

## A2 Latin Unseen Verse (OVID) Past Paper: 2009 (Ovid's Dream about cattle)

### Unprepared Translation and Comprehension

Read the passage and answer all the questions.

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, cropping 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 livor<sup>1</sup> erat;  
 utque procul vidit carpentes<sup>2</sup> pabula<sup>3</sup> tauros –  
 carpebant<sup>2</sup> tauri pabula<sup>3</sup> laeta procul –  
 illuc se rapuit gregibusque inmiscuit illis  
 et petiit herbae fertilioris humum. 5

dic age, nocturnae, quicumque es, imaginis augur,<sup>4</sup>  
 siquid habent veri, visa quid ista ferant.'  
 sic ego; nocturnae sic dixit imaginis augur,<sup>4</sup>  
 expendens<sup>5</sup> animo singula dicta suo: 10

'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 conpare<sup>6</sup> taurus eras.  
 quod cunctata diu taurum sua vacca reliquit,  
 frigidus in viduo<sup>7</sup> destituere toro.<sup>8</sup> 15

livor<sup>1</sup> et adverso maculae<sup>9</sup> sub pectore nigrae  
 pectus adulterii labe<sup>10</sup> carere negant.'

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

<sup>1</sup> <i>livor, -is m.</i>	mark
<sup>2</sup> <i>carpo, carpere, carpsi, carptus</i>	I crop
<sup>3</sup> <i>pabulum, -i n.</i>	fodder, pasturage
<sup>4</sup> <i>augur, -uris m.</i>	interpreter
<sup>5</sup> <i>expendo, expendere, expendi, expensus</i>	I weigh, examine, consider carefully
<sup>6</sup> <i>conpar, -is m.</i>	mate
<sup>7</sup> <i>viduus, -a, -um</i>	(here) empty, deserted
<sup>8</sup> <i>torus, -i m.</i>	bed
<sup>9</sup> <i>macula, -ae f.</i>	spot
<sup>10</sup> <i>labes, -is f.</i>	stain

