



2025/2026 High School Nationals Exam

THIS EXAM SHOULD BE TAKEN BY ALL HIGH SCHOOL TEAMS

Reminders:

- This test may not be administered before 12:01 am on Monday, April 6, or after 11:59 pm on Friday, April 17 (all times Central).
- Students should not look at the test until the 45min testing period begins (after the confirmation screen).
- Students must not discuss the contents of the test with anyone except their teammates and coaches until the testing window closes at 11:59 pm on April 17.
- Coaches should collect all exams at the end of the testing session and hold them in a secure place until 11:59 pm on April 17.
- If you see issues or mistakes with the questions, please enter those through the Test Question Issues section at the bottom of the coaches' portal page. Please do not email corrections, mistakes, or issues to the League.

I. Reading Comprehension: Read the following passages and answer the questions that follow. Underlined words are defined for you below the passage.

Passage 1: Bizarre events on the battlefield.

1 Dux Rōmānus postquam Antiochum rēgem proeliō vīcit, Catōnem mīsit victōriae nūntiandae
2 causā; ipse autem cum mīlitibus sē colligendīs Rōmānōrum cadāveribus et hostium spoliīs
3 dedit. Ibi mīles quīdam Antiochī, nōmine Būplāgus, duodecim vulneribus affectus nihilōminus
4 mediō diē ē mortuīs surrēxit et tenuī vōce tālēs hexametros ducī Rōmānō prōnūntiāvit:
5 “Dēsiste ad mānēs turbam spoliāre profectam:
6 Iūppiter Irātus caedem ob legiōnis inīquam
7 succēset, gentemque tuās immittet in ōrās
8 imperiō tibi quae tua facta rependat adēmp̄tō.”

(adapted from Wilhelm Xylander’s Latin translation of Phlegon, *Dē Mirābilibus* 3.1-4)

2 **cadāver, -eris, n.:** corpse

4 **hexameter, -trī, m.:** hexameter (a line of poetry written in dactylic hexameter)

7 **succēseō, -ēre, -cēnsuī, -cēnsus:** to be angry (at)

8 **rependō, -ere, -pendī, -pensus:** to pay back, reward, balance out

1. Which of these would not be a valid way to rewrite **victōriae nūntiandae causā** (1-2)?

- (A) **ad victōriam nūntiandam** (B) **quī victōriam nūntiāret** (C) **victōriam nūntiandī grātiā**
(D) **victōriam nūntiātum** (E) All of these are valid alternatives

2. In line 2, **ipse** refers to...

- (A) The **dux Rōmānus** (B) Antiochus (C) Cato (D) Buplagus

3. In line 2, **cum** is best translated as...

- (A) When (B) Because (C) With (D) Although (E) Either A or B

4. The gerundive **colligendīs** agrees with...

- (A) **mīlitibus** (B) **cadāveribus** (C) **spoliīs** (D) Both B and C

5. Which of these best captures the idiomatic sense of **duodecim vulneribus affectus** (3)?

- (A) Because he had received 12 wounds
(B) Although he had received 12 wounds
(C) Who had inflicted 12 wounds
(D) Despite inflicting 12 wounds

