Literature

Component 2 (30%)

Recalling our learning - what was life like for Romans in the countryside?	

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	Large country villas - lots of land to build
	Hunting livestock and riding horses
	Farming and ploughing crops
	Growing vineyards and making wine
	Rearing livestock

Lesson 17:

Who was Cicero and what did he think of Romans who lived in the countryside?

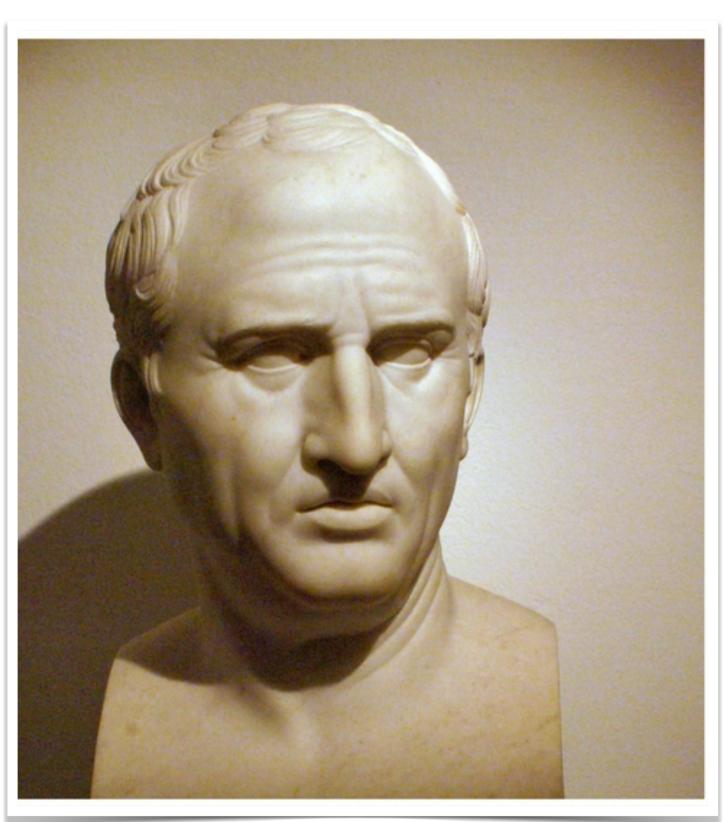
Year 10 Latin

LO: to learn who Cicero was and his view on Romans from the countryside

Tuesday 7th November 2023



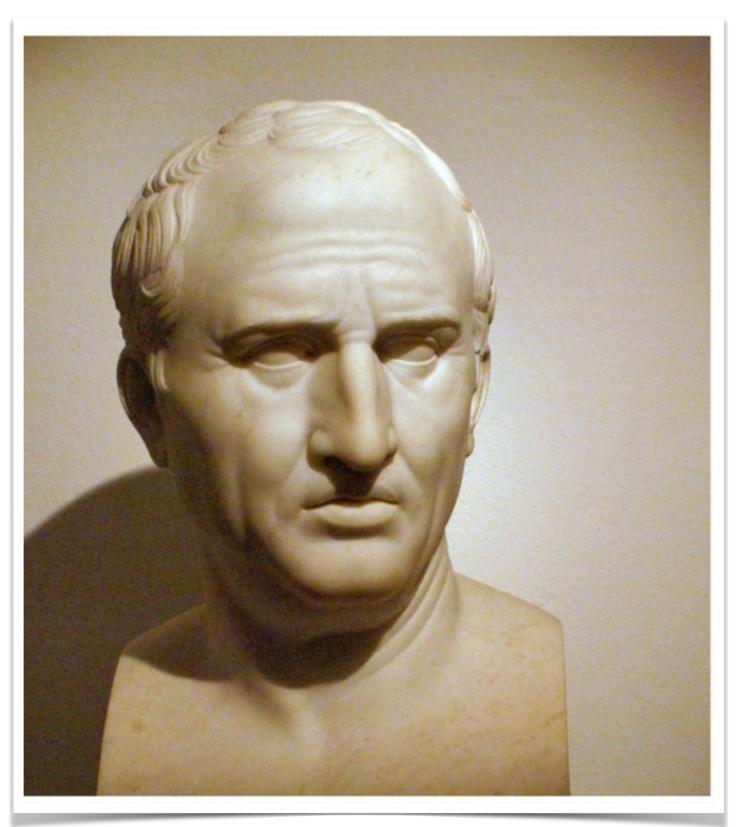
Marcus Tullius Cicero (106 BC- 43 BC) was a prominent orator and statesman. He came from an equestrian family in Arpinum, initially struggling in his political ambitions due to his lack of familial influence and connections. In 80 BC, at the age of 26, he established his reputation by defending Sextus Roscius Amerinus who had been falsely accused of the murder of his father by influential conspirators who actually carried out the murder in order to acquire his father's land. After the surprising success of this speech (*pro Roscio Amerino*), he was given a flood of commissions.



