

PROBAT¹

LATIN LANGUAGE CERTIFICATION

LEVELS C1 and C2 (*Proficient User*) – May 3rd, 2023

CANDIDATE:

LAST NAME

FIRST NAME*

PREFERRED NAME*
(if applicable)

MIDDLE NAME

CLASS

* Write down your FIRST NAME as it appears on your passport and/or birth certificate, even if you should go by a PREFERRED NAME which differs from that.

¹Examination protocols of British and American academic institutions have inspired the language of the examination instructions featured in this PROBAT version.

EXAMINATION INSTRUCTIONS

This examination paper comprises:

1. 2 sections: SECTION A and SECTION B
2. 7 total pages

NOTE: Before beginning, check that you have all the pages. Consult the examiner/s, if you do not.

Read the instructions below on what you are expected to do for each section. You have 1 ½ hours to complete this examination. You may use a dictionary. Answer all questions. Write in blue or black ink.

SECTION A comprises:

1. (on page 3) a Latin excerpt taken from Augustine's *De doctrina Christiana*. Read it carefully.
Note: A brief Introduction ("Context") precedes the text.
2. (on pages 4-5) a total of 12 questions based on the text. These aim to test both your comprehension of the text and your overall Latin proficiency. As you answer each question, place an "x" by the option you regard to be the correct one, in the manner illustrated below:

(Sample question): Can you identify the language in which the text is written?

- A. Archaic Latin
- B. Classical Latin
- C. Silver Latin **x**
- D. Vulgar Latin

NOTE: Keep in mind that only one of the four given options is the correct one.

SECTION B comprises:

1. a table for you to fill out on page 7

NOTE: Your **FINAL GRADE** depends **EXCLUSIVELY** on the correctness of the answers you provide in **SECTION B**. It is important, therefore, that you review the instructions found on pages 6-7 on how to fill out the final table in that section. Go to pages 6-7 **now** and read the instructions carefully before beginning the examination.

SECTION A

CONTEXT

In the treatise *De doctrina Christiana*, the Christian philosopher Augustine (A.D. 354 – 430) reflects on the nature of *signa*, which, in his view, carry a meaning of their own. Augustine is aware that communication between living beings, whether they be men or animals, takes place through *signa*. In the passage below, Augustine discusses the role of *signa* in human communication.

Picture: Hand gesture table — John Bulwer, *Chirologia, Or the Natural Language Of the Hand. Chironomia, Or the Art of Manual Rhetoric* (1644).



Signorum igitur quibus inter se homines sua sensa communicant, quaedam pertinent ad oculorum sensum, pleraque ad aurium, paucissima ad ceteros sensus. Nam cum innuimus, non damus signum nisi oculis eius quem volumus per hoc signum voluntatis nostrae participem facere. Et quidam motus manuum pleraque significant, et histriones omnium membrorum motibus dant signa quaedam scientibus et cum oculis eorum quasi fabulantur, et vexilla draconesque militares per oculos insinuant voluntatem ducum. Et sunt haec omnia quasi quaedam verba visibilia. Ad aures autem quae pertinent, ut dixi, plura sunt, in verbis maxime. Nam et tuba et tibia et cithara dant plerumque non solum suavem, sed etiam significantem sonum. Sed haec omnia signa verbis comparata paucissima sunt. Verba enim prorsus inter homines obtinuerunt principatum significandi quaecumque animo concipiuntur, si ea quisque proderet velit. Nam et odore unguenti Dominus, quo perfusi sunt pedes eius, signum aliquod dedit, et Sacramento corporis et sanguinis sui per gustatum significavit quod voluit, et cum mulier tangendo fimbriam vestimenti eius salva facta est, non nihil significat. Sed innumerabilis multitudo signorum, quibus suas cogitationes homines exerunt, in verbis constituta est. Nam illa signa omnia quorum genera breviter attigi, potui verbis enuntiare, verba vero illis signis nullo modo possem.

Sed quia verberato aere statim transeunt nec diutius manent quam sonant, instituta sunt per litteras signa verborum. Ita voces oculis ostenduntur, non per seipsas, sed per signa quaedam sua. Ista signa igitur non potuerunt communia esse omnibus Gentibus, peccato quodam dissensionis humanae, cum ad se quisque principatum rapit. Cuius superbiae signum est erecta illa turris in caelum, ubi homines impii non solum animos, sed etiam voces dissonas habere meruerunt.

De Doctrina Christiana 2.3-4.

