



National Certificate of Educational Achievement  
TAUMATA MĀTAURANGA Ā-MOTU KUA TĀEA

## **Exemplar for Internal Achievement Standard Latin Level 3**

This exemplar supports assessment against:

**Achievement Standard 91509**

Analyse a Roman viewpoint

An annotated exemplar is an extract of student evidence, with a commentary, to explain key aspects of the standard. It assists teachers to make assessment judgements at the grade boundaries.

New Zealand Qualifications Authority

To support internal assessment

	Grade Boundary: Low Excellence
1.	<p>For Excellence, the student needs to analyse thoroughly a Roman viewpoint.</p> <p>This involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fully expanding on particular selected points</li> <li>• using unambiguous Latin references and /or quotations from resources and/or previously studied material to support answers</li> <li>• drawing perceptive conclusions</li> <li>• Latin references may include mention of Roman artefacts, Latin terms, phrases, quotations, images, maps or other material</li> <li>• providing an English explanation for any Latin reference or quotation.</li> </ul> <p>This student has fully expanded on particular selected points in texts by Pliny, Horace and Juvenal. The student notes, for example, Pliny's attitude to his tranquil life in the country (1) and Juvenal's view of the drawbacks of living in the town (9).</p> <p>The pleasures of living in the town experienced by Horace (4) and the drawbacks as seen by Pliny (2) are fully expanded on.</p> <p>The particular points of the peaceful (3) and generous living conditions in the country (6) (8) are also fully expanded on.</p> <p>Perceptive conclusions (10) (11) are drawn about the Roman point of view of life in the town and country.</p> <p>Unambiguous Latin references from previously studied material, with an English explanation are used to support answers (3) (7).</p> <p>For a more secure Excellence, the student could provide an English explanation for <i>quacumque libido est, incedo solus</i> (5). This would clarify which part of Horace's experience is being referred to. It could also be explained that the town mouse has a terrifying experience in the city which leads to him preferring the safety of the country.</p>

Many wealthy Romans, such as senators and businessmen, were known to have at least one country home to retreat to once they tired of country life. Pliny himself had a villa in the country at Laurentum, which he describes as a very peaceful environment in comparison to the busy city.

- ① "In my house I am disturbed by no rumours. I talk only to myself and my books .". For him, the city was full of trivialities that constantly needed tending to," On the day you did these things they seemed necessary. If you consider that you did them every day they seem useless and much more so when you have withdrawn from public life." while the simple country life let him focus on the peaceful pursuits he enjoyed. "I spend my leisure time so gladly, in serious writing and reading, days which others waste in the most useless occupations "(libentissime otium meum in litteris colloco, quos alii otiosissimis occupationibus perdunt).

③ In contrast Horace enjoys wandering around the city at leisure, unaccompanied by slaves, asking the price of vegetables, visiting the Circus Maximus and the Forum. He stops to listen to soothsayers. He exercises in the Campus Martius. He eats simply and is unprompted by ambition.

④ *quacumque libido est*

⑤ *incedo solus.*

Horace writes "The country mouse was rough and careful about his stores in such a way that he could relax his thrifty soul for hospitality." He has a thrifty lifestyle but has enough to share with the town mouse "He did not begrudge the chickpea he had put aside ..." (ille sepositi ciceris nec longae invidit avenae). There is generosity that is rare in the city.

⑦ ⑧

For the poor there is little peace and much noise in the city. Juvenal writes "Sleep is bought with great resources in the city." "Many sick people die by staying awake." If apartments do not collapse from negligence, there is always the danger of fire. Codrus, the victim of a fire "loses all his nothing." Nobody will even give him a crust, in contrast to the generosity found in the country. Juvenal clearly has a very grim view of the city, focusing on and possibly exaggerating the negative aspects, but drawing attention to the plight of the poor.

⑨

In conclusion whether you are rich or poor it seems that the Romans thought it far safer and far more peaceful to live in the country. Poor people in the city have a far worse time of it than poor people in the country. In the city their homes are likely to fall or burn and they risk their lives on the streets. Life may be a bit rough in the country but there is food to eat and a seeming absence of danger. The city has business, decadence, liveliness and circus games but the country is safer and more peaceful judging by Horace's and Pliny's accounts. And with so much fear, danger and squalor in the city one would think the positive aspects are almost completely outweighed.

