

24TH LATIN SUMMER SCHOOL

15th-19th JANUARY 2018

New Law Building, University of Sydney

LEVEL 3A

Suetonius *Lives of the Caesars*

Instructor: Phoebe Garrett



Monday

Nero 6: The signs of his future

The future emperor Nero is born (his parents are Domitius and Agrippina, the sister of C. Caesar 'Caligula,' at this time the new emperor) and his horoscope suggests he will be trouble for Rome

- 1 Ex Antonia maiore patrem Neronis procreavit omni parte uitae detestabilem, siquidem comes
- 2 ad Orientem C. Caesaris iuuenis, occiso liberto suo quod potare quantum iubebatur recusarat,
- 3 dimissis e cohorte amicorum nihilo modestius uixit, sed et in uiae Appiae uico repentem
- 4 puerum citatis iumentis haud ignarus obtriuit et Romae medio foro cuidam equiti R. liberius
- 5 iurganti oculum eruit ...
- 6 Nero natus est Anti post VIII. mensem quam Tiberius excessit, XVIII. Kal. Ian. tantum quod
- 7 exoriente sole, paene ut radiis prius quam terra contingeretur. de genitura eius statim multa et
- 8 formidulosa multis coiectantibus praesagio fuit etiam Domitii patris uox inter gratulationes
- 9 amicorum negantis quicquam ex se et Agrippina nisi detestabile et malo publico nasci
- 10 potuisse. eiusdem futurae infelicitatis signum euidens die lustrico extitit, nam C. Caesar,
- 11 rogante sorore ut infanti quod uellet nomen daret, intuens Claudium patrum suum, a quo
- 12 mox principe Nero adoptatus est, eius se dixit dare, neque ipse serio sed per iocum et
- 13 aspernante Agrippina, quod tum Claudius inter ludibria aulae erat.

Nero 6

<i>detestabilis, -e</i> : detestable	January (i.e. Dec. 15)	<i>infans, -ntis</i> : not being able to speak = <i>infant (in + fari)</i>
<i>siquidem</i> : if only (here 'for example')	<i>exorior, -ortus, -iri</i> : rise, appear	<i>intueor, -itus, -eri</i> : look carefully at (<i>in + tueor</i>)
<i>comes, -itis</i> (m & f): companion, attendant	<i>contingo, -tigi, -tactus, -ere</i> : touch	<i>patruus, -i</i> (m): uncle on the father's side (but here talking about Claudius, not Nero's <i>patruus</i> but Agrippina and Caligula's)
<i>libertus, -i</i> (m): freedman	<i>genitura</i> 'birth' (from <i>gigno, genui, genitus, -ere</i>)	<i>princeps, -ipis</i> (m): 'first (among equals)' = emperor
<i>recuso, -are</i> : decline, refuse (to)	<i>formidulosus-a-um</i> : producing fear, terrible, dreadful	<i>serio</i> (adv): seriously
<i>uicus, -i</i> (m): street, area, neighbourhood	<i>coiectans (=coniecto, -are)</i> predict, foretell	<i>per iocum</i> : as a joke (<i>iocus, -i</i> (m))
<i>repens, -entis</i> : sudden, -ly	<i>praesagium, -i</i> (n): presentiment, prediction, telling of the future	<i>aspernor, -atus, -ari</i> : spurn, refuse, reject
<i>citatus-a-um</i> : speedy, quick	<i>gratulatio, -onis</i> (f): a congratulation	<i>ludibrium, -i</i> (n): mockery, derision, laughing stock
<i>iumentum, -i</i> (n): horse	<i>euidens, -entis</i> : evident, clear	<i>aula, -ae</i> (f): the palace, the emperor's residence, the emperor's 'court'
<i>ignarus-a-um</i> : ignorant, stupid (NOT <i>ignauus</i> , lazy!)	<i>infelicitas, -atis</i> (f): bad luck, misfortune (the quality of being <i>infelix</i>)	
<i>obtero, -trui, -tritus, -ere</i> : crush, trample	<i>dies lustricus</i> : the day when a newborn child was purified and named	
<i>equiti R.=eques Romanus</i>	<i>exto=exsto</i> : stand out, be obvious, exist	
<i>iurgo, -are</i> : quarrel, brawl, scold		
<i>eruo, ui, utus, ere</i> : cast forth, throw out, destroy, bring out		
<i>post VIII. mensem quam</i> : in the 9 th month after		
<i>excedo, -cessi, -cessus, -ere</i> : die		
<i>XVIII. Kal. Ian.</i> : On the 18 th day before the Kalends of		

Tuesday

Caligula 33: Caligula's jokes

Caligula's sense of humour is very dark

- 1 inter uarios iocos, cum assistens simulacro Iouis Apellen tragoedum consulisset uter illi
- 2 maior uideretur, cunctantem flagellis discidit, conlaudans subinde uocem deprecantis quasi
- 3 etiam in gemitu praedulcem. quotiens uxoris uel amicae collum exosculetur addebat, 'tam
- 4 bona ceruix simul ac iussero demetur.' quin et subinde iactabat exquisitum se uel fidiculis
- 5 de Caesonia sua cur eam tanto opere diligeret.

