

EDUQAS

Latin GCSE

Component 3A:
Further Literature

Tacitus, Germanicus and Piso

Student Study Book (without notes)



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
SCHOOL CLASSICS PROJECT

PUBLISHED BY THE CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL CLASSICS PROJECT
Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge
11 West Road, Cambridge CB3 9DP, UK
<http://www.CambridgeSCP.com>

First published 2016.

Version 1.0 - first release.

Tacitus, *Germanicus and Piso*

Nero Claudius Germanicus Caesar, born in 15 BC, was the great-nephew of the Emperor Augustus, who saw him as a possible heir, if anything happened to his adopted son and likely heir, Tiberius. Augustus had therefore arranged for Tiberius to adopt Germanicus.

Germanicus successfully commanded the Roman forces on the northern frontier and was popular with the legions and the people. Tiberius, however (according to Tacitus), came to hate him as a rival and recalled him to Rome. Being unable to dispose of him openly, Tiberius sent him to the East as commander-in-chief of the Roman forces there, to settle several longstanding problems on the fringes of the empire. He also (allegedly) secretly ordered Gnaeus Calpurnius Piso, the governor of Syria, to block all Germanicus' orders and – as many contemporaries believed – to arrange his death.

Our extract begins with the arrival of Germanicus and Piso in the East in AD 18.

Section A

Lines 1- 3

at Cn. Pīsō, quō celerius cōnsilia inciperet, postquam Syriam
ac legiōnēs attigīt, largītiōne et ambitū īnfimōs mīlitum
iuvābat.

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | at - as for
Cn. = Gnaeus
Pīsō, Pīsōnis, m. - Piso
quō - so that
celerius - more quickly
cōnsilium, cōnsiliū, n. - scheme
incipiō, incipere, incēpī, inceptus -
commence
postquam - after
Syria, Syriae, f. - Syria | 2 | ac - and
legiō, legiōnis, f. - legion, pl. troops
attigō, attingere, attigī - reach
largītiō, largītiōnis, f. - generosity
et - and
ambitus, ambitūs, m. - bribery
īnfimus, īnfima, īnfimum - basest
mīles, mīlitis, m. - soldier | 3 | iuvō, iuvāre, iūvī, iūtus - won over |
|---|---|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|

Notes

Lines 3 - 6

5

Notes

Section A
Lines 6 - 10

nec Plancīna, uxor Pīsōnis, sē gerēbat
ut fēminam decēbat, sed exercitiō equitum intererat, et in
Agrippīnam, in Germānicum contumēliās iaciēbat. nōta
haec Germānicō, sed praevertī ad Armeniōs īstantior
cūra fuit.

10

- 6 nec - *nor*
Plancīna, Plancīnae, f. - *Plancina*
uxor, uxōris, f. - *wife*
Pīsō, Pīsōnis, m. - *Gnaeus Calpurnius Piso*
sē - *himself, herself, themselves*
gerō, gerere, gessī, gestus - *conduct*
sē gerere - *to behave*
- 7 ut - *as*
fēmina, fēminae, f. - *woman*
decet, decēre, decuit - *ought*
sed - *but*
exercitium, exercitiī, n. - *training*
equitēs, equitum, m. pl. - *cavalry*
intersum, interesse, interfuī + dat. - *attend*
et - *an*
in - *against*

- 8 Agrippīna, Agrippīnae, f. - *Agrippina*
in - *against*
Germānicus, Germānicī, m. - *Germanicus*
contumēlia, contumēliae, f. - *abuse (verbal)*
iaciō, iacere, iēcī, iactus - *hurl*
nōtus, nōta, nōtum - *known*
- 9 hic, haec, hoc - *this*
Germānicus, Germānicī, m. - *Germanicus*
sed - *but*
praevertor, praevertī, praeversus sum -
attend first
ad - *to*
Armeniī, Armeniōrum, m. - *the Armenians*
īstāns, gen. īstantis - *pressing*
- 10 cūra, cūrae, f. - *concern*
sum, esse, fuī - *be*

Notes

Germanicus averted a crisis in Armenia by supporting the people's choice of king, and made a peaceful settlement with the Parthians on the Syrian frontier; then, in the following year, he visited Egypt to travel up the Nile to see the ancient sites.

Section B

Lines 1 - 7

On his return to Syria, Germanicus learnt that all his orders to the legions and cities had been cancelled or reversed. As a result, he severely reprimanded Piso, who reproached him with equal bitterness and even decided to leave Syria. Soon, however, Germanicus fell ill, so Piso stayed on, waiting to see how the illness progressed.

5

saevam vim morbī augēbat persuāsiō venēnī ā Pīsōne
acceptī;

6 saevus, saeva, saevum - *violent*
vīs, f. - *intensity*
morbus, morbī, m. - *illness*
augeō, augēre, auxī, auctus - *increase*
persuāsiō, persuāsiōnis, f. - *belief*

venēnum, venēnī, n. - *poison*
ā - *from*
Pīsō, Pīsōnis, m. - *Piso*
7 accipiō, accipere, accēpī, acceptus - *receive*

Notes

Section B

Lines 7 - 11

et reperiēbantur solō ac parietibus ērutae
hūmānōrum corporum reliquiae, carmina et dēvōtiōnēs et
nōmen Germānicī plumbeīs tabulīs īnsculptum, cinerēs
sēmustī ac tābō oblitī aliaque malefica quibus crēditur
animās nūminibus īfernīs sacrārī.

