

DESCRIPTIONS OF LATIN DAY COMPETITIONS

I. ACADEMIC COMPETITIONS

1) Roman History Scholar Bowl

This contest will be conducted in “scholar-bowl” style. Each club that wants to participate may enter one team of four students. These students will compete together and win (or lose) for their club. Grading: 100 points for the first place; 80 points for second place; 70 points for third place. Awards will be given to clubs.

2) Mythology Competition

This will be a mythology face-off competition. Each club may enter up to four students who will compete as individuals. You may find practice questions on the web at <http://bama.ua.edu/~ksummers/LATINDAY/handouts/mythology.htm>. These questions will form the basis of the contest, but in crunch time, in a tight struggle between opponents, some questions may be used that are not on this list. Grading: 100 points for the first place; 80 points for second place; 70 points for third place. Awards will be given to individuals.

3) “Myth in Art” Competition

This competition will be based on a selection of slides with mythological content that are posted on the web at <http://bama.ua.edu/~ksummers/cl222/>. Every lecture has a “SLIDE SHOW”. Click on the title of the slide show to see the slides for each one of the lectures that have slides. Any slide out of these lectures posted on the web is fare game for this competition. The questions will focus on identification and interpretation of the image. Prizes will be awarded to individuals.

4) Advanced Translation Contest

A passage of Latin poetry or prose may be found on the web at http://bama.ua.edu/~ksummers/LATINDAY/advanced_translation.pdf. Students interested in entering this contest will send in an elegant translation of their own. Translations will be graded on syntactical accuracy (70 points) and elegance (30 points). On the label include the following information: title of competition entered, translation title, name of participant, grade, school, and teacher. Entries must be received by the appointed date as set in the ‘Letter to Teachers’ page. Prizes will be awarded to individuals.

5) Latin Treasure-Trove Competition

Write a short essay (500 words) in English using as many Latin phrases as possible. The Latin phrases you use must be listed in the Webster's dictionary (in the Foreign Words and Phrases appendix) and be legitimately part of the English language, not made up by you. For the essay, you may choose any topic that appeals to you. For the presentation, make a POSTER with the whole text of your essay, setting off the Latin phrases from the rest of the text, using bold letters or different color ink. In a column on the right of the poster include a KEY: List all the Latin phrases with their English meaning (for the benefit of the audience). The best posters will be displayed in the exhibit room. Posters destroyed during transportation regrettably will disqualify. The essay may be the result of group or individual effort but there will be only one essay per school/club. On the label include the following information: title of competition entered, essay title, name of participant, grade, school, and teacher. Entries must be received by the appointed date as set in the 'Letter to Teachers' page. Prizes will be awarded to individuals.

Grading Criteria: Number and variety of Latin phrases (duplicates will count only once; valid phrases are only those listed in the Webster's dictionary) (40 points); correct usage of the Latin phrases within the English prose (15 points); clarity and quality of English prose (15 points); grammatical and syntactical accuracy of English usage (20 points); esthetic appeal of poster (10 points).

6) Song in Latin

Translate a popular song of your choice into Latin. The effort may be group or individual. Avoid choosing songs containing repetitive or overly simple lyrics, as winners will be chosen based on their ability to display an understanding of Latin grammar (50 points) and vocabulary (30 points) in an accurate (10 points) but succinct (10 points) translation of their song. Students must provide a copy of the song lyrics in English along with the translation. On a label include the following information: title of competition entered, title of song, name of participant, grade, school, and teacher. Entries must be received by the appointed date as set in the 'Letter to Teachers' page.

7) The Virgil Competition: Poetry Recitation

You will find on the UA Latin Day web page

<http://bama.ua.edu/~ksummers/LATINDAY/latinday.htm> five different authentic Latin poems.

Students may choose one of them and recite it in meter in front of the judges on the Latin Day.

The 1st place winner will be required to recite the poem at the awards ceremony. Only FIVE students from every Latin Club may participate in this category; the nomination will have to come from each Latin Club sponsor. Prizes will be awarded to individuals.

Grading Criteria: correct application of the meter (40 points); correct pronunciation of Latin words (20 points); fluency in reading the Latin text (20 points); quality of poetic reading – reading with feeling and gusto! (20 points). **Recitation by heart: 20 Bonus Points.**

8) Latin Grammar Contest

A multiple-choice test will be given on Latin forms (paradigms, conjugations, etc.). There is no limit to the number of students that would like to participate in this competition, but the participating students will be allowed into the testing room on a first-come-first-served basis. Due to fire code restrictions, only properly seated students will be allowed into the room and their number may not exceed the number of chairs therein. Participating students are requested to bring their own **SHARPENED #2 PENCILS** for the testing. There will be no extra pencils or pencil sharpeners in the testing rooms. Students without pencils will be requested to leave the testing room.

