

25TH LATIN SUMMER SCHOOL

14th-18th JANUARY 2019

Eastern Avenue Building, University of Sydney

LEVEL 1C

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Introduction

At some point in the past you studied Latin and had some exposure to texts originally written in Latin. We want you back there again. On the presumption that, as has been true of the vast preponderance of students, you learned Latin in a grammatical fashion, we shall start by reactivating that knowledge with a quick review of the *accidence* (forms) and *syntax* (language rules) of the language. You are encouraged to make it clear what is and what is not coming back to mind so that we can slow down or speed up as best suits the whole class. Optional exercises will be made available to drill any forms or rules that need a quick polish.

Accompanying these notes will be a downloadable, printable set of reference sheets which contain the regular (and some of the irregular) morphology of the Latin language. These will be used in the class to guide the review, and thereafter to explain forms we encounter in the reading texts. If you have a grammar reference like Kennedy's Revised Latin Primer, you may like to use that instead.

Once we have reviewed the grammar, we will start reading texts originally written in Latin, but selected to be easier going than some you might remember. We will go slowly and use the texts to uncover areas of grammatical difficulty and then discuss those. Be aware, please, that the other participants in the class will have different past experiences with Latin, and may need help that you personally do not need. We won't be leaving anyone behind. Please remember a great Latin phrase, coopted and modified from Pliny among others: **docendō discitur** (one learns by teaching). Take the opportunity to help those around you if you find you have a better grasp of a topic, and the reap the enormous benefit of strengthening your own knowledge by explaining something to another willing learner.

If you want to prepare the texts in advance, that is fine, but be aware that it is not a requirement and that other students will not

have done so. A more valuable offline task is to go back over what we have done or read in class. Nothing we do in Latin language acquisition equals the value of reading again what you already understand.

One feature of this class that I expect to be novel to all, or the vast majority, of you will be my use of active spoken Latin to practise and reinforce what we are learning. This will not be a focus of the class, but one tool in the learning toolbox, but it will throw the first section of these notes into relief—to wit, the pronunciation of Latin as carefully reconstructed from the usage of the educated elites of the 1st century BCE. Some will correctly complain that we do not know down to finest details everything about how Latin was pronounced, but it is surprising, if you look at the research in a book like *Vox Latina* by W. Sidney Allen, quite how much we can know.

It might be interesting to reflect that, while many ancient languages did truly die (and there are many ways to define language death), there has been no time since 753 BCE when at least some people have not been actively using Latin to communicate with each other. I know personally several young people who have spoken Latin at home since the cradle (though none exclusively).

By one definition, Latin had its greatest historical literary flowering after it was already dead: the Renaissance. All those humanists learned it as a second language, but used it as their first.

mihi valdē placēbit linguam Latīnam vōbīs in mentem revocāre et iterum ex litterīs Latīnis gaudium ēvocāre

Letter	Latin name	Latin pronunciation (approximations)
A a	ā	(1) short ă as 'u' in English 'cup'; (2) long ā as in English 'father'
B b	bē	(1) as English 'b'; but (2) as English 'p' before t or s
C c	cē	(1) as English 'k' in 'skin', never as 's'; (2) ch with extra aspiration as in 'kin'
D d	dē	as English 'd'
E e	ē	(1) short ĕ as in English 'pet'; (2) long ē a lengthened short ĕ (closer to the sound of 'ai' in English 'air')
F f	ef	as English 'f'
G g	gē	(1) as English 'g' in 'good', never like English 'j'; (2) gn like '-ngn-' in English 'hangnail'
H h	ha	as English 'h' except where it follows c , p or t (see there)
I i	ī	(1) short ĭ as in English 'dip'; (2) long ī as English 'ee' in 'deep'; (3) as a consonant as English 'y' in 'yet'
K k	ka	exactly as c
L l	el	as English 'l'
M m	em	as English 'm' except final m where it nasalizes the preceding vowel like French final 'n'.
N n	en	as English 'n' except in gn (see above under g)
O o	ō	(1) short ŏ as in British (not American) 'off'; (2) long ō as 'aw' in English 'jaw'
P p	pē	(1) as English 'p' in 'spot'; (2) ph with extra aspiration as in 'pot'
Q q	cū	(always before a 'u') as English 'q' in 'quit', never as in 'queue'
R r	er	a rolled or trilled 'r' like in Spanish or Scottish English
S s	es	always as English 's' in 'sing' or 'lesson', never as in 'roses'
T t	tē	as English 't' in 'stop'; th with extra aspiration as in 'top'
V u	ū	(1) short ŭ as in English 'put'; (2) long ū as in English 'fool'; (3) as a consonant, as English 'w' in 'wet'
X x	ix	as English 'x' in 'six' not as in 'example' i.e. like 'cs' not 'gz'
Y y	ypsilon	as French 'u' in 'tu' or German 'ü' in 'über': there is no English equivalent
Z z	zēta	as English 'zd' in 'Mazda'; though later as regular English 'z' in 'zoo'
AE ae	ā ē	as in English 'high' or 'aisle' (common)
AV au	ā ū	as in English 'how' (common)
EI ei	ē ī	as in English 'ay' (very rare)
EV eu	ē ū	as each part quickly 'ayoo' (uncommon)
OE oe	ō ē	as in English 'boy' (common)
VI ui	ū ī	like the English 'we' or better the French 'oui' (rare)