10

- 7 et - *indeed*
reperiō, reperīre, repperī, repertus - *find*
solum, solī, n. - *foundation*
ac - *and*
pariēs, parietis, m. - *wall*
ērutus, ēruta, ērutum - *excavated*
- 8 hūmānus, hūmāna, hūmānum - *human*
corpus, corporis, n. - *body*
reliquiae, reliquiārum, f. pl. - *remains*
carmen, carminis, n. - *spell*
et - *and*
dēvōtiō, dēvōtiōnis, f. - *curse*
et - *and*
- 9 nōmen, nōminis, n. - *name*
Germānicus, Germānicī, m. - *Germanicus*
plumbeus, plumbea, plumbeum - *made of lead*
tabula, tabulae, f. - *tablet*
īnsculpō, īnsculpere, īnsculpī, īnsculptus -

- inscribe*
cinis, cineris, m. - *ash*
- 10 sēmustus, sēmusta, sēmustum - *half-burned*
ac - *and*
tābum, tābī, n. - *rotten flesh*
oblinō, oblinere, oblīvī, oblitus - *smear*
alius, alia, aliud - *other*
-que - *and*
maleficum, maleficī, n. - *wicked charm*
quī, quae, quod - *which*
crēdō, crēdere, crēdidī + dat. - *think*
- 11 anima, animae, f. - *soul*
nūmen, nūminis, n. - *god*
īnfernus, īnferna, īnfernū - *of the Underworld*
sacrō, sacrāre, sacrāvī, sacrātus - *consecrate*

Notes

Section B
Lines 11 - 14

simul missī ā Pīsōne
incūsābantur quod valētūdinis adversae signa exspectārent.
haec Germānicō haud minus īrā quam per metum accepta
sunt. compōnit epistolam quā amīcitiā eī renūntiābat.

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|--|
| 11 | simul - <i>at the same time</i>
mittō, mittere, mīsī, missus - <i>send</i>
ā - <i>by</i>
Pīsō, Pīsōnis, m. - <i>Piso</i> | | minus - <i>less</i>
īra, īrae, f. - <i>anger</i>
quam - <i>than</i>
per - <i>with</i> |
| 12 | incūsō, incūsāre, incūsāvī, incūsātus -
accuse
quod - <i>because</i>
valētūdō, valētūdinis, f. - <i>health</i>
adversus, adversa, adversum - <i>adverse</i>
signum, signī, n. - <i>sign</i>
exspectō, exspectāre, exspectāvī,
exspectātus - <i>wait for</i> | 14 | metus, metūs, m. - <i>fear</i>
accipiō, accipere, accēpī, acceptus - <i>receive</i>
compōnō, compōnere, composuī,
compositus - <i>compose</i>
epistula, epistulae, f. - <i>letter</i>
quī, quae, quod - <i>which</i>
amīcitiā, amīcitiāe, f. - <i>friendship</i>
is, ea, id - <i>he, she, it</i>
renūntiō, renūntiāre, renūntiāvī, renūntiātus -
renounce |
| 13 | hic, haec, hoc - <i>this</i>
Germānicus, Germānicī, m. - <i>Germanicus</i>
haud - <i>not</i> | | |

Notes

Section B
Lines 15 - 18

It is widely believed that he also ordered Piso to leave the province. 15
Piso, without waiting any longer, set sail, but he travelled slowly so
that he would not have so far to come back if the death of Germanicus
left Syria open to him.

Notes

Notes

Lines 1 - 4

Germānicus paulīsp̄er sē crēdidit convalēscere; deinde fessum fīēbat corpus. ubi finis aderat, adstantēs amīcōs ita adloquitur: ‘erit vōbīs occāsiō querendī apud senātum atque invocandī lēgēs.

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | Germānicus, Germānicī, m. - <i>Germanicus</i>
paulīser - <i>for a short time</i>
sē - <i>himself, herself, themselves</i>
crēdō, crēdere, crēdidī + dat. - <i>believe</i>
convalēscō, convalēscere, convaluī - <i>recover</i>
deinde - <i>then</i> | | amīcus, amīcī, m. - <i>friend</i>
ita - <i>as follows</i> |
| 2 | fessus, fessa, fessum - <i>weak</i>
fiō, fierī, factus sum - <i>become</i>
corpus, corporis, n. - <i>body</i>
ubi - <i>when</i>
finis, finis, m. - <i>end</i>
adsum, adesse, adfuī - <i>be near</i>
adstō, adstāre, adstitī - <i>stand beside</i> | 3 | adloquor, adloquī, adlocūtus sum - <i>address</i>
sum, esse, fuī - <i>be</i>
vōs - <i>you (plural)</i>
occāsiō, occāsiōnis, f. - <i>opportunity</i>
queror, querī, questus sum - <i>complain</i>
apud - <i>before</i>
senātus, senātūs, m. - <i>the Senate house</i>
atque - <i>and</i> |
| | | 4 | invocō, invocāre, invocāvī, invocātus - <i>invoke</i>
lēx, lēgis, f. - <i>law</i> |

Notes

Section C
Lines 4 - 7

decet amīcōs nōn prōsequī dēfūnctum
ignāvō questū, sed quae voluerit meminisse, quae
mandāverit exsequī. vindicābitis vōs, sī mē potius quam
fortūnam meam dīligēbātis.'

