

## A2 Latin Unseen Verse (OVID) Past Paper: 1995 (Canens Lament)

- 2 *When her husband Picus fails to return from a hunting trip, the nymph Canens wanders distraught until she melts away with grief and disappears.*

Nothing remained to Picus of his own self, except his name. Meanwhile his comrades had called him repeatedly all over the countryside, and had not found him anywhere. It was almost night.

at frustra coniunx oculis animoque Canentis  
expectatus erat: famuli populusque per omnes  
discurrunt silvas atque obvia<sup>1</sup> lumina portant;  
nec satis est nymphae flere et lacerare capillos  
et dare plangorem (facit haec tamen omnia), seque  
proripit ac Latios errat vesana<sup>2</sup> per agros.  
sex illam noctes, totidem redeuntia solis  
lumina viderunt inopem<sup>3</sup> somnique cibique  
per iuga, per valles, qua fors ducebat, euntem;  
ultimus adspexit fessam luctuque viaque 10  
Thybris<sup>4</sup> et in gelida ponentem corpora ripa: 11  
illic cum lacrimis ipso modulata<sup>5</sup> dolore  
verba sono tenui maerens fundebat, ut olim  
carmina iam moriens canit exequialia<sup>6</sup> cygnus.  
luctibus extremum tenues liquefacta medullas<sup>7</sup>  
tabuit<sup>8</sup> inque leves paulatim evanuit auras.  
fama tamen signata loco est, quem rite Canentem  
nomine de nymphae veteres dixere coloni.

OVID: *Metamorphoses* XIV 416-34

<sup>1</sup> obvius -a -um	in the way, i.e. to meet
<sup>2</sup> vesanus -a -um	deranged
<sup>3</sup> inops, inopis + genitive	lacking in
<sup>4</sup> Thybris -is	the river god Tiber
<sup>5</sup> modulatus -a -um	made musical
<sup>6</sup> exequialis -e	funereal
<sup>7</sup> medulla, -ae f.	here 'bone'
<sup>8</sup> tabesco, -ere, tabui	I melt away

[28]

- 3 Write out and scan lines 10 and 11.

[2]

