

# Commentary on candidate evidence

The evidence for this candidate 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 the response was factually accurate and met the criterion of the marking scheme.

## Question 1(b)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because the intention to go to the booksellers has been identified but the candidate has not mentioned either revenge or badly written poetry.

## Question 2

The candidate was awarded **5 marks**, having accurately identified five valid examples of linguistic and literary techniques, namely imagery (*ocelle*), repetition (*quam...quam, gaude...gaudente*), alliteration (*te...tuto*), rhetorical question, (*o quid...lecto?*)

## Question 3(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because of the correct identification of the speech as the cause of Catullus' illness and that the speech was poisonous.

## Question 3(b)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because of the correct identification of hyperbole/exaggeration as a humorous technique, and also the mock-heroic personification by which he addresses his farm.

## Question 4(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** having correctly identified Catullus' statement that Cicero was the most eloquent orator among both the living and the dead, the candidate has provided a further valid point in saying he is a valued patron.

## Question 4(b)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** having correctly identified that Catullus is likely to be sarcastic/ironic in saying he is the worst poet.

### Question 5(a)

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** correctly stating that Catullus is missing Licinius, he wishes still to be writing poetry with him, and as a valid point additional to the marking instructions refers to Licinius as his 'sweet friend'.

### Question 5(b)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for correctly assessing that Licinius may have felt honoured/grateful/appreciative but may also have felt guilt, awkwardness, or discomfort at Catullus' neediness.

### Question 6(a)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for correctly identifying Catullus' sense of his faithfulness to the gods and Lesbia.

### Question 6(b)

The candidate was awarded **4marks** for correctly identifying language features with reference to the text: repetition (*difficile est*), emphasising the difficulty of the task; alliteration (*pestem perniciemque*), suggesting physical illness; addressing the gods, (*o di*), suggesting superhuman difficulty requiring the gods' intervention.

### Question 7

The candidate was awarded **4 marks** for correctly identifying four Roman leisure activities.

### Question 8

The candidate was awarded **7 marks**. Poem 7, Catullus witnesses and celebrates real love between Septimius and Acme – even if he does not experience it healthily himself, he appreciates others' enjoyment. Poem 11, Catullus emphasises the seriousness of his feelings for Lesbia, and the intensity of his burning love. Poem 12, Catullus struggles to put his feelings aside. The candidate could have gained a further mark by teasing out the distinction between healthy romantic love like that of Septimius and Acme and Catullus's own unfulfilled and unhealthy obsession.