5

- 4 decet, decēre, decuit - *be fitting*
 amīcus, amīcī, m. - *friend*
 nōn - *not*
 prōsequor, prōsequī, prōsecūtus sum -
 accompany (at a funeral)
 dēfūnctus, dēfūncta, dēfūnctum - *deceased*
5 ignāvus, ignāva, ignāvum - *useless*
 questus, questūs, m. - *lament*
 sed - *but rather*
 quī, quae, quod - *what*
 volō, velle, voluī - *want*
 meminī, meminisse - *remember*
 quī, quae, quod - *what*

- 6 mandō, mandāre, mandāvī, mandātus - *order*
 exsequor, exsequī, exsecūtus sum - *carry out*
 vindicō, vindicāre, vindicāvī, vindicātus -
 avenge
 vōs - *you (plural)*
 sī - *if*
 ego, meī - *me*
 potius - *rather*
 quam - *than*
7 fortūna, fortūnae, f. - *status*
 meus, mea, meum - *my*
 dīligō, dīligere, dīlēxī, dīlēctus - *love*

Notes

Section C
Lines 7 - 9

amīcī, dextram morientis
amplectentēs, iūrāvērunt sē vītam ante quam ultiōnem
āmissūrōs esse.

7	amīcus, amīcī, m. - <i>friend</i> dextra, dextrae, f. - <i>right hand</i> moriō, morī, mortuus sum - <i>die</i>	sē - <i>himself, herself, themselves</i> vīta, vītae, f. - <i>life</i> ante quam- <i>before, rather than</i>
8	amplector, ampectī, amplexus sum - <i>clasp</i> iūrō, iūrāre, iūrāvī - <i>swear</i>	ultiō, ultiōnis, f. - <i>revenge</i> 9 āmittō, āmittere, āmīsī, āmissus - <i>lose</i>

Notes

Lines 1 - 5

5

Notes

Section D

Lines 5 - 9

et erant quī illum

5

magnō Alexandrō ob fōrmam aetātem genus locumque
mortis adaequārent; nam affirmāvērunt utrumque corpore
decōrō praeditum, genere īnsignī ortum, vix trīgintā annōs
nātum periisse.

5	et - <i>even</i> sum, esse, fuī - <i>be</i> quī, quae, quod - <i>who</i> ille, illa, illud - <i>that, he, she</i>			nam - <i>for</i> affirmō, affirmāre, affirmāvī - <i>declare</i> uterque, utraque, utrumque - <i>both</i> corpus, corporis, n. - <i>figure</i>
6	magnus, magna, magnum - <i>great</i> Alexander, Alexandrī, m. - <i>Alexander</i> ob - <i>because of</i> fōrma, fōrmae, f. - <i>looks</i> aetās, aetātis, f. - <i>age</i> genus, generis, n. - <i>lineage</i> locus, locī, m. - <i>place</i> -que - <i>and</i>	8		decōrus, decōra, decōrum - <i>handsome</i> praeditus, praedita, praeditum - <i>endowed with</i> genus, generis, n. - <i>family</i> īnsignis, īnsigne - <i>distinguished</i> orior, orīrī, ortus sum - <i>be descended (from)</i> vix - <i>scarcely</i> trīgintā - <i>thirty</i> annus, annī, m. - <i>year</i>
7	mors, mortis, f. - <i>death</i> adaequō, adaequāre, adaequāvī, adaequātus - <i>compare to</i>	9		nāscor, nāscī, nātus sum - <i>be born</i> annōs nātum - <i>years old</i> pereō, perīre, perī - <i>die</i>

Notes

Section E

Before being cremated, Germanicus' body was exhibited in the forum at Antioch, where the funeral was going to take place. Whether it showed signs of poisoning was never quite established. People came to different conclusions, depending on whether they had preconceived suspicions and felt sympathy for Germanicus or were more prepared to support Piso.

5

As a result of discussions among senior officials in the province, Gnaeus Sentius was chosen to act as governor of Syria. He dispatched to Rome a woman called Martina, who was a notorious poisoner and a close associate of Plancina. This was done at the request of those who had begun drawing up charges as though a trial was already arranged.

10

Notes

Notes

Section F

Lines 1 - 6

at Agrippīna, quamquam dēfessa lūctū et corpore aegrō,
impatīens tamen erat omnium quae ultiōnem morārentur.
ascendit nāvem cum cineribus Germānicī et līberīs,
miserantibus omnibus quod fēmina summā nōbilitāte
pulcherrimōque mātirimōniō, quae venerātiōnem omnium
merēret, tunc fērālēs reliquiās sinū ferret, incerta ultiōnis.

