

AP Latin

Summer Reading

Books 1, 2, 4, 6, 8 & 12 of Vergil's *Aeneid* in English
Books 1, 6, 7 of Caesar's *De Bello Gallico* in English

Purchase or check out from a library, an English version of Vergil's *Aeneid*.

Recommended translations include

- Robert Fitzgerald, 1984
- Robert Fagles, 2006
- Shadi Bartsch, 2021

If you have the opportunity, compare translations, and choose the one you best understand and enjoy.

Use this online resource: Linney's Latin Class.com

<http://www.linneylatinclass.com/studyhelps.html#:~:text=Book%201,the%20surrounding%20rivers%20and%20mountains> to find an English version of Caesar's *De Bello Gallico* that you prefer.

Answer the questions on the following pages.

**If you have time and enjoy these books I highly recommend you dip into the other books as well.

AP Latin

Summer Assignment 2024

Questions for the English Reading of Vergil's Aeneid

Books 1, 2, 4, 6, 8 & 12

(compiled by Nicole Taynton, Faculty, Charlotte Christian School, Charlotte, NC)

BOOK 1

1. Based on the first few lines of the text, what will be some of the main themes of the poem?

2. What is the question Vergil asks of the muse in your own words?

3. What are the reasons for Juno's hatred of the Trojans?



4. What elements of nature are being personified in Aeolia?

5. What quid pro quo exchange is arranged between Juno and Aeolus?

Figure 1: Eugene Delacroix, *Winter--Juno And Aeolus*, 1862

6. What is your first impression of Aeneas, when he is introduced in the midst of the storm? Provide details from the text to explain your answer? How is this ironic?

7. How does the description of Neptune contrast with the storm? How too does it contrast with the description given earlier of Juno?
8. What was Aeneas trying to convey in his speech to the surviving Trojans after the storm? How does Aeneas personally feel?
9. How is Venus portrayed? How is Jupiter betrayed? What gender bias might be evident in these and other portrayals?
10. Identify three historical allusions/ references to things that will happen made in Jupiter's prophecy to Venus.



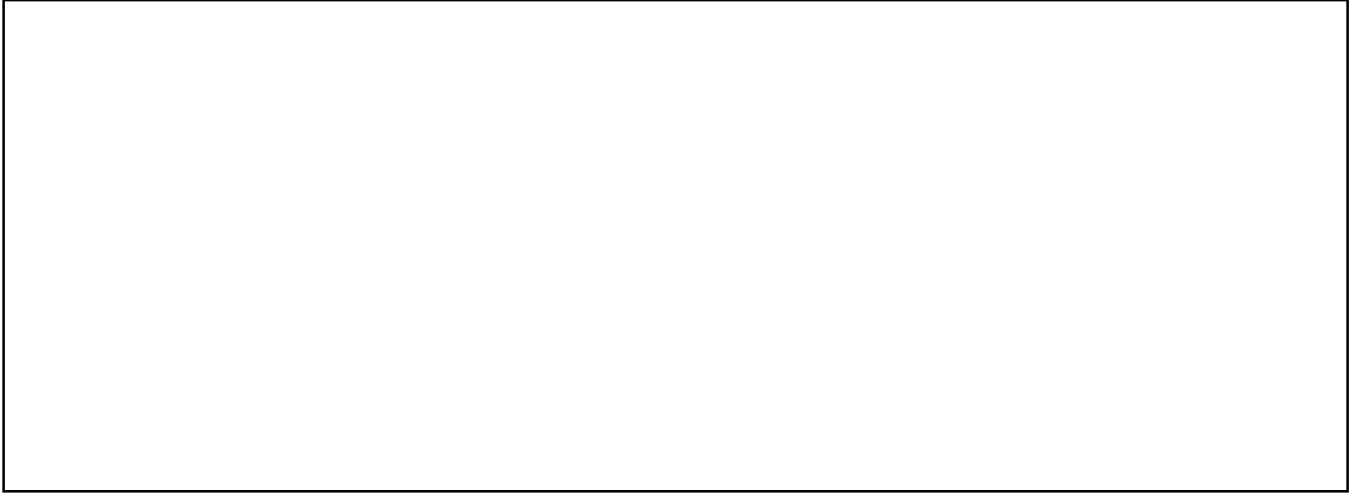
11. What disguise does Venus take when she talks with Aeneas? How does Aeneas greet her?