The Alphabet (ābēcēdārium)

The word **alphabet** comes from the names of the first two letters of the Ancient Greek Alphabet, *alpha* (α) and *bēta* (β) whereas the Latin word for the same thing, *ābēcēdārium*, comes from the names of the first four letters of the Latin Alphabet.

For English speakers, Latin has a wonderful and unusual feature: it is spelled (almost completely) **phonetically** which means that once you know the rules you can tell how to pronounce a Latin word just from looking at it! **Everything you see, you say.**

There are two kinds of letters, consonants and vowels; although two Latin vowels can also function as consonants: *i* and *u* (see the table above). Most modern texts will print *v* for *u* when it is a consonant but, inconsistently, most do not print *j* for consonantal *i*.

Vowels

In Latin there is an important distinction between a **short** and a **long** vowel: and, in fact, so important that there is a special mark called a macron (ˉ) which goes over a vowel to tell you that it is long (*Ā ā Ē ē Ī ī Ō ō Ū ū*). The long vowels are really just the short vowels extended (unlike what we call long vowels in English which are often completely different sounds to their short equivalents).

Six special pairs of vowels called **diphthongs** (*ae au ei eu oe ui*) make one (long) sound in which both vowels are pronounced together starting with the first and ending with the second.

Other pairs of vowels are just pronounced separately. Sometimes a special symbol (¨) called a diaeresis is used to show that two vowels that would normally be a diphthong should be pronounced

separately. A macron appearing on one (or both) of the vowels, in practice, indicates the same thing: e.g. *poēta*.

Syllables

Latin words are made up of a number of syllables and have exactly as many syllables as they have vowels and/or diphthongs. There are no silent vowels (or any other silent letters for that matter) in Latin. Doubled consonants like *-ll-* are both pronounced, and may (often, even usually) be in separate syllables.

The key to dividing Latin words into syllables is knowing where they start and end. Here are the rules:

1. any and all consonants at the beginning of the word, before the first vowel, belong to its first syllable;
2. any and all consonants at the end of the word, after the last vowel, belong to its last syllable;
3. each vowel or diphthong attracts **one preceding consonant** if there is one, and the rest (if any) stay behind in the preceding syllable.

Two single letters in the Latin Alphabet are double (compound) consonants: *x* stands for *cs*, and *z* stands for *sd* which means that they might split between two syllables.

If a **mute/stop/plosive** (*p, ph, b, t, th, d, c, ch, g*) is followed immediately by a **liquid** (*l, r*), then the combination only counts as one consonant, as does *qu*.

Here is an example of syllable division: *fi-dem me-am o-bli-gō vec-sil-lō cī-vi-tā-tum A-me-ri-cae foe-de-rā-tā-rum et re-ī pū-bli-cae prō quā stat, ū-nī nā-ti-ō-nī, De-ō dū-cen-te, nōn dī-vi-den-dae cum lī-ber-tā-te iūs-ti-ti-ā-que om-ni-bus.*

Check all the words of the example against the rules and make sure you see why the syllables divided the way they did. Note that the word *vexillō* had to be misspelled as *vecsillō* above to show that the *x* split half to the previous syllable (*vec-*) and half to the following syllable (*-sil-*).

Accent

In each word **one** syllable is pronounced more forcefully (i.e. stressed more) and is said to bear the **stress** accent. There are some special Latin(-derived) terms you will need to talk about the Latin **stress accent**:

- the ultima (*ultim·a -ae* ♀) – the last syllable of a word;
- the penult (*paenultim·a -ae* ♀) – the second-to-last syllable of a word;
- the antepenult (*antepaenultim·a -ae* ♀) – the third-to-last syllable of a word.

For example, in the word *ze-phy-rus*; *rus* is the ultima, *phy* is the penult, and *ze* is the antepenult. The rules for the placement of the Latin stress accent are:

on a one syllable word (a **monosyllable**) the accent falls on **that one** syllable;

on a two syllable word (a **disyllable**) the accent falls on the **penult** (except in a handful of words that have lost an original final syllable);

in words of three or more syllables, the accent falls on the **penult** if it is a **long** syllable, but otherwise, if the **penult** is **short**, it falls on the **antepenult** (regardless of its length). This is usually called the **antepenult rule**.