5

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | at - <i>meanwhile</i>
Agrippīna, Agrippīnae, f. - <i>Agrippina</i>
quamquam - <i>though</i>
dēfessus, dēfessa, dēfessum - <i>worn out</i>
lūctus, lūctūs, m. - <i>grief</i>
et - <i>and</i>
corpus, corporis, n. - <i>body</i>
aeger, aegra, aegrum - <i>ailing</i> | 4 | līberī, līberōrum, m. - <i>children</i>
miseror, miserārī, miserātus sum - <i>pity</i>
omnis, omne - <i>all, every</i>
quod - <i>because</i>
fēmina, fēminae, f. - <i>woman</i>
summus, summa, summum - <i>highest</i>
nōbilitās, nōbilitātis, f. - <i>nobility</i> |
| 2 | impatīens, gen. impatientis - <i>impatient of</i>
tamen - <i>nevertheless</i>
sum, esse, fuī - <i>be</i>
omnia - <i>all, everything</i>
quī, quae, quod - <i>which</i>
ultiō, ultiōnis, f. - <i>revenge</i>
moror, morārī, morātus sum - <i>delay</i> | 5 | pulcher, pulchra, pulchrum - <i>fortunate</i>
-que - <i>and</i>
mātirimōnium, mātirimōniī, n. - <i>marriage</i>
quī, quae, quod - <i>who</i>
venerātiō, venerātiōnis, f. - <i>admiration</i>
omnis, omne - <i>all, every</i> |
| 3 | ascendō, ascendere, ascendī, ascēsus -
<i>board</i>
nāvis, nāvis, f. - <i>ship</i>
cum - <i>with</i>
cinis, cineris, m. - <i>ash</i>
Germānicus, Germānicī, m. - <i>Germanicus</i>
et - <i>and</i> | 6 | mereō, merēre, meruī - <i>earn</i>
tunc - <i>now</i>
fērālīs, fērāle - <i>funereal</i>
reliquiae, reliquiārum, f. pl. - <i>remains, ashes</i>
sinus, sinūs, m. - <i>arms</i>
ferō, ferre, tulī, lātus - <i>carry</i>
incertus, incerta, incertum - <i>uncertain</i>
ultiō, ultiōnis, f. - <i>revenge</i> |

Notes

Section F

Lines 7 - 11

Pīsōnem interim apud Coum ĩnsulam nūntius adsequitur
periisse Germānicum. quō gāvīsus caedit victimās, adit
templa. nōn modo Pīsō ipse gaudiō immoderātō sē gerit,
sed etiam magis ĩnsolēscit Plancīna, quae lūctum mortuā
sorōre tum prīmum in laetum cultum mūtāvit.

10

- 7 Pīsō, Pīsōnis, m. - *Piso*
interim - *meanwhile*
apud - *at*
Cous, Coī, f. - *Cos*
Īnsula, Īnsulae, f. - *island*
Cous Īnsula - *the island of Cos, off the coast of Turkey*
nūntius, nūntiī, m. - *news*
adsequor, adsequī, adsecūtus sum - *overtake*
8 pereō, perīre, perī - *die*
Germānicus, Germānicī, m. - *Germanicus*
quī, quae, quod - *this*
gaudeō, gaudēre, gāvīsus sum - *be delighted*
caedō, caedere, cecīdī, caesus - *slaughter*
victima, victimae, f. - *sacrificial animal*
adeō, adīre, adī - *visit*
9 templum, templī, n. - *temple*
nōn - *not*
modo - *only*
nōn modo ... sed etiam - *not only ... but even*
Pīsō, Pīsōnis, m. - *Piso*
ipse, ipsa, ipsum - *himself, herself, itself*
gaudium, gaudiī, n. - *joy*

- immoderātus, immoderāta, immoderātum - *excessive*
sē - *himself, herself, themselves*
gerō, gerere, gessī, gestus - *conduct*
sē gerere - *to behave*
10 sed - *but*
etiam - *even*
nōn modo ... sed etiam - *not only ... but even*
magis - *more*
Īsolēscō, Īsolēscere - *become arrogant*
Plancīna, Plancīnae, f. - *Plancina*
quī, quae, quod - *who*
lūctus, lūctūs, m. - *mourning clothes*
mortuus, mortua, mortuum - *dead*
11 soror, sorōris, f. - *sister*
tum - *then*
prīmum - *for the first time*
in - *in, for*
mūtāre in - *to exchange for*
laetus, laeta, laetum - *happy, of celebration*
cultus, cultūs, m. - *worship; clothes*
mūtō, mūtāre, mūtāvī, mūtātus - *exchange*
mūtāre in - *to exchange for*

Notes

Piso's supporters urged him, as the legitimate governor of Syria, to return to his province rather than continue to Rome. Piso wrote to Tiberius, claiming that he had been unlawfully expelled and accusing Germanicus of extravagance and arrogance. However, his attempts to re-enter the province by force and to incite the troops in Syria to mutiny proved futile. Following his surrender, he was allowed a safe passage by ship to Rome.

Notes

Notes

Section G

Lines 1 - 5

at Rōmae, postquam fāma Germānicī valētūdinis
percrēbuit cūnctaque, ut ex longinquō, aucta in dēterius
adferēbantur, dolor, īra, questūs ērumpēbant: ideō nīmīrum
Germānicum in extrēmās terrās relēgātum esse, ideō
Pīsōnī permissam prōvinciam.

5

- 1 at - *meanwhile*
Rōmae - *at Rome, in Rome*
postquam - *after*
fāma, fāmae, f. - *rumour*
Germānicus, Germānicī, m. - *Germanicus*
valētūdō, valētūdinis, f. - *ill-health*
- 2 percrēbēscō, percrēbēscere, percrēbuī -
become well-known
cūncta, cūnctorum, n. pl. - *everything*
-que - *and*
ut - *as*
ex - *from*
longinquus, longinqua, longinquum - *distant, afar*
augeō, augēre, auxī, auctus - *exaggerate*
in - *for*
dēterior, dēterius - *worse*
in dēterius - *for the worse*

- 3 adferō, adferre, attulī, adlātum - *report*
dolor, dolōris, m. - *grief*
īra, īrae, f. - *anger*
questus, questūs, m. - *lament*
ērumpō, ērumpere, ērūpī, ēruptus - *break out*
ideō - *this is why*
nīmīrum - *so*
- 4 Germānicus, Germānicī, m. - *Germanicus*
in - *to*
extrēmus, extrēma, extrēmum - *distant*
terra, terrae, f. - *land*
relēgō, relēgāre, relēgāvī, relēgātus - *banish*
ideō - *this is why*
- 5 Pīsō, Pīsōnis, m. - *Piso*
permittō, permittere, permīsi, permissus -
permissam here = permissam esse - allow, entrust
prōvincia, prōvinciae, f. - *province*

