

Chicago Public Schools Latin Olympics 2010

Oratorical Selection for students in grades 4 – 8 *Students can either memorize the selection or read it. More credit will be awarded to those who memorize. Students should be prepared to present it with appropriate pronunciation and dramatic effect.*

ANTE BELLUM

Ōlim Alexander Magnus pugnāre cum Dārīō, rēge Persārum, parābat. Ubi Alexander dormiēbat, deus Iuppiter ad eum vēnit. Iuppiter vestem portābat et dīxit, “Alexander, auxilium tibi dabō. Indue hanc vestem et prōcēde ad rēgem Dārīum. Tum rēgnum Dārīi intrāre poteris.” Alexander laetē surrēxit. Statim novās vestēs induit, equum ascendit, et ad rēgnum Dārīi prōcessit. Persae, quī ex summīs montibus spectābant, Alexandrum in equō vīdērunt et Dārīum vocāvērunt. Ubi Dārīus Alexandrum vīdit, clāmāvit, “Quis es tū? Esne Deus Sōlis?” Alexander respondit, “Alexander Magnus sum. Subiugā tē sub potestāte nostrā aut cōstitue diem pugnae.” Attonitus, Dārīus Alexandrum in aureum trīclīnium dūxit. Dārīus dīxit “Prīmō cēnābimus. Posteā, pugnābimus.”

Translation

Once upon a time Alexander the Great was preparing to fight with Darius, king of the Persians. When Alexander was sleeping, the god Jupiter came to him. Jupiter was carrying a garment and he said, “Alexander, I will give you help. Put on this garment and proceed to the king, Darius. Then you will be able to enter the kingdom of Darius.” Alexander happily got up. Immediately he put on the new garments, climbed on his horse, and proceeded to the kingdom of Darius. The Persians, who were watching from the tops of the mountains, saw Alexander on his horse and called Darius. When Darius saw Alexander, he shouted, “Who are you? Are you the god of the sun?” Alexander responded, “I am Alexander the Great. Subjugate yourself under our power or fix a day for battle.” Astonished, Darius led Alexander into a golden dining room. Darius said, “First we will dine. Afterwards, we will fight.” _____

Adapted from Leo of Naples, Alexander Romance, c. A.D. 1100

Guidelines for the judging of oratorical presentations can be found at <http://latinolympics.com/oratory.htm>.