

2012 NJCL
DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION
Levels ½ and I – Boys

Subitō magna pestilentia terram invāsit. Incolae aegrī erant neque iam in agrīs labōrābant. Dēnique haec pestilentia omnēs hominēs necāvit. Iam terra nūllōs incolās habēbat.

Rēx Aeacus benignus maximē dolēbat. Sine morā ad templum Iovis properāvit. Ante āram ita ōrāvit: "Ō Iuppiter, magna pestilentia populum meum necāvit. Aut dā mihi populum novum aut necā mē quoque!"

Prope templum erat alta quercus. In rāmīs erant multae formīcae, quae cibum portābant.

Noctū Aeacus in somniō formīcās videt, quae per rāmōs ambulant et ā rāmīs cadunt, ubi in virōs et in fēminās mūtantur.

“Aeacus et Formīcae,” *Using Latin I* (1948), p. 146, adapted and abridged

Suddenly a great plague invaded the land. The inhabitants were sick and no longer worked in the fields. Finally this plague killed all the people. Now the earth had no inhabitants.

Kindly King Aeacus was especially upset. Without delay he hurried to the temple of Jupiter. Before the altar he prayed thus: "O Jupiter, a great plague has killed my people. Either give me new people or kill me also!"

Near the temple was a tall oak tree. In its branches were many ants, which were carrying food.

In a dream at night Aeacus sees the ants, which walk through the branches and fall from the branches, where they are turned into men and into woman.

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DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION
Level II – Boys

Ulixēs ad vīllam Cīrcēs pervēnit. Eōdem tempore autem vīdit nōn longē ā sē
adulēscentem fōrmae pulcherrimae aureum baculum gerentem.

Hic adulēscēns Ulixem dextrā manū retinuit et "Nōnne scīs," inquit, "hanc esse
domum illīus Cīrcēs potentissimae atque tuōs amīcōs ē speciē hūmānā in porcōs
conversōs esse? Nōlī intrāre nisi ipse in eundem cāsū venīre cupis."

Ulixēs simul atque vōcem audīvit, hunc adulēscentem deum Mercurium esse
sēnsit. Nōluit tamen sociōs miserōs relinquere. Quod ubi sēnsit Mercurius, herbam
quandam Ulixī dedit cuius auxiliō artem magicam Cīrcēs vincere potuit.

"Hanc herbam," inquit, "cape, et cum Cīrcē baculō suō tē tetigerit, gladiō tuō eam
aggredere."

"Ulixēs et Mercurius," *Latin and the Romans*, Book Two (1942), pp 217-18 (abridged)

Ulysses arrived at Circe's villa. At the same time, however, he saw not far from himself a young man of very handsome physique, carrying a golden staff.

This young man stopped Ulysses with his right hand and said, "Don't you know that this is the home of that very powerful Circe and that your friends have been changed from human appearance into pigs? Do not enter unless you yourself want to come into the same misfortune."

Ulysses, as soon as he heard this voice, sensed that this young man was the god Mercury. Nevertheless he did not want to abandon his miserable companions. When Mercury realized that, he gave Ulysses a certain herb, by whose aid he was able to overcome Circe's magic.

"Take this herb," he said, "and when Circe will have touched you with her wand, attack her with your sword."

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DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION
Advanced Prose – Boys

Rōmānus exsultāns "Duōs" inquit, "frātrum mānibus dedī; tertium causae bellī huiusce, ut Rōmānus Albānō imperet, dabō." Male sustinentī arma gladium supernē iugulō dēfīgit, iacentem spoliat. ...

Prīnceps Horātius ībat, trigemina spolia prae sē gerēns; cui soror virgō, quae dēspōnsa ūnī ex Cūriātīis fuerat, obvia ante portam Capēnam fuit, cognitōque super umerōs frātris palūdāmentō spōnsī quod ipsa cōnfēcerat, solvit crīnēs et flēbiliter nōmine spōnsum mortuum appellat.

Movet ferōcī iuvenī animum complōrātiō sorōris in victōriā suā tantōque gaudiō pūblicō. Strictō itaque gladiō simul verbīs increpāns trānsfīgit puellam. "Abī hinc cum immātūrō amōre ad spōnsum," inquit, "oblīta frātrum mortuōrum vīvīque, oblīta patriae. Sīc pereat quaecumque Rōmāna lūgēbit hostem."

"Horatius Triumphant," Livy, *Ab Urbe Condita* I.25-26 (abridged)

The Roman, exulting, said, "I have sent two of the brothers to the shades of the dead; I will send the third brother (there) for the cause of this war, so that the Roman may rule over the Alban." He rammed his sword from above into his (opponent's) throat, who was barely holding up his weapons, and despoils him lying there....

Horatius went forward as the conqueror, carrying the triple spoils of victory before himself; his maiden sister, who had been betrothed to one of the Curiatians, came to meet him before the Capenan Gate, and having recognized over her brother's shoulders her fiancé's cloak, which she herself had made, she undoes her hair and with weeping calls her dead fiancé by name,

His sister's weeping moves the soul of the fierce youth amidst his victory and so much public joy. So, having drawn his sword, he stabs the girl, simultaneously attacking her with these words: "Go away from here with your immature love for your fiancé, you who have forgotten your deceased brothers and your living brother, you who have forgotten your fatherland. Thus may she perish, whatever Roman woman shall mourn an enemy."

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DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION
Advanced Poetry – Boys

'Hospes' ait Perseus illī, 'seu glōria tangit
tē generis magnī, generis mihi Iuppiter auctor; 640
sīve es mīrātor rērum, mīrābere nostrās;
hospitium requiemque petō.' memor ille vetustae
sortis erat; Themis hanc dederat Parnāsia sortem:
'Tempus, Atlās, veniet, tua quō spoliābitur aurō
arbor, et hunc praedae titulum Iove nātus habēbit.' 645
Id metuēns solidīs pōmāria clauserat Atlās
moenibus et vastō dederat servanda dracōnī
arcēbatque suīs externōs fīnibus omnēs.
Huic quoque 'Vāde procul, nē longē glōria rērum,
quam mentīris' ait, 'longē tibi Iuppiter absit!' 650
Vimque minīs addit manibusque expellere temptat
cunctantem et placidīs miscentem fortia dictīs.
Vīribus inferior (quis enim pār esset Atlantis
vīribus?) 'At, quōniam parvī tibi grātia nostra est,
accipe mūnus!' ait laevāque ā parte Medūsae 655
ipse retrō versus squalentia prōtulit ōra.
Quantus erat, mōns factus Atlās:

“Perseus and Atlas,” Ovid, *Metamorphoses* IV.639-657

"O host," said Perseus to him, "if the glory of a great race moves you, Jupiter is the founder of my race; or if you are an admirer of achievements, admire my achievements; I seek hospitality and rest." That Titan was mindful of an ancient prophecy; Themis of Mt. Parnasus had given this prophecy: "O Atlas, a time will come when your tree will be robbed of its gold and someone born from Jupiter will hold this claim to the loot." Fearing this, Atlas had enclosed the fruit tree with solid walls and had turned it over to be guarded by a huge dragon and kept all foreigners from his borders. To this man (Perseus) he also said, "Hie thee hence, lest the glory of your deeds, about which you lie, be far from you, lest Jupiter be far from you!" And he adds force to his threats and with his hands tries to expel Perseus, who was hesitating and mixing brave deeds with soothing words. Perseus, inferior in strength (for who could be equal in strength to Atlas?) said, "But, since my graciousness is of little value to you, accept this gift!" and, having turned backward, from his left hand he himself held out the ghastly face of Medusa. Atlas became a mountain as huge as he was.