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Summary:

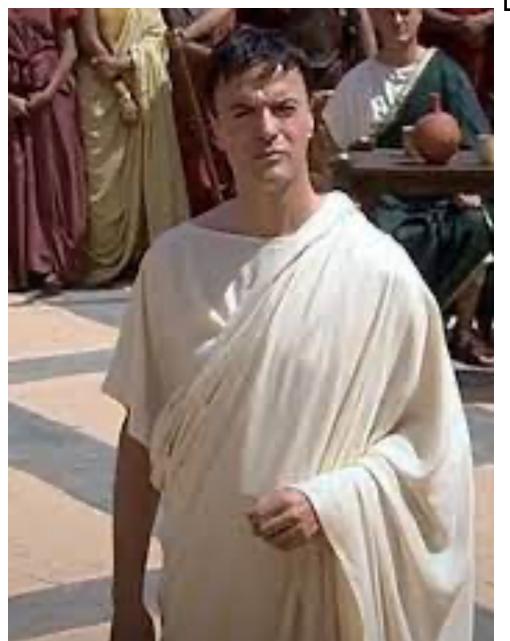
- 1. Cicero is a lawyer at 26 years old
- 2. He defends Sextus Roscius Amerinus in 80BC
- 3. Sextus Roscius Amerinus has been accused of murdering his father but he is innocent!
- 4. The murders are people who wanted Sextus
 Roscius Amerinus' father's land in the countryside!
- 5. Cicero wins! He gets lots of business as a result.



The prosecution alleged that Roscius Amerinus killed his father because he was going to disinherit him. They claimed that he had a savage and boorish nature and had therefore been dismissed to look after the family estates in the countryside. This gave Cicero the opportunity to defend Roscius' character by defending country living. He argued that the rustic nature of Roscius situation showed he was incapable of murder.

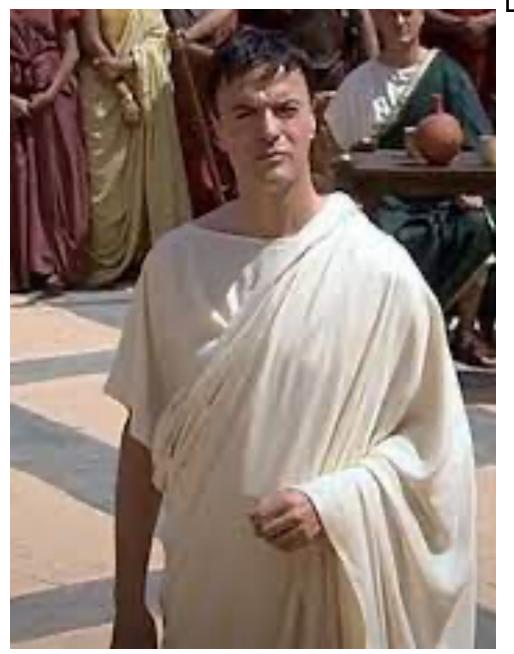
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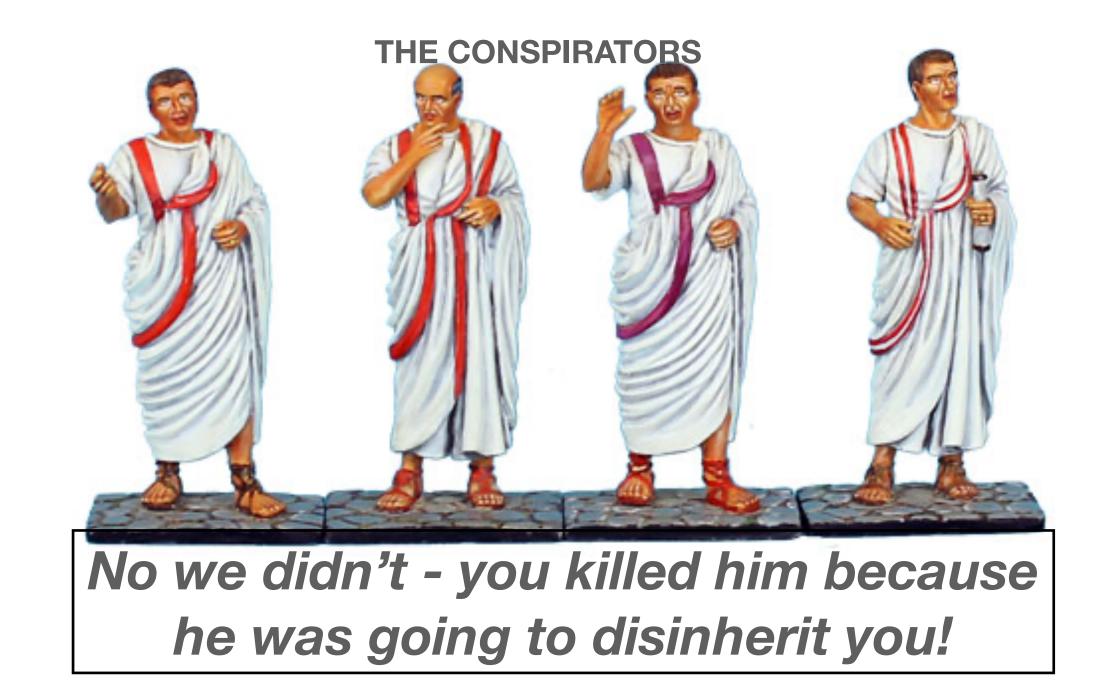
SEXTUS ROSCIUS AMERINUS | I am innocent - they killed my dad! Not me!