But how can you determine if a **syllable** is **long** or **short**?

If the **syllable** contains a **long vowel** or any **diphthong**, then the **syllable** itself is **long**; or

if the **syllable** ends in a **consonant**, then the **syllable** is **long**;

otherwise the **syllable** is **short**.

Here is the same example with long syllables underlined and the accented syllables in **bold**:

fi-dem me-am o-bli-gō vec-sil-lō cī-vi-tā-tum A-me-ri-cae foe-de-rā-tā-rum et re-ī pū-bli-cae prō quā stat, ū-nī nā-ti-ō-nī, De-ō dū-cen-te, nōn dī-vi-den-dae cum lī-ber-tā-te iūs-ti-ti-ā-que om-ni-bus. partēs orātiōnis (Parts of Speech)

Latin has eight (8) *partēs orātiōnis* (parts of speech):

nōm·en -inis ♂ [*substantivum*] (noun),

prōnōm·en -inis ♂ (pronoun),

[*nōmen*] *adiectiv·um -ī* ♂ (adjective),

verb·um -ī ♂ [*temporāle*] (verb),

adverbi·um -ī ♂ (adverb),

praepositi·ō -ōnis ♀ (preposition),

coniuncti·ō -ōnis ♀ (conjunction), and

interiecti·ō -ōnis ♀ (interjection).

English (and many other languages) also has an *articul·us -ī* ♂ (article) but Latin does not.

A *nōmen [substantivum]* (noun) is a name for a person, place, thing, idea, action or quality: e.g. *Rōmul·us -ī* ♂ (Romulus), *Rōm·a, -ae* ♀ (Rome), *aqu·a -ae* ♀ (water), *am·or -ōris* ♂ (love), *natāti·ō -ōnis* ♀ (swimming), *virt·us, -ūtis* ♀ (virtue). There are *nōmina propria* (proper nouns) which are the names of specific, individual things like people, cities, countries, etc. (e.g. John, Sparta, Australia) which are capitalized in English and in Latin (at least for the last few of hundred years), and there are *nōmina commūnia* (common nouns) which are the names of things in general (e.g.

person, city, country, table), and are not capitalized in English or Latin.

A [**nōmen**] **adiectivum** (adjective) is a word that limits, defines or describes a **nōmen [substantivum]** (noun) or **prōnōmen** (pronoun): e.g. *prīm-us -a -um* (first), *omn-is (-is) -e* (all/every), *bon-us -a -um* (good).

A **prōnōmen** (pronoun) is a word that stands in place of a **nōmen** (noun or adjective) that has previously been mentioned or is clear from context: e.g. *ego* (I), *tū* (thou), *is/ea/id* (s/he/it), *nōs* (we), *vōs* (you), *iī/ēae/ea* (they), *quis/quae/quid* (who?/what?), *quī/quae/quod* (who/what), *hic/haec/hoc* (this), *ille/illa/illud* (that).

A **verbum [temporāle]** (verb) is a word that describes an action or state of being: e.g. *am-ō -āre -āvī -ātum* (love), *respon-deō -dēre -dī -sum* (answer), *sur-gō -gere -rēxī -rēctum* (rise), *cap-iō -ere cēpī captum* (take), *aud-iō -īre -īvī -ītum* (hear), *sum esse fūi futūrus* (be).

An **adverbium** (adverb) is a word that limits, defines or describes **verba [temporālia]** (verbs), **adiectiva** (adjectives) or other **adverbia** (adverbs): e.g. *bene* (well), *valdē* (very), *mediocriter* (ok), *cūr* (why?), *quōmodo* (how?).

A **praepositiō** (preposition) is a word that starts a **locutiō praepositiōnālis** (prepositional phrase), such as *in* (in/on), *ad* (to), *prō* (for), *cum* (with). A prepositional phrase is a **praepositiō** (preposition) joined to a **nōmen** (noun): e.g. *in aquā frīgidā* (in the cold water), *cum libertāte* (with liberty), *ad lupam* (to/towards the she-wolf).

A **coniūctiō** (conjunction) is a word that connects words, phrases, clauses and sentences together: e.g. *et* (and), *-que* (and), *postquam* (after).