Apellen tragoedum:

= the tragic actor, Apelles

consulo: ask for advice, 'consult'

uter: both

flagellum, -i (n): whip, lash

discido, -ere (dis + caedo): cut up in pieces, beat severely

conlaudo: praise

deprecor -ari plead, beg, pray

gemitus, -us (m): groan

praedulcis, e: very pleasing

subinde: immediately after, from time to time, frequently, now and then, thereupon

quotiens: whenever

collum, -i (n): neck

exoscutor, --, -ari: kiss fondly, kiss eagerly

ceruix, -icis (f): neck, throat, life

iussero → *iubeo, iussi, iussus, -ere:* I order

demeto, -messui, -messus, -ere: behead

quin: but even...

iacto: throw about, discuss

exquiro, -siui, -situs, -ere: seek out, scrutinise, inquire

uel: 'even'

fidicula, -ae (f): (in pl.) an instrument of torture, a kind of rack

diligo -ere: love

Tuesday

Calig. 25: Caligula's daughter

- 1 infantem autem, Iuliam Drusillam appellatum, per omnium dearum templa circumferens
- 2 Mineruae gremio imposuit alendamque et instituendam commendavit. nec ullo firmiore
- 3 indicio sui seminis esse credebat quam feritate, quae illi quoque tanta iam tunc erat ut infestis
- 4 digitis ora et oculos simul ludentium infantium incesset.

infans, -ntis: not being able to speak
=infant

gremium, -i (n): lap, bosom

impono, -posui, -positus, -ere: to place
upon, set, impose

alo, alui, altus/alitus, -ere: feed, nourish,
support

instituo, -ui, -utus, -ere: train, instruct

firmus-a-um: strong, trustworthy, definite

semen, -inis (n): seed, offspring

feritas, -atis (f): savagery, wildness

infestis digitis: 'with unsafe/dangerous
fingers'

ludo, -si, -sus, -ere: play

incedo, -cessi, -cessus, -ere: attack

Wednesday

The beginning of Domitian's reign (*Dom.* 3.1-2)

- 1 Inter initia principatus cotidie secreto sibi horarum <spatium> sumere solebat nec quicquam
 2 amplius quam muscas captare ac stilo praeacuto configere, ut cuidam interroganti essetne
 3 quis intus cum Caesare, non absurde responsum sit a Vibio Crispo, ne muscam quidem.
 4 Deinde uxorem Domitiam, ex qua in secundo suo consulatu filium tulerat alteroque anno
 5 quam imperium adeptus est amisit; eandem Paridis histrionis amore deperditam repudiauit
 6 intraque breue tempus inpatiens discidii quasi efflagitante populo reduxit.
 7 circa administrationem autem imperii aliquamdiu se uarium praestitit mixturaque aequabili
 8 uitiorum atque uirtutum, donec uirtutes quoque in uitia deflexit, quantum coniectare licet
 9 super ingenii naturam inopia rapax, metu saeuus.

principatus, -us = *principate*: rule as emperor (princeps)
hora, -ae (f): hour
musca, -ae (f): a fly (the insect)
stilo praeacuto: a very sharp stylus
configo, -fixi, fixus, -ere: transfix, pierce
intus (adv): on the inside, within
absurde: absurdly, irrationally, inharmoniously
adipiscor, adeptus, -i: attain, reach, overtake
Paris histrio: the actor called Paris
deperdo, -didi, -ditus, -ere: destroy, ruin, be desperately in love with
repudio, -are: reject, disdain, divorce
discidium, -i (n): divorce, separation

efflagito, -are: ask for over and over, to demand
aliquamdiu: for some time
praesto, -iti, -itus, -are: to stand out, excel, surpass (+ se: to show himself to be)
aequabilis: equal, steady, uniform
uitium, -i (n): vice (as opposed to virtue)
uirtus, -utis (f): (in this case) virtue, as opposed to vice
deflecto, -xi, -xum, -ctere (trans.): change the character/condition of, turn (sthg) into (sthg).
coniecto, -are: guess, conjecture, infer
ingenium, -i (n): nature, temperament, character, talent, natural disposition
inopia, -ae (f): want, lack, need, poverty

