

Commentary on candidate evidence

The evidence for this candidate has achieved the following marks for each question in the Cicero section of this course assessment component.

Question 34(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** having identified two valid points illustrating Verres' illegal deal with the Mamertines:

- ♦ he accepted a merchant ship from the Mamertines
- ♦ it was illegal for a senator to own merchant vessels

Question 34(b)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because the response correctly identified two effects of Cicero's technique of directly addressing Verres:

- ♦ it puts pressure on him
- ♦ if he does not reply it makes him look guilty

Question 35

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** having correctly identified three pieces of evidence to justify the statement quoted:

- ♦ there were only ten ships
- ♦ they are described as half empty
- ♦ the only successful capture of a pirate ship is because the ship cannot move

Question 36

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** having correctly identified two actions of Verres that might appear shocking:

- ♦ he is lying drunk on the beach
- ♦ he sends guards to arrange for him to see the loot before anyone else

Question 37(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** having correctly identified two relevant factors in assessing the plausibility of Cicero's arguments:

- ♦ nobody saw the pirate chief – this is convincing
- ♦ there is a rumour/general belief that he has been ransomed – no evidence, not convincing

Question 37(b)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** of a possible 3, having identified the metaphor and given one reason for its effectiveness:

- ♦ the people wanted to feast their eyes
- ♦ this shows they were very keen to see the pirate

A further mark could have been gained by identifying the metaphor as being related to hunger.

Question 38(a)

The candidate was awarded **3 marks**, having identified three valid reasons for the Romans' enjoyment of military triumphs:

- ♦ they enjoyed celebrating victory
- ♦ they enjoyed seeing the prisoners paraded in chains
- ♦ they enjoyed the entertainment value

Question 38(b)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**, having made a valid judgment on Cicero's use of sarcasm, and an additional **1 mark** from block review to acknowledge the relevance of the candidate's reference to Publius Servilius:

- ♦ Verres does not deserve a triumph
- ♦ The contrast with Servilius goes to emphasise this

Question 39

The candidate was awarded **3 marks**, having correctly identified three aspects of Cicero's description of the people of Syracuse:

- ♦ the people were intelligent
- ♦ they calculated the number of missing pirates
- ♦ they based their calculations on the size of the ship and the number of oars

Question 40

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**, of a possible 3, having identified two things Verres did to deal with the shortage of pirates for execution:

- ♦ he substituted Roman citizens for the missing pirates
- ♦ he used the cover story that they were soldiers of Sertorius

Question 41

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** of a possible 4, having identified three details of Verres' behaviour which would have been thought shocking:

- ♦ the citizens were executed without a fair trial
- ♦ the charges against them were false
- ♦ they suffered cruel deaths

Question 42

The candidate was awarded **4 marks** of a possible 8, for four relevant comments without development:

- ♦ Cicero gives a vivid description of the stone quarries
- ♦ he compares Verres' wild parties to the battle of Cannae
- ♦ this comparison is humorous/entertaining
- ♦ he gives a dramatic description of the horrifying treatment of the Roman citizens at Syracuse