

Year 3 Term 3 Week 4 Day 3

Work this exam style question:

“An affront to pagan religion more than to Segesta”. How far do you agree with this assessment of Cicero's description of Verres' behaviour as Praetor based on the extract you have read? Support your answer with reference to the text.

You should write at least 100 words.

An example answer is on the next page.

This is my attempt. You may have tackled it differently and still got full marks. Notice how remembering single very significant Latin words can be useful in answering this type of question, especial words like *religio* and *clientes* which do not translate easily into modern English terms.

**On the one hand** Cicero describes Verres's crimes as an affront to religion, saying that theft of the statue was to “trample on all the religious reverence (*religio*) [1] due” to the gods [1] and calling him a “violator of all religious feeling (*religio*)”. [1] Cicero points out that the statue was such an object of veneration that even the Carthaginians [1] worshipped it when they had taken it from Segesta to Carthage as part of the spoils of conquest. **On the other hand** he also emphasises the Segestan's civic pride in the statue. It was the first thing they showed him when he arrived there, he says. [1] the affront to Segesta is even more shocking in that the Segestans are clients (*clientes*) [1] of the Romans and bound to them by ties of history reaching back to the legend of Aeneas. [1] When the Segestan authorities try to protest at Verres removal of the statue, they mention both *religio* [1] and also their respect for their own Segestan laws and courts of justice [1] which would not allow such a thing. This makes it clear that Verres theft is an equal affront to *religio* or pagan religion and to Segesta itself. [1]