rapax, -acis: rapacious, greedy, grasping,
insatiable

metus, -us (m): fear
saeuus-a-um: cruel, savage

Vesp. 23.3-4, Vespasian's sense of humour

- 1 reprehendenti filio Tito quod etiam urinae uectigal commentus esset pecuniam ex prima
- 2 pensione admouit ad nares, sciscitans num odore offenderetur, et illo negante: 'atquin' inquit,
- 3 'e lotio est.' ... ac ne in metu quidem ac periculo mortis extremo abstinuit iocis. Nam cum
- 4 inter cetera prodigia Mausoleum derepente patuisset et stella crinita in caelo apparuisset,
- 5 alterum ad Iuniam Caluinam e gente Augusti pertinere dicebat, alterum ad Parthorum regem,
- 6 qui capillatus esset. prima quoque morbi accessione: 'Vae' inquit, 'puto, deus fio.'

reprehendo, -endi, -ensus, -ere: blame,
find fault with, rebuke, reprehend
urina, -ae (f): urine
uectigal, -alis (n): tax, toll, payment to the
state
comminiscor, -inisci, -entus: invent
pensio, -onis (f): a payment
naris, -is (f): nose, nostril
sciscitor, -ari (also sciscito, -are): ask
offendo, -fendi, fensus, -ere: offend
atquin: but
lotium, -i (n): urine

iocus, -i (m): joke
prodigium, -i (n): omen, sign of the future
Mausoleum = Mausoleum (a place for
dead bodies), here the Mausoleum
of Augustus
derepente (adv): suddenly
pateo, ui, --, -ere: lie open
stella crinita: 'a hairy star' i.e. a comet
pertineo, -ui, --, -ere: concern, pertain to,
capillatus-a-um: with long hair
Vae: 'Oh dear!'

Thursday

Nero 26: Nero has become emperor and his vices appear

- 1 petulantiam, libidinem, luxuriam, auaritiam, crudelitatem sensim quidem primo et occulte et
2 uelut iuuenili errore exercuit, sed ut tunc quoque dubium nemini foret naturae illa uitia, non
3 aetatis esse. post crepusculum statim adrepto pilleo uel galero popinas inibat circumque uicos
4 uagabatur ludibundus, nec sine pernicie tamen, siquidem redeuntis a cena uerberare ac
5 repugnantes uulnerare cloacisque demergere assuerat, tabernas etiam effringere et expilare,
6 quintana domi constituta ubi partae et ad licitationem diuidendae praedae pretium
7 absumeretur.
- 8 ac saepe in eius modi rixis oculorum et uitae periculum adiit, a quodam laticlauio cuius
9 uxorem adtrectauerat prope ad necem caesus. ...
- 10 27.1 paulatim uero inualescentibus uitiiis iocularia et latebras omisit nullaue dissimulandi
11 cura ad maiora palam erupit.

Nero 26

petulantia, -ae (f) impudence, wantonness, petulance
libido, -inis (f) caprice, lust
luxuria, -ae (f) extravagance, luxury, excess
avaritia (cf. avarice) greed, covetousness
crudelitas, -atis (f) cruelty, barbarity, severity
sensim gradually, little by little
uelut as if, just like, as though
iuuenilis, e: of youth, youthful (cf juvenile)
exerceo, -ui, -itus, -ere: engage in, practise, make use of, keep busy
foret = *esset*
aetas, -atis (f): age
crepusculum, -i (n): twilight, dusk
adripio, -ipui, -eptus, -ere: snatch, seize, grasp (hurriedly)
pilleum, -i (n): a cap
galerus, -i (n): a wig
popina, -ae (f): tavern
uicus, -i (m): a neighbourhood, a street
uagor, -ari: rove about, wander about
ludibundus-a-um: playful, frolicsome, without danger
pernicies, -ei (f): physical destruction, ruin
uerbero, -are: beat up
repugno, -are: fight back, defend oneself

uulnero, -are: wound, injure
cloaca, -ae (f): sewer, canal for such purposes
demergo, -si, -sus, -ere: submerge, plunge, cast down (cf 'submerge')
adsuesco, -eui, -etus, -ere: be accustomed to
effringo, -fregi, -fractus: break (open or off)
expilo, -are: pillage, plunder, rob
quintana (sc. 'quintana uia' the fifth street = marketplace of a military camp): marketplace
licitatio, -onis (f): auction
diuido, -uisi, -uisus, -ere: divide, distribute, share out
praeda, -ae (f): spoil, booty, profit
pretium, -i (n): price
absumo, -ere: take away, destroy
rixa, -ae (f): quarrel, brawl, dispute
laticlavius-a-um: 'wearing the broad-striped (toga)' i.e. senatorial (here substantive, a senatorial man)
adtrecto, -are: touch, handle, lay hold of
paulatim: little by little
inualesco, -ere: grow stronger (cf *ualeo*)
iocularius-a-um: ludicrous, droll, funny
latebra, -ae (f): hiding-place, subterfuge
palam: out in the open

Friday

Tib. 21 Tiberius' faults?

