



Chapter 11: Comprehension

EXERCISE 11.6: ACTIUM



Read lines 1-10: nunc Octāviānus ... maximum est perīculum.

Summarise the story so far.



1. line 11: deinde Cleopātra nāvēs suās per undās dūcēns fūgit.

Cleopatra had seen that Agrippa's sailors were setting fire to her fleet. What did she do then?

_____ [1]

2. lines 11-13: tum nautae Antōniī quoque, ubi vīdērunt Cleopātram fugere, perterritī erant. 'ecce!' clāmāvērunt, 'Cleopātra et nautae per undās fugiunt! nunc vincere nōn possumus.'

Antony's sailors were terrified when they saw that Cleopatra was fleeing. How does the use of language here emphasise the drama of the scene? You should explain how repetition, word choice, sound or word order creates this emphasis. You should discuss one Latin word or phrase.

_____ [1]

3. lines 13-14: deinde nautae Antōniī quoque fugiēbant. Antōnius nautās fugere vīdit; deinde Antōnius magnopere dēspērābat

Why did Antony despair? _____ [1]

4. lines 15-17: 'multae nāvēs incēnsae sunt; multae nāvēs dēlētae sunt; multī nautae perterritī sunt. neque satis nāvium, neque satis nautārum habeō. relictus sum. nunc vincere nōn possum.'

a. Why did Antony think he could not win? _____

_____ [2]

b. How does Antony's use of language emphasise his desperation? Consider the language used and explain how repetition, word choice, sound or word order creates this emphasis. You should discuss one Latin word or phrase. _____

_____ [1]



5. lines 18-20: Antōnius quoque fūgit: 'fortasse terrā, nōn marī, cum Octāviānō pugnābō,' putāvit. posteā autem, ubi mīlitēs suōs pugnāre nōlle intellēxit, miserrimus erat. 'Octāviānus,' sibi inquit, 'mē vīcit.'

When did Antony realise that Octavian had beaten him? _____
_____ [2]

6. lines 20-21: deinde audīvit Cleopātram mortuam esse.

What did Antony hear? _____ [1]

7. lines 21-23: 'neque mīlitēs neque comitēs habeō,' inquit Antōnius magnopere lacrimāns. Antōnius maximē dēspērāns gladiō suō sē vulnerāvit. 'nunc tempus est perīre,' inquit miserrimē.

Why did Antony decide to commit suicide? _____
_____ [2]

8. lines 23-25: subitō tamen audīvit Cleopātram nōn mortuam esse. 'ad Cleopātram mē ferte!' clāmāvit. Antōnius magnopere vulnerātus ad Cleopātram advēnit. nōn multō posteā in sinū Cleopātrae periit.

a. What did Antony say when he heard that Cleopatra was not dead? _____
_____ [1]

b. When and where did Antony die? _____
_____ [2]

9. lines 26-28: Octāviānus laetissimus erat. 'quis nunc contrā mē pugnābit?' sē rogāvit. 'unde inimīcī venient? Antōnium Cleopātramque vīcī. itaque omnēs inimīcōs vīcī. nunc omnibus Rōmānīs pāx erit.'

Why did Octavian think that there would now be peace for all the Romans? _____
_____ [2]

10. At the end of this story do you feel happy for Octavian or sad for Antony and Cleopatra? Explain your answer with reference to details from the passage. _____



[3]

Grammar questions

1. lines 20-21: deinde audīvit Cleopātram mortuam esse.

a. Identify the case of *Cleopātram* and explain why it is used here. _____

_____ [1]

b. Identify the form of *esse* and explain why it is used here. _____

_____ [1]

2. line 22: Antōnius maximē dēspērāns gladiō suō sē vulnerāvit.

a. Identify and translate the form of *dēspērāns*. _____

_____ [1]

b. Identify and explain the case of *gladiō suō*. _____

_____ [1]

3. line 24: 'ad Cleopātram mē ferte!'

Identify and translate the form of *ferte*. _____ [1]