

Year 3 Term 3 Week 5 Day 2

How important is the spoken word in the part of the Aeneid that you have read?

Support your answer with reference to the text.

You should write about 100 words. [10]

Hints: “How important...” so you can write, “On the one hand [it is very important because for example...]” and “On the other hand [cite something else that is just as important e.g. vivid description]”

Go through the set lines in your mind and jot down all the instances of a speech before you start to help you.

My attempt is on the next page.

On the one hand the spoken word in the part of the Aeneid that I have read is important for bringing the characters, mortal and immortal, to life. Celaeno's speech, for instance reveals her spiteful and vengeful character and also her legitimate grievance; the Trojans have stolen her cattle. The long speech of Achaemenides also illustrates another important use to which Virgil puts the spoken word. Achaemenides relates the previous events that have taken place in Homer's Odyssey. His telling of the story of Ulysses and Polyphemus links the two books and shows that the Aeneid is a continuation of the story but from the Trojan side in a way that would be much less effective in plain narrative. On the other hand there are other features of the Aeneid that are equally important. Virgil's descriptions, of the harpies for instance, with its slimy alliteration *virginei volucrum vultus, foedissima ventris* is vivid enough for us to picture them without being put into the mouth of any of the characters.

You may get full marks by mentioning different things to the ones I have picked out. If you are familiar with the rest of Book 3 in English translation there is no reason why you should not take examples from there also. Notice the quotation in Latin I have used. It is a good one to learn as there are a number of contexts in which it might be useful.

This is the final practice question for the Virgil set works.

You should concentrate your revision for this topic on knowing the translation,

<https://quizlet.com/gb/617807965/aeneid-cambridge-international-igcse-2023-25-flash-cards/>,

remembering the literary techniques Virgil uses with examples of each and practising scansion. You can check your scansion using <http://www.pedecerto.eu/public/scansioni/scansioni>.

