

Commentary on candidate evidence

The evidence for this candidate has achieved the following marks for each question in the Virgil section of this course assessment component.

The candidate was awarded a total of **29 marks** as follows:

Question 18(a)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for:

- ◆ 'the fall of Troy'

Question 18(b)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for:

- ◆ 'Aeneas was a witness'

Question 19

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for:

- ◆ 'It was a very large horse'
- ◆ 'It was made with the divine skill of Pallas'

Another valid point made by the candidate is 'the ribs were planks interwoven'

Question 20(a)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for:

- ◆ 'The reference to Priam shows how great Tenedos once was'

Other valid points made by the candidate are:

- ◆ 'The reference to Priam shows who owned Tenedos'
- ◆ 'The reference to Priam shows that the Tenedosno longer remained.'

Question 20(b)

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** for:

- ◆ 'to hide their ships'
- ◆ 'to allow for the trick to work'

- ◆ 'to make the Trojans believe they had left and that the war had ended'

The point 'to hide themselves' is not a separate point, as the main idea is 'to hide' and a mark has already been awarded for that.

Question 21

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** for:

- ◆ 'Thymoetes..wanted to bring it within their walls'
- ◆ '... and place it in the highest citadel'
- ◆ 'Capys...wanted to throw it in the sea'

Other valid points made by the candidate are:

- ◆ 'Capys...wanted to set it alight'
- ◆ 'he wanted to search for hiding places within it'

The point 'Thymoetes thought it was a gift' does not answer the question about what the two men wanted the Trojans to do.

To gain the full 3 marks, candidates needed to refer to both men, which the candidate successfully did.

Question 22

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** for:

- ◆ 'He calls the Trojans 'poor fools' for believing/thinking it was a gift – '*miseri cives*'. The mark is for the valid comment, not the Latin quote which has not been translated correctly.
- ◆ 'He asks questions to drive them to think more about what's happening'
- ◆ 'He uses alliteration of 'd' to emphasise how strongly he felt and drill in his point'

Other valid points made by the candidate are:

- ◆ 'He uses repetition of '*aut*' ('or') to emphasise the number of tricks the Greeks could be attempting to play'
- ◆ 'He tells them not to trust the Greeks and instead to fear them, even when they bear gifts.' This point would have been worth 2 marks as it includes a developed point.

The candidate has chosen to discuss both use of language and content.

Question 23(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for:

- ◆ 'the hollow rang out empty'
- ◆ 'the horse let out a groan'

Another valid point made by the candidate is:

- ◆ 'the spear quivered/shook'

Question 23(b)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for:

- ◆ 'The Trojans would have altered fate as it was fated by the gods that they wouldn't' (find the Greeks inside the horse)
- ◆ 'the Trojans might have all faced the same death as Laocoon and his sons.' This point comes under the heading of 'Any other valid point'.

Other valid points made by the candidate are:

- ◆ 'the Trojans and the Greeks would have fought'
- ◆ 'the Trojans may have won the war'
- ◆ 'Troy and the citadel would remain'

The candidate has given very thoughtful answers to this 'what if...' question.

Question 24

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for:

- ◆ 'they withstood a 10 year war.'

The point that the Trojans defeated Diomedes, Achilles and a thousand ships is not accurate.

Question 25

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** for:

- ◆ 'bit off their frail limbs' – the gruesome torture method used by the serpents highlights ... how bloodthirsty they are.'
- ◆ 'the fact that the serpents killed the sons too and not just Laocoon shows their desire for murder and blood'
- ◆ 'head-dress soaked in pus and black venom' – produces a disgusting and gruesome image creating a bloodthirsty scene'

- ◆ (Virgil) 'highlights the extent of his (Laocoon's) pain as he is able to make noises as intense as something twice his size.'

The candidate was awarded full marks for this answer for including comment on why the scene was particularly blood-thirsty, rather than merely listing bloodthirsty details with no comment.

Question 26

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** for:

- ◆ 'it takes a long time to end'
- ◆ 'gods are involved'
- ◆ (War) 'can cause trauma'

Some of the candidate's points, for example, 'has battles', 'soldiers were armed', 'violent', could be made about wars in general rather than specific ancient warfare. However, the candidate did give sufficient valid points to achieve the full 3 marks.

Normally, one word bullet points are not enough to gain a mark.

Question 27

The candidate was awarded **4 marks** for making the following valid points for both 'yes' and 'no':

- ◆ (Yes) 'Aeneas told it in such great detail that it would almost be impossible for him to make it up'
- ◆ (Yes) 'The other Trojans present at the banquet didn't correct or interrupt him.' This point falls under the heading of 'Any other valid point'.
- ◆ (No) 'Aeneas is at a banquet so he may be drunk.' This point comes under the heading of 'Any other valid point'.
- ◆ (No) 'It seems impossible that so many people would be so gullible'

Other valid 'no' points made by the candidate are:

- ◆ 'Aeneas could be lying to make himself look good.' This point falls under the heading of 'Any other valid point'.
- ◆ 'The death of Laocoon is so gruesome and barbaric that it is difficult to believe.'