

AP[®] LATIN: VERGIL
2006 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question V5

- 6** This is an excellent, well-organized essay. It makes liberal use of specific, accurate details to support the identification of one character from each group and to support discussion of the way in which each character affects the plot of the *Aeneid*. Occasional mistakes need not spoil the general impression of the essay. More important than the number of features selected are the quality and completeness of the discussion and the general coherence of the argument.
- 5** This is a good, strong essay with identification of one character from each group and a discerning discussion, supported by specific details, of the way in which each character affects the plot of the *Aeneid*. The discussion is either not as sophisticated or well developed as a “6” or not quite as well supported with specific details. These details, however, do appear confident.
- 4** This is an adequate essay with identification of one character from each group and sufficient details to support the discussion of the way in which each character affects the plot of the *Aeneid*, or a good discussion of one character but a limited discussion of the other character. The discussion may be more descriptive than analytical. The details provided, although perhaps scanty, are specific, accurate, and relevant.
- 3** This is a limited response that contains identification of one character from each group, but lacks sufficient details to support the discussion of the way in which each character affects the plot of the *Aeneid*. Alternately, it may be a response in which the details cited are misconstrued or inappropriate, or the student may present a good discussion of one character but very little of another.
- 2** The student presents a vague identification of one character from each group and/or a vague and faulty discussion of the way in which each character affects the plot of the *Aeneid*. Alternately, the student presents a discussion of only one character. Statements may be very general or irrelevant to the question.
- 1** The student understands the question and identifies at least one character but presents no meaningful discussion of the way in which the characters affect the plot of the *Aeneid*. Although no substantive argument is presented, the response does contain some correct information relevant to the question.
- 0** The student gives a response that is totally irrelevant, totally incorrect, or merely restates the question. The student demonstrates no understanding of the way in which any of these characters affects the plot of the *Aeneid*.
- This is a blank space or off-task answer (e.g., drawing, personal letter).

Helenu's affects the plot of the Aeneid because he is the prophet in Book 3 who tells Aeneas three main things. First, he tells Aeneas that Aeneas will know he has finally come to the right place when he sees 30 white pigs on the land, second, he tells Aeneas to avoid the Straits of Messina. Third, he tells Aeneas to visit the Sibyl at Cumae. Aeneas in fact does do all of these things ~~at~~ at some point in the Aeneid. Had Helenu's not told or warned Aeneas of what was coming, Aeneas might have never noticed he was at the right place because he would not have noticed that the pigs had any meaning. He could have also lost even more ships if he had gone near the dangerous ~~the~~ Straits of Messina. He also might have never known to visit Deiphobe, the Sibyl, to visit the Underworld. In all, Aeneas could have ended up completely lost if Helenu's had not shared his prophecies.

Juturna, the sister of Turnus, also affects the plot. After Juno realizes she cannot help Turnus any longer, she advises Juturna to help him. In the midst of battle, Juturna disguises herself as Metiscus, Turnus' charioteer, and she guides his chariot to safety. She is compared to a bird

Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the examination.

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5A₂

looking for grain in a field as she searches for a safe place to hide Turnus. After one of Turnus' comrades is killed in battle, Juturna also refocuses Turnus' mind on the upcoming fight between him and Aeneas instead of letting him be bogged down with sadness over his lost comrade.

Without Juturna's transformation into Metiscus, Turnus could have been killed had he stayed out on the battlefield and thus would have never reached his duel with Aeneas. If she had also not motivated ~~him~~ Turnus, he might not have gone into his duel with Aeneas with full strength.

Both Helenus and Juturna affect the plot of the Aeneid because they perform actions that are vital to the story.

Both Iarbas and Juno, seemingly minor characters in the Aeneid, play important roles in the plot of the story.