Suetonius wonders if Augustus knew about his step-son Tiberius' vices, or if he decided to make him successor so that he (Augustus) would look better in hindsight!

- 1 Scio uulgo persuasum quasi egresso post secretum sermonem Tiberio uox Augusti per
 2 cubicularios excepta sit, 'miserum populum R., qui sub tam lentis maxillis erit'. ne illud
 3 quidem ignoro aliquos tradidisse Augustum palam nec dissimulanter morum eius diritatem
 4 adeo improbasse ut nonnumquam remissiores hilarioresque sermones superueniente eo
 5 abrumperet, sed expugnatum precibus uxoris adoptionem non abuisse uel etiam ambitione
 6 tractum ut tali successore desiderabilior ipse quandoque fieret.
- 7 adduci tamen nequeo quin existimem circumspectissimum et prudentissimum principem in
 8 tanto praesertim negotio nihil temere fecisse, sed uitis Tiberi uirtutibusque perpensis potiores
 9 duxisse uirtutes, praesertim cum et rei p. causa adoptare se eum pro contione iurauerit et
 10 epistulis aliquot ut peritissimum rei militaris utque unicum p. R. praesidium prosequatur, ex
 11 quibus in exemplum pauca hinc inde subieci: (...)

- 12 Attenuatum te esse continuatione laborum cum audio et lego, di me perdant nisi
 13 cohorrescit corpus meum, teque oro ut parcas tibi, ne si te languere audierimus et ego
 14 et mater tua expiremus et summa imperi sui populus R. periclitetur. nihil interest

15 ualeam ipse necne, sit u non ualebis: deos obsecro ut te nobis conseruent et ualere

16 nunc et semper patiantur, si non p. R. perosi sunt.

cubicularius, -i (m): a chamber servant
excipio: release, let out
populum R. = *populum Romanum*
lentus-a-um: slow
maxilla, -ae (f): jaw
ignoro, -are: not to know (not the same as *ignosco*, I forgive, pardon)
diritas, -atis (f): fierceness, cruelty
improbo, -are: disapprove, blame, reject
remissus-a-um: gentle, relaxed
hilaris, e (adj): cheerful, in good spirits, merry (sim. meaning to *hilarus-a-um*)
superuenio: arrive
abrumpto, -rupi, -ruptus, -ere: break off (cf abrupt)
expugno, -are: subdue
abnuo, -nui, -nuiturus, -ere: reject, refuse by a sign, decline
traho, traxi, tractus, -ere: influence, distract
desiderabilis-e: desirable, missed
quandoque: at some time
adduco, -duxi, -ductus, -ere: bring (here: be led to believe...)
nequeo quin: I cannot...
princeps, -ipis: emperor
praesertim: especially
temere: thoughtlessly, rashly, (with a negative) hardly
uitium, -i (n): vice
uirtus, -utis (f): virtue
perpendo, -endi, --, -ere: weigh up, think about
potis/pote, adj. indecl. with compar. potior, potius, and superl. potissimus: greater, better, superior, more important
rei p. = *res publica*
contio, -onis (f): meeting, assembly (*pro contione*: in front of the people)
iuro, -are: swear, take an oath
peritus-a-um: experienced, skilled, expert
praesidium, -i (n): protection
prosequor: follow, continue, pursue
inde subieci: 'from which I have copied below' (*inde*: from that place, + *subicio*)
attenuo -are: grow weak, be worn out

perdo, -didi, -ditus, -ere: lose, destroy, ruin (*di me perdant*: may the gods destroy me...)
cohorresco, -horruī, --, -ere: shudder, shiver (*com + horresco*)
languo, --, --, -ere: be faint, be weary (cf languid)
expiro = exspiro, -are: die, expire, breathe one's last
periclitor, -atus, -ari: try, test, endanger
intersum, -fui, -futurus, -esse: be between, be present ('it is nothing to me...')
ualeo, -ere: be well, be in health
necne = nec + ne
obsecro, -are: pray, beg, beseech
patior, passus, -i: support, bear
perodi, -iuit, osurus, odisse (defective): hate very much