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In general it seems as if the rich man can live anywhere he pleases. If he can afford the litters and the dinner parties of the rich in Juvenal's satire and just strolling around free from care, exercising in a leisurely fashion and with slaves to wait on him like Horace, the city is a fine place. Romans who got rich in the city could afford to retire to the country while the poor were stuck in their dangerous buildings and streets

⑪

	Grade Boundary: High Merit
2.	<p>For Merit, the student needs to analyse clearly a Roman viewpoint.</p> <p>This involves expanding on particular selected points unambiguously in English and drawing reasoned conclusions.</p> <p>This student has expanded on particular selected points in texts by Juvenal and Horace. The student notes, for example, that Juvenal describes the city of Rome as a dangerous place (1) whereas Horace finds it pleasant (6).</p> <p>The student has fully expanded on the dangers (2) (3) (4) (9) and the pleasures (7) of life in the city, and on the simple and generous life in the country (8).</p> <p>Reasoned, rather than perceptive, conclusions have been drawn about the Roman view of life in the town and country (10) (11).</p> <p>To reach Excellence, the student could provide an English explanation for the Latin <i>'ad quartam iaceo'</i> (7), a Latin translation for <i>'The poor chap has no hope of a boat across the muddy whirlpool nor any small coin to stretch out in his mouth'</i> (5), and an accurate English translation of Sat.3.245-246 (3), for example <i>'This one strikes us with an elbow, that one with a hard beam.'</i></p> <p>The conclusion (10) could be expanded to become perceptive, for example, <i>'...danger is present even for the rich if their guards turn against them'</i>. This would then fulfil the criteria for Excellence.</p>

Juvenal describes the city of Rome as a dangerous place for the poor. He describes the apartment buildings as being flimsy, commenting “We live in a city propped up for a great part on matchsticks.” (Juvenal 3.193-194) with the managers of these apartment blocks often covering up how bad the damage or cracks and holes in the structure were and trying to persuade the tenants it won’t collapse. The roofing tiles are the only defence against rain (Juvenal 3.202-208) and if the apartment building catches fire the people on the top floors are as good as dead. He also comments how the people have few belongings and when the buildings and their belongings are lost nobody will help them find food and shelter when they are” naked and begging for scraps of food” (Juvenal 3. 210-211). These were typical environments for the poor of the city.

1

Juvenal also comments on the dangers of the street conditions as well as the home. Sleep is hard to come by due to the noise of carts in the streets. You need money for sleep in Rome. Crowds are thick so that “This one strikes us with an elbow that one with a hand.” (3.245-246). People can be crushed, unprepared for the afterlife and condemned to stay on the banks of the Styx for 100 years. “The poor chap has no hope of a boat across the muddy whirlpool nor any small coin to stretch out in his mouth.” (3.266-267).

2

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Horace views living in the city as a leisurely experience. He finds city life pleasant and often watches the world go by rather than involving himself in it, doing as he pleases “I go alone wherever the desire takes me” (Horace Sat 1.6. 111-112). He visits the Circus Maximus and Forum (Sat 1.6 113-114) and looks over the stalls and cost of produce. He takes a walk, writes or has a massage with quality oil after getting up late. “ad quartam iaceo” (Sat 1.6 112) Horace also presents a view of life in the country as opposed to the city in the fable of the Town and Country Mouse. The country mouse lives a frugal life, putting by his stores which he offers to the town mouse when he comes to stay. “He did not begrudge the chickpea he had put aside, nor the long oats, and carrying a dry grape in his mouth gave him half-eaten scraps of bacon fat.” (Sat 2.6 83-84) while he himself ate spelt and darnel. They reclined on “this year’s hay.” This generosity does not suit the city mouse’s sophisticated taste and he suggests that they sample city life.

6

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8

The town mouse eats the leftovers from dinner-parties amid luxurious furnishings. He shares this with his friend but their sumptuous banquet is brought to an abrupt halt as two Molossian hounds rush in (Sat 2.6 114) and the terrified mice rush all over the room. This convinces the country mouse to return to his humble hole where he will be safe from ambush “me ... tutus ab insidiis” (Sat 2.5 117). Country life may be humble but it seems less dangerous than life in the city .

9

In conclusion the Roman viewpoint of town and country life seemed to vary according to the person’s class.

For the poor city life is busy, hectic and unpleasant, offering a high chance of death due to dangerous housing and crowded streets, as Juvenal points out. While the town mouse lives surrounded by opulence, danger is present.

10

Horace’s reflections of life in the city are those of a man who is not obliged to work and can spend his days at leisure, not worrying about money but also not living too extravagantly. He finds the city pleasant and interesting but seems to admit in the fable of the Town and

- 11 Country Mouse that amidst the luxury lurks danger. In the country, life is rough but it is possible to find generosity and live more safely than the poor in the city.

