

## A2 Latin Unseen Verse (OVID) Past Paper: 2008 (Glaucus' transformation)

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

*Glaucus describes how he abandoned the land and became a creature of the sea.*

There is a shore close by a meadow. I was the first to sit on that turf while I dried my fishing lines and spread out on the grass the fish that I had caught.

res similis fictae, sed quid mihi fingere prodest?<sup>1</sup>  
gramine<sup>2</sup> contacto coepit mea praeda moveri  
et mutare latus terraeque ut in aequore niti.<sup>3</sup> 3  
dumque moror mirorque simul, fugit omnis in undas  
turba suas dominumque novum litusque relinquunt.  
obstipui dubitoque diu causamque requiro  
num deus hoc aliquis, num sucus<sup>4</sup> fecerit herbae:  
'quae tamen has,' inquam, 'vires habet herba?' manumque  
pabula<sup>5</sup> decerpsi<sup>6</sup> decerptaque<sup>6</sup> dente momordi. 9  
vix bene conbiberant ignotos guttura<sup>7</sup> sucos,<sup>4</sup>  
cum subito trepidare intus praecordia<sup>8</sup> sensi  
alteriusque rapi naturae pectus amore;  
nec potui restare diu 'repetenda' que 'numquam  
terra, vale!' dixi corpusque sub aequora mersi.

Ovid *Metamorphoses* XIII.935–948

<sup>1</sup> *prodest, prodesse, profuit + dat.*

<sup>2</sup> *gramen, -inis n.*

<sup>3</sup> *nitor, niti, nixus sum*

<sup>4</sup> *sucus, -i m.*

<sup>5</sup> *pabulum, -i n.*

<sup>6</sup> *decerpo, decerpere, decerpsi, decerptus*

<sup>7</sup> *guttur, -uris n.*

<sup>8</sup> *praecordia, -orum n. pl.*

it is of use, benefit

grass

I move about

juice, sap

fodder, food

I pluck

throat

heart

[41]

- (b) Scan lines 3 and 9.

[4]

