

Commentary on candidate evidence

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

Question 1(a)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they identified that Catullus was poor.

Question 1(b)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for identifying that the girl had exposed Catullus' lying and that her request to borrow his slaves had embarrassed him.

Question 2(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**: the book is described as 'horrible' (*horribilem*) and as an additional valid point the candidate correctly identifies the use of the diminutive *libellum* as belittling the book. The candidate identifies *cur me tot male perderes poetis*, 'why would you condemn me maliciously with so many poets?' but this is outside the specified lines.

Question 2(b)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have correctly identified that Catullus will obtain books of bad poetry (**1 mark**) and send them to Calvus. (**1 mark**)

Question 3

The candidate was awarded **6 marks**.

- puellae et pueri integri – identifying purity as a requirement to approach the goddess (**1 mark**)
- Alliteration of *maxima magna* to emphasise Diana's greatness. (**1 mark**)
- Word choice: *sancta nomine* – traditional religious language (**1 mark**)
- Identification of Diana's different roles (**1 mark**) to emphasise her power (**1 mark**)
- Particular emphasis on the moon (**1 mark**)

Question 4(a)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have identified that the two names reflect different perceptions of the place but have incorrectly reversed the desirability of the two districts and omitted the reasons for this.

Question 4(b)(i)

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** having failed to recognise the speech as the cause of Catullus' illness.

Question 4(b)(ii)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for correctly identifying Catullus' return home as making him feel better.

Question 5

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for identifying humour in the spectacle of someone heckling in court.

Question 6

The candidate was awarded **4 marks** because they have correctly identified that Catullus' feelings have changed from love to lust; he has lost respect for Lesbia; he no longer trusts what she says, but he is all the more fascinated by her.

Question 7

The candidate was awarded **3 marks**. Catullus calls Lesbia 'my life' (**1 mark**), he wishes their love to last for an eternity (**1 mark**), he calls on the gods to be witness to his declaration. (**1 mark**)

Question 8

The candidate was awarded **7 marks** because they identified the following evidence of Catullus' over-reacting.

- In Poem 1 he exaggerates his own sense of modesty describing his book of poetry (**1 mark**)
- In Poem 2 he overreacts to the girl's exposure of his lies and bluster - calls her a 'bitch' (**1 mark**)
- In Poem 3 he says that bad poetry makes him physically ill (**1 mark**) and exaggerates his anger towards Calvus and his desire for revenge (**1 mark**)
- In Poem 9 he exaggerates his inability to sleep after writing poems with Licinius. (**1 mark**)
- In Poem 12 Catullus exaggerates his feelings when he calls on the gods to ask why he should suffer when he has behaved well to Lesbia (**1 mark**)
- In Poem 13 he asks the gods to witness to his devotion to Lesbia and acts as if his relationship is a sacred treaty (**1 mark**)