	Grade Boundary: Low Merit
3.	<p>For Merit, the student needs to analyse clearly a Roman viewpoint.</p> <p>This involves expanding on particular selected points unambiguously in English and drawing reasoned conclusions.</p> <p>This student has expanded on particular selected points in the texts of Juvenal and Pliny. The student notes, for example, that Juvenal thinks housing conditions in Rome are dangerous (1) and that Pliny is inspired by his surroundings in the country (6).</p> <p>The student has expanded on the particular points of the heartlessness of the citizens (3) and busy, sometimes pointless life in Rome (5). The quiet peacefulness of the country has also been expanded on (6).</p> <p>Reasoned conclusions (4) (7) have been drawn about the Roman point of view on life in the town and the country.</p> <p>For a more secure Merit, the student could specify that the sea and the shore provide inspiration for Pliny (6).</p> <p>An English translation for '<i>nos urbem ... dormire ruina</i>' (2) would also make this point less ambiguous.</p>

Juvenal speaks for those in the lower part of society as he himself did not have much money. His opinion is very much against the city life as opposed to the country where he would much rather live. He conveys this by giving us a panorama of life in Rome. He shows us that there is poverty in Rome and dangers everywhere. An example of this is when he writes about the

1 many buildings that are feared to collapse.

*nos urbem colimus tenui tibicine fultam  
magna parte sui nam sic labentibus obstat  
vilicus, et veteris nrinae cum textit hiatum,*

2 *securus pendent iubet dormire ruina (Satires 193-196).*

Juvenal also talks about a man named Codrus who is left on the street after an insula has burned down, He has nothing and nobody will help him even to clothe himself or eat. *nemo cibo*. The helpless citizen may end his life crushed to death on the crowded streets and nobody will care.

3 Overall we can conclude that Juvenal's perspective on city life is not great. He does not like the living conditions of the poor and the total lack of respect for them and general lack of generosity.

4 Pliny who was wealthy thinks that life in the city can be busy and meaningless and is not impressed by horse racing. He is scathing about this type of entertainment. He urges his friend to retire to the country like him. "And so you too abandon that useless running about and very stupid work and hand yourself over to leisure and study." Pliny enjoys the country life because it is quiet and peaceful "I am worried by no hope by no fear. I am disturbed by no rumours" He reads and writes and gets inspiration from his surroundings.

6 We can conclude that Pliny enjoyed the countryside because it was a place he could relax, where he would not be bothered by other people and was allowed to have some quiet time.

7 He found the city was not to his taste.



	Grade Boundary: High Achieved
4.	<p>For Achieved, the student needs to analyse a Roman viewpoint.</p> <p>This involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• applying linguistic and socio-cultural knowledge to extract and explore ideas from previously studied written/visual material</li> <li>• drawing conclusions about the viewpoint.</li> </ul> <p>This student has applied linguistic and socio-cultural knowledge to extract and explore ideas in texts by Virgil, Juvenal and Horace The student notes, for example, Juvenal’s opinion of the ill-maintained insulae in the town (2) and Virgil’s idea that farmers are fortunate to live in the country (1). Horace’s contentment with city life is also explored (5).</p> <p>The student explores the dangers (2) (4) and the pleasures (5) of life in the town. A view of the simple, sharing life in the country from previously studied written material is provided (3) (6).</p> <p>Conclusions are drawn about the Roman viewpoint on life in the town and country (7) (8).</p> <p>To reach Merit, the student could expand on the flimsy houses (2) and chaotic streets in the city (4) and on the dinner menu served by the country mouse (6).</p> <p>The conclusions (7) (8) could be expanded to become reasoned. For example, the student might mention that Horace felt safe walking in the city, or expand on the lack of morals among the city’s inhabitants to supplement the points made (8).</p>

Virgil glorifies the life of the “O fortunatos agricolas ...” “o fortunate farmers...” reminding his readers that “hanc vitam Remus et frater”. “This was the life of Remus and his brother.” By making a connection between the founders of Rome and the country way of life Virgil is clearly stating that.

In all likelihood Virgil would have been trying to convince his peers of the benefits of country life by listing the advantages: no influence by those holding office, no kings, no civil wars, no envy of the wealthy.

1

The insulae in the city are seen as unsafe with dishonest vilicus who cover up faults in their buildings. Historically they often burn down most likely because of poor maintenance.

2

Juvenal says people should move to the country where “there are no fires, no fears by night” (Sat 3. 193), continuing to lay out what befalls those who live in the city, including being

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crushed to death in the street without a coin to pay to cross to the Underworld. The rich, however, can be safely transported in litters.

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Horace appears to be in favour of city life as long as he has the means to support himself well enough to wander at will through the market place and sleep well past dawn.

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“quacumque libido est incedo” (Sat 1.6 111-112). He feels safe to walk alone.

He also wrote about the simple life in the country in his fable about the town and country mouse. The country mouse scrimped and saved his simple food, bacon scraps and dried grapes, but shared it with his visitor from the town.

6

Romans viewed the country as a simpler, safer life without corruption where people cared for each other e.g. the country mouse shares with his town mouse friend.

