



## **Competitive Contest Descriptions**

Each of the following contests contribute points towards the Tournament Cup. Participants are awarded points for each event (1<sup>st</sup> place = 3 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> place = 2 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> place = 1 point.). Those participants who compete as part of a team will contribute their points towards the team's total. The total accumulation of points by each team will determine the tournament champions, winners of the tournament cup. Teams will participate within three brackets: *minores* (beginners), *maiores* (intermediate), and *optimates* (advanced). Students will only be scored against competitors within their own bracket. There will, therefore, be three tournament trophies awarded – one for each bracket.

### **A) Academic Contests**

Each Academic Contest consists of 50 multiple choice questions regarding the designated topic of study. The various contests descriptions are provided below along with recommended academic resources. Participation is limited to 2 contestants per school, per level.

Contestants of all levels will use the same 50-questions contest. Students will only be scored against their declared level: *minores* (novice), *maiores* (intermediate), *optimates* (advanced).

#### **1. Grammar & Morphology (Latin or Greek)**

This exam may be taken in either Latin or Greek. The grammar contest will consist of questions regarding morphology and grammar with respect to individual words, short phrases, and full sentences. The format will include fill in the blank, translation, and grammar substitution. Vocabulary will appear in the multiple choice responses in a repetitive manner similar to the Universal Latin Exam and the National Latin Exam.

Latin Resources: Student grammar books should be a sufficient resource. As a supplemental reference the following are also helpful: [Allen & Greenough's Latin Grammar](#), [Diederich's Basic Vocabulary for Ancient & Medieval Latin](#)

Greek Resources: Student grammar books should be a sufficient resource. As a supplemental reference the following are also helpful: [Dickinson's Resources](#), [Smyth's Greek Grammar for Colleges](#)

## 2. Etymology (Latin and Greek)

The etymology contest will consist of questions regarding Greek and Latin roots, especially as they appear in English. The format will primarily be matching and giving simple definitions of Greek and Latin words as well as of English derivatives and cognates.

Resources: *Dictionary of Latin & Greek Origins*, Bob Moore and Maxine Moore; *Latin and Greek in Current Use*, Burriss and Casson. The Oxford English Dictionary. Any reputable Latin and Ancient/Koine Greek Dictionary.

## 3. Quotations & Mottoes

The quotations & mottoes contest will assess students' understanding of famous quotations from classical and medieval sources as well as mottos for the states and various institutions of the U.S.A. Students may be asked to interpret the Latin phrase in English, identify the correct Latin quote for the English paraphrase, or even identify the original source for the phrase.

## 4. Reading Comprehension: Prose & Poetry (Latin or Greek)

This exam may be taken in either Latin or Greek. This exam will consist of a selection of graded passages, i.e. scaled in difficulty. The readings will consist of both prose ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) and poetry ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ). The contest will then ask approximately 10 questions per passage about the language, content and context of each one. Questions will primarily be asked in English, but the contest may include Latin or Greek questions, respective to the exam, that seek responses in that same language. The questions themselves will vary in level from easy to difficult.

## 5. Ancient Geography (Latin and English)

The ancient geography contest will assess knowledge of the physical and political geography of the civilizations of the ancient Greco-Roman world, including the entire *orbis terrarum* of the Mediterranean region. This will include battle maps from significant wars and conquests. While place names on maps will appear in Latin, the questions and multiple choice responses for this contest are primarily in English.

Resources: Most atlases of the ancient world and maps found within historical texts or literary works.

## 6. Epic Literature (English)

The epic literature contest will assess knowledge of the great epics of Greece and Rome as well as their influence on Medieval epic poems. While occasional words or quotations from Greek or Latin texts may appear, the questions and multiple choice responses for this contest are primarily in English.

Primary Resources: *Odyssey, Iliad, Argonautica, Aeneid, Aeneid XIII, Metamorphoses (Ovid), Divine Comedy, Christiad*

## 7. Ancient History (English)

The Ancient History Contest will assess knowledge of the history of Greece and Rome and those nations with whom they interacted up to 31 B.C. Other years will see history contests that focus on the Roman Empire or the Late Antique and early Medieval period. While occasional words or quotations from Greek or Latin texts may appear, the questions and multiple choice responses for this contest are primarily in English.

Primary Resources: works by Herodotus, Thucydides, Plutarch, Livy, Josephus, Tacitus, Suetonius

## B) Oral Events

This contest is divided into two categories: Orators (prose) and Bards (poetry). Contestants in each category will memorize and perform a selected passage from ancient work of Latin literature. There will be two pre-selected passages provided in each category: one for *minores* and another for *maiores* and *optimates*.

Passages will be announced no later than November 1, 2023. No costumes, props, or introductions may be used. Contestants will be assessed on the memorization and delivery of the passage. Participation is limited to 2 contestants per school, per level. Although *maiores* and *optimates* have the same passage they will be scored only within their designated level.

Resources: Passages and judging rubric coming November 1

## C) Fine Arts

### 1. Graphic Art - *De Amicitia*, art inspired by stories pertaining to friendship as related in Greek and Latin literature.

Contestants may enter a prepared piece of artwork in the categories listed below. Each piece should adhere to the designated theme or work of literature. The artwork should be the work of one individual. A title and brief description must be submitted along with the artwork, which reveals how the work interprets the assigned theme or passage in the original text. However, the student's name and

school name should not appear with the artwork or its description. A contest number will be assigned at registration to ensure each piece will be connected back to its author after judging has concluded. Participation is limited to 2 contestants per school, per category. Art categories will include: drawing, painting, sculpture, mosaic, architecture.

Resources: Art Contest judging rubric coming November 1

## **2. Music**

Contestants may enter a prepared song. The lyrics must be in Latin, but may be either classical or ecclesiastical in nature and pronunciation. Accompaniment is optional. HCU will provide a piano. This category is subdivided into two categories: solo and small ensemble performances (2-5 members).

Participation is limited to 2 performances per school, per category. Participants must provide the judges with a song sheet that the judge can keep for scoring purposes.

Resources: Music Contest judging rubric coming November 1

## **3. Theater**

Teams should consist of 3 contestants only, though a single contestant may play multiple characters (as was often the case in Greek and Roman theater). Teams may enter a prepared scene from a classical Greek or Latin play or create their own original scene based on a published Greek or Latin work. A script must be provided to the judges at the time of performance. Costumes and small props may be used.

Participation is limited to 1 performance per school. Participants must provide the judges with a script that the judge can keep for scoring purposes.

Resources: Theater Contest judging rubric coming November 1