



3a. i. praesidium sicut:

ii. 1. Marcus Sannius

2. He presided as judge over the trial.

iii. the proscription of those thought to have been enemies of Sulla after Sulla came to power.

iv. Cicero in this extract, seeks to convince the jurors of the importance of their task. He does this in a number of ways.

Cicero outlines the expectations the Roman people have of the court. He says "dignissimam sperant futuram" of the crimes they are trying.

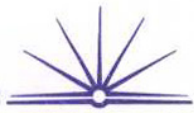
Cicero also makes a personal plea to the jurors, seeking that they punish the crimes as severely as possible.

Cicero also outlines the consequences if the jurors do not meet his plea. He uses the very immediate imagery of murders happening inside the courtroom, ~~at the~~ and he reinforces this by the vocative "M. Sanni... indices".

3b. i. 'Officium' simply means duty, but in using it here, Cicero is implying many things about the defendant. It is implied that he is devoted to the land, his family, his father, his country, and the gods. It also implies that Sex. Roscius is a humble and ~~devoted~~ unassuming man.

ii Cicero's defence of Sextus Roscius relies a lot on his portrait of the defendant. In this passage several features of his portrayal are evident. Cicero tells us a lot about Sextus Roscius; his age (he is more than 40) his lifestyle, where he lived and what he did. We can see Sextus Roscius as a gentle, humble and devoted man, and in this portrayal Cicero is setting the defence up for ~~an~~ later passages, when in an exposition of the charge of parricide and character of one guilty of such a crime, he declares that Sex. Roscius could not be guilty of it.

In this passage we see that there is no



influence in the life of Sextus Roscius that would drive him to kill his father. He did not have corrupting friends, nor was he experienced in murder, nor did he have a riotous lifestyle, nor debts nor greed. Cicero shows us a character that could not and would not commit such a crime. He is not the disgraceful and depraved character the crime requires, as Cicero points out in latter passages, but a humble and devoted son. It is his character portrayed which really clears Sextus Roscius of the charge, and which, ~~the~~ constitutes the main body of the defence.