



SCUOLA
NORMALE
SUPERIORE

GREEK first year

The **written test** will consist of the translation into Italian (or into one of the other modern languages specified in the call) of a passage taken from a text of ancient Greek literature. The passage proposed will present a degree of complexity commensurate with the best high school knowledge. The capacity for lexical, morphological and syntactical interpretation will be assessed. Assessment will be based on the number and type of errors. For the preparation of the written test you are advised to consult the [**"Translations of past years"**](#).

The **oral test** will consist of the reading and interpretation of various Greek poetry and prose passages and the discussion of issues of literary history. The test is designed to bring out not so much the cumulative possession of notions and information as the ability to deal, under the guidance of the commission, with individual issues of a linguistic and literary nature. The candidate will translate, with the aid of the commission, short passages of ancient Greek poetry and/or prose taken from Homer, Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, Plato or Plutarch. Candidates are advised to have some knowledge of the basic notions of prosody and metrics and the capacity for metric reading of the hexameter and of the iambic trimeter (you are advised to consult M. C. Martinelli, *Gli strumenti del poeta: elementi di metrica greca*, Bologna 1997). Assessment will be made of candidates' knowledge, acquired from their high school textbooks, of the main authors and developments of Greek literature, from its origins up to and including the second century A.D. For the preparation of the oral test, you are advised to consult the exercises on [**"text analysis"**](#).

You are strongly advised to read in their entirety, even if only in the Italian translation, **five** from among the following texts:

- Homer, *Iliad*: a book of your choice (the Mondadori edition, edited by F. Ferrari, is recommended)
- Homer, *Odyssey*: a book of your choice
- Pindarus, *Olimpiche* or *Pitiche* (in their entirety)
- Aeschylus: a tragedy of your choice
- Sophocles: a tragedy of your choice
- Euripides: a tragedy of your choice
- Herodotus: a book of your choice
- Thucydides: a book of your choice
- Aristophanes: a comedy of your choice
- Lysias, *Contro Eratostene*
- Plato: a work to be chosen from among *Apologia di Socrate*; *Fedro*; *Simposio*; *Repubblica* (of the latter, a book of your choice)
- Demosthenes, *Prima Filippica* or *Per la corona*
- Aristotle, *Poetica*
- Callimachus, *Inni*
- Apollonius Rhodius, *Argonautiche*: a book of your choice
- Plutarch: a Life of your choice from among *Vita di Solone*; *Vita di Licurgo*; *Vita di Pericle*; *Vita di Alcibiade*; *Vita di Alessandro*

- Longus, *Dafni e Cloe*: a book of your choice
- Nonno di Panopoli, *Le Dionisiache*: a book of your choice (the BUR edition is recommended)

The reading, even in part, of one of the following works will also be appreciated in order to draw from it some points for interpretative reflection:

- E. Dodds, *I greci e l'irrazionale* (the BUR edition of 2009 is recommended)
- M. Fantuzzi, R. Hunter, *Muse e modelli. La poesia ellenistica da Alessandro ad Augusto*, Laterza 2002
- B. Snell, *La cultura greca e le origini del pensiero europeo*, Einaudi 2002
- B. Williams, *Vergogna e necessità*, Il Mulino 2007