



DULWICH COLLEGE
FOUNDED 1619

Upper School Entrance Examination

Specimen

Classical Civilisation

First name	
Last name	
Date of Birth	
Current School	

Time allowed: 45 minutes

You should spend 15 minutes on Question 1 and 30 minutes on **one of** Questions 2-4.

Answer question 1 and **one** of questions 2-4.

1. Read the passage below and answer the question.

Let us live, my Lesbia, and love,
and the rumors of rather stern old men
let us value all at just one penny!
Suns may set and rise again;
for us, when once the brief light has set,
an eternal night must be slept.
Give me a thousand kisses, then a hundred,
then another thousand, then a second hundred,
then yet another thousand, then a hundred;
then, when we have performed many thousands,
we shall shake them into confusion, in order that we might not know,
and in order not to let any evil person envy us,
when he knows that there are so many of our kisses.

Catullus, Poem 5

How effectively does Catullus communicate his love for Lesbia in this poem?

Answer **one** of the following questions.

2. "There is no point in studying the civilisations of the past." How would you defend the study of ancient civilisations?
3. "They plunder, they slaughter, and they steal: this they falsely name Empire, and where they make a wasteland, they call it peace." (Tacitus, *Agricola*) How might current ideas about empire affect our study of ancient Rome?
4. In what ways have the cultures of ancient Greece and Rome shaped our modern world?