Figure 2: Pietro da Cortona, *Venus Appearing to Aeneas as a Huntress*, 1631

12. In what ways is Dido's past similar to Aeneas' own experiences? (You can come back and answer this question in greater detail after reading Book 2.)

13. What actions or accomplishments might Aeneas have looked on with envy upon first seeing the city of Carthage?

14. Draw and label a brief sketch of the painting Aeneas sees on the wall of the temple of Juno.



15. Why don't Aeneas and Achates go to meet their lost companions when they first see them in Carthage approaching Queen Dido? Why do they hesitate? Were their fears unfounded? Explain your answer.

16. What pieces of trickery does Venus have in store for Dido to ensure her receptiveness of Aeneas?

BOOK 2



17. Watch the YouTube clip entitled, [Trojan Horse clip from "Troy"](#). What parts of the clip are described in the first several pages of Book 2?

Figure 3: Trojan Horse from the film *Troy*

18. What argument occurs between the Trojans with respect to the Trojan horse? What does Laocoon mean when he says, "I am afraid of Greeks, even when they bear gifts"?
19. How does Sinon's story contribute to the debate about the horse? What makes Sinon's story believable to the Trojans?
20. What horrific event finally convinces the Trojans that the horse should be brought into the city? How did the Trojans interpret this event?
21. What phrases and elements does Vergil/ Aeneas use to foreshadow Troy's impending doom?
22. How does Hector appear when Aeneas sees him in his sleep?
23. What does Hector tell Aeneas he must do?
24. Does Aeneas immediately follow Hector's advice? What are his first several actions after waking from sleep?
25. What does Aeneas mean in saying, "The one safety for the defeated is to have no hope of safety"?

26. Why is Pyrrhus compared to a snake?

27. When Aeneas says, "Perhaps you may also ask how Priam died", who is the "you"? Why might the "you" be particularly interested in the fate of Priam?

28. Why are Hecuba and her daughters compared to "doves"? What symbolism might be at play?



29. Why does Vergil/ Aeneas take the time to describe the death of Polites in detail, rather than lumping him in with all of the other people Pyrrhus killed? What special importance will Polites have in the events that immediately follow his death?

Figure 4: Baron Pierre-Narcisse Guerin, *The Death of Priam*

30. What was the final fate of Priam?

31. How does Aeneas feel when he catches sight of Helen? What does Venus show to Aeneas at this point, and why does she show him what she shows him?

32. What reasons does Anchises give for not at first wanting to come with Aeneas?

33. What makes Anchises change his mind?



Figure 5: Federico Barocci, Aeneas' Flight from Troy

34. When does Aeneas realize that Creusa has been left behind? What is his reaction when he finds out?

35. What are some of the final things Creusa says to Aeneas?

BOOK 4

36. What does Dido reveal worries her the most when she is talking with her sister?

37. What is Anna's advice to Dido? What reasons does Anna give in support of her argument?

38. Why do Dido and Anna visit shrines and altars?

39. How does the doe simile help portray Dido's feelings and actions?

40. What parts of Juno's speech are sarcastic? What parts are sincere? What parts of Venus' speech lack sincerity?



Figure 6: *Fama*, by anonymous engraver under the direction of Sebastian Brant, 1502