Iarbas's jealousy of the affair between Dido and Aeneas makes a turning point in the story, resulting in Dido's suicide and Aeneas's departure from Carthage to go ~~on~~ and found Rome, the Roman nation. Because of his jealousy, he prays to Jupiter. Jupiter hears his prayer and sends Mercury to spur Aeneas on to leave Carthage. Because of ~~Aeneas's~~ Mercury's instruction, Aeneas prepares to leave Carthage, resulting in the grief-stricken Dido to commit suicide. In this way, Iarbas's character functions as a key component to the plot as ~~the~~ Dido's suicide and Aeneas's departure for Italy result from his intervention.

Juno also plays a major role in the epic. She aids her brother Turnus in combat as a nymph. Because of her support, Turnus is able to defeat the Arcadians until Fate intervenes, keeping her from protecting her brother from the hand of Aeneas. Because of Juno, the character of Turnus becomes a major force, the next Achilles, in the concluding sections of the epic.

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Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the examination.

5B2

Because of these two characters, significant events and changes in the story occur. Iarbas and Juturna play key roles in the plot.

Lausus, as a minor character in the Aeneid, continues the theme of father-son relationships as Vergil puts forth in the second half of the Aeneid. The fact that he is so different from his father makes for an interesting study in contrasts: Mezentius is an evil tyrant, while Lausus is an honorable and virtuous young man. Lausus' death at the hands of Aeneas foreshadows Aeneas' discovery of Pallas' death and also closely parallels Pallas' death at the hands of Turnus. The fact that Pallas and Lausus would have fought each other if not for divine intervention shows the power of fate and the cruelties of war. The death of Lausus prompts Mezentius to act like a grieving father, not a horrible despot; the fact that Mezentius requests to be buried near his son shows the intensity of father-son relationships. This also echoes Vergil's point, copied from the Iliad and paralleled in the second half of the Aeneid: war is nothing honorable or glorious, only old men crying over the deaths of their sons. Lausus, while a minor character, is used by Vergil to explore the theme of father-son relationships.

Juturna is also a minor character but her inclusion highlights the question of the place of divine intervention in the age of pietas. Juturna

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Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the examination.

is constantly by Turnus' side, protecting his back. She loves her brother very much and would do anything to keep him safe. She retrieves his fallen weapons and even mends his wounds. Yet at the end of the Aeneid, when she wants to save Turnus from Aeneas, she is forbidden to. This is Vergil's way of leaving behind the age of the gods in favor of the age of men. No longer do the gods intervene in the affairs of men; all they do is watch as the fates unfold and make sure every man fulfills his destiny. Just as Venus is forbidden to help Aeneas after she heals his wound with dittany and gives back his sword, Juno is also forbidden. She is so frustrated that she jumps into the river, symbolizing a death because she does not actually die but wants to drown herself.

AP® LATIN VERGIL
2006 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question V5

Overview

The question assessed students' control of the *Aeneid* by asking them to discuss how minor characters affect the plot. The students were asked to choose one name from each of two lists.

Sample: 5A

Score: 6

This is a superior essay. It answers the question about the characters' effects on the plot with very specific and very accurate details for each character. The details are analyzed as to the effect on the plot so that there is not just a laundry list of details. Although this analysis is framed as hypothetical situations (" He also might have never known to visit Deiaphobe [*sic*], the Sibyl, to visit the Underworld"; "If she [Juturna] had also not motivated Turnus, he might not have gone into his duel with Aeneas ..."), such hypothetical situations are located within the plot of the *Aeneid*.

Sample: 5B

Score: 4

This is an adequate essay because it correctly identifies Iarbas as having, through his prayer to Jupiter, precipitated Aeneas' departure from Carthage and hence Dido's suicide. Juturna is correctly identified as Turnus' sister and a nymph who protects him, but the essay does not elaborate to note that her help resulted in prolonging the conflict needlessly and tragically. The Iarbas portion is the stronger one, but even there the essay does not go beyond the basics. The identification of Iarbas is minimal and the discussion of Juturna's effect on the plot is limited in details.

Sample: 5C

Score: 2

This is a weak response because, although both characters are identified, the student does not answer the question as given. The student seems to remember a practice essay taken from a previous exam and has reformulated a question to fit that answer. The student develops yet another question for Juturna. Consequently, although the essay is well written, it does not answer the question the student was asked.