6. The prepositional phrase **ad mānēs** (5) most closely modifies what word?

- (A) **Dēsiste** (B) **turbam** (C) **spoliāre** (D) **profectam**

7. Which of these can be inferred about Jupiter based on the poem?
 (A) Jupiter respects the Romans' victory but disapproves of their taking spoils from the bodies
 (B) Jupiter is angry at the defeat of Antiochus's forces
 (C) Jupiter thinks Antiochus's forces unfairly slaughtered Roman troops
 (D) Jupiter's anger will not deter the Roman legions from their slaughter
8. In line 7, the conjunction **-que** most directly connects which two words?
 (A) **caedem** and **gentem** (B) **succēnsset** and **immittet**
 (C) **gentem** and **tuās** (D) **lūppiter** and **facta** (E) **ob** and **in**
9. The antecedent of **quae** (8) is...
 (A) **caedem** (B) **legiōnis** (C) **gentem** (D) **ōrās** (E) **facta**
10. Which of these outcomes is prophesied in the last two lines?
 (A) The Romans will see their own territory invaded and their empire taken away
 (B) The Romans will be rewarded for their deeds by expanding their empire over more tribes
 (C) The Romans will seize Antiochus's empire and avenge what he did to them
 (D) The Romans will destroy any people that attempts to invade the shores of their empire
11. The verb form **rependat** (8) is...
 (A) Subjunctive because it expresses purpose or intention
 (B) Subjunctive because it indicates an event that is unlikely to actually happen
 (C) Subjunctive because it is a subordinate clause within indirect speech
 (D) Indicative because it describes an event that will definitely happen in the future
 (E) Indicative because it describes an event that is currently happening

Passage 2: A speaker begins a speech about the current emperor.

1 Mihi ōrātiōnem in hāc urbe tam clārā habitūrō dē imperātōre tantīs factīs īnsignī tantāque
 2 laude dignō, magnus metus adest, prīmum nē māiestātem tuam parum extollam, deinde nē
 3 superbū videātur humilem hanc ōrātiōnem in eōdem senātū prōferre quō Cicerō et Catō
 4 dīxēre. Sed illud mē impulit ad dīcendum, quod nēmō mē cōgēbat ut dīcerem: apud tē solum
 5 tam tūtum est falsās laudēs vītāre quam facile est vērās dīcere, et nūllum imperātōrem magis
 6 laudārī decet quam quem minimē necesse est.

(loosely adapted from Panēgyricī Latīnī 2.1-2)

- 2 **māiestās, -ātis, f.:** majesty
 4 **quod:** here, "the fact that" (elaborating on **illud**)

12. The adjective **īnsignī** (1) agrees with...
 (A) **mihi** (B) **urbe** (C) **imperātōre** (D) **laude** (E) None of these

13. In line 1, the conjunction **-que** most directly connects which two words?
 (A) **urbe** and **imperātōre** (B) **factīs** and **laude**
 (C) **insignī** and **dignō** (D) **habitūrō** and **dignō** (E) None of these
14. The speaker decides to change **mihi ... magnus metus adest** (1-2) to **magnopere metuō**. What else must change to keep the sentence grammatical?
 (A) Both instances of **nē** (2) must become **ut**
 (B) **nē ... extollam** must become **extollere**
 (C) **habitūrō** must become **habitūrus**
 (D) **primum** must become **primus**
 (E) **ōrātiōnem ... habitūrō** must become **ōrātiōnī ... habendae**
15. Which of these is expressed by the speaker as a fear?
 (A) Seeming to praise the emperor's majesty to an excessive or inappropriate degree
 (B) Making a humble emperor seem arrogant by giving a speech about him in the Senate
 (C) Praising an emperor in the Senate where Cicero and Cato defended Republican liberty
 (D) Seeming to have an overinflated ego for thinking his speech is worthy of the Senate's legacy
16. In line 4, the speaker uses the form **dīxēre** as an alternative for what more common verb form?
 (A) **dīxisse** (B) **dīxērunt** (C) **dīcere** (D) **dīctum est** (E) **dīxissent**
17. Which of these could replace **ut dīcerem** (4) without changing grammar or sense?
 (A) **quod dīxī** (B) **dīcere** (C) **sī dīxissem** (D) **dīcendī causā** (E) **dīctūrum**
18. In an idiomatic translation of line 5, **quam** would most likely be rendered...
 (A) Which (B) Whom (C) How (D) Than (E) As
19. In an idiomatic translation of line 6, **quam** would most likely be rendered...
 (A) Which (B) Whom (C) How (D) Than (E) As
20. Which of these is true according to the last three lines of the passage?
 (A) The speaker believes that no emperor truly deserves or needs to be praised
 (B) The emperor being addressed is unique in not demanding untrue flattery
 (C) The speaker was initially unwilling to speak for fear of being caught making false statements
 (D) Even though it is easy to praise the emperor based only on true facts, the speaker finds it safer to also incorporate false praise

II. Grammar. Choose the best answer.

In these sentences, identify the segment which contains the grammatical error. If the sentence contains no error, then choose "No error."