41. Identify some of the metaphors that are being used in the cave scene with Aeneas and Dido.

42. List some of the personified characteristics of Rumor and explain how they reflect true aspects of a rumor.

43. Who is king Iarbas? Why is he so upset?

44. How verbatim does Mercury relay Jupiter's commands? Cite some of the text to support your answer.

45. What is Aeneas' reaction to the message he receives from Mercury?



Figure 7: Giambattista Tiepolo, *Mercury Appearing to Aeneas*

46. Based on their confrontation, does Aeneas love Dido? Does Dido still love Aeneas at the end of their argument? Cite text to support your answers to both questions.
47. What does Dido ask of her sister; how does she trick Anna into helping her/ being her accomplice in her suicide?
48. What curse does Dido make upon Aeneas following his departure?
49. What does Dido describe as her accomplishments in her last words?
50. What is Anna's reaction to Dido's death?
51. How does Dido kill herself? Does she die right away? Who assists in freeing Dido's spirit from her body?



Figure 8: Antoine Coypel,
The Death of Dido

BOOK 6

52. Why might Vergil have included such a detailed ekphrasis of the doors of the Temple of Apollo? Why significance might the story of Daedalus have on the opening lines of Book 6?



53. Describe the home of the Sibyl. Why is this an appropriate place for the Sibyl to live?

Figure 9: Entrance to the caves of the Cumaean Sibyl, Cumae, Italy, 1987

54. How is the Sibyl portrayed? How too does this add to the mystery and uncertainty of her character?

55. What *quid pro quo* request does Aeneas make of Apollo, and of the Sibyl?

56. Why does Aeneas request that the Sibyl “only do not consign your prophecies to leaves”? What might this tell us of the customs practiced by the Sibyl?

57. How does the Sibyl use allegory/ comparisons to help Aeneas understand his fortune?

58. What does the Sibyl mean when she says that the “it is easy to go down...The door of black Dis stands open night and day”?

59. What two tasks must Aeneas complete before he is allowed to journey into the Underworld?



Figure 10: Aeneas finds the Golden Bough

60. How does Aeneas go about completing these two tasks? Does he receive any help; if so, from whom, and what is the symbolism behind his helpers?

61. Why must Aeneas draw his sword at the opening of the cavern?

62. How does the Sibyl convince Charon to allow them to cross the River Styx?

63. Did Aeneas know of Dido's suicide? Is he seeking forgiveness from Dido? What is Dido's reaction to Aeneas?

64. Whom does Aeneas meet in the Underworld that had been killed by Helen? Might Aeneas think differently about his own encounter with Helen during the final night of Troy after having heard this man's tale?

65. Select three different groups or persons that reside in Tartarus and give a brief description of each selection:

a)

b)

c)

66. Select three different groups or persons that reside in Elysium and give a brief description of each selection:

a)

b)

c)

67. When is the following phrase (paraphrased perhaps in your translation) used in Book 6; where in Book II has a very similar phrase been used: "as weightless as the wind, as light as the flight of sleep"?
68. What happen to souls after they drink from the River Lethe?
69. Identify and explain three historical allusions/ references that Anchises makes when cataloguing the future heroes of Rome.
- a)
 - b)
 - c)
70. What exactly is the message that Anchises is trying to make in his statement that begins "Others will beat bronze into figures that breathe more softly," and ends "...war down the proud"?
71. Why is Anchises overwhelmed by tears when talking about the younger Marcellus?
72. Out of which gate do Aeneas and the Sibyl depart? What might be the meaning of having departed from this specific gate?

77. What does Evander tell Aeneas about Mezentius?

78. Why does Evander send Pallas with Aeneas?

79. For what does Evander pray in his final exchange with his son?

80. Why might Aeneas have been “rejoicing at the things pictured” in the gift given to him by his mother?
What images might he have taken the most pleasure in and why?

BOOK 12

81. What regrets does Latinus have according to his speech to Turnus? Is there any evidence that Latinus' regret is founded on a true conviction of wrongdoing, or is simply the result of his present circumstances (his ill fortunes in war)? What is Latinus' advice for Turnus?

