



National
Qualifications
2026

2026 Latin

Translating

Higher

Question Paper Finalised Marking Instructions

These marking instructions have been prepared by examination teams for use by Qualifications Scotland appointed markers when marking external course assessments.

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General marking principles for Higher Latin Translating

Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses.

- (a) Always use positive marking. This means candidates accumulate marks for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding; marks are not deducted for errors or omissions.
- (b) If a candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.
- (c) Award marks for high quality of translation and use of appropriate style and structure. Accept synonyms and alternative translation of phrases to those shown in the marking instructions, provided the translation of essential ideas/full blocks is appropriate.
- (d) **Each block is worth a maximum of 2 marks**
 - (i) Award 2 marks for correct, or almost correct translation of the block, including the essential idea.
 - (ii) Candidates should translate all the words in the block and show recognition of the overall structure and meaning of the block. Candidates may still gain 2 marks if they make a minor error, such as an error of tense or syntax, which does not detract from an accurate understanding of the full meaning of the block.
 - (iii) Award 1 mark for translating only the essential idea of the block correctly.
 - (iv) Award 0 marks for the block if the essential idea is not translated correctly.

Marking instructions for each block

Block	Correct translation	Max mark	Essential idea	Part mark
1.	<i>vetus Romanus imperator Marius ex urbe Roma fugit,</i> The old Roman general Marius escaped from the city of Rome,	2	Marius escaping from Rome	1
2.	<i>sed infeliciter mox captus est.</i> but soon unfortunately he was captured.	2	being captured	1
3.	<i>nudus ac limo obrutus,</i> Naked and covered in mud,	2	naked/in mud	1
4.	<i>oculis tantummodo ac naribus eminentibus,</i> with only his eyes and nose showing,	2	eyes/nose showing	1
5.	<i>Marius sordidus . . . extractus est.</i> the filthy Marius was pulled out.	2	Marius being pulled out	1
6.	<i>e harundineti prope paludem Maricae</i> from the long grass next to the marsh of Marica	2	from long grass/next to marsh	1
7.	<i>loro circum collum iniecto,</i> A rope was thrown round his neck and	2	rope around neck	1
8.	<i>in carcerem perductus est</i> he was led into prison	2	being led	1
9.	<i>ut mortem vehementem expectaret.</i> to wait for a violent death.	2	waiting for death	1
10.	<i>servus publicus advenit</i> A publicly-owned slave arrived	2	slave arriving	1
11.	<i>ad eum gladio interficiendum.</i> to kill him with a sword.	2	to kill him	1
12.	<i>ille natione Germanus</i> This man, German by nationality,	2	being German	1
13.	<i>forte a Mario in bello captus erat</i> had by chance been captured by Marius in war	2	being captured by Marius	1
14.	<i>et benigne tractatus erat.</i> and had been kindly treated.	2	being treated kindly	1

Block	Correct translation	Max mark	Essential idea	Part mark
15.	<i>servus statim Marium agnovit,</i> The slave immediately recognised Marius,	2	slave recognising Marius	1
16.	<i>tum magno eiulatu exprompsit</i> then with a great cry he expressed	2	great cry/expressing	1
17.	<i>indignationem casus tanti viri.</i> anger at the misfortune of such a great man.	2	anger at misfortune	1
18.	<i>gladium abiecit et e carcere fugit.</i> He threw away the sword and escaped from the prison	2	throwing away sword/escaping from prison	1
19.	<i>tum veterani quidam conspexerunt hunc imperatorem infelicissimum,</i> Then some old soldiers spotted this very unfortunate general,	2	soldiers spotting general	1
20.	<i>paulo ante principem virum Romae.</i> a short time before the leading man in Rome.	2	being leading man	1
21.	<i>eum viatico novoque veste instruxerunt</i> They supplied him with travel money and new clothing	2	supplying with money/clothing	1
22.	<i>et in navem imposuerunt.</i> and they put him onto a ship.	2	putting on ship	1
23.	<i>Marius quam celerrime cursum in Africam direxit</i> As fast as possible Marius steered a course to Africa	2	steering course to Africa	1
24.	<i>et inopem vitam in tugurio . . . toleravit.</i> and he lived a poor life in a hut.	2	living poor life/living in a hut	1
25.	<i>prope desertas ruinas</i> next to abandoned ruin(s)	2	next to ruins	1

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]