All of these sentences are based on a continuous passage in Eutropius's *Breviarium*.

21. **Tarentīnīs, quī iam in ultimā Italiā est, bellum indictum est, quia lēgātīs Rōmānōrum iniūriam fēcissent.**

- (A) Tarentīnīs (B) est (C) indictum est (D) lēgātīs (E) No error

Tarentīnī, -ōrum (m. pl.): the Tarentines (people of Tarentum, a city in Italy)
ultimus, -a, -um: furthest

22. **Hī Pyrrum, Ēpīrī rēgem, contrā Rōmānōs in auxilium poposcērunt, cuius ex genere Achillis orīginem trahēbat.**

- (A) hī (B) rēgem (C) cuius (D) genere (E) No error

Ēpīrus, -ī (m.): Epirus (region of southeastern Europe)
Achillēs, Achillis (m.): Achilles (mythological hero)

23. **Is mox ad Italiam vēnit, tumque primum Rōmānī cum trānsmarīnō hoste dīmīcāvērunt. [...] Contrā Pyrrum Fābricius sunt missī. [...]**

- (A) is (B) primum (C) hoste (D) sunt missī (E) No error

trānsmarīnus, -a, -um: from across the sea

24. **Tum, cum vīcīna castra ipse et rēx habēret, medicus Pyrrī nocte ad eum vēnit, prōmittēns venēnō sē Pyrrum occīsūrum, sī sibi aliquid pollicērētur.**

- (A) habēret (B) prōmittēns (C) occīsūrum (D) pollicērētur (E) No error

medicus, -ī (m.): doctor

25. **Quem Fābricius vīnctum redūcī iussit ad dominum Pyrrumque dīcī quae contrā caput eius medicus spondisset.**

- (A) quem (B) redūcī (C) Pyrrum (D) caput (E) No error

spondeō, spondēre, spondī, spōnsum: to promise, pledge

26. **Tum rēx admīrātus eum dīxisse fert:**

- (A) admīrātus (B) eum (C) dīxisse (D) fert (E) No error

27. **“Ille est Fābricius, quī difficilīus ab honestāte quam sōlem ā cursū suō āvertī potest.”**

- (A) quī (B) difficilīus (C) sōlem (D) āvertī (E) No error

honestās, honestātis (f.): honesty

28. Tum rēx ad Siciliam profectus est. [...] M. Curius Dentatus contrā eum pugnāvit, exercitum eius cecīdit, ipsum Tarentum fugāvit, castra cēpit.

- (A) profectus (B) exercitum (C) ipsum (D) castra (E) No error

Sicilia, -ae (f.): Sicily

Tarentum, -ī (n.): Tarentum (city in Italy)

29. Eō diē caesa hostium vīgintī tria mīlia. Curius in cōsulātū triumphāvit; p̄rimus Rōmam elephantōs quattuor dūxit.

- (A) eō (B) hostium (C) vīgintī (D) quattuor (E) No error

elephantus, -ī (m.): elephant

30. Pyrrus etiam ā Tarentō mox recessit et apud Argīs, Graeciae cīvitātem, occīsus est.

- (A) Tarentō (B) recessit (C) Argīs (D) occīsus est (E) No error

Argī, -ōrum (m. pl.): Argos (city in Greece)

