



The Aeneid

Exam A

ESSAY QUESTIONS

1. Why were the founding fathers of the United States so interested in Rome's political history? (12 pts.)

2. What are the three divisions or stages that we can use to broadly summarize the political history of the Roman Empire? (10 pts.)

3. How might Vergil have answered the accusation that his work was propaganda? (10 pts.)

4. As in Homer, the opening lines of this epic poem give us our subject and theme. What are they? (12 pts.)

5. What prophetic messages does Aeneas receive during the sack of the city, and from whom does he receive them? (8 pts.)

6. How does Vergil describe the state of Carthage when Dido is distracted from her duties to the city? What point does this illustrate about the Roman idea of civic duty? (12 pts.)

7. What is Anchises's purpose in calling Aeneas to the Underworld, and what does he show Aeneas? (10 pts.)

8. What images does Vulcan work into the shield Venus commissions for Aeneas? (8 pts.)



9. After he kills Pallas, what does Turnus do? What does Vergil foreshadow about Turnus' fate? (8 pts.)

10. How do Io's father and sisters find out about her transformation by Jupiter? (10 pts.)

EXTRA CREDIT

11. What does Lucan's "epic question" tell us the subject of his work will be? (5 pts.)

12. How do Vergil and Homer differ in their conceptions of time? (5 pts.)
