

### **What is a source?**

A source is a book used by the question writers either to generate the ideas and concepts of the questions or it is a book of such great authority that it is used as a primary source to check the validity of questions and responses. Players and coaches should have access to these sources to better prepare for the competition.

### **What is a reference?**

In addition to sources, numerous books and materials are used as references. As no single source is either correct one hundred percent of the time or always up-to-date with its information, these reference materials are essential for judging the validity of questions and players' responses. In some instances, these are used to bridge the gap between the listed sources and more modern Classical studies.

All of the books listed for [NJCL Academic Contests](#) are considered references. In general, the information contained in them is considered valid for Certamen. However, final judgment of any information contained in any reference will be left up to the discretion of the moderators.

The list of current NJCL Certamen reference books and materials is as follows:

## **I. Language Skills**

### **A. Reference**

1. Grammar and syntax, forms and inflections, and translation:
  - a) [Gildersleeve's Latin Grammar \(FREE\)](#)
  - b) [Bennett's Latin Grammar \(FREE\)](#)
  - c) [Bradley's Arnold Latin Prose Composition \(Click here for free older version\)](#)
  - d) [English-Latin Dictionary, Smith & Hall \(FREE\)](#)
2. Derivatives and etymology:
  - a) James Greenwald has graciously allowed us to provide his Latin derivatives dictionary for free:  
Latin Derivatives ([PDF](#)) ([WORD](#))
  - b) [Etymological Dictionary of Latin](#), Tucker, Ares, 0890051720
  - c) Abbreviations and phrases in English usage:
    - (1) [Amo, Amas, Amat and More](#), Eugener Ehrlich, Harper & Row, ISBN 0062720171
    - (2) [Veni, Vidi, Vici](#), Eugene Ehrlich, Harper Collins Publishers, ISBN 0062733656

- (3) [\*Latin for the Illiterati\*](#), Jon R. Stone, Routledge, B0122 from the TMRC
- (4) [\*More Latin for the Illiterati\*](#), Jon R. Stone, Routledge, 0415922119

#### B. Source

1. [\*Allen and Greenough's New Latin Grammar\*](#) (FREE) is the authority on most grammar and syntax questions. In the event that the Allen & Greenough is insufficient in its explanation or fails to fully account for variations in constructions and forms, both the [\*Lewis and Short\*](#) (FREE) and the Oxford Latin Dictionary will be consulted for information.
2. Multiple [English dictionaries](#) (FREE) are consulted for etymology and Latin abbreviations used in English, though preference is given to Webster's [Dictionary](#) and [The American Heritage Dictionary](#).

## II. Mythology

#### A. Reference

1. Dictionary of Classical Mythology, Jenny March
2. The New Century Handbook of Greek Mythology and Legend, Catherine B. Avery

#### B. Source

1. There is no single source for mythology. An answer must be verifiable in one of the following books or in an original source. Questions based on a particular author's variant version of a myth will be so stated: e.g., "according to Ovid" or "in Euripides."
  - a) [Who's Who in Classical Mythology](#), Michael Grant and John Hazel
  - b) [Classical Mythology](#) (4th edition or later), Mark Morford and Robert Lenardon
  - c) [The Meridian Handbook of Classical Mythology](#), Edward Tripp
  - d) [Dictionary of Classical Mythology](#), Pierre Grimal

### III. History of the Ancient World

#### A. Reference

1. [\*The Penguin Dictionary of Ancient History\*](#)
2. [\*Rome, An Archaeological Guide\*](#), Amanda Claridge, Oxford University Press, ISBN 0192880039
3. [\*A Guide to the Ancient World, A Dictionary of Classical Place Names\*](#), Michael Grant, WilsonCompany, ISBN 0824207424
4. [\*A New Topographical Dictionary of Ancient Rome\*](#), L. Richardson, Jr., Johns Hopkins University Press, ISBN 0801843006

#### B. Source

1. For Roman daily life, the two main sources are the The Oxford Classical Dictionary and Harold Johnston's [\*Private Life of the Romans\*](#) (FREE). For Roman history, there are three sources:
  - a) [\*The Oxford Classical Dictionary\*](#), 2nd and 3rd editions
  - b) [\*A History of Rome\*](#), M. Cary and H. H. Scullard
  - c) [\*History of the Roman People\*](#), Cedric Yeo & Allen Ward

### IV. Literature (Advanced Level only)

#### A. Reference

1. [\*Crowell's Handbook of Classical Literature\*](#), Lillian Feder
2. [\*Handbook of Latin Literature\*](#), H. J. Rose

#### B. Source

1. The sources for literature are:
  - a) [\*The Oxford Classical Dictionary\*](#), 2nd and 3rd editions
  - b) [\*The Oxford Companion to Classical Literature\*](#), ISBN 0198661215
  - c) [\*Latin Literature: A History\*](#), Gian Biagio Conte
  - d) [\*History of Latin Literature\*](#), Moses Hadas