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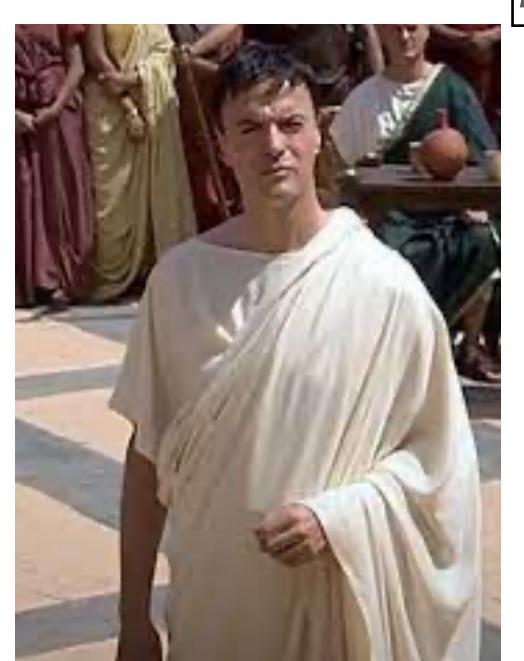
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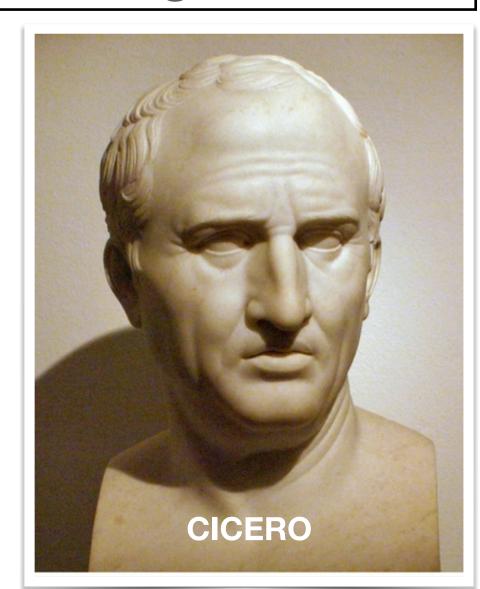


I am innocent - they killed my dad! Not me!