82. What is Turnus' reaction to Latinus? What is Amata's?

83. What arrangement is made between Aeneas and Latinus/ Turnus? How does Juno and Juturna interfere with this arrangement? What auspice/ sign from the gods helped spur this interference?

84. When the fighting commenced, what happened to Aeneas? How does Turnus try to take advantage of Aeneas' retreat from the battlefield?

85. What supernatural aid is brought to bear to help Aeneas?

86. How does Queen Amata react to the Trojans' renewed offensive? What are her reasons for doing what she does?

87. What makes Aeneas turn away from his attack on the walls?

88. In what ways do the nymph Juturna and the woodland god Faunus aid Turnus in his duel with Aeneas?

89. Why does Jupiter reproach Juno?

90. What request does Juno make of Jupiter?

91. What is Jupiter's response to Juno's request?

92. Why does Turnus call Jove his enemy?

93. In what ways does Vergil emphasize the lack of strength of Turnus in contrast with the incredible strength of Aeneas?

Questions for the English Reading of Julius Caesar's Gallic Wars

Answer questions in complete sentences.

Book I

1. Outline each of the following territories in the colors indicated: Belgae (blue); Celts/ Gauls (yellow), Aquitani (red):



Figure 1: The Roman Provinces in Gaul around 58 BC; note that the coastline shown here is the modern one, different from the ancient coastline in some parts of the English Channel

2. Who was Orgetorix and what were his ambitions?

3. Why did Orgetotix commit suicide?

4. What actions or preparations did the Helvetii make before leaving their homeland?

5. Caesar is first introduced in Chapter 7, in the third person. What effect does the third person narrative have on the reader? What is your first impression of Julius Caesar? Why?

6. How does Caesar use speed and engineering to accomplish his goals?

7. Who induced Caesar to get involved with the Helvetii. Do you think this invitation was anticipated by Caesar? Why?



Figure 2: Helvetii chieftain Divico negotiates with Caesar after the battle of Bibracte

8. What problem did Caesar have with his food supply, and how did he deal with it?

9. How did Caesar get information about Dumnorix's motivations?



Figure 3: A reproduction of an aide-de-camp of Helvetii cavalry commander Dumnorix at the Musée de la civilisation celtique, Bibracte, France

10. How does Caesar show sensitivity to Gallic sensibilities in his dealings with Diviciacus and Dumnorix?

11. What physical actions does Diviciacus take to show his inferiority to the Romans?

12. Which of the Helvetii surrendered to Caesar after the battle described in Chapter 26; which did not? What was Caesar's reaction to both groups?

13. What kinds of documents were left behind in the Helvetii's camp, and what kind of insight does it give to Helvetian society?



14. What threat does Ariovistus pose and how does Caesar learn about it?

15. How does Caesar express his motivations for taking up arms against Ariovistus?

Figure 4: Drawing of Ariovistus by Fritz Krischen, engraving Ludwig Frank, edition Hahneman (Ochel).

16. Summarize the main points of Ariovistus' argument in Chapter 36.



Figure 5: The Sequani build their capital, named Vesontio in the loop of the Doubs, which serves as natural protection.

17. How does Caesar describe a well-fortified Gallic town, like the town of Vesontio?



Figure 6: This is a oppidum surrounded by high walls. The houses are made of wood and mud.

and what impact did it have on the army?

18. What fear did the Romans have of the Germans

19. Why does Caesar's 10th Legion become known as the "mounted legion"?

20. How did the Germans demonstrate bad faith during the discussions between Caesar and Ariovistus?

21. What was Ariovistus' reaction upon seeing Gaius Valerius Procillus and Marcus Mettius? Was this reaction justified?

22. How did Caesar acquire special knowledge of German religious customs relating to battle? What were these customs, and how did Caesar capitalize on this knowledge?

23. How important was it that Caesar's soldiers be watched by their superiors in battle?

Book VI

24. In what ways does Caesar replenish his troop numbers and why does Caesar believe that a quick replenishment is vital to his war effort?