Notes

Section G

Lines 5 - 10

hōs vulgī sermōnēs mors 5

Germānicī, ubi nūntiāta est, adeō incendit ut, ante ēdictum
magistrātuum, ante senātūs cōnsultum, sūmptō iūstitiō
dēsererentur fora, clauderentur domūs. ubīque silentium
et gemitus. et quamquam īnsignibus lūgentium nōn
abstinēbant, altius animīs maerēbant. 10

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>5 hic, haec, hoc - <i>this</i>
 vulgus, vulgī, n. - <i>people</i>
 sermō, sermōnis, m. - <i>conversation</i>
 mors, mortis, f. - <i>death</i></p> <p>6 Germānicus, Germānicī, m. - <i>Germanicus</i>
 ubi - <i>when</i>
 nūntiō, nūntiāre, nūntiāvī, nūntiātus -
 <i>announce</i>
 adeō - <i>so</i>
 incendō, incendere, incendī, incēnsus - <i>incite</i>
 ut - <i>that</i>
 ante - <i>before</i>
 ēdictum, ēdictī, n. - <i>edict</i></p> <p>7 magistrātus, magistrātūs, m. - <i>magistrate</i>
 ante - <i>before</i>
 senātus, senātūs, m. - <i>Senate</i>
 cōnsultum, cōnsultī, n. - <i>decree</i>
 sūmō, sūmere, sūmpsī, sūmptus - <i>take</i>
 iūstitium, iūstitiī, n. - <i>a break from legal</i></p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><i>business</i></p> <p>8 dēserō, dēserere, dēseruī, dēsertus -
 <i>abandon</i>
 forum, forī, n. - <i>law-court</i>
 claudō, claudere, clausī, clausus - <i>shut</i>
 domus, domūs, f. - <i>home</i>
 ubīque - <i>everywhere</i>
 silentium, silentiī, n. - <i>silence</i></p> <p>9 et - <i>and</i>
 gemitus, gemitūs, m. - <i>wailing</i>
 et - <i>and</i>
 quamquam - <i>although</i>
 īnsignia, īnsignium, n. pl. - <i>the outward signs</i>
 lūgentēs, lūgentium, m. pl. - <i>mourners</i>
 nōn - <i>not</i></p> <p>10 abstineō, abstinēre, abstinuī - <i>refrain from</i>
 altus, alta, altum - <i>deep</i>
 animus, animī, m. - <i>heart</i>
 maereō, maerēre - <i>grieve</i></p> |
|---|--|

Notes

Section H

Lines 1 - 4

nāvigātiōne hībernī maris nēquāquam intermissā
Agrippīna Brundisiō appropinquat. interim adventū eius
audītō multī amīcī et plūrimī mīlitēs quī sub Germānicō
stīpendia fēcērant ruērunt ad portum.

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | nāvigātiō, nāvigātiōnis, f. - <i>voyage</i>
hībernus, hīberna, hībernum - <i>wintry</i>
mare, maris, n. - <i>sea</i>
nēquāquam - <i>without at all, not at all</i>
intermittō, intermittere, intermīsī, intermissus
- <i>interrupt</i> | | | multī, multae, multa - <i>many</i>
amīcus, amīcī, m. - <i>friend</i>
et - <i>and</i>
plūrimī, plūrimae, plūrima - <i>numerous</i>
mīles, mīlitis, m. - <i>soldier</i>
quī, quae, quod - <i>who</i>
sub - <i>under</i> |
| 2 | Agrippīna, Agrippīnae, f. - <i>Agrippina</i>
Brundisium, Brundisī, n. - <i>Brundisium</i>
appropinquō, appropinquāre, appropinquāvī
+ dat. - <i>approach</i>
interim - <i>in the meantime</i>
adventus, adventūs, m. - <i>arrival</i>
is, ea, id - <i>he, she, it</i> | | 4 | Germānicus, Germānicī, m. - <i>Germanicus</i>
stīpendia, stīpendiōrum, n. pl. - <i>military</i>
service
faciō, facere, fēcī, factus - <i>do</i>
ruō, ruere, ruī - <i>rush</i>
ad - <i>to</i> |
| 3 | audiō, audīre, audīvī, audītus - <i>hear</i> | | | portus, portūs, m. - <i>harbour</i> |

Notes

Section H

Lines 4 - 7

simulac vīsa est
nāvis, complentur nōn solum portus sed etiam moenia ac
tēcta turbā maerentium et rogantium inter sē, silentiōne
an vōce aliquā ēgredientem exciperent.

5

- 4 simulac - *as soon as*
videō, vidēre, vīdī, vīsus - *see*
- 5 nāvis, nāvis, f. - *ship*
compleō, complēre, complēvī, complētus - *fill*
nōn - *not*
solum - *only*
nōn solum ... sed etiam - *not only ... but even*
portus, portūs, m. - *harbour*
sed - *but*
etiam - *even*
nōn solum ... sed etiam - *not only ... but even*
moenia, moenium, n. - *walls*
ac - *and*

- 6 tēctum, tēctī, n. - *roof*
turba, turbae, f. - *crowd*
maereō, maerēre - *mourn*
et - *and*
rogō, rogāre, rogāvī, rogātus - *ask*
inter - *among, between*
sē - *himself, herself, themselves*
silentium, silentiī, n. - *silence*
- 7 an - *or*
vōx, vōcis, f. - *cry*
aliquī, aliqua, aliquod - *some*
ēgredior, ēgredī, ēgressus sum - *disembark*
excipiō, excipere, excēpī, exceptus - *welcome*

Notes

Section H

Lines 7 - 11

nāvis lentē

appropinquat, nōn celeriter, ut solet, sed cūnctīs ad trīstitiam
compositīs. postquam duōbus cum līberīs, fērālem urnam
tenēns, ēgressa ē nāve dēfīxit oculōs, īdem fuit omnium
gemitus.

