

## A2 Latin Unseen Verse (OVID) Past Paper: 2010 (Paris & the Golden Apple)

Read the passage and answer the questions.

*Paris describes how Mercury visited him and asked him to make a judgement in a beauty contest between the three goddesses Venus, Minerva and Juno. Venus won the contest by offering him Helen as a bribe.*

I was leaning against a tree, looking out over the walls and lofty buildings of Troy and the sea.

ecce! pedum pulsu visa est mihi terra moveri  
 (vera loquar, veri vix habitura fidem)  
 constitit ante oculos actus velocibus alis<sup>1</sup>  
 Atlantis<sup>2</sup> magni Pleionesque<sup>3</sup> nepos;  
 tresque simul divae, Venus et cum Pallade<sup>4</sup> Iuno,  
 graminibus<sup>5</sup> teneros imposuere pedes. 5  
 obstipui, gelidusque comas erexerat<sup>6</sup> horror,  
 cum mihi 'pone metum!' nuntius ales<sup>7</sup> ait.  
 'arbiter es formae; certamina siste<sup>8</sup> dearum,  
 vincere quae forma digna sit una duas.' 10  
 mens mea convaluit, subitoque audacia venit,  
 nec timui vultu quamque notare<sup>9</sup> meo.  
 tantaque vincendi cura est; ingentibus ardent  
 iudicium donis sollicitare<sup>10</sup> meum.  
 regna Iovis<sup>11</sup> coniunx, virtutem filia iactat;<sup>12</sup> 15  
 ipse potens dubito<sup>13</sup> fortis an esse velim.  
 dulce Venus risit; 'ne te, Pari, munera tangant,  
 utraque suspensi<sup>14</sup> plena timoris!' ait;  
 'nos dabimus quod ames, et pulchrae filia Leda<sup>15</sup>  
 ibit in amplexus pulchrior illa tuos.' 20

Ovid, *Heroides* XVI.59-86 (with omissions)

1	<i>ala, -ae</i> f.	wing
2	<i>Atlas, -antis</i> m.	Atlas (grandfather of Mercury)
3	<i>Pleione, -ones</i> f.	Pleione (grandmother of Mercury)
4	<i>Pallas, -adis</i> f.	Pallas (another name for the goddess Minerva)
5	<i>gramen, -inis</i> n.	grassy meadow
6	<i>erigo, -ere, erexi, erectus</i>	I raise on end
7	<i>ales, -itis</i>	winged
8	<i>sisto, -ere</i>	I stop
9	<i>noto, -are</i>	I observe
10	<i>sollicito, -are</i>	I influence
11	<i>Iuppiter, Iovis</i> m.	Jupiter
12	<i>iacto, -are</i>	(here) I offer
13	<i>dubito, -are</i>	I am not sure whether
14	<i>suspensus, -a, -um</i>	anxious
15	<i>Leda, -ae</i> f.	Leda (mother of Helen)

