

2015 GJCL Reading Comprehension Exam: Level I

Fill in the first four blocks of the Scantron sheet with your own 4-digit code, then the next four blocks with the code for this exam (1008). Fill in completely the space on the answer sheet corresponding to the correct answer for each question. **Do not write on the exam itself.**

An early adventure of the hero Hercules.

Herculēs iam adulēscēns Thēbīs habitābat. Rēx Thēbārum, vir ignāvus, Creōn appellābatur. Minyae, gēns bellicōsissima, Thēbānīs finitimī erant. Lēgātī autem ā Minyīs ad Thēbānōs quotannīs mittēbantur; hī Thēbās veniēbant et centum bovēs postulābant. Thēbānī enim ōlim ā Minyīs superātī erant; tribūta igitur rēgī Minyārum quotannīs pendēbant. At
5 Herculēs cīvēs suōs hōc stipendiō liberāre cōstituit; lēgātōs igitur comprehendit, atque aurēs eōrum abscīdit. Lēgātī autem apud omnēs gentēs sāctī habentur. Ergīnus, rēx Minyārum, ob haec vehementer irātus statim cum omnibus copiīs in finēs Thēbānōrum contendit. Creōn adventum eius per explorātōrēs cognōvit. Ipse tamen pugnāre nōluit, nam magnō timōre affectus erat; Thēbānī igitur Herculem imperātorem
10 creāvērunt. Ille nuntiōs in omnēs partēs dīmisit, et cōpiās coēgit; um proximō diē cum magnō exercitū profectus est. Locum idōneum dēlēgit et aciem īstrūxit. Tum Thēbānī ē superiōre locō impetum in hostēs fēcērunt. Illī autem impetum sustinēre nōn potuērunt; itaque aciēs hostium pulsa est atque in fūgam conversa.

1. According to the story, what kind of man was Creon?
a) famous b) lazy c) intelligent d) arrogant
2. What grammatical construction is *rex Thebarum, vir ignavus, Creon* (line 1)?
a) predicate nominative b) subjective genitive c) apposition d) object
3. What degree of comparison is *belicosissima* (line 2)?
a) positive b) absolutive c) comparative d) superlative
4. What tense is *finitimi erant* (line 2)?
a) present b) imperfect c) perfect d) pluperfect
5. What did the ambassadors demand of the Thebans?
a) 100 cows b) 100 horses c) 1000 cows d) 100 bows
6. What case is *centum* (line 2)?
a) ablative b) accusative c) indeclinable d) nominative
7. On what account was tribute given to the king of the Minyans?
a) he was thought to be a god b) the Thebans conquered them
c) they conquered the Thebans d) Creon was thought to be a god
8. What kind of ablative is *hoc stipendio* (line 5)?
a) means b) manner c) accompaniment d) separation
9. Based on the phrase *cives suos*, who was the true leader of the Thebans?
a) Hercules b) Creon c) the Minyan king, Erginus d) the ambassadors

10. What did Hercules decide to do in response to the ambassador's yearly demands?
a) acquiesce b) pretend to agree and then plot sneakily c) negotiate d) brutally harm them
11. What is the case and use of *eorum* (line 5)?
a) accusative/direct object b) genitive/partitive c) genitive/possession d) accusative/place
12. Why was Hercules' action not a good idea?
a) the ambassadors could no longer hear b) ambassadors had diplomatic immunity
c) the king would be displeased d) Hercules didn't like violence
13. In line 6, the best translation for *habentur* is:
a) were held b) hold c) are held d) held
14. What part of speech is *statim* (line 7)?
a) adjective b) adverb c) noun d) verb
15. *Cum omnibus copiis* is an example of what kind of construction (line 7)?
a) ablative absolute b) dative of reference
c) genitive of the whole d) ablative of accompaniment
16. What action did the Minyan king take in response to Hercules?
a) he went to war b) he laughed c) he took his supplies and fled d) he ended the Thebans
17. How did Creon learn of the Minyan actions?
a) he explored for himself b) he asked a soothsayer c) he sent out scouts d) Hercules told him
18. What kind of pronoun is *ipse* (line 8)?
a) personal b) intensive c) reflexive d) relative
19. What tense and voice is *affectus erat* (line 9)?
a) pluperfect/passive b) imperfect/active c) perfect/active d) imperfect/passive
20. Where in the sentence can the word *igitur* not be moved (line 9)?
a) before *creaverunt* b) before *Thebani* c) after *creaverunt* d) after *Herculem*
21. What do the Thebans do in response to Creon's actions?
a) beg him for help b) beg him for money
c) appoint him general d) appoint Hercules general
22. Based on the verbs in lines 10-11, we can conclude that Hercules was what type of leader?
a) an aggressor b) a turncoat c) he wasn't one d) a peacemaker
23. What type of construction is *proximo die* (line 10)?
a) ablative absolute b) ablative of time c) accusative of time d) accusative direct object
24. Who chose the place of battle?
a) the Theban troops b) Erginus c) Hercules d) Creon
25. What part of the sentence does *aciem* (line 11) function as?
a) subject b) indirect object c) object d) main verb
26. What is the best translation for *superiore* (line 11)?
a) higher b) better c) either a or b is fine d) neither a nor b is right
27. What would be a good way to say *impetum fecerunt* (line 12) in English?
a) attacked b) facilitated a negotiation c) made an impulsive decision d) advanced the line
28. Who does *illi* refer to (line 12)?
a) Hercules b) the Minyan troops c) the Theban troops d) Erginus
29. What word does *conversa* modify (line 13)?
a) *fugam* b) *hostium* c) *pulsa* d) *acies*
30. How does Hercules' first venture turn out?
a) he is turned into a general b) Creon labels him a coward
c) Erginus invites him to stay with the Minyans d) he is turned into a god
31. What kind of construction is *sustinere potuerunt* (line 12)?
a) predicate nominative b) indirect statement c) complementary infinitive d) finite verb
32. How do you think Creon feels about the turnout of this event?
a) pleased b) resentful c) left out d) scared

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Answer Key

1. b
2. c
3. d
4. d
5. a
6. c
7. c
8. d
9. a
10. d
11. c
12. b
13. a
14. b
15. d
16. a
17. c
18. b
19. a
20. b
21. d
22. a
23. b
24. c
25. c
26. c
27. a
28. c
29. d
30. a
31. c
32. b