An **interiectiō** (interjection) is a word that expresses emotion but does not play a formal part in a sentence: e.g. *ēheu* (alas!), *papae* (wow!), *eugepae* (hurray!). You will note from the above discussion how indebted English is to Latin for its grammatical terminology.

nōmina: cāsus, numerus, genus

nōmina (nouns and adjectives) in Latin have **cāsus** (case), **numerus** (number) and **genus** (gender):

cās-us -ūs ♂ (case): Latin nouns mostly have an ending pattern that shows case. English shows case mostly by word position not differences in form (except for words like I/me/my/mine/myself, he/him/his/his/himself...) A noun's case reveals what function the noun has in the sentence. Latin has five common cases:

nōminātivus (nominative), **accūsātivus** (accusative), **genitivus** (genitive), **dativus** (dative), and **ablātivus** (ablative). Two less frequently used are the **vocātivus** (vocative) and the **locātivus** (locative).

numer-us -ī ♂ (number): Latin nouns are either **singulāre** (singular) or **plūrāle** (plural) in number with different ending forms for singular and plural. English nouns usually have separate forms for singular and plural: e.g. 'dog' and 'dogs'.

gen-us –eris Ø (gender): Every Latin noun is either *māsculinī generis* (masculine ♂), *fēminīnī generis* (feminine ♀), or *neutrī generis* (neuter Ø). You must learn the gender of each noun.

ūsūs cāsuum commūnēs (Basic uses of the the cases)

nōminātīvus (nominative) identifies the subject of a verb. The subject is a *nōmen* (noun) or a *prōnōmen* (pronoun) that performs the action (the doer) or exists in a state of being. The *nōminātīvus* (nominative) also identifies the predicate nominative which completes the meaning of a linking verb like the verb ‘to be’ (*esse*): e.g. ‘*Mārs est deus.*’ ‘Mars is a god.’ (‘*Mārs*’ is the subject, ‘*deus*’ is the predicate nominative).

accūsātīvus (accusative) identifies the direct object (usually just called the object) which is the *nōmen* (noun) which receives the action of the verb: e.g. ‘*Mārs Rhēam Silviam amat.*’ ‘Mars loves Rhea Silvia’. The direct object of ‘*amat*’ is the *nōmen* (noun) ‘*Rhēam Silviam.*’ Another use of the *accūsātīvus* (accusative) is as the object of a large number of *praepositionēs* (prepositions): e.g. ‘*ad*’, ‘*in*’ (when it means ‘into’ or ‘onto’).

genitīvus (genitive) is the Latin possessive case. It identifies the possessor or origin of another *nōmen* (noun). English also has an ending for this (‘s or s’) but can also use the preposition ‘of’ instead: e.g. “girl’s” or “girls”, ‘*puellae*’ or ‘*puellarum*’.

datīvus (dative) is the recipient or beneficiary of the some thing or action. Grammatically it is called the indirect object. The following sentences show it: ‘The subject gives the object to the recipient’. ‘The subject verbs for the recipient’. In Latin it also

combines with the verb ‘to be’ (*esse*) to indicate possession: e.g. ‘*est mihi canis.*’ ‘I have a dog’. It is mostly equivalent to the English use of the prepositions ‘to’ and ‘for’, but be careful because ‘to’ and ‘for’ have many other meanings in English.

ablātīvus (ablative) does a lot of different jobs in the Latin language, it is kind of the ‘everything else’ case. The one use we need to worry about for right now is that it is the object of another large number of *praepositionēs* (prepositions): e.g. ‘*cum*’, ‘*ē/ex*’, ‘*ā/ab*’, ‘*dē*’, ‘*sine*’, ‘*in*’ (when it means ‘in’ or ‘on’).

Two other less used cases exist:

vocātīvus (vocative) is the case for calling someone by their name or title, the so-called ‘direct address’. In English (and Latin) we usually put commas around *vocātīvī* (vocatives). In Latin this form is mostly identical to the *nōminātīvus* (nominative), but the second declension, which contains most male names, has special forms.

locātīvus (locative) is a form that means ‘in’ or ‘on’ something and only exists for a small number of nouns; three common nouns (*domī* ‘at home’, *humī* ‘in/on the ground’, *rūrī* ‘in the country’) and the names of towns, cities and small islands: e.g. ‘*Sydnēiī*’ – ‘in Sydney’, ‘*Athēnīs*’ – ‘in Athens’, ‘*Rōmae*’ – ‘in Rome’.

dēclīnātiōnēs (Declensions)

A *dēclīnāti-ō –ōnis* ♀ (declension) is a group of nouns that show a certain regular pattern of word endings. There are five different *dēclīnātiōnēs* (declensions) in Latin:

prīma dēclīnātiō (the first declension) is composed of words that characteristically have the vowel 'a' at or near the end of the word: e.g. 'lupa'.

secunda dēclīnātiō (the second declension) is composed of words that characteristically have the vowel 'o' at or near the end of the word: e.g. 'dominus'.

tertia dēclīnātiō (the third declension) is composed of words that characteristically have a consonant or an 'i' at or near the end of the word: e.g. 'senātor'.

quārta dēclīnātiō (the fourth declension) is composed of words that characteristically have the vowel 'u' at or near the end of the word: e.g. 'gradus'.

quīnta dēclīnātiō (the fifth declension) is composed of words that characteristically have the vowel 'e' at or near the end of the word: e.g. 'rēs'.

