

Handout X – Candidate Attempt at the Translation (Raw Total of 105)

Perseus, postquam haec duo dona a patre accepit, Medusam invenire conatus est; (11)

Perseus, after receiving both gifts from his father, he needed to come up with an idea (7)

- -1: missing *duo*
- -3: *Medusam conatus est* all wrong (though “come up with” was fine for *invenire*)

sed nesciebat ubi habitaret. diu eam quaerebat. (10)

But he needed to know where she lived. So he asked. (6)

- -3: *diu eam quaerebat* (allowed 1 mark for “he asked”)
- -1: “needed to know” (so allowed the 3rd person mark but the meaning not close enough)

tandem senex ei speluncam ostendit. (6)

Then he saw an old man near a cave. (1)

- Completely wrong except 1 mark for “he saw” (correct person even though misapplied)

circum speluncam Perseus multas statuas conspexit: (5)

Perseus saw many statues around the cave (5)

- Completely correct

hae statuae erant homines quos Medusa in silicem mutaverat. (8)

These statues were men with Medusa changed to stone (6)

- -1: quos
- -1: tense of mutaverat

‘noli Medusam spectare,’ inquit senex. ‘si eam per speculum spectas, eam gladio occidere potes.’ (16)

“Don’t look at Medusa,” said the old man. “If you look at her through a mirror, you have a chance of fighting her,” (13)

- Completely correct until *eam gladio occidere potes*
- This is worth 5, of which candidate got 1 for correct person of *potes* and 1 for *eam*

Perseus primum nihil in spelunca vidit, quod oculos non aperiebat; (10)

At first Perseus didn’t look into the cave because he didn’t open his eyes (7)

- 5/5 for completely correct *quod oculos non aperiebat*
- -1: meaning of vidit (“look” not close enough here)
- -1: missed *nihil*
- -1: in + ablative, not in + accusative

deinde per speculum sublatum ignem in spelunca media vidit. (8)

However then he managed to look into the mirror and see the middle of the cave (2)

- One mark for *deinde*
- One mark for correct agreement *in spelunca media* (though wrong case so only 1 mark)

in manu una speculum, in altera gladium tenens, lente progressus est. (10)

In a moment of the mirror, because he has high skills in flying, he slowly progressed (3)

- **3/3** for *lente progressus est* at the end
- Otherwise completely wrong!

simulac Medusam serpentesque in terra dormientes conspexit, (7)

Once he saw the serpents asleep (3)

- *serpentesque dormientes conspexit* was given 3/4
- **1/1** for *conspexit* (finite verb but has appeared before)
- **2/2** for “asleep” as an OK rendering of the participle

caput eius abscidit et in saccum posuit. (7)

He cut off the head and put it in a bag (6)

- **-1:** *eius* (very common problem at this level)

tam perterritus erat ut e spelunca curreret (7)

Then he was scared and ran with the mirror and the bag (4)

- **-1:** confused *tam* with *tum*
- **-1:** no *ut* (consequence of confusing *tam*, probably)
- **-1:** no *e spelunca*
- Note they do not lose marks for putting things that do not exist (“with the mirror and the bag”) etc.

RAW TOTAL = 63/105

CONVERSION TO 21/35