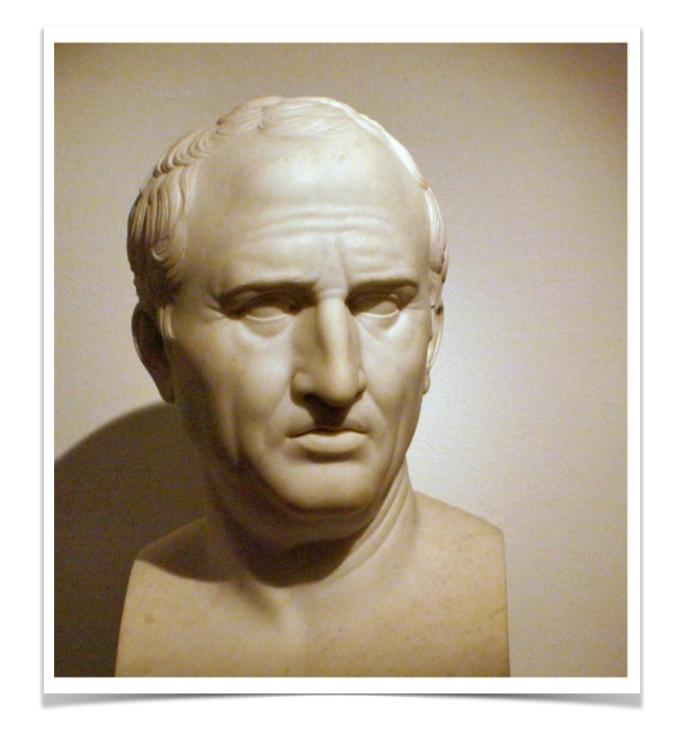
he was going to disinherit you!

Hang on! Roscius lives in the countryside, which makes him a peaceful and hardworking man!



In our extract, which comes from two separate parts of the speech, he first looks back to the importance of agriculture for those individuals who established the Roman state, pointing out that they assiduously cultivated their own farms without 'greedily laying claim to others' (as the conspirators had done). In the second part of the extract, he claims that crimes were committed more frequently in the city than the country because of its corrupting nature, in comparison to the good influence of rustic living.

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Cicero says:

- 1. Farming and agriculture were really important when Rome was first founded it was founded by people who worked their own land, and didn't take other people's!
- 2.Crimes are more frequent in the city than in the countryside. The city is more corrupt! The countryside is a good influence: people work hard on their land.

Let's read Cicero's law court speech ourselves

Remember:

this speech was originally written in Latin and has been translated into English for us to learn

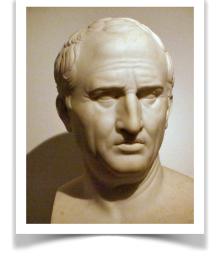
You would be a ridiculous prosecutor, if you had been born in those times when men were summoned from the plough to become consuls. For you, who consider it a disgrace to be responsible for cultivating a farm, would certainly judge the famous Atilius, whom those who had been sent came across sowing seed with his own hand, to be [a] most shameful and low-class [fellow]. But,

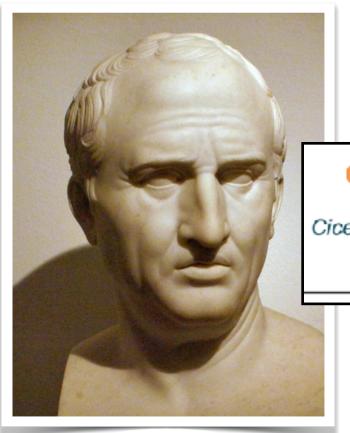
Draw your own depiction of this part of the law court speech

Cicero: pro Roscio Amerino 50, 74-75 - Traditional values

Cicero explains how rustic men have good qualities for the state and for the individual

- Cicero mentions a time when farmers were summoned from the plough. What were they summoned to do?
- How does Cicero say the prosecutor would be described if he had been born in those times?
- What does Cicero say the prosecutor considers to be a disgrace?
- What does Cicero say the prosecutor would judge him to be? Give two adjectives in English.

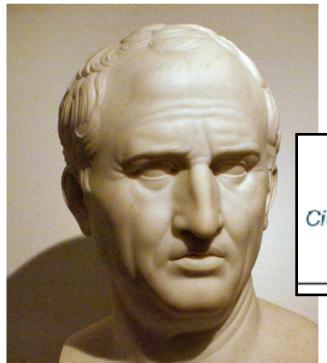




Cicero explains how rustic men have good qualities for the state and for the individual

by Hercules, our ancestors thought differently both concerning him and concerning other such men, and so from a tiny and <u>quite insignificant</u> state they left us one that is very large and highly prosperous.

- Who did their ancestors think differently about?
- How does Cicero describe the state initially?
- How does he describe the state left to the Roman people by their ancestors?