Use the table on the handout to find the endings of the different cases and numbers of each declension.

Memorize the Latin forms in order, counting them off on your fingers, starting with the left thumb and the *nōminātīvus singulāris* (nominative singular) to left pinky and the *ablātīvus singulāris* (ablative singular) and then from the right thumb and the *nōminātīvus plūrālis* (nominative plural) to right pinky and the *ablātīvus plūrālis* (ablative plural). Do this for all the declensions you learn later on.

Remember that the endings for a whole group of nouns (thousands and thousands of them) follow each pattern. Once you have learned the pattern, you can recognize and form the endings.

verba: vōx, modus, tempus, persōna, numerus

verba [temporālia] (verbs) in Latin have *vōx* (voice), *modus* (mood), *tempus* (tense), *persōna* (person) and *numerus* (number):

vōx vōcis ♀ (**voice**) determines whether the subject of the verb performs the action of the verb (*vōx actīva*) or receives it (*vōx passīva*). Compare these two sentences in Latin and English: *vir canem mordet* (man bites dog), and *canis ā virō mordētur* (dog is bitten by man).

mod·us -ī ♂ (**mood**) gives the type of verb function involved. There are three moods: *indicātīvus* (**indicative**) are verbs primarily referring to the real world, *imperātīvus* (**imperative**) are verbs giving orders or instructions, and *cōniūctīvus* (**subjunctive**) are verbs primarily referring to the contents of the mind. Much more concrete detail will be given in class.

temp·us -oris ∅ (**tense**) gives the time when the verb's action occurs. There are six tenses in Latin: *praesēns* (**present**), *futūrum* (**future**), *imperfectum* (**imperfect**), *perfectum* (**perfect**), *perfectum futūrum* (**future perfect**), and *plūsquamperfectum* (**pluperfect**). Look to the reference sheets for the usual translations.

persōn·a -ae ♀ (**person**) is one of three types of actor: *persōna prīma* (**1st person**) is the speaker, *persōna secunda* (**2nd person**) is the intended audience, and *persōna tertia* (**3rd person**) is

anyone or anything else in the universe. There is thus no such thing as fourth person.

numer·us –ī ♂(number) is either *singular·is –e* or *plūral·is –e* as it was for nouns.

Important differences between English and Latin verbs

Most English verbs have five distinct single word forms (e.g. break, breaks, breaking, broke & broken) or fewer. Using these forms and a plethora of helping verbs and pronouns we can make a bewildering array of periphrastic tenses in various moods and voices (e.g. “I have been going to depart”).

coniugātiōnēs (Conjugations)

A **coniugātiō (conjugation)** is a group of verbs which show a certain regular pattern of word endings. There are four (and a half) different *coniugātiōnēs* (conjugations) in Latin. There are also a handful of irregular verbs that have particular forms which need to be remembered.

interrogātīva (Question words)

We will use the words in the following table in class quite often to identify features of the language and texts

Latinē	Anglicē
quis? quī?	who?
cūius? quōrum?	whose?
cui? quibus?	to whom?
quem? quōs?	whom?
quō? quibus?	by/with/from what?
quid? quae?	what?
quod X? quae X?	which/what X?
cūiās? cūiātēs?	where from?
quōmodo?	how?
quam X?	how X?
cūr? quārē	why?
ubi?	where?
quō?	where to?
unde?	where from?
quālis?	of what kind?
quant·us –a –um?	how great? how big?
quotiēns?	how many times?
quot?	how many?
quot·us –a –um?	where in order?
quandō	when?
quamdiū	for how long?
-ne?	?
nōnne?	? (yes)
num?	? (no)

From Cicero's *De Amicitia*. Laelius, a close friend of Scipio Aemilianus, discusses his friendship.

ego sī Scīpiōnis dēsīderiō mē movērī negem, quam id rēctē faciam vīderint sapientēs, sed certō mentiar. moveor enim tālī amīcō orbātus, quālis, ut arbitrō, nēmō certē fuit. sed nōn egeō medicīnā: mē ipse cōnsōlor et maximē illō sōlāciō, quod eō errōre careō, quō amīcōrum dēcessū plērīque angī solent. nihil malī accidisse Scīpiōnī putō; mihi accidit, sī quid accidit; suīs autem incommodēs graviter angī nōn amīcum, sed sē ipsum amantis est.