25. What group/ tribe does Caesar attack first? Why does he attack them?

26. Where does Caesar go next? What does he do there?

27. What was important for Caesar to do before he attacked Ambiorix directly?

28. How did Labienus trick the Gauls? What did Labienus say to encourage his soldiers?

29. Why did Caesar cross the Rhine? Was this the first time that he has done this?

30. What two tribes held the most power in Gaul before Caesar's arrival? Who had been the most powerful of these two groups and how had they become so? How did Caesar's arrival change the status quo?

31. What two groups of men are held in worth and distinction amongst the Gauls? Why are the ordinary people not considered amongst these two groups?



Figure 7: The Druids according to Caesar

32. Why would a young man want to become a Druid? What do they have to do to become a Druid?

33. According to Caesar, what language do the Druids use for their daily written records? What things are unlawful to commit to writing? What reasons does Caesar give for this prohibition on writing? How does this prohibition on writing reflect "oral traditions" which are common in many "primitive societies"?

34. Was warfare more or less frequent before Caesar's arrival in Gaul? Explain.

35. Describe at least three different religious beliefs held amongst the Gauls.

36. Describe the arrangement or relationship that Gallic men have with their wives? With their sons? With the government?

37. How is German religion different than Gallic religion?

38. According to Caesar, how do Germans view young men? women? their land?

39. How did the Gauls become weaker than the Germans?

40. Why did Caesar break off his campaign in Germany?

41. Describe what happened when Caesar finally did move directly against Ambiorix.

42. How did Cativolcus commit suicide and what does Caesar give as his reasons?

43. What did Caesar do at the site of Cotta and Sabinus's (called Titurius and Arunculeius in the *Landmark*) old winter camp at Atuatuca?

44. How did Caesar plan to take revenge on the Eburones?

45. What led a German tribe to attack Cicero's camp?

46. How did the "fog of war" play a role in the Romans' reaction to the German attack on Cicero's camp?
47. What individual acts of bravery are described by Caesar during the attack on Cicero's camp?
48. What was Caesar's one criticism of Cicero?
49. What is the last thing we hear about Ambiorix?
50. Who is Acco? What happens to him? Why?

Book VII

51. Research and describe your findings to the following question: Who was Clodius? Why would his death be important to Caesar? What is going on in Rome that would divert Caesar's attention from Gaul?
52. What reasons are given for the Gauls to have begun again a rebellion against the Romans?

53. What concern do the Carnutes have when they volunteer to initiate the rebellion against the Romans? How do they alleviate these concerns?

54. How do the Carnutes initiate the rebellion, and how is news of the rebellion spread?

55. Who is Vercingetorix and how does he acquire an army?

56. What circumstances allowed Caesar to depart from Rome to confront the rebellious Gauls? What dilemma faced him upon leaving Italy?

57. Describe Vercingetorix's plan for winning the war and depriving Caesar after Vercingetorix's series of losses at Vellaunodunum, Genabum, and Noviodunum. What name is commonly given to this type of war plan?

58. What kind of relationship does Caesar have with his soldiers? How is this relationship portrayed in the Commentaries?

59. Why was Vercingetorix accused of treason, and how did he dispel these accusations?

60. Why was it so difficult for the Romans to overtake the Gallic walls at Avaricum? How did they eventually overtake the walls?



Figure 8: Model of the siege of Avaricum

61. How did Gallic matrons prevent their husbands from fleeing Avaricum on the eve of its collapse?

62. How did the Romans behave after they had overtaken Avaricum? What are some of the reasons given to explain their behavior?



Figure 9: Vercingétorix Memorial in Alesia

63. How did Vercingetorix explain the Gallic defeat at Avaricum? Also, what favorable outcome did Vercingetorix mention would result from the events at Avaricum?