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The city might be fine for the rich but it was viewed as life-threatening too, and it is implied that its inhabitants were lacking in morals.

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	Grade Boundary: Low Achieved
5.	<p>For Achieved, the student needs to analyse a Roman viewpoint.</p> <p>This involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• applying linguistic and socio-cultural knowledge to extract and explore ideas from previously studied written/visual material</li> <li>• drawing conclusions about the viewpoint.</li> </ul> <p>This student has applied linguistic and socio-cultural knowledge to extract and explore ideas in a text by Horace. The student notes, for example, Horace's view that life in the city can be both comfortable and perilous (3).</p> <p>Horace's view of the simple life and generous attitudes in the country (1), together with the dangers of the town amid the good life, is explored (3).</p> <p>Socio-cultural knowledge has been displayed when describing the Roman habit of getting slaves to taste food to detect poison (2).</p> <p>Conclusions have been drawn about the Roman view of life in the town and country (4).</p> <p>For a more secure Achieved, the student could explore the idea of the luxury to be found in the town mouse's house (2), including the ivory couches and crimson cloths. This would contrast with the country mouse's living conditions and give more evidence about life in the town.</p>

Horace seems to be set in the firm belief that country life is better than life in the city. This is shown by his tale of the town mouse and the country mouse where he takes a mouse from each place and shows the other round the place where he lives.

“aridum et ore ferens acinum semesaque lardi frusta dedit, cupiens varia fastidia cena vincere tangentis male singula dente supebro; cum pater ipse domus palea porrectus in horno esset ador loliumque, dapis meliora relinquens.” “and carrying a dry grape in his mouth he gave him half-eaten scraps of bacon fat, desiring with varied food to overcome the contempt of the city mouse who was hardly touching a thing with his haughty tooth while the father of the house himself stretched out on this year’s straw was eating spelt and darnel leaving the better part of the banquet.”

From this we can plainly see that the country mouse has a kind soul, who brings out the good food for his guest and eats the simple things himself so as not to take away from the city mouse. However, the city mouse has been rude by barely even trying the food that the country mouse has so nicely given him.

①

When they head off to the city mouse’s house they have to do it under cover of night. The

②

city mouse performed the duties of a host licking all the food beforehand (in case it was

③

poisoned). Suddenly the doors screeched open and they ran all over the place in terror. This

④

shows that while the town mouse might have fancier food and furnishings he has to be

careful and scared even in his own house.

This shows Horace’s attitude towards each lifestyle. He sees life in the country as simple but easy and the city luxurious but probably not worth the hassle it brings in living there being

④

beset by dangers.

	Grade Boundary: High Not Achieved
6.	<p>For Achieved, the student needs to analyse a Roman viewpoint.</p> <p>This involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• applying linguistic and socio-cultural knowledge to extract and explore ideas from previously studied written/visual material</li> <li>• drawing conclusions about the viewpoint.</li> </ul> <p>This student has applied some linguistic and socio-cultural knowledge to extract and explore ideas in texts by Pliny, Juvenal and Horace. The student notes, for example, Pliny's lack of interest in the entertainment on offer in the city (2).</p> <p>The ideas of fear (4) and danger (5) in the city and the peaceful life in the country are explored (3).</p> <p>Socio-cultural knowledge of Roman entertainment is applied (1).</p> <p>To reach Achieved, the student could supply conclusions about the Roman viewpoint on life in the town and country, for example <i>'Juvenal and Pliny seem to dislike life in the city because it can be dangerous if you are poor, and tedious if you are rich. Life in the country seems to be safer and more peaceful'</i>.</p>

Student 6: High Not Achieved

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1 Pliny was a countryman and an author. He was quite well off and tells of his simple and peaceful life in the country. Being a man of high political status who frequently had duties to carry out in the city he himself was able to get a clear picture of the differences between town and country living. He had no interest in social events like the circus games or the chariot races. "The circus games were on the sort of show in which I am not the slightest bit interested." In his own mind he was better than the town folk. In his country home he could be at peace in silence and among his writing tablets. "Omne hoc tempus inter pugillares ac libellos iucundissima quiete transmisi".

4 The poet Juvenal shared Pliny's opinion about the city. He described the life there in detail. He told of houses being unstable and the residents living in fear of their collapse as well as fires which were also a common cause of the destruction of property.

5 Horace wrote the well-known tale of the Town and Country Mouse. The country mouse is content with his simple life. The town mouse is living a life of luxury and comes across as a bit pretentious. The downside to the town mouse's life is that while it is something that the country mouse admires at first it is also dangerous. When their lives are threatened by vicious dogs in the luxurious town house the country mouse says "I have no need of this life. Farewell." Tum rusticus 'haud mihi vita est opus hac..' ait 'et valeas.'