



## AP Latin Literature 1999 Sample Student Responses

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1. He wants to follow the poet everywhere.

2. First Horace tells him, "I want to see someone not known to you" ("quendam volo visere non tibi notum" l. 5), then tells him that this friend "lies ~~in~~ across the Tiber, ~~and~~ near Caesar's gardens" ("trans Tiberim... hortos" l. 6), a considerable distance from their present location.

3. "usque tenebo" (l. 3). Literally, "I will always hold on" ~~strongly~~.

4. He compares himself to a little donkey; appropriate, since the donkey is a beast of burden and Horace, himself is bearing the burden of an unwanted companion.

1. The person wants Horace to introduce him to Maecenas, and, for this reason, is following Horace everywhere.

2. Horace first tried not responding to his follower

"illi nil respondebam" ("I was not responding to that"), then, when that did not work, Horace tried to put his follower off

by making his route seem harsh. "volo visere notum: trans Tiberim longe cubat is prope Caesaris hortos."

(I wish to see someone not known to you; (he is) across the Tiber a long way, near the gardens of Caesar.)

3. "tenebo" (I will hold (to you))

4. Horace compares himself to Atlas, who carries the sky with him, as Horace carries his companion with him.

"Less often now do young men shake your joined windows  
with repeated blows, nor do they steal sleep from you,  
and the door loves (hugs) the threshold,"

"which earlier was moving much on easy hinges;  
already you hear less and less!" Do you, Lydia, ~~stop~~ sleep  
through the long nights with me, dying?"

Strong young men ~~spare~~ sparingly seek lands  
with their ships tossed about, nor do they attain  
sleep for you, and the door loves that threshold,  
which the cardinal first moved much more easily;  
you bear less and less now "Do you sleep  
long nights for yourself, seeking me, Lydia?"

Horace claims a prize of a laurel wreath in this poem for his work that will last through the ages. He declares that his writing will last long past his death and describes how he will be remembered.

This sphragis poem begins with a ~~total~~ declaration of achievement, in which Horace says his work is more lasting than bronze and the pyramids (Execi... altius). He describes weather, <sup>times</sup> and forces of nature that could destroy many monuments, but not his work (quod non... temporum, "which is ~~not~~ able to be destroyed by <sup>rather</sup> pouring rain, nor the violent North wind, nor a countless series of years and the ~~the~~ flight of time"). Future generations will <sup>praise</sup> his work continuously (usque ego... laude recens). Horace says that he will be talked about in far away lands (Oscar, quam popularum, "I will be talked about, where the violent Aufidus churns, and where Daunus, poor in water, ruled over his rustic people"). Horace mentions that he used new - at least to Roman poetry - Greek meters in his poetry (princeps... modos, "first to have brought down Aeolian song to Italian poetry").

For all of these reasons, Horace says that he deserves the award of the laurel wreath (Bumen comam, "Bring forth the high award, I seek and crown my brow, Melpomene, with the Delphic laurel wreath"). This wreath was an honorable award, and Horace believed that his poetry was lasting enough to bring him this prize.

Horace, at the end of the poem, claims the Delphic laurel (Delphica lauro) from the tragic muse.

Melpomene, as a reward for his eternal poetry.

He says his poetry is more lasting than bronze,

(Coene ~~perennis~~ perennis) higher than a pyramid (pyramidum altius) and will not be damaged by

rain, wind, or innumerable years (quid non imber edax, non Aquila impotens possit diruere

aut numerabilis annorum sortes et fuga temporum)

He says his praise will increase with time (usque ego postera crescam laude recens) and will last

as long as the Capitol (dum Capitolium scandet cum tacita Virgine pontifex).

Referring to his humble origins (Horace's father was a tax collector) he ~~mentions~~ <sup>mentions</sup> coming from ~~poverty~~

poverty to power and having brought song

to Italy (ex humili potens princeps Aeolium carmen ad Italos deduxisse modos) Because of the

skill and effort Horace put into his eternal poetry, he felt he deserved the Delphic

laurel, ~~and~~ recognition from the gods of his achievement.