



## AP<sup>®</sup> Latin: Vergil 2004 Sample Student Responses

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As Pallas prepares to fight Turnus, ~~his~~ his great hope, a hope of victoriously defeating Turnus, is unrealistic in terms of his actual situation.

Pallas' great hopes of crushing Turnus greatly contrast the actual situation. He prays to Alcides: "ferant morienta Iunonia Turni" (that the powers shall bear death ~~of~~ of Turnus, line 7). As he prays, ~~however~~ ~~though~~ ~~he~~ ~~is~~ ~~in~~ thinking that he could defeat Turnus, he fails to recognize that he is simply a youth who cannot defeat a great ruler and warrior. His hopes are those that expect "victorem" ("victory", line 7), but the actual situation is one that will bring death for Pallas, as Virgil writes, "Audiit Alcides iuvenum... lacrimisque effundit inanes" (Alcides heard the youth... and he poured out empty tears, lines 8-9). While Pallas hopefully prays for victory, Alcides weeps, knowing that the actual situation will not be a successful ending for Pallas. Pallas seems to be a trash-talking youth without a concept of the dangerous reality he faces in Turnus. His hopes are hopes of victory and reign, while in truth, he does not have even the slightest chance of defeating Turnus.

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In the time leading up to Pallas's fight with Turnus, Pallas's hopes do not match at all with the reality. Pallas hopes to win the battle. He tries to ensure his victory by appealing to Hercules. When he does this he speaks to the ~~stars~~<sup>heavens</sup> (ad aethera fatatur). Pallas hopes that he can win Hercules's support by recalling aid Evander gave to Hercules. He recalls his father's hospitality and dinner given to Hercules by saying, "Per patris hospitium et mensas..." Pallas even hopes that Hercules will lead his arms and give him victory over Turnus (line 6-7). These hopes, however, do not match fate's ultimate plan. This is revealed through Hercules's reaction. When Hercules heard Pallas he knew he was not fated to help and he ~~fe~~ had a heavy heart and shed tears (line 8-9). Hercules wants to help but knows he cannot. He knows Pallas must ~~lose~~<sup>lose</sup> and die. The gravity of the situation is revealed in line 8 which is heavily spondee. The uselessness of Hercules's tears is also revealed in the last word of the passage, inanes. Inanes, which means inane, reveals that Hercules's tears are useless, he cannot help Pallas. In conclusion, whereas Pallas has many hopes for his battle with Turnus, he is fated to lose and in reality none of his hopes can be realized.

In book 10, Pallas joins Aeneas' troops to help fight Turnus. Being the first time going to war, Pallas is very excited about fighting. After killing and slaughtering many men, he decides to take on Turnus and kill him. Throughout the scene where Pallas "believes" he can kill Turnus, he is in fact no match to this great warrior.

As the hopes of Pallas, he believes that he will be able to strike Turnus with spear because of the short distance between them ("hunc ubi contiguum missae fere credit hastae") and since he has the advantage of being the first one to make his move (i.e. prior Pallas). Along with "believing" that he will be able to hit Turnus w/ his weapon, he also believes that the gods will offer him help and decides to ask Hercules for this help ("magnumque ita ad aethera fatur" - ~~he~~ and he asks/speaks to the great heavens). He actually hopes that he can "rapere" (seize) Turnus, and be the "victorem" (the victor).

However, this is all a dream that Pallas wants. In truth, he is destined to be dead. First of all, Turnus is absolutely a better fighter than Pallas and therefore he was fighting "vinibus imparibus" (w/ unequal strength). Also, even though he asks for Hercules help; Hercules can't give it to him. Although Hercules hears the help that Pallas wants, he knows that he is not to change destiny. "Audiit Alcides irenum magnumque sub imo corde premit gemitum iacinaeque effundit anies" - Hercules heard the

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youth and presses great groans under his heart and pours tears in vain. This shows that Hercules is hurt that he can't help Pallas, but has to let him proceed w/ his own fate.

In conclusion, even though Pallas thought he was the victor of this duel and would receive the help he wanted from the gods, in the end, everything he wished for wasn't part of his destiny and therefore was hopeless and left vulnerable to Turnus to be killed.