



SCUOLA  
NORMALE  
SUPERIORE

## LATIN 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 Latin 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 Latin 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, a passage of Latin poetry and/or prose. Candidates are advised to have some knowledge of the basic notions of prosody and metrics and the capacity for metric reading of the hexameter. Assessment will be made of candidates' knowledge, acquired from their high school textbooks, of the main authors and developments of Latin literature. 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 Italian translation, some of the following texts in their entirety (indicatively **three**):

- Lucretius, *De rerum natura*
- Catullus, *Carmi*
- Cicero, *De re publica* o *De Officiis*
- Caesar: *De bello Gallico* o *De bello civili*
- Sallust: *Bellum Catilinae* o *Bellum Iugurthinum*
- Virgil: *Bucoliche* o *Georgiche* o *Eneide*
- Horace: *Odi* o *Satire* o *Epistole*
- Ovid: *Metamorfosi* o *Heroides*
- Seneca: *De ira* o *Epistulae ad Lucilium*
- Petronius, *Satyricon*
- Tacitus: *Annales* or *Historiae*
- Apuleius, *Metamorfosi*

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:

- G. B. Conte, *Il genere e i suoi confini*, Garzanti 1984
- La Penna, *Sallustio e la "rivoluzione" romana*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Mondadori 2018 (1<sup>st</sup> edition Feltrinelli 1968)
- G. Rosati, *Ovidio e il teatro del piacere*, Carocci, 2022
- Segal, *Il corpo e l'io nelle Metamorfosi di Ovidio*, in Ovidio, *Metamorfosi, Volume I (Books I-II)*, edited by A. Barchiesi, Valla-Mondadori 2005, pp. XV-CI (the reading is recommended in the same volume of the *Introduction* by A. Barchiesi, pp. CIII-CLXI)

- R. Syme, *Tacito* [original 1958 edition], translated into Italian by Paideia 2019 (some chapters of your choice)
- Traina, *Lo stile drammatico del filosofo Seneca*, Pàtron 1987