



Chapter 10: Comprehension

EXERCISE 10.11: CLEOPATRA MEETS MARK ANTONY



Read lines 1-10: post mortem Caesaris ... potestātem meam maximam.

Summarise the story so far.



1. line 11: Cleopātra nāvēs et multās et pulcherrimās habēbat.

What are we told about Cleopatra's ships? _____
_____ [1]

2. lines 11-13: 'nāvem pulchriōrem omnibus nāvibus cēterīs habeō,' inquit Cleopātra, 'et in hāc nāve ad Antōnium nāvigābō.'

Which ship did Cleopatra choose to sail in to Antony? _____
_____ [2]

3. lines 13-14: postquam nāvis aurō et argentō parāta est, Cleopātra ad Antōnium nāvigāvit.

How was the ship prepared before Cleopatra sailed to Antony? _____
_____ [1]

4. lines 14-15: ubi nāvis per flūmen nāvigāns cōspecta est, magna turba per viās currēbat quod omnēs cīvēs nāvem pulcherrimam vidēre volēbant.

What happened when the ship was seen sailing up the river and why?

_____ [3]

5. lines 15-17: Antōnius tamen Cleopātram exspectāns in forō manēbat: diūtius Antōnius Cleopātram exspectābat.

Antony chose to wait for Cleopatra in the forum; do you think this was a good idea? Why?
_____ [1]

6. lines 17-18: 'ego sum rēgīna potentissima,' inquit Cleopātra, 'et aliōs ad mē vocō, nōn vocor ab aliīs.'

Why did Cleopatra keep Antony waiting? _____
_____ [2]



7. lines 18-20: tandem Antōnius ad nāvem Cleopātrae adiit. ubi fēminam tam pulcherrimam, nāvem tam splendidam, dīvitiās tam maximas vīdit, tenēbātur maximō amōre.

- a. When Antony at last approached Cleopatra's ship, he was gripped by a great love. What did he see and why do you think he was he so smitten by what he saw?

[3]

- b. How does the language used here emphasise the remarkable impression which Cleopatra made? You should explain how repetition, word choice, sound or word order creates this emphasis. You should discuss two Latin words or phrases.

[2]

8. lines 20-21: 'nihil melius Cleopātrā est,' inquit Antōnius magnō cum amōre. 'Cleopātra coniūnx erit!'

What did Antony say which showed how much he loved Cleopatra? _____

[2]

9. Cleopatra succeeded in impressing Antony with her great wealth and power. Are you impressed by the way she did this? Explain your answer with reference to details from the passage.

[3]



Grammar questions

1. lines 13-14: postquam nāvis aurō et argentō parāta est, Cleopātra ad Antōnium nāvigāvit.

Identify the tense and voice of the two verbs in this sentence.

- _____
- _____ [2]

2. lines 14-15: ubi nāvis per flūmen nāvigāns cōspecta est, magna turba per viās currēbat quod omnēs cīvēs nāvem pulcherrimam vidēre volēbant.

a. There are two subordinate clauses in this sentence; write out each of them.

- _____
- _____ [1]

b. Give an idiomatic translation of the imperfect verb *currēbat*. _____ [1]

3. lines 15-16: Antōnius tamen Cleopātram exspectāns in forō manēbat

What part of speech is *exspectāns*? _____ [1]