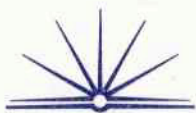




a) i) Catullus, in his dedication of his poetry, is praying to the patrona virgo, the Muse who inspired his poetry, to preserve his work.

ii) Catullus uses self-deprecatory language to describe his own work, calling ~~them~~ his poems "nugas", a slang for 'stuff', and he also refers to his ~~poems~~ new book by colloquial terms such as the diminutive "libellum" and "~~quod~~ quicquid hoc libelli", literally, 'this whatever-of-a book'. In contrast, he points out the weightiness of Cornelius' tomes, that hold "omne aevum", all the history of the world in "tribus cartis", three volumes, which contrast to his "libellum". Catullus also praises them as "doctis" and "laboriosis", acknowledging the learning and work that must have gone into the writing of such a work.



iii) Throughout the poem, Catullus constantly contrasts his work to Cornelius', praising the man's work with awe and a hint of human and irony. Catullus refers to Cornelius as one who "dared", 'ausus', he "unus", alone to do an unprecedented thing in Roman history, and his exclamation "doctis, Iuppiter, et laboriosis" conveys a sense of exaggerated awe. The irony is emphasised by the ~~self~~ self-deprecating way Catullus refers to his own work - "lepidum ~~et~~ libellum", a charming, light little book that ~~is~~ is full of "nugas", or trifles, which suggests that ⁱⁿ Catullus' modesty, ~~even~~ his ~~own~~ poems cannot be compared to Cornelius' history. Yet ~~is~~ even in this contrast, there is more irony, because Catullus does think that his work is worth something, and his praise of Cornelius' concision, ~~learned~~ learning and hard work put into his history of the world is also what Catullus himself prizes, and ~~is~~ ~~in~~ in the last two lines of the poem, ~~so~~ just after he has jokingly referred to his book as "quidquid hoc libellus, qualecumque", he prays to the Muse that his work will ~~remain~~ remain constant and endure.



b) Alliteration is heavily used to convey Catullus' disgust and anger at Alfenus' treatment of him. ~~The~~ The 'f's that are present throughout the piece, in 'Alfenus', 'false', 'fallere', 'perfidus', 'fallacum' create an unpleasant hissing sound as Catullus spits out his accusations. ~~Had~~ dental alliteration in line 2, "te ... miseret, dure, tui dulcis", as well as the plosive, ~~and~~, ^{and 'f'} dental alliteration in the last line, "te ut paenitent postmodo facti faciet tui" also emphasise Catullus' anger and bitterness at the betrayal.

Rhetorical questions are also used with strong end-stopping at most of the lines in the poem to hammer Catullus' accusations home. The first three lines are made up of ~~the~~ indignant questions that ~~and point out~~ highlight Catullus' incredulity at the betrayal.

Catullus' ~~uses~~ epithets used to describe Alfenus also show his ^{bitter} attitude, as he calls him "inmemor", "falsus", "dure", "perfidus", "iniquus", in short, every kind of cheat, and cold-hearted liar that anyone can be. In contrast, Catullus paints himself up as the victim, as the "unanimis sodalibus", the close friend, ~~the~~ as well as "dulcis amicitia", ~~as well~~ with ^{his friend} the diminutive ^{and} adding pathos, as well as ~~the~~ "miser".



Word placement also convey's Catullus' bitterness, such as "fidem", ~~of faith~~ ~~at the end of~~ ad "Fida" at the ends of lines 6 and 11 to emphasise the lack of faith that Alfenus has shown, and its importance to Catullus, contrasting sharply with "per-fide", or deceit, at the end of line 3. The ~~was~~ last word of the poem, "tui" also emphasises Catullus' belief that Alfenus will pay for what he has done.