Graecia, -ae (f.): Greece

III. Vocabulary. Choose the best answer.

31. Which word is a synonym of oportet?

- (A) paenitet (B) ferō (C) necesse est (D) exhauriō

32. Which word is **NOT** a synonym for the other three?

- (A) turba (B) vulgus (C) caterva (D) tumulus

33. What is the best definition for cōnsuēscō?

- (A) notice (B) accustom oneself (C) become (D) devise

34. Which word means “hold dear”?

- (A) flectō (B) dīligō (C) īfundō (D) īrāscor

35. Which word is the best definition of aēneus?

- (A) bronze (B) light (C) air (D) small

36. What is the best definition for tametsī?

- (A) even if (B) thus (C) so (D) therefore

37. What is the best definition for amplector?

- (A) fill (B) feed (C) equal (D) surround

38. Which of the following is a synonym for egestās?

- (A) inopia (B) aestās (C) iūs (D) mūnus

39. What is the best definition of **prōtinus**?
(A) thrown (B) recent (C) forward (D) always

40. What is the best definition of **siccus**?
(A) followed (B) dry (C) dagger (D) sure

IV. Phrases, Mottoes, Abbreviations, & Quotations. Choose the best answer.

41. Which of these famous quotes was coined by a modern writer and is not based on an ancient sentiment?
(A) manus manum lavat (B) cogitō ergo sum (C) in vinō veritas (D) ars longa, vita brevis
(E) amor vincit omnia

42. A new meaning of A.I. is “artificial intelligence,” but a.i. (from the Latin) in a business context has always meant what?
(A) before and after (B) and co-workers (C) for the year (D) among others (E) temporarily

43. The University at Buffalo’s motto showcases a quote from Juvenal’s *Satires*. What is their motto?
(A) mens et manus (B) salus populi (C) mens sana in corpore sano (D) lux hominum
vita (E) crescere aude

44. Why would you use a C.V.?
(A) applying for a job (B) making a list (C) studying for a test (D) planning a menu
(E) writing a letter

45. Complete the quote from Horace’s *Odes* that urges us to do something: Nunc est _____.
(A) intellegendum (B) cogitandum (C) bibendum (D) docendum (E) amandum

V. Latin Derivatives. Choose the best answer.

46. Which of the following words is derived from **minae**?
(A) ministry (B) menace (C) diminish (D) admirable

47. Which of the following words is NOT derived from **caput**?
(A) camp (B) cattle (C) chapter (D) capitulate

48. Which of the following is derived from **vetus**?
(A) reverberate (B) advent (C) veterinary (D) investigate

49. Which of the following words is NOT a derivative of **cieō**?
(A) solicit (B) excite (C) citation (D) cinch

50. Which of the following words is NOT a derivative of **canō**?

- (A) accent (B) canary (C) enchant (D) charming

VI. Roman History. Choose the best answer.

51. Where did the consuls Hirtius and Pansa perish in battle in 43 BC?

- (A) Luca (B) Perugia (C) Mutina (D) Neapolis (E) Phillipi

52. Which member of the imperial family revealed the plot of Sejanus to Tiberius?

- (A) Drusus II (B) Gemellus (C) Agrippina the Elder (D) Antonia Minor (E) Livilla

53. What governor of Egypt declared for Vespasian in 69 AD?

- (A) Ti. Alexander (B) Mucianus (C) Flavius Silva (D) Fabius Valens (E) Julius Sacrovir

54. Where was Trajan serving as governor when he was selected as Nerva's successor?

- (A) Pannonia (B) Germania Superior (C) Baetica (D) Raetia (E) Cappadocia

55. What Roman rhetorician from Cirta was appointed by Antoninus Pius to tutor his adopted sons, Lucius Verus and Marcus Aurelius?