2. QUESTIONS

1. The dominant mode (= text typology) of Augustine's text is:

- A. Directive
- B. Descriptive
- C. Argumentative
- D. Narrative

2. "*Nam et odore unguenti Dominus, quo perfusi sunt pedes eius, signum aliquod dedit, et Sacramento corporis et sanguinis sui per gustatum significavit quod voluit, et cum mulier tangendo fimbriam vestimenti eius salva facta est, nonnihil significat.*" (lines 11-13). This passage features

- A. A concession to a hypothetical interlocutor
- B. A religious digression
- C. The refutation of the central hypothesis advanced by Augustine
- D. A possible deduction

3. Which of the following sentences expresses the general meaning of the text?

- A. *Verba enim prorsus inter homines obtinuerunt principatum significandi quaecumque animo concipiuntur*
- B. *Ista signa igitur non potuerunt communia esse omnibus Gentibus, peccato quodam dissensionis humanae,*
- C. *Signorum igitur quibus inter se homines sua sensa communicant, quaedam pertinent ad oculorum sensum, pleraque ad aurium, paucissima ad ceteros sensus*
- D. *Sed quia verberato aere statim transeunt nec diutius manent quam sonant, instituta sunt per litteras signa verborum*

4. Augustine has a special admiration for

- A. The ability of the written language to endow messages with permanence
- B. The ability of the oral language to give expression to man's inner world
- C. The tendency of human beings to use signs
- D. Oral communication

5. The passage "*et histriones omnium membrorum motibus dant signa quaedam scientibus et cum oculis eorum quasi fabulantur*" (lines 4-5) denotes familiarity with

- A. The bad acoustics of theatres
- B. A theatrical performance reserved for silent actors
- C. A theatrical performance reserved for deaf spectators
- D. A specific theatrical genre based on mimicry

6. Augustine believes that *signa* are produced

- A. Through tools
- B. Intentionally
- C. *In praesentia* of the interlocutors
- D. Through the human voice

7. The examples of communication featured in the passage are pertinent to

- A. Eyesight alone
- B. Eyesight and hearing
- C. Hearing alone
- D. The five senses

8. In the list below, the following passage “*Sed quia verberato aere statim transeunt nec diutius manent quam sonant, instituta sunt per littera verborum.*” (lines 17-18) has been subdivided into separate clauses by means of square brackets. Which syntactic scheme best represents the syntax of the passage under examination?

- A. *Sed [quia [verberato aere] statim transeunt] [nec diutius manent [quam sonant]], instituta sunt per litteras signa verborum*
- B. *Sed [quia verberato aere statim transeunt nec diutius manent [quam sonant]], instituta sunt per litteras signa verborum*
- C. *[Sed quia [verberato aere] statim transeunt] [nec diutius manent [quam sonant]], instituta sunt per litteras signa verborum*
- D. *Sed quia [verberato aere] statim transeunt nec diutius manent quam sonant]], instituta sunt per litteras signa verborum*

9. In “*ad aures autem quae pertinent*” (line 7), *quae* refers to

- A. *Haec omnia* (line 6)
- B. *Vexilla* (line 6)
- C. *Verba visibilia* (line 7)
- D. *Signorum* (line 1)

10. In the text, the word *prodere* (line 11) means

- A. To manifest
- B. To betray
- C. To hand down
- D. To give birth to

11. A “semantic field” denotes a set of words related in meaning. One of the semantic fields listed below includes an extraneous element. Identify it.

- A. *Communicant, verba, signorum*
- B. *Oculorum, ostenduntur, visibilia*
- C. *Tangendo, verberato, rapit*
- D. *Superbiae, impii, peccato*

12. In Late Antiquity

- A. The written word becomes the main means of communication
- B. Written communication and oral communication are equally popular
- C. Oral communication remains more widespread than written communication
- D. Iconography remains the prevailing mode of communication

(You have reached the end of SECTION A. Review the answers you provided in SECTION A before inserting them in the table in SECTION B, as per the instructions provided on pages 6-7.)

SECTION B

Follow these instructions on how to fill out the final table in this section (page 7):

1. Insert the capital letter matching the correct answer for each of the 12 questions in SECTION A.

Example: if, in SECTION A, you determined that the correct answer to question number 1 is represented by the option indicated by the capital letter “C”, in the final table of SECTION B (page 7), insert the capital letter “C”, as shown in the sample table below:

QUESTION NUMBER	ANSWER	POINTS
1	C	
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
TOTAL POINTS		
SCORE*		/100
LEVEL ATTAINED	* Minimal score to qualify for C1 certification = 60/100 * Minimal score to qualify for C2 certification = 75/100	

2. Fill out exclusively the boxes in the “ANSWER” column.
3. For the purposes of this examination, feel free to use SECTION A of the paper as your working “notebook”. In SECTION A, write whatever notes might aid you in your comprehension and edit your answers as you see fit.
4. Beware that the examiners shall assign you a grade exclusively on the basis of the accuracy of the answers you provide in the table in SECTION B.

Fill out the table below with your final answers. Be advised that the examiners shall regard any evidence of the insertion of a correction in any of the boxes in the "ANSWER" column, as evidence that you have answered incorrectly.

Factor in the time to fill out the table with the necessary care, therefore, and avoid making transcription errors.

QUESTION NUMBER	ANSWER	POINTS
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
TOTAL POINTS		
SCORE*		/100
LEVEL ATTAINED	* Minimal score to qualify for C1 certification = 60/100 * Minimal score to qualify for C2 certification = 75/100	

(You have reached the end of this examination paper.)