There will be three levels in this competition: Level I for beginning students; Level II for intermediate; and Level III for upper-level & AP students. Individual prizes will be awarded to the first three winners of each category. Grading: 100 points for the first place; 80 points for second place; 70 points for third place. Prizes will be awarded to individuals.

9) Reading Comprehension Contest

This competition will be held during the Latin Day. Students will be given a passage of Latin (author and text are open) and will be asked to answer a series of multiple-choice comprehension questions.

Participating students are requested to bring their own **SHARPENED #2 PENCILS** for the testing. There will be no extra pencils or pencil sharpeners in the testing rooms. Students without pencils will be requested to leave the testing room.

There will be three levels in this competition: Level I for beginning students; Level II for intermediate; and Level III for upper-level & AP students. Grading: 100 points for the first place; 80 points for second place; 70 points for third place. Prizes will be awarded to individuals.

II. CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

1) Short Movie Competition

Each school may enter one video in this competition. This year's theme is **"Romans at Work: Influencing Modern Culture."** The entries are not restricted in the manner that they express this theme—skits, animation, comedy or a combination of approaches are all appropriate. Videos will be judged on relevance to the theme (60 points), creativity and originality (20 points), and esthetic appeal (20 points). No videos that have been submitted in previous years are eligible for the competition. Each entry must be submitted on a standard VHS tape and may be no longer than 10 minutes in length. On the label include the following information: title of competition entered, movie title, name of participant, grade, school, and teacher. Videos will be judged prior to Latin Day and the best ones may be shown during the day's festivities. Entries must be received by the appointed date as set in the 'Letter to Teachers' page.

Total points for the top three clubs: 100 points for 1st place; 80 points for 2nd place; 70 points for 3rd place.

2) Latin Song Performance

Send in your own performance of a Latin song, recorded on cassette tape or CD (.mp3 or .wav format). Possibilities include a selection from the Carmina Burana, a Christmas carol, an ecclesiastical hymn, Elvis in Latin, or a popular song of your choice (translated into Latin, of course). Please provide, along with the cassette tape, a copy of the song lyrics in Latin. Entrants may perform *a capella*, or with instruments, and performances may be solo or contain a group of several singers and musicians. On the label include: title of competition entered, song title, name of participant, grade, school, and teacher. The three best entries, judged on the overall quality of performance, will be performed live for an audience during Latin Day. Entries must be received by the appointed date as set in the 'Letter to Teachers' page.

3) T-Shirt Design Competition

Latin Club T-shirts will be judged by their originality (50 points), suitability (10 points), and aesthetics (40 points). There is no theme, and the design is open. The best T-shirts will be displayed in the exhibit room. On the label include: title of competition entered, school, grade, and teacher.

Grading: originality of composition (40 points), accuracy of Latin (30 points), and esthetic presentation (30 points). Entries must be received by the appointed date as set in the 'Letter to Teachers' page. Prizes will be awarded to clubs.

4) Roman Graffiti Competition

Create your own graffiti. Be creative and authentic in the materials and means you use. On a

large card, nicely decorated, give the context and meaning of the graffiti. Though the graffiti is expected to be your creation, it should pertain to real events and characters in Roman history. On the label include: title of competition entered, graffiti title, name of participant, grade, school, and teacher. Graffiti will be judged on originality of materials used (20 points), originality of composition (20 points), accuracy of Latin (20 points), clarity of context contained on the card (20 points), and esthetic presentation (20 points).

5) Roman Comics Pages

Individual students can enter original cartoons that touch on Latin or ancient Roman history and/or culture. The cartoons themselves *do not* need to be in Latin (even though the use of Latin is not precluded). Submit cartoons on an 8x10 piece of paper and accompany them with an esthetically designed and beautifully decorated card, on which you will include a caption as well as title of competition entered, name, school, grade and teacher; this card will accompany your item in the exhibit room, so make sure that it looks really nice! The cartoons will be judged by their humor (50 points), aesthetics (40 points), and relevance (10 points). The best cartoons will be displayed in the exhibit room. Entries must be received by the appointed date as set in the 'Letter to Teachers' page. Prizes will be awarded to individuals.

