

AS Greek Unseen Prose (Lysias) Past Paper: 2009 (A Defendant argues his part in the navy was worthy of the state's expectations)

Translate the following passage into English. Please write your translation on alternate lines.

A defendant attempts to convince the jury of his valuable naval services to the state.

I'll give you a decisive proof of this, gentlemen. First of all, when Alkibiades was general, though he was neither friend nor kinsman of mine, he used to sail on my ship. As a general, as you know, he could have done whatever he wanted: surely he would not have risked his life by going to sea on any ship if he had not been thoroughly satisfied of its excellence and seaworthiness?

καὶ ὅτε ἐν τῇ ναυμαχίᾳ νῆες διεφθάρησαν, οὐδενός μοι συμπλέοντος στρατηγοῦ, ἐγὼ τὴν τε ἑμαυτοῦ ναῦν ἐκόμισα¹ καὶ ἄλλην ἔσωσα. καὶ ταῦτα οὐκ ἀπὸ τύχης ἐγένετο, ἀλλ' ἀπὸ τῆς παρασκευῆς² τῆς ἐμῆς. εἶχον γὰρ χρήμασι πείσας κυβερνήτην Φαντίαν ἅπαντα τὸν χρόνον, ὃς ἐδόκει τῶν Ἑλλήνων ἄριστος εἶναι. καὶ ταῦθ' ὅτι ἀληθῆ λέγω, πάντες ἐπίστασθε, ὅσοι ἐτυγχάνετε ὄντες ἐκεῖ τῶν στρατιωτῶν. αἱ μὲν γὰρ σωθεῖσαι τῶν νεῶν δώδεκα ἦσαν. ἐγὼ δ' ὑμῖν δύο ἐκόμισα,¹ τὴν ἑμαυτοῦ τριήρη καὶ τὴν τοῦ Ναυσιμάχου.

Lysias 21.9ff

Words

¹ κομίζω

I bring home

² ἡ παρασκευή

preparation

[Total: 30 marks]