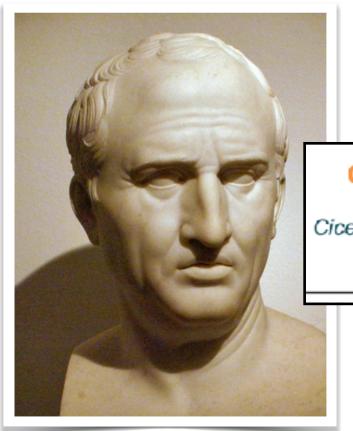


Cicero explains how rustic men have good qualities for the state and for the individual

They certainly cultivated their own farms intently, not greedily laying claim to those of others; in this way

they expanded the state, this empire and the reputation of the Roman people with land and cities and [whole] nations.

- How does Cicero say these men grew the state?
- What, according to Cicero, did they not do?
- State three things which Cicero said the early Roman farmers used to cause expansion.
- State three things that were consequently expanded by early Roman farmers.



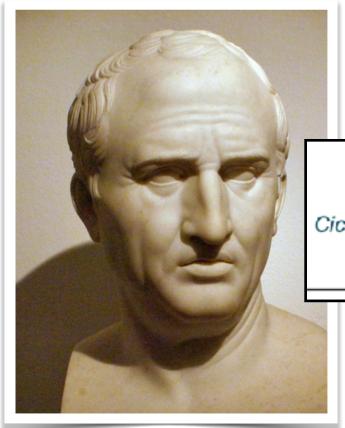
Cicero explains how rustic men have good qualities for the state and for the individual

It should also come to your attention how you have depicted the life of this man here – [saying that] he was rough and uncouth,

that he never spoke to another person, never

stayed in a town.

- How does Cicero say that the prosecutor described country men? Give two adjectives.
- What two things do these rustic men not do according to the prosecutor?



Cicero explains how rustic men have good qualities for the state and for the individual

. But in country ways, in a simple

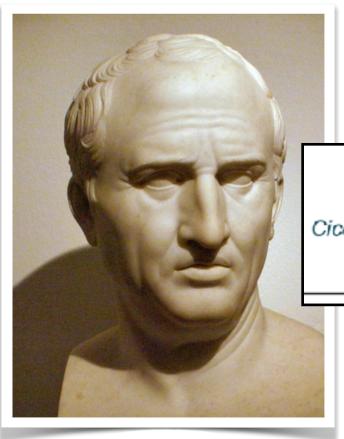
lifestyle, in

such a rough and uncivilised existence crimes of that kind are not usually committed.

Just as you would not be able to find every crop or [every] tree in every field,

so not every crime occurs in every [mode of] life.

- What are not usually comitted in rustic lives?
- How is rustic life described here?
- What two things is Cicero comparing in this simile?



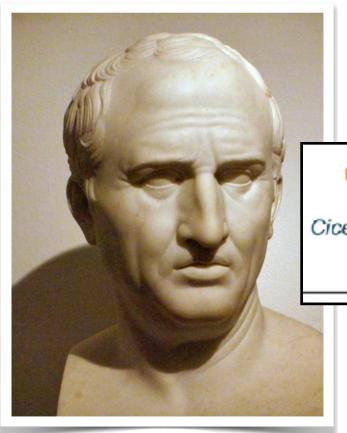
Cicero explains how rustic men have good qualities for the state and for the individual

the city extravagance is created, from extravagance it is <u>natural</u> for greed to emerge, from greed for violent behaviour to burst out, [and] from that all kinds of crimes and misdeeds

are produced.

What are created in the city?

- What emerges from extravagance naturally?
- What erupts from greed?
- What is produced from recklessness?



Cicero explains how rustic men have good qualities for the state and for the individual

This country life, on the other hand, which you call uncouth, is the teacher of thrift, hard work, and good conduct.

- How does Cicero say that the prosecutor has described rustic folk?
- Of what three virtues does Cicero believe country living is the teacher?



How does this picture correlate (agree) with Cicero's message?

Write 3 sentences explaining your answer.

Picture 4: farmer ploughing

Mosaic: Saint-Germain-en-Laye



How does this picture correlate (agree) with Cicero's message?

Write 3 sentences explaining your answer.

Did you include?:

(Add in green pen if not)

- Traditional peasant farming
 - self-sufficiency and the joys of country living
 - looking back to a better, simpler past
 - farmers of the past as leaders

Picture 4: farmer ploughing

Mosaic: Saint-Germain-en-Laye