

Aeneid VI - Literary and context questions (45-76)

1. What two lands did the Trojans visit before they arrived in Italy?
2. *limen* (line 45): why are there so many words for doors in the sixth book of the Aeneid?
3. Name a literary device in line 46.
How does this characterise the Sibyl's speech?
4. Name a literary device in lines 47-8.
What kind of picture does Vergil paint of the Sibyl?
5. How does the Sibyl's speech in lines 51-2 resemble her speech in line 46?
6. What is the effect of hyperbaton in line 54-5?
7. Name a literary device other than hyperbaton in line 54, and explain its effect.
8. How is Aeneas characterised as he responds to the god? (line 55)
9. What god is Phoebus, and what are his areas of influence? (line 56)
10. What are the *gravis labores* referring to in line 56?
11. *Dardana ... Aeacidae* (lines 57-8): what event in the Trojan war is being referenced here?
12. Who are the Massylians and the Syrtes? (line 60)
13. Name a literary device in line 61 and explain its effect.
14. In line 63, "Pergamean" is another synonym for "Trojan". What is Pergama?
15. What is *fas* in Roman culture? Why does Aeneas choose to use this word in line 63?
16. What literary device appears at the beginning of line 64? What is its effect, and how is this enhanced?
17. What are the *errantis deos* in line 68?
Why does the poet say both *errantis deos* and *agitata numina*?
18. How does Aeneas structure his prayer in lines 56-76?
19. What are the *sortis*, the *arcana fata*, and the *lectos viros* referring to in lines 72-4?
20. Explain the effect of synchysis in line 75.

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1. How does the interaction of the Sibyl and the god in lines 77-80 in the Sibyl's frenzy differ from her frenzy at lines 45-51?
2. *magnum si pectore possit / excussisse deum* (lines 78-79): how does this clause structurally represent its meaning?
3. What words and phrases suggest the imagery of horse taming in lines 77-80?
4. What are the "graver perils of the land" (*terrae graviora*) referring to in line 84?
5. In what ways is the response of Phoebus terrifying and comforting?
6. What are the Simois, Xanthus, and Greek camp referring to in line 88?
7. Who is the Achilles that Aeneas will encounter in Italy, and how does he resemble the Achilles from the Iliad? (lines 89-90)
Who is Turnus's mother?
8. What is the possible effect of referring to the Trojans as "Teucrians"? (line 90)
9. In the context of the whole Aeneid, why does Juno oppose the Trojans?
10. Name a literary device in line 92 and explain its effect.
11. What is the "foreign marriage" which sparked the war in the Iliad, and how is this paralleled in the Aeneid? (lines 93-4)
12. Line 94 is an incomplete line. Why might there be incomplete lines in the Aeneid?
What could this tell us about how the text was put together?
13. How does the main caesura in line 95 enhance the meaning of the line?
14. What is the Greek city and who is the Greek hero who helps the Trojans in the war in Italy? (line 97)