64. What was it about Vercingetorix that inspired confidence in the Gauls?

65. How did Vercingetorix make up for the troops that he lost at Avaricum?

66. Why did Caesar leave his army and travel to the Aedui?

67. How did Caesar resolve the dispute between the Aedui?

68. How did Litavicus incite the Aedui in revolt? What actions does his army take in revolt?

69. What was Caesar's reaction when he heard of the Aeduan insurrection?

70. In Chapter 50, what mistake was made between the Roman soldiers and the Aeduan troops Caesar sent?

71. What self-sacrifice was made by the centurion M. Petreius? What was the result?

72. What would the reaction have been of Caesar's soldiers after hearing the speech described in Chapters 52 and 53?

73. Why is it that the Aedui continue to rebel against the Romans?

74. What were the Aeduans able to acquire at Noviodunum, and what did Caesar lose?

75. How did Caesar make up for some of his losses at Noviodunum?

76. After Vercingetorix's cavalry attack on the Romans failed in Chapter 67, what loss impacted the Gauls most, and how did it impact them?

77. What natural barriers helped fortify Alesia?

78. How did the Gauls fortify Vercingetorix's camp?



79. Provide some specific details about Caesar's constructions at Alesia.

Figure 10: A reconstructed section of the Alesia investment fortifications

80. Was Caesar's method of attack to be a siege or a blockade? Cite text to support your answer.

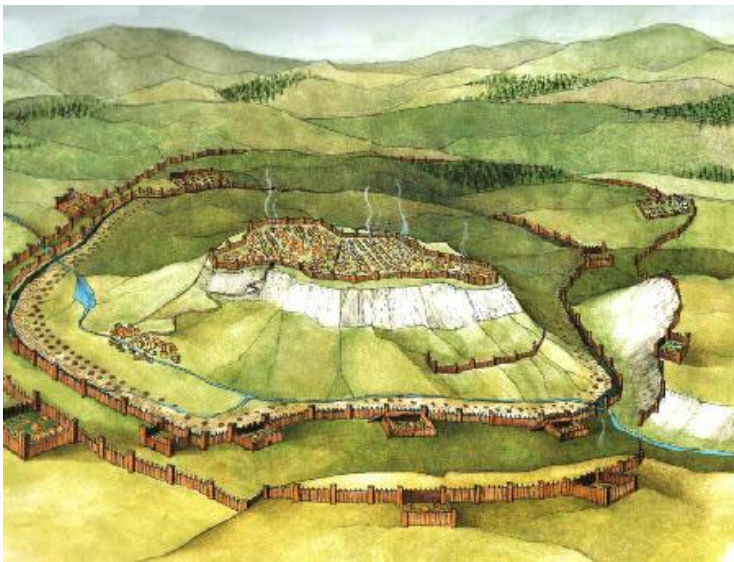


Figure 11: 1899 painting of Caesar's Seige of Alesia by Lionel-Noël Royer

81. Why does Vercingetorix send away his cavalry before the completion of Caesar's fortifications?

82. What additional fortifications did Caesar build to defend against external attacks?

83. Who departed from Alesia with the Mandubii? Why did they depart? How did Caesar react to this group?

84. In the battle of Alesia, what final efforts were made by the Gauls after having been repulsed twice by the Romans?

85. How did Caesar respond to these efforts?

86. Why did a Roman general wear a red cloak in battle?

87. What effect did the defeat of the Gallic relief army have on the inhabitants of the besieged Alesia?

88. Why weren't all of the Gallic troops wiped out?

89. What motive does Vercingetorix say had led him to enter the war against the Romans?

Give a brief recap for each of the following characters, tribes, or places:

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 10 th Legion | |
| Aedui | |
| Alesia | |
| Ambiorix | |
| Ariovistus | |
| Avaricum | |
| Cicero | |
| Commius | |
| Cotta | |
| Diviciacus | |
| Dumnorix | |
| Eburones | |
| Gergovia | |
| Helvetii | |
| Labienus | |
| Nervii | |
| Orgetorix | |
| Sabinus | |

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Sequani | |
| Vercingetorix | |