- (A) Herodes Atticus (B) Cornelius Fronto (C) Licinius Macer (D) Plautianus (E) Seneca

VII. Mythology. Choose the best answer.

56. Who had to found a new home where if the sky fell, it would not hurt him?

- (A) Thoas (B) Idomeneus (C) Eurypylus (D) Podalirius

57. Who originally shared the oracle of Delphi with Poseidon before handing over their part to Themis?

- (A) Gaea (B) Uranus (C) Cronus (D) Rhea

58. Which of the Seven Against Thebes fled from Periclymenus until the earth swallowed him whole?

- (A) Capaneus (B) Amphiarus (C) Adrastus (D) Metiscus

59. Whose sons Polygonus and Telegonus did Heracles wrestle at Torone?

- (A) Achelous (B) Triton (C) Nereus (D) Proteus

60. Laius doomed his line by kidnapping what son of Pelops?

- (A) Laodamas (B) Tisamenus (C) Chrysippus (D) Androdamas

VIII. Roman Life. Choose the best answer.

61. During which mid-February festival did young men run through the city with strips of goatskin to purify the city, promoting health and fertility?
(A) Liberalia (B) Cerialia (C) Parilia (D) Lupercalia
62. The worship of Mithras in the Roman world was most closely associated with which of the following?
(A) public festivals in open-air temples (B) mystery rites in small cave-like shrines (C) daily sacrifices by the Roman consuls (D) agricultural ceremonies
63. What was the purpose of **fuligo** and **kohl** in Roman cosmetics?
(A) whitening the teeth (B) darkening eyelashes (C) dyeing the lips red (D) scenting hair with perfume
64. In the Roman bath complex, which feature relied on a system of suspended floors supported by **pilae** to circulate hot air, thereby warming rooms such as the **caldarium** and **tepidarium**?
(A) apodyterium (B) palaestra (C) hypocaustum (D) laconicum
65. What was the primary purpose of the **vela** at the Colosseum?
(A) to provide shade (B) to protect the arena floor from rain (C) to provide a place to hang banners (D) to amplify voices of speakers

IX. Ancient Geography. Choose the best answer.

66. What city did the ancient Romans call Gades?
(A) Cadiz (B) Barcelona (C) Moderna (D) Constanza (E) Bath
67. In what Roman province was the city of Emerita Augusta located?
(A) Cilicia (B) Lusitania (C) Sicilia (D) Mauretania (E) Bithynia
68. Which of the following was NOT located in the Forum Romanum?
(A) Temple of Castor (B) Curia (C) Arch of Constantine (D) Regia (E) Column of Phocis
69. What structure, located in the Campus Martius, was the resting place of many Julio-Claudians?
(A) Saepta Iulia (B) Pantheon (C) Ara Pacis (D) Horologium (E) Mausoleum of Augustus

X. Greek Life and Literature. Choose the best answer.

70. What poet from Ceos was the nephew of Simonides?
(A) Callimachus (B) Bacchylides (C) Callias (D) Eratosthenes
71. How many horses drew chariots initially in chariot races at the ancient Olympics?
(A) Two (B) Four (C) Six (D) Eight

72. Who is credited with being the first Greek to draw a map of the world?
(A) Anaxagoras (B) Anaximander (C) Anaximenes (D) Anaxarchus

73. What was the usual maximum number of actors in a Greek play after Sophocles?
(A) One (B) Two (C) Three (D) Four

XI. Greek Derivatives. Choose the best answer.

74. The chemical formaldehyde and the flowering plant hydrangea are related! They are both derived from the same ancient Greek word meaning what?

(A) carbon (B) pink (C) water (D) green (E) shape

75. Which of these words is NOT related to the Greek root pas/pan?

(A) pantomime (B) pantaloons (C) pantheon (D) panegyric (E) panacea

76. Based on their synonymous Greek roots, what medical term is similar in meaning to anodyne?

(A) analgesic (B) anemia (C) anomia (D) anaphia (E) anoxia

77. The soda Pepsi got its name from the Greek word meaning what?

(A) brown (B) bubble (C) mouth (D) thirst (E) digestion

XII. Hellenic History. All dates are in B.C.E. Choose the best answer.

78. Perhaps extremely soon after Plataea, the Greeks defeated the Persians off the coast of Asia Minor at what battle of 479?