6) Club Poster Competition

Clubs may enter a poster or banner promoting the study of Latin in high school. This year's theme is "**Romans at Work: Influencing Modern Culture.**" You may take your posters back at the end of the day to use them at your schools. Posters destroyed during transportation regrettably will disqualify. Posters will be judged on the basis of how well they communicate their message (50 points), originality (20 points) and how aesthetically pleasing they are (30 points). They can be any size and of any suitable material. Only one poster or banner may be submitted by every school/club. The best posters and banners will be displayed in the exhibit room. Remember to attach on the front of the poster an esthetically designed and beautifully decorated card, on which you will include a caption as well as the title of competition entered, name, school, grade and teacher; this card will accompany your item in the exhibit room, so make sure that it looks especially nice! Entries must be received by the appointed date as set in the 'Letter to Teachers' page. Prizes will be awarded to individuals.

7) Vitruvius 2D Competition

Students can submit 2D items (only ONE per school) that they will construct (individually or as a group) using either original or pre-fabricated materials (for example, kits that are sold at

bookstores). The students should be aware that completely ready-made, store-bought items do not qualify for the competition and should document their personal labor (pictures, video, etc.). On the label include: title of competition entered, item title, name of participant, grade, school, teacher, and brief description of craft depiction. Items should be mailed for advance judgement by Saturday, February 17, 2006. Prizes will be awarded to individuals.

Grading Criteria: Craft items will be graded on authenticity (20 points), creativity (20 points), originality of idea (10 points), details and accuracy (20 points), and quality of craftsmanship (20 points).

7) Vitruvius 3D Competition

Students can submit 2D items (only ONE per school) that they will construct (individually or as a group) using either original or pre-fabricated materials (for example, kits that are sold at bookstores). The students should be aware that completely ready-made, store-bought items do not qualify for the competition and should document their personal labor (pictures, video, etc.). On the label include: title of competition entered, item title, name of participant, grade, school, teacher, and brief description of item and its function. Items should be mailed for advance judgement by Saturday, February 17, 2006. Prizes will be awarded to individuals.

Grading Criteria: Craft items will be graded on authenticity (20 points), creativity (20 points), materials used (20 points), details and accuracy (20 points), and quality of craftsmanship (20 points).

8) Apicius Cooking Competition

This can be either a group or individual competition. Each school may submit a meal up to three courses; individual dishes are also accepted. The quantity must be enough for testing by at least five (5) judges, but you may bring more as food samples in a separate container for the visitors of the exhibit room. Make sure that you bring along with each dish two index cards including your recipe's title, the recipe itself with both the list of ingredients and a description of the method of execution, as well as title of competition entered, name, school, grade and club sponsor. One of these cards will be for the judges (this can be plain), whereas the other one will accompany your item in the exhibit room, so make sure that it looks really nice! Recipes must come out of one of the following cookbooks, which you can easily find on the Internet, such as Amazon.com:

For Authentic Roman Recipes:

- *Apicius Cookery and Dining in Imperial Rome* by Joseph Dommers Vehling

For Modified Recipes:

- *Roman Cookery: Ancient Recipes for Modern Kitchens* by Mark Grant
- *Around the Table of the Romans: Food and Feasting in Ancient Rome* by Patrick Faas

Grading criteria: Presentation (20%), taste (25%), difficulty of execution (10%), ingredients (15%), originality of taste (15%), authenticity of recipe (10%), aroma (5%). Prizes will be awarded to individuals.

9) Roman Costume Competition

Students who are interested in creating an authentic costume can compete as gods and goddesses, matrons, senators, slaves, gladiators, soldiers, historical characters, characters from plays, literature, mythology, etc. Only up to FIVE students from each school may participate in this competition but not as a group. On the day of the event, there will be a fashion show in front of an audience, so students should bring with them their costume, head gear, jewelry, shoes, accessories, and everything else that is supposed to go with it. The student who creates the costume is also required to wear it at the time of the competition. In a description of your costume (no longer than 100 words) you should also discuss the source of inspiration for the costume (if you have a picture of the statue, mosaic, etc. that inspired you, you may submit that too) and give a funny tid-bit about its construction, its significance to you, or others' reaction to it. In short, you can write anything that you can think of that can make the presentation entertaining to the audience. Your description will be read by the presenter of the show, while you are walking on the stage, displaying your costume. **NO ENTRY** to the competition will be allowed **without a description** – you may bring a copy with you to ensure your participation. On the description make sure that you include the title of competition entered, costume title, name of participant, grade, school, and teacher. Prizes will be awarded to individuals, so please do not enter competition as a group.

Grading Criteria: Costumes can be male or female and will be graded on authenticity (20 points), creativity (20 points), details and accuracy (20 points), accessories (10 points), good taste (10 points), originality of idea (10 points), and quality of description (10 points).