

Key stage 2

Pupil B – Piece C: a speech

Context: as part of their work on the Romans, pupils read 'Roman Quests' by Caroline Lawrence. They were asked to write a persuasive speech in role (Calpurnia) to another character, Juba, to persuade him to exchange his baby sister in return for safe passage to Britannia. Note that purple text is the pupil's own editing.

Context: Cop. Calpurnia's proposal to Juba.

Juba, follow me to the Triclinium and seat yourself; I have a vital proposal to make.

Juba, I beg of you to consider my ~~pro~~ suggestion carefully. You are a brave and wise boy and you have done outstandingly well to get this far but you need to seize this miraculous opportunity... for Dora's sake. I believe that our fates are intertwined and leaving Dora with me would not only ensure her safety and your journey's likelihood, but it would relieve me of the dark crushing jaws of sorrow and despair. Juba, I urge you to make the decision that would ~~me~~ make your parents proud (Jupiter rest their souls).

Do you know, my brother, Quintus, is a sailor and my husband, Appius, is a highly regarded beast importer? Between them they know every every sailor, every ship and every departure and entry time in all three harbours. I am certain they will guide you on your voyage to Britannia... for ~~zero~~ ^{free} quadrans. The only price in exchange for yours, Frontos and Ursula's safe travels to ~~Britt~~ ^{Britain} Britannia, is your baby sisters, who will most likely, even if you do safely arrive, not survive the cold, hostile, ^{lonely} ~~foreign~~ lands. You do want to save your syblings, don't you?

Juba, as you know, Dora is a sweet and very beautiful but she is also fragile and very delicate: Britannia is a desparate

solution for you and your ^{other} ~~siblings~~ ^{siblings} but for Dora it is non-negotiable. Most likely, she will die ^{from} ~~for~~ the thousand mile journey, the wild wild animals, the lack of milk or the terrible, blue-faced barbarians.

Additionally, Dora will be protected and secure with me. I will love her to the tips of my fingers along with my considerate husband. Furthermore, we will take care for her, feed her, clothe her, look look out for her and educate her, which is a luxury that if she ~~was~~ went on your journey you could not provide. If you leave Dora with me, she will grow up in a safe environment and will have many friends to entertain her. Do you really want any harm to come to your youngest sister?

Juba, I am Calpurnia. I am a mater. I am your saving grace. It is not a mistake that our paths crossed, so, I beg of you, make the ~~best~~ decision that your ~~is~~ fate decrees.