10

- 7 nāvis, nāvis, f. - *ship*
lentē - *slowly*
appropinquō, appropinquāre, appropinquāvī
+ dat. - *approach*
nōn - *not*
celeriter - *quickly*
ut - *as*
soleō, solēre, solitus sum - *be customary*
- 8 sed - *but*
cūncta, cūnctorum, n. pl. - *everything*
ad - *for*
trīstitia, trīstitiae, f. - *grief*
compōnō, compōnere, composuī,
compositus - *arrange*
postquam - *when*

- duo, duae, duo - *two*
cum - *with*
- 9 līberī, līberōrum, m. pl. - *children*
fērālis, fērāle - *funereal*
urna, urnae, f. - *urn*
teneō, tenēre, tenuī, tentus - *hold*
ēgredior, ēgredī, ēgressus sum - *come off*
ē - *from*
nāvis, nāvis, f. - *ship*
dēfīgō, dēfīgere, dēfīxī, dēfīxus - *cast down*
- 10 oculus, oculī, m. - *eye*
īdem, eadem, idem - *the same*
sum, esse, fuī - *be*
omnis, omne - *all, every*
- 11 gemitus, gemitūs, m. - *groan*

Notes

Section I

Tiberius had sent two cohorts of the Praetorian Guard, and had ordered the officials of Calabria, Apulia and Campania to pay their last respects to his adoptive son. So, his ashes were borne on the shoulders of tribunes and centurions, preceded by unadorned standards and reversed axes; at each successive town, in proportion to its wealth, the people clothed in black and the gentry in their purple robes burnt garments, spices and other funeral offerings. Even people from far-flung villages came to meet the procession, offering sacrifices and erecting altars to the souls of the dead, and showing their grief by tears and lamentations.

5

10

Notes

Notes

Section J

The consuls, the Senate, and a great part of the population thronged the roadside in scattered groups, weeping as their hearts moved them. This was not done simply to gratify the Emperor: everyone knew that Tiberius could scarcely conceal his delight at the death of Germanicus. He and his mother Livia made no public appearance. Either they considered open mourning beneath their dignity, or they feared that the public would detect insincerity on their faces.

5

On the day when Germanicus' remains were interred in the Mausoleum of Augustus there was a desolate silence, broken only by wailing. Soldiers, officials, and people all declared repeatedly that Rome was finished, all hope gone, so readily and openly that you would think they had forgotten about their rulers.

10

Notes

Notes

After the period of mourning was over, people returned to work, but there remained a widespread feeling that Tiberius had shown insufficient respect to Germanicus, and everyone was eager for vengeance on Piso.

Meanwhile Piso and Plancina sailed back to Italy and made their way cheerfully to Rome, where their house, which overlooked the forum, was festively decorated. The banqueting and feasting which followed their return increased the public indignation.

The next day Licius Fulcinus Trio asked the consuls for permission to prosecute Piso. Tiberius, aware of the strength of public feeling, referred the whole matter to the senate.

Section K

The entire city was agog to see how loyal the friends of Germanicus would prove themselves, what would be the case for the defence, whether Tiberius would manage to suppress and conceal his feelings. Never had there been such intense public interest, so much secret criticism, such unvoiced suspicion of the Emperor.

5

Notes

Section L

When the Senate met, Tiberius made a speech of carefully phrased impartiality. 'Piso', he said, 'was my father's friend and representative. With the approval of the Senate, I appointed him to assist Germanicus with the government of the East. The question to be settled, with open minds, is whether he embittered the young prince by his disobedience and quarrelsomeness and then rejoiced in his death, or whether he murdered him. If Piso as governor exceeded the bounds of his office, if he failed in obedience to his commander, if he rejoiced in his death – and my sorrow – then I shall bear him hatred and ban him from my house to avenge my personal wrongs, without using the power of an Emperor. But if there is proof of murder – a crime which demands revenge whatever the rank of the victim – then you must give to the children of Germanicus, and to us who are his parents, the satisfaction that is our due.

There is another matter that you must consider. Did Piso rouse his troops to mutiny and rebellion? Did he try to recover his province by force? Or are these exaggerated charges, invented by the prosecution?

I weep for my son and ever shall, but I intend to allow the defendant every means of establishing his own innocence, or the unfairness of Germanicus, if such there was. My instructions to you are that you are not to regard accusations as proven simply because my personal sorrow is involved in the case. Drusus' tears, my grief, are wholly irrelevant – as are the slanders people are concocting against us.'

Notes

Notes

Section M

Lines 1 - 6

deinde biduum crīminibus obiciendīs statuitur utque
post intervallum sex diērum reus per trīduum dēfenderētur.
trēs amīcī Germānicī cōnsimilī studiō obiēcērunt Pīsōnem,
odiō Germānicī et rērum novārum studiō, mīlitēs per
licentiam et sociōrum iniūriās corrūpisse; postrēmō ipsum
Germānicum dēvōtiōnibus et venēnō occīdisse.

