Cicero's Style 6



Look back at lessons Y3T1W6D2 and Y3T1W7D2. Make sure you can translate from *Hic ego vehemens*... to ...*conferre debeo* which we covered in those two lessons. Use your own flashcards or those on Quizlet here: https://quizlet.com/gb/448727126/cicero-denunciation-of-catiline-igcse-set-text-2020-2022-flash-cards. Then check everything we noted about style, rhetoric etc. in those lessons. Now you should be ready to tackle some exam style questions. Write all the answers by hand as this is what you will have to do in the exam.

Exam style questions:

talking about?

1Hic ego vehemens ille consul, qui verbo civis in exilium eicio, quaesivi a Catilina, in nocturno 2conventu apud M. Laecam fuisset necne. Cum ille homo audacissimus conscientia convictus primo 3reticuisset, patefeci cetera; quid ea nocte egisset, ubi fuisset, quid in proximam [noctem] 4constituisset, quem ad modum esset ei ratio totius belli descripta, edocui. Cum haesitaret, cum 5teneretur, quaesivi, quid dubitaret proficisci eo, quo iam pridem pararet, cum arma, cum secures, 6cum fasces, cum tubas, cum signa militaria, cum aquilam illam argenteam, cui ille etiam 7sacrarium domi suae fecerat, scirem esse praemissam. In exilium eiciebam, quem iam ingressum 8esse in bellum videbam? O bellum magno opere pertimescendum, cum hanc sit habiturus Catilina 9scortorum cohortem praetoriam! Instruite nunc, Quirites, contra has tam praeclaras Catilinae 10copias vestra praesidia vestrosque exercitus. Et primum gladiatori illi confecto et saucio 11consules imperatoresque vestros opponite; deinde contra illam naufragorum eiectam ac 12debilitatam manum florem totius Italiae ac robur educite. Iam vero urbes coloniarum ac 13municipiorum respondebunt Catilinae tumulis silvestribus. Neque ego ceteras copias, 14ornamenta, praesidia vestra cum illius latronis inopia atque egestate conferre debeo.

- (a) Where was the senate meeting when the events Cicero recounts in lines 1 to 7 took place? [1]
 (b) ille homo audacissimus; who is this? [1]
 (c) nocturno conventu; to what is Cicero referring here, when and where did it take place? [3]
 (d) What items does Cicero says Catiline had gathered together in lines 5 to 7 (quo iam... fecerat,) and why had he collected them?
 (e) cohortem praetoriam (line 9) what was this and why does Cicero use the term? Who is he
- (f) Gladiatori (line 10) who is this? Why does Cicero call him by this name? [4]

[3]

(h) 'Stirring, vivid and always a joy to read.' How far do you agree with this statement about Cicero's writing based on the passages you have studied? Support your answer with reference to the text. You should write at least 100 words. [10] Hint: the question says "How far..." so use "on the one hand... on the other hand..." in your answer. You should consider the whole of the extracts from Cicero that form your set book, not just the lines quoted on the paper, although obviously they can be included.

My attempted answers are on the next page.

Specimen answers:

- (a) Where was the senate meeting when the events Cicero recounts in lines 1 to 7 took place? [1] In the temple of Jupiter the Sustainer.
- (b) *ille homo audacissimus*; who is this? Catiline.
- (c) *nocturno conventu;* to what is Cicero referring here, when and where did it take place? [3] Cicero is referring to the gathering of the leading members of the conspiracy at the house of Marcus Porcius Laeca in the street of the scythemakers on 6th November 63BC.

[1]

- (d) What items does Cicero says Catiline had gathered together in lines 5 to 7 (quo iam... fecerat,) and why had he collected them? Catiline had gathered, axes, fasces (bundles of sticks),] trumpets, ensigns, and a silver eagle. The axes and fasces were the symbols of office carried by the lictors who formed the body guard of the magistrates. Catiline had lost the election to the magistracy. He was gathering these items because he was preparing to take office by force. The military force needed for this would require signal trumpets and ensigns so he gathered these also. The silver eagle, ensign of one of the legions, was probably gathered because it would be a good luck talisman.
- (e) cohortem praetoriam (line 9) what was this and why does Cicero use the term? Who is he talking about? This is the praetorian guard. The praetorian guard was a small escort force for high-ranking officials. Cicero is using the term sarcastically to describe Catiline's debauched followers.
- (f) *Gladiatori* (line 10)who is this? Why does Cicero call him by this name? Catiline. Cicero uses the term as an insult, implying that Catiline is not a soldier fighting for a noble cause but just a gladiator. [4]
- (g) *coloniarum... municipiorum* (lines 12-13) what is the difference between these two? [2] Colonies were settlements of Roman citizens in conquered towns whose job it was to keep order. The *municipia* were towns that were allied to Rome and whose citizens had full Roman citizenship.
- (h) 'Stirring, vivid and always a joy to read.' How far do you agree with this statement about Cicero's writing based on the passages you have studied? Support your answer with reference to the text. You should write at least 100 words. [10]

On the one hand Cicero is a joy to read because his use of techniques such as Anaphora *cum... cum...* metaphors such as *florem ac robur* to describe the manly and solid qualities of patriotism displayed by the very best Roman soldiers and even sarcasm such as his description of Catiline as *timidus aut etiam permodestus*, communicate his ideas vividly. On the other hand, Cicero could be boastful, "And without controversy, we have conquered this one leader of this civil war," he says of Catiline and "we destroyed and magnificently conquered the man..." He could also exaggerate in order to make his point "What slaughter has been done in recent years without him?" he says, as though Catiline had been at the bottom of *every* crime that had been committed in the city. This detracts a little from the joy of reading his orations but shows the reader part of his character. Perhaps if we had been able to hear him speak in the senate we would have been even more carried along that we are when we just read his words.

This is only an example answer. You may have made different points that are equally valid. You do not have to quote in Latin but do so if you can.