(A) Artemisium (B) Hysiae (C) Mycale (D) Himera

79. What city was ruled by the Bacchiads until they were overthrown in 657?

(A) Corinth (B) Sicyon (C) Miletus (D) Argos

80. What mothax helped Syracuse successfully fend off the Athenians?

(A) Conon (B) Lysander (C) Callicratidas (D) Gylippus

81. Who led the Messenian resistance against Sparta in the 7th century?

(A) Aristomenes (B) Aristodemus (C) Aristobulus (D) Aristonicus

XIII. Classical Art. Choose the best answer.

82. What language found on tablets from Knossos, Mycenae, and Pylos was deciphered by Michael Ventris?

(A) Linear A (B) Linear B (C) Cypro-Minoan (D) Cretan Hieroglyphic

83. The object shown in **Image 1**, often called “The Harpist,” is most closely associated with which ancient civilization?

- (A) Mycenaean (B) Minoan (C) Cycladic (D) Spartan

84. The so-called Boxer Rhyton shown in **Image 2** and diagrammed in **Image 3** is most closely associated with which ancient civilization?

- (A) Mycenaean (B) Minoan (C) Cycladic (D) Classical Greek

85. Frescoes painted in the Pompeian styles have been found throughout Italy and the Roman world. In which town, possibly the site of a villa belonging to Nero’s wife Poppaea, were the frescoes in **Image 4** uncovered?

- (A) Ravenna (B) Brundisium (C) Ostia (D) Oplontis

XIV. Latin Literature. Choose the best answer.

86. Which of the following Catullus poems mourned the death of his brother?

- (A) 5 (B) 16 (C) 85 (D) 101

87. What title is shared by a play of Pacuvius and Accius?

- (A) **Armorum iudicium** (B) **Dulorestes** (C) **Oenomaus** (D) **Danae**

88. Whose work opens with the line “[blank] **prima suis miserum me cepit ocellis**”?

- (A) Tibullus (B) Propertius (C) Horace (D) Ovid

89. What mythological hero was to be the focus of one of Papinius Statius’s unfinished works?

- (A) Achilles (B) Odysseus (C) Diomedes (D) Aeneas

90. Who was the host of a banquet within Lucilius’s corpus?

- (A) Umbricius (B) Trimalchio (C) Nasidienus (D) Granius

XV. Special Topics. Choose the best answer.

91. What Kush queen invaded Egypt and negotiated the withdrawal of the Romans from a particular 30-mile zone?

- (A) Primis (B) Akinidad (C) Teriteqas (D) Amanirenas

92. Who perhaps introduced Greek medical practices to Rome?

- (A) Archagathus (B) Galen (C) Hippocrates (D) Sammonicus

93. What was the function of the *dadouchos* in a mystery cult?

- (A) revealer of holy things (B) leader
(C) executioner (D) torch-bearer

94. What was the name for the fish sauce made from matured, whole small fish?
(A) **piscina** (B) **defrutum** (C) **epityrum** (D) **garum**
95. What term did the Etruscans use for themselves?
(A) Rasenna (B) Tyrsenoi (C) Siculi (D) Ausones
96. What port during the time of Carthaginian supremacy was only second in importance to the Phoenicians?
(A) Utica (B) Oea (C) Gades (D) Sabrata
97. Sappho's ode to what deity is perhaps her only extant, mostly complete, piece of poetry?
(A) Aphrodite (B) Zeus (C) Persephone (D) Athena
98. From what region did the **cerasus** come?
(A) Cappadocia (B) Macedon (C) Ionia (D) Pontus
99. A famous colossal statue of Serapis made by Bryaxis could be found in what city?
(A) Naples (B) Rome (C) Ephesus (D) Alexandria
100. What work has the earliest example of medical treatment described in a Greek text?
(A) *Persians* (B) *Iliad* (C) *Argonautica* (D) *Odyssey*

THIS PAGE CONTAINS THE IMAGES REFERENCED IN THE TEST QUESTIONS.

Image 1. Question 83.



Author photo.

Image 2. Question 84.



Author photo.

Image 3. Question 84.



Author photo.

Image 4. Question 85.



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