



## AP<sup>®</sup> Latin Literature 2002 Sample Student Responses

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LL3-Catullus

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

This poem is about a party (most likely) where Catullus, Lesbia and Lesbia's husband are present. <sup>(Catullus)</sup> Lesbia has said bad things to Catullus in front of her ~~husband~~ (1) and her husband has been overjoyed by this <sup>(2)</sup>. Catullus interprets Lesbia's heated anger at Catullus as an obvious sign of love. If she were silent (tacere) that would ~~mean that~~ <sup>mean that</sup> she was forgetful & dismissive of Catullus, but because she boldly expressed her fervent distaste for him, she ~~speaks~~ "speaks and she burns" (6) for Catullus.

Catullus also thinks that Lesbia's husband is an ignorant buffoon for not being able to tell that there is love between Catullus and Lesbia. "Mule, do you sense nothing?" Lesbia is not only mindful of Catullus (non solum meminit) but she is angry (irata est) which shows that she cares. Had she not treated him like anything at all, she would be "cana" (sane) and she would obviously not love Catullus, but she speaks such ~~many~~ bad things "mala plurima dicit" and this shows her burning desire for Catullus (that is, she ~~speaks~~ <sup>speaks</sup> and she burns (6)).

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Catullus feels uncomfortable around Lesbia when her new lover is ~~in the room~~ around. While the lover is around, Lesbia says bad things about Catullus "Lesbia mi praesente viro mala plurima dicit" (1.1). Catullus doesn't enjoy ~~the~~ this abuse she inflicts upon him and calls her a mule for what she does because she has no feelings. "Mule, nihil sentis?" (1.3), the rhetorical question implies ~~that~~ that Catullus doesn't think highly of Lesbia. Catullus will no longer put up with the pain he is enduring from what is being said and done "sunt quaedam ~~gammittet~~ Hoc est, uritur et loquitur" (1.6). If Lesbia is going to keep up what she is doing he won't be around her anymore.