

A2 Latin Unseen Verse (OVID) Past Paper: 2006 (Ovid's Dream)

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

Ovid has a dream, in which he sees a cow and a bull. He describes the dream to an interpreter of dreams, who relates the dream to Ovid's love life.

I was trying to avoid the heat under a tree, without success, when a white cow came up to me, grazing on the grass. There was a bull, her companion, who lay down on the grass beside his mate.

'illa locum taurumque diu cunctata relinquit –
sed niger in vaccae pectore livor¹ erat;
utque procul vidit carpentes² pabula³ tauros –
carpebant² tauri pabula³ laeta procul –
illuc se rapuit gregibusque inmiscuit illis
et petiit herbae fertilioris humum.'
sic ego; nocturnae sic dixit imaginis augur,⁴
expendens⁵ animo singula dicta suo:
'quem tu mobilibus foliis vitare volebas,
sed male vitabas, aestus amoris erat.
vacca puella tua est – aptus color ille puellae;
tu vir et in vacca compare⁶ taurus eras.
quod cunctata diu taurum sua vacca reliquit,
frigidus in viduo⁷ destituere toro.'⁸

Ovid *Amores* 3.5, 25-42 (with omissions)

¹ *livor*, -is m.

² *carpo*, *carpere*, *carpsi*, *carptus*

³ *pabulum*, -i n.

⁴ *augur*, -uris m.

⁵ *expendo*, *expendere*, *expendi*, *expensus*

⁶ *compar*, -is m.

⁷ *viduus*, -a, -um

⁸ *torus*, -i m.

mark, spot

I graze on

fodder, pasturage

interpreter

I weigh, examine, consider carefully

mate

(here) empty, deserted

bed

[42]

- 2 (b) Scan the last two lines.

[3]