5

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | deinde - <i>then</i>
biduum, biduī, n. - <i>two days</i>
crīmen, crīminis, n. - <i>charge</i>
obiciō, obicere, obiēcī, obiectus - <i>present</i>
statuō, statuere, statuī, statūtus - <i>lay down</i>
ut - <i>that</i>
-que - <i>and</i> | | |
| 2 | post - <i>after</i>
intervallum, intervallī, n. - <i>interval</i>
sex - <i>six</i>
diēs, diēī, m. - <i>day</i>
reus, reī, m. - <i>the accused</i>
per - <i>for</i>
trīduum, trīduī, n. - <i>three days</i>
dēfendō, dēfendere, dēfendī, dēfēnsus -
<i>defend</i> | | |
| 3 | trēs, tria - <i>three</i>
amīcus, amīcī, m. - <i>friend</i>
Germānicus, Germānicī, m. - <i>Germanicus</i>
cōnsimilis, cōnsimile - <i>equal</i>
studium, studiī, n. - <i>zeal</i>
obiciō, obicere, obiēcī, obiectus - <i>say in</i> | | |
| | | 4 | <i>accusation, accuse</i>
Pīsō, Pīsōnis, m. - <i>Piso</i>
odium, odiī, n. - <i>hatred</i>
Germānicus, Germānicī, m. - <i>Germanicus</i>
et - <i>and</i>
rēs novae, rērum novārum, f. pl. - <i>revolution</i>
studium, studiī, n. - <i>desire</i>
mīles, mīlitis, m. - <i>soldier</i>
per - <i>through</i> |
| | | 5 | licentia, licentiae, f. - <i>riotous behaviour</i>
et - <i>and</i>
socius, sociī, m. - <i>person of the province</i>
iniūria, iniūriae, f. - <i>ill-treatment</i>
corrumpō, corrumpere, corrūpī, corruptus -
<i>corrupt</i>
postrēmō - <i>lastly</i>
ipse, ipsa, ipsum - <i>himself, herself, itself</i> |
| | | 6 | Germānicus, Germānicī, m. - <i>Germanicus</i>
dēvōtiō, dēvōtiōnis, f. - <i>curse</i>
et - <i>and</i>
venēnum, venēnī, n. - <i>poison</i>
occīdō, occīdere, occīdī, occīsus - <i>kill</i> |

Notes

Section M
Lines 6 - 8

tum et

Pīsōnem et Plancīnam, postquam sacra et immolātiōnēs
nefandās fēcissent, petīvisse armīs rem pūblicam.

6 tum - *then*
et - *and*

et ... et - *both ... and*

7 Pīsō, Pīsōnis, m. - *Piso*

et - *and*

et ... et - *both ... and*

Plancīna, Plancīnae, f. - *Plancina*

postquam - *after*

sacra, sacrōrum, n. pl. - *rites*

et - *and*

immolātiō, immolātiōnis, f. - *sacrifice*

8 nefandus, nefanda, nefandum - *wicked*

faciō, facere, fēcī, factus - *practise*

petō, petere, petīvī, petītus - *seek, make for*

arma, armōrum, n. pl. - *arms, weapons, war*

arma petere - *to make war on*

rēs pūblica, rei pūblicae, f. - *state, Rome*

Notes

Section N

Lines 1 - 4

dēfēnsiō in cēterīs crīminibus trepidāvit; nam neque
ambitiō mīlitum neque iniūria in prōvinciam, nē contumēliae
quidem adversum imperātōrem, negārī poterant: solum
venēnī crīmen potuit Pīsō dīluere.

1	dēfēnsiō, dēfēnsiōnis, f. - <i>defence</i> in - <i>against, for</i> cēterī, cēterae, cētera - <i>the other, the rest</i> crīmen, crīminis, n. - <i>charge</i> trepidō, trepidāre, trepidāvī - <i>falter</i> nam - <i>for</i> neque - <i>neither, nor</i> neque ... neque - <i>neither ... nor</i>		
2	ambitiō, ambitiōnis, f. - <i>bribery</i> mīles, mīlitis, m. - <i>soldier</i> neque - <i>neither, nor</i> neque ... neque - <i>neither ... nor</i> iniūria, iniūriae, f. - <i>injustice, ill-treatment</i> in - <i>towards</i>	3	prōvincia, prōvinciae, f. - <i>province</i> nē - <i>nor</i> contumēlia, contumēliae, f. - <i>insult</i> quidem - <i>even</i> adversum - <i>against</i> imperātor, imperātōris, m. - <i>commander</i> negō, negāre, negāvī, negātus - <i>deny</i> possum, posse, potuī - <i>can, be able</i> solum - <i>only</i>
		4	venēnum, venēnī, n. - <i>poison</i> crīmen, crīminis, n. - <i>crime</i> possum, posse, potuī - <i>can, be able</i> Pīsō, Pīsōnis, m. - <i>Piso</i> dīluō, dīluere, dīluī - <i>wash one's hands of</i>

Notes

Section N
Lines 4 - 6

at simul populī ante
cūriam vōcēs audiēbantur: nōn temperātūrōs manibus sī
Pīsō sententiās patrum ēvāsisset.

