum missa urbemque ipsam temptandam. L. Valerius ad praesidium urbis relictus, consul Postumius ad arcendas<sup>2</sup> populationes<sup>3</sup> finium missus. nihil remissum<sup>4</sup> curae aut laboris: vigiliae in urbe, stationes<sup>5</sup> ante portas, praesidiaque in muris disposita. interim in castris Furius consul cum primo quietus obsidionem passus esset, in incautum hostem porta erupit et, cum persequi posset, metu substitit, ne qua ex parte altera in castra vis fieret. Furium legatum – frater consulis erat – longius extulit cursus;<sup>6</sup> nec suos redeuntes ille persequendi studio neque hostium ab tergo incursum vidit. ita exclusus, multis frustra conatibus captis<sup>7</sup> ut viam sibi ad castra faceret, acriter dimicans cecidit; et consul, nuntio circumventi fratris conversus ad pugnam, dum se temere in mediam dimicationem<sup>8</sup> infert, vulnere accepto aegre ab circumstantibus ereptus et suorum animos turbavit et ferociores hostes fecit.

Livy III. 5 (with omissions)

### Names

*L. Valerius, -i m.*  
*Postumius, -i m.*  
*Furius, -i m.*

Lucius Valerius  
Postumius (consul)  
(i) Spurius Furius (consul)  
(ii) Furius (brother of Spurius Furius)

### Words

<sup>1</sup>*populo, populari, populatus sum*  
<sup>2</sup>*arceo, arcere, arcui*  
<sup>3</sup>*populatio, -onis f.*  
<sup>4</sup>*remitto, remittere, remis, remissus*  
<sup>5</sup>*statio, -onis f.*  
<sup>6</sup>*cursus, -us m.*  
<sup>7</sup>*conatum capio, capere, cepi, captus*  
<sup>8</sup>*dimicatio, -onis f.*

I plunder, pillage  
I prevent  
plundering, pillaging  
I spare, omit  
sentry, guard  
charge, rapid advance  
I make an attempt  
battle, fight

[45]

