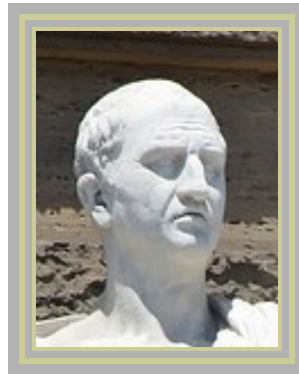


Cicero's Style 2



Looking back at lessons Y2T3W6D2 and Y2T3W7D2 we will now attempt some exam style questions on these lines. First make sure you can translate from *at ego* to the end of the extract from *Pro Plancio* which we covered in those two lessons. Use your own flashcards or those on Quizlet here: <https://quizlet.com/gb/448727126/cicero-denunciation-of-catilina-igcse-set-text-2020-2022-flash-cards> . Then check everything we noted about style, rhetoric etc. in those two lessons. Now you should be ready to tackle some exam style questions.

Exam style questions:

- 1at ego, cum casu diebus eis itineris faciendi causa decedens e provincia Puteolos forte venissem,
- 2cum plurimi et lautissimi in eis locis solent esse, concidi paene, iudices, cum ex me quidam
- 3quaesisset quo die Roma exissem et num quidnam esset novi.
- 4cui cum respondissem me a provincia decedere: “etiam mehercule,” inquit, “ut opinor, ex Africa.”
- 5huic ego iam stomachans fastidiose “immo ex Sicilia” inquam.
- 6tum quidam, quasi qui omnia sciret, “quid tu nescis,” inquit “hunc quaestorem Syracusis fuisse?”
- 7quid multa? destiti stomachari et me unum ex eis feci qui ad aquas venissent.
- 8sed ea res, iudices, haud scio an plus mihi profuerit quam si mihitum essent omnes gratulati.
- 9nam posteaquam sensi populi Romani aures hebetiores, oculus autem esse acres atque acutos,
- 10destiti quid de me audituri essent homines cogitare;
- 11feci ut postea cotidie praesentem me viderent, habitavi in oculis, pressi forum;
- 12neminem a congressu meo neque ianitor meus neque somnus absterruit.

- (a) Where was Cicero and why was he there? [2]
 - (b) *quid tu nescis...Syracusis fuisse* Why is Cicero annoyed at this remark? [2]
 - (c) Translate lines 1–3 (*At ego... esset novi*). [5]
 - (d) *nam posteaquam sensi populi Romani aures hebetiores, oculus autem esse acres atque acutos* (line 9): what two things does Cicero say about the Roman people? [2]
 - (e) Give an example of one literary device used in these lines. [1]
 - (f) To what extent does the extract from the *Pro Plancio* you have studied show Cicero to be a boastful person? [10]
- [Hint: When asked “How far...?” “To what extent...?” in exam questions use the formula “On the one hand...” “On the other hand...” in your answer.]

Suggested answers are on the next page. Make your own attempt before looking at them.

(a) Where was Cicero and why was he there? [2]

Cicero was at Puteolos,[1] a fashionable Roman spa, just north of the Bay of Naples. Cicero was there by chance on his way home to Rome from Sicily,[1] where he had been serving as Questor.

(b) *quid tu nescis...Syraculis fuisse* Why is Cicero annoyed at this remark? [2]

Cicero is annoyed because the know-all does not even realise which of the two questors Cicero had been. He thinks Cicero has been questor of Syracuse [1] but actually Cicero was the other questor at Lilybaeum. [1]

(c) Translate lines 1–3 (*At ego... esset novi*). [5]

Check this with your flashcards.

(d) *nam posteaquam sensi populi Romani aures hebetiores, oculus autem esse acres atque acutos* (line 9): what two things does Cicero say about the Roman people? [2]

Cicero says that the Roman people have dull ears. He also says they have keen, alert eyes.

(e) Give an example of one literary device used in these lines. [1]

In line 1 Cicero uses the words *casu* and *forte*. Both these words mean “by chance” and one of them would have conveyed his meaning. However, he wants to emphasise that he had not gone to the place deliberately to seek a fashionable audience to flatter him. He therefore uses both words.

(f) To what extent does the extract from the *Pro Plancio* you have studied show Cicero to be a boastful person? You should write at least 100 words.[10]

On the one hand, Cicero lists his achievements in Sicily in quite a boastful way, listing his achievements with merchants, his good relations with traders, his liberality to the citizens and his moderation to Rome's allies. He talks of his diligence in discharging his duty and tells his hearers that the Sicilians contrived special honours never before heard of for him in gratitude. This can be taken as boasting. On the other hand Cicero frankly goes on to show how he was taken down a peg or two while he was at Puteolos when far from recognising his greatness, Romans there did not even know exactly who he was and where he had been. This is more modest behaviour and we can give Cicero credit for it.