5

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| 4 | at - <i>but</i>
simul - <i>at that moment</i>
populus, populī, m. - <i>people</i>
ante - <i>in front of</i> | | temperō, temperāre, temperāvī, temperātus
+ dat. - <i>restrain</i>
manus, manūs, f. - <i>hand</i>
sī - <i>if</i> |
| 5 | cūria, cūriae, f. - <i>Senate house</i>
vōx, vōcis, f. - <i>voice</i>
audiō, audīre, audīvī, audītus - <i>hear</i>
nōn - <i>not</i> | 6 | Pīsō, Pīsōnis, m. - <i>Piso</i>
sententia, sententiae, f. - <i>judgement</i>
pater, patris, m. - <i>senator</i>
ēvādō, ēvādere, ēvāsī - <i>escape</i> |

Notes

Section O

Lines 1 - 4

eadem erat Plancinae invidia. atque ipsa, dum Pisoni
spes erat absolutiōnis, sociam sē cuiuscumque fortunae
futuram esse et, si necesse esset, comitem exitiū prōmittēbat:
sed paulatim sēgregārī ā marītō coepit.

1	īdem, eadem, idem - <i>the same</i> sum, esse, fuī - <i>be</i> Plancina, Plancinae, f. - <i>Plancia</i> invidia, invidiae, f. - <i>hatred</i> atque - <i>and</i> ipse, ipsa, ipsum - <i>himself, herself, itself</i> dum - <i>while</i> Pisō, Pisonis, m. - <i>Piso</i>	3	sum, esse, fuī - <i>be</i> et - <i>and</i> sī - <i>if</i> necesse - <i>necessary</i> sum, esse, fuī - <i>be</i> comes, comitis, f. - <i>companion</i> exitium, exitiū, n. - <i>death</i> prōmittō, prōmittere, prōmīsī, prōmissus - <i>promise</i>
2	spēs, speī, f. - <i>hope</i> sum, esse, fuī - <i>be</i> absolutiō, absolutiōnis, f. - <i>acquittal</i> sociā, sociae, f. - <i>ally</i> sē - <i>himself, herself, themselves</i> quicumque, quaecumque, quodcumque - <i>whoever, whatever</i> fortuna, fortunae, f. - <i>fate</i>	4	sed - <i>but</i> paulatim - <i>gradually</i> sēgregor, sēgregārī, sēgregātus sum - <i>distance oneself</i> ā - <i>from</i> marītus, marītī, m. - <i>husband</i> coepī, coepisse - <i>began</i>

Notes

Section O

Lines 4 - 8

quod postquam

Pīso sibi exitiābile esse intellēxit, dubitāvit an causam dīceret
amplius. itaque, tamquam dēfēnsiōnem in posterum diem
meditārētur, pauca scrībit obsignatque et lībertō trādit; tum
solita cūrandō corporī exsequitur.

5

- | | |
|--|--|
| 4 quī, quae, quod - <i>who, which</i> ,
here: <i>this (development)</i>
postquam - <i>since</i> | 7 meditor, meditārī, meditātus sum - <i>plan</i>
paucī, paucae, pauca - <i>few</i> ,
here: <i>a few words</i> |
| 5 Pīso, Pīsōnis, m. - <i>Piso</i>
sē - <i>himself, herself, themselves</i>
exitiābilis, exitiābile - <i>fatal</i>
sum, esse, fuī - <i>be</i>
intellegō, intellegere, intellēxī, intellēctus -
<i>understand</i>
dubitō, dubitāre, dubitāvī - <i>doubt</i>
an - <i>whether</i>
causa, causae, f. - <i>cause</i>
dīcō, dīcere, dīxī, dictus - <i>defend</i> | scribō, scrībere, scrīpsī, scrīptus - <i>write</i>
obsignō, obsignāre, obsignāvī, obsignātus -
<i>sign</i>
-que - <i>and</i>
et - <i>and</i>
lībertus, lībertī, m. - <i>freedman</i>
trādō, trādere, trādīdī, trādītus - <i>hand to</i>
tum - <i>then</i> |
| 6 amplius - <i>any more</i>
itaque - <i>and so</i>
tamquam - <i>as if</i>
dēfēnsiō, dēfēnsiōnis, f. - <i>defence</i>
in posterum diem - <i>for the next day</i> | 8 solitus, solita, solitum - <i>routine</i>
cūrō, cūrāre, cūrāvī - <i>care for</i>
corpus, corporis, n. - <i>body</i>
solita cūrandō corporī - here: <i>bodily care</i>
<i>routine</i>
exsequor, exsequī, exsecūtus sum - <i>carry</i>
<i>out</i> |

Notes

Section O
Lines 8 - 11

deinde multam post
noctem, ēgressā cubiculō uxōre, claudī iānuam iussit; et
prīmā lūce perfossō iugulō, iacente humī gladiō, repertus
est.

10

- 8 deinde - *then*
 multus, multa, multum - *much*
 post - *after*
9 nox, noctis, f. - *night*
 ēgredior, ēgredī, ēgressus sum - *leave*
 cubiculum, cubiculī, n. - *bedroom*
 uxor, uxōris, f. - *wife*
 claudō, claudere, clausī, clausus - *shut*
 iānuā, iānuae, f. - *door*
 iubeō, iubēre, iussī, iussus - *order*

- et - *and*
10 prīmus, prīma, prīmum - *first*
 lūx, lūcis, f. - *light*
 perfodiō, perfodere, perfōdī, perfossus -
 slash
 iugulum, iugulī, n. - *throat*
 iaceō, iacēre, iacuī - *lie*
 humī - *on the ground*
 gladius, gladiī, m. - *sword*
 reperiō, reperīre, repperī, repertus - *discover*

Notes