Scīpi·ō -ōnis ♂ Scipio Aemilianus; *dēsīderi·um -ī* Ø A longing for something; *movērī* Passive infinitive from *mov·eō -ēre mōvī mōtum* to be moved (here metaphorically); *negem* from *neg·ō -āre -āvī -ātum* to deny; *vīderint sapientes* an idiomatic phrase, here loosely "in the opinion of the wise"; *mentiar*. 1st person present subjunctive of *ment·ior -īrī -ītus sum* to lie; *tālī* from *tāl·is -e* such a kind'; *orbātus* perfect **passive** participle (PPP) from *orb·ō -āre -āvī -ātum* to bereave; *qualis*. corresponds to *tālis* of such a kind; *fuit* from *sum esse fuī futūrus*; *eg·eō -ēre -uī* × to lack, takes the genitive or ablative of the thing lacked; *car·eō -ēre -uī* × to be without or free from, takes the ablative; *dēcess·us -ūs* ♂ departure, and so euphemistically death; *ang·ō -ere* × × to constrict, afflict; *accidisse* perfect active infinitive from *accid·ō -ere -ī* × to happen to.

From the preface to Cicero's Letters, 1965, by W. S Watt.

restat ut grātiās agam quās dēbeō maximās omnibus et bibliothēcāriīs et amīcīs quī mihi opitulātī sunt. bibliothēcāriī nōminandī sunt Vniversitātum Aberdonēnsis et Glasguēnsis, Collēgiōrum Balliolēnsis et Etonēnsis; inter amīcōs autem praecipuē R.G. M. Nisbet, cūius auxiliū mihi saepissimē implōrantī numquam dēfuit.

grātiās agere an idiomatic phrase, to thank. Think of it as the older English 'to give thanks'. *opitul·or -ārī -ātus sum* to assist. (+dat.)

From Boethius *De Consolatione Philosophia*. Philosophy sees Boethius weeping and writing poetry.

quae ubi poētīcās Mūsās vīdit nostrō assistentēs torō flētibusque meīs verba dictantēs, commōtā paulisper ac torvīs īnflammāta lūminibus: quis, inquit, hās scēnicās meretrīculās ad hunc aegrum permīsit accēdere, quae dolōrēs ēius nōn modo nullīs remediīs fovērent, vērūm dulcibus īnsuper alerent venēnīs? hae sunt enim quae īnfructuōsīs affectuum spīnīs ūberem frūctibus ratiōnis segetem necant hominumque mentēs adsuēfaciunt morbō, nōn liberant...sed abīte potius, Sirenēs usque in exitium dulcēs, meīsque eum Mūsīs cūrandum sanadumque relinquit!

tor·us -ī ♂ bed; flēt·us -ūs ♂ weeping, (pl.) tears; torv·us -a -um fierce, grim; lūm·en -inis ∅ light, (metaphor) eyes; meretrīcul·a -ae ♀ Diminutive from meretr·īx -īcis ♀ a courtesan. fov·eō -ēre fōvī fōtum Originally to warm, here, by analogy, to keep alive, to heal; al·ō -ere -uī -itum to feed or nourish; venēn·um -ī ∅ drug or poison; abīte. Imperative plural from ab·eō -īre -īvī -ītum to go away.

1. PLINY

A slave kills his master

rem atrōcem Larcus Macēdō ā servīs suīs passus est. superbus erat dominus et saevus et quī patrem suum fuisse servum meminisse nōllet. lavābātur in villā Formiānā cum repente eum servī cīnxērunt. alius faucēs invādit, alius os verberat, alius pectus et ventrem contundit, et cum esse exanimem putārent, abiciunt eum in fervēns pavīmentum ut experīrentur num vīveret. ille, sīve quia nōn sentiēbat, sīve quia sē nōn sentire simulābat, mortem obiisse vidēbātur. tandem effertur, excipiunt servī fideliōrēs. eōrum vōcibus excitātus et recreātus locī frīgore, sublātis oculīs agitātōque corpore, vīvere sē dēmōnstrat. diffugiunt servī; quōrum magna pars capta est, ceterī quaeruntur. ipse paucīs diēbus aegrē focolātus nōn sine ultiōnis sōlāciō ē vītā dēcessit.

atr·ōx -ōcis violent; passus est perfect tense of deponent verb pat·ior -ī passus sum endure; pat·er -ris ♂ father; su·us -a -um one's own; fuisse perfect infinitive of sum esse fuī futūrus; meminisse to remember; nōllet from nōlō nōlle nōlūī × be unwilling; lav·ō -āre -āvī -ātum wash; repente suddenly; cīng·ō -ere cīnxī cinctum surround; fauc·ēs -ium ♀ ♀ throat; in·vad·ō -ere -vās·ī -um attack; ōs ōris ∅ mouth; pect·us -oris ∅ chest; vent·er -ris ♂ stomach; con·tund·ō -ere -tūdī -tūsum bruise, pound; exanim·is -e lifeless; put·ō -āre -āfvī -ātum think (that); ab·ic·iō -ere -

iēcī -iectum throw out/away; *fervēns -entis* hot, boiling; *pavimentum -ī* ∅ floor; *experior -īrī -tus sum* test; *vīvō -ere vīxī* victum live; *sive...sive* whether...or; *sentio -īre -īvī -itum* be conscious/aware; *simulō -āre -āvī -ātum* pretend; *ob-ic-īō -ere -iēcī -iectum* offer; *vidēbatur* seemed; *effero -re extulī ēlātum* carry out (for burial); *fidēlior -ius* comparative degree from *fidēlis -e* faithful; *locus -ī* ∅ place; *sublātis oculis agitātōque corpore* by opened eyes and moved body (could also be considered ablative absolutes); *diēs -ēī* ∅ day; *dif-fug-īō -ere -fūgī -itum* flee; *aegrē* with difficulty; *ceterī -ae -a* the rest; *focilō -āre -āvī -ātum* restore to life; *quaerō -ere -quaes-īvī -itum* search for; *sine (+abl)* without; *paucī -ae -a* a few; *ultiō -ōnis* ♀ revenge

2. JULIUS CAESAR A brave soldier leads the way

atque nostrīs militibus cūctantibus, maximē propter altitudinem maris, is quī decimae legiōnis aquilam ferēbat, contestātus deōs, ut ea rēs legiōnī fēliciter ēveniret, “dēsilitē”, inquit, “militēs, nisi vultis aquilam hostibus prōdere: ego certē mēum reī pūblicaē atque imperātōrī officium praestiterō”. hoc cum vōce magnā dīxisset, sē ex nāvī prōiēcit atque in hostēs aquilam ferre coepit. tum nostrī cohortātī inter sē, nē tantum dēdecus admitterētur, ūniversī ex nāvī dēsiluērunt. quōs cum militēs quī erant in proximīs nāvibus cōspexissent, subsecūtī hostibus appropinquāvērunt.

nostrīs militibus cunctantibus ablative absolute; *cunct-or -ārī -ātus sum* hesitate; *maximē* superlative adv. of *magn-us -a -um*; *propter (+acc.)* because of; *decim-us -a -um* tenth; *aquil-a -ae* ♀ the eagle, the standard of the legion; *contest-or -ārī -ātus sum* pray; *ut...ēveniret* “in order that...” purpose clause; *ēveniret* imperfect subjunctive of *ēven-īō -īre -īvī -itum* happen; *dēsilitē*: imperative plural of *dēsil-īō -īre -īvī* × jump down; *vultis* you wish, present tense 2nd person plural of *volō-velle-volūī* × wish; *prōd-o -ere -idī -itum* betray; *rēs pūblica reī pūblicaē* ♀ the State; *imperāt-or -ōris* ∅ general; *offici-um -ī* ∅ duty; *praestiterō* I shall have fulfilled; *prō-ic-īō -ere -iēcī -iectum* throw (forward); *coepit* he began; *cohortātī inter sē* urging one another; *nē...admitterētur* indirect command “lest they commit”; *dēdec-us -oris* ∅ disgrace; *ūniversī* all together; *sub-sequ-or -ī -secutus sum* follow up.

At the battle of Allia, Caesar sends reinforcements and joins the battle himself.

hīs rēbus cognitīs Caesar Labiēnum cum cohortibus sex subsidiō labōrantibus mittit. ipse adit reliquōs, cohortātur nē labōrī succumbant. mittit primō Brūtum adulēscentem cum cohortibus Caesar, post cum aliīs Gāium Fabium lēgātum; postrēmō ipse, cum vehementius pugnārētur, integrōs subsidiō addūcit. restitūtō proeliō ac repulsīs hostibus eō quō Labiēnum miserat contendit; cohortēs quattuor ex proximō castellō dēdūcit, equitum partem sē sequī, partem circumīre exteriōrēs mūnitiōnēs et ab tergō hostēs adorīrī iubet. Labiēnus Caesarem per nūntiōs facit

certiōrem quid faciendum exīstimet. accelerat Caesar, ut proeliō intersit.

cog-nōsc-ō -ere -nōvī -nōtum find out; *coh-ors -ortis* ♀ cohort; *subsidi-um -ī* ∅ help; *ad-eo -ēre -īvī -itum* approach; *suc-cumb-ō -ere -ūb-ūī -itum* succumb; *mitt-ō -ere mīsī missum* send; *ali-us -a -um* other; *legāt-us -ī* ♂ commander; *postrēmō* finally; *vehementius* comparative adverb of *vehementer* savagely; *integ-er -ra -rum* fresh; *proeli-um -ī* ∅ battle; *re-pell-ō -ere -pulī -pulsum* push back; *eō quō* to the place where; *con-tend-ō -ere -tendī -tentum* hurry; *castell-um -ī* ∅ fort; *equ-es--itis* ♂ horseman, (pl) cavalry; *sequ-or sequi secutus sum* follow; *mūniti-ō onis*. ♀ fortification; *ab tergō* from the rear; *ador-ior -īrī -ortus sum* attack; *certiōrem facere* to inform, advise; *faciendum* a gerundive “what needs doing”; *existim-ō -āre -āvī -ātum* consider; *inter-sum -esse -fui -futūrus* take part in (+dat).

3. DIO CASSIUS

Boudicca incites the Britons to rebel against the Romans

“quantum differat libertās ā servitūte, omnēs ūsū didicistis. quās enim contumēliās iniūriāsque nōn accēpimus quō ex tempore illī ad Britanniam pervēnērunt? quae ōlim habēbāmus, eīs iam sumus prīvātī, et sī quid superest nōbīs, eī impōnitur vectigal. melius fuit sub corōnā vēnīre quam illud ināne nōmen libertātis retinēre. quis tamen nōbīs haec attulit mala? ipsī, inquam, attulimus. Rōmānōs enim expellere

dēbuimus in patriam intrantēs, ut ōlim māiōrēs nostrī C. Iūlium Caesarem expulērunt. vōs tamen admoneō nē Rōmānōs timeātis quī neque numerō neque virtūte sunt nōbīs superiōrēs. et haec loca, nōbīs nōtissima, illis ignōta sunt atque infēstā. dēmōnstrāte igitur illōs, quī nihil nisi lepōrēs ac vulpēs sunt, canibus lupisque imperāre velle”.

differ-ō -re distulī dīlātum differ; *servit-us -ūtis* ♀ slavery; *ūs-us -ūs* ♂ experience; *disc-ō -cere didicī* × learn; *contumēli-a -ae* ♀ insult; *iniūri-a -ae* ♀ wrong; *ac-cip-io -ere -cēpī -ceptum* receive; *sumus prīvātī* 1st person, plural, perfect tense, passive voice of *prīv-ō -āre -āvī -ātum* (+abl.) deprive of; *super-sum -esse -fui -futūrus* remain, be left over; *im-pōn-ō -ere -pos-ūī -itum* impose; *vectigāl -is* ∅ tax; *melius fuit* it would have been better; *sub corōnā vēnīre* to be sold into slavery; *inānis -e* empty; *nōm-en -inis* ∅ name; *re-tin-eō -ēre -uī -tentum* retain; *affer-ō -re attulī allātum* bring to; *mal-um -ī* ∅ evil; *inquam* 1st person of *inquit* say; *dēb-eō -ēre -uī -itum* ought; *intransēs* present participle of *intr-ō -āre -āvī -ātum* enter; *C. = Gāius*; *admon-eō -ēre -uī -itum* warn; *tim-eō -ēre -uī* × fear; *virt-us -ūtis* ♀ courage; *super-ior -ius* superior; *nōt-us -a -um* known; *ignōt-us -a -um* unknown; *infest-us -a -um* dangerous; *lep-us -oris* ♂ hare; *vulp-es -is*. ♀ fox; *can-is -is*. ♂ ♀ dog; *volō velle voluī* × wish.

4. CICERO

The old can live an active life

etenim quattuor reperiō causās cūr senectus misera videātur; ūnam quod āvocet ā rēbus gerendīs; alteram quod corpus faciat infirmius; tertiam quod prīvet omnibus ferē voluptātibus; quārtam, quod haud procul absit ā morte. eae causae quantae et quam iūstae sint videāmus. ā rēbus gerendīs senectus abstrahit. nihil ergō agēbat Q. Maximus, nihil L. Paulus, pater tuus, socer optimī virī, filiī mei? cēterī senēs, cum rem pūblicam cōnsiliō et auctōritāte dēfendēbant, nihil agēbant? ad Appī Claudī senectūtem accēdēbat etiam ut caecus esset; tamen is, cum sententia senātūs inclināret ad pācem cum Pyrrhō foedusque faciendum, nōn dubitāvit dīcere illa quae versibus persecūtus est Ennius: quō vōbīs mentēs, rēctae quae stāre solēbant antehāc, dēmentēs sēsē flexēre viae?

etenim and indeed; *rