

A2 Latin Unseen Verse (OVID) Past Paper: 1998 (Ovid's Advice for Girls on the subject of men)

2 (a) Translate the following passage into English. Write your translation on alternate lines.

Ovid advises girls how to deal with the advances of young men: they should not be deceived by appearances but, once satisfied, should give an encouraging response.

Often men deceive, tender maids not often; if you ask, they can rarely be charged with deception. Now if you remember your approaching old age, girls, you will not let an hour slip by wasted. Do not deny your pleasures to eager young men, though they at last deceive you.

sed vitate viros cultum formamque professos¹,
quique suas ponunt in statione comas.
quae vobis dicunt, dixerunt mille puellis: 3
errat et in nulla sede moratur amor. 4
nec toga decipiat filo² tenuissima, nec si
anulus in digitis alter et alter erit.
sunt qui mendaci specie grassentur³ amoris;
ianua fallaci ne sit aperta viro.
si bene promittent, totidem promittite verbis:
si dederint, et vos gaudia pacta⁴ date.
illa potest vigiles⁵ flammam extinguere Vestae,
accepto Venerem munere si qua negat.
verba vadum⁶ temptent abiegnis⁷ scripta tabellis:
accipiat missas apta ministra⁸ notas.
postque brevem rescribe moram: mora semper amantes
incitat, exiguum si modo tempus habet.
sed neque te facilem iuveni promitte roganti,
nec tamen e duro⁹, quod petit ille, nega.
fac timeat speretque simul, quotiensque remittes,
spesque magis veniat certa, minorque metus.

OVID: *Ars Amatoria* III, 433ff.

¹profiteor, profiteri, professus sum

²filum, -i n.

³grassor, grassari, grassatus sum

⁴pactus, -a, -um

⁵vigil, -ilis

⁶vadum, -i n.

⁷abiegnus, -a, -um

⁸ministra, -ae f.

⁹e duro

I boast of, make a show of
texture

I approach, make an advance
agreed, bargained

ever-burning

first approach

wooden

maid-servant

stubbornly

[28]

(b) Write out and scan lines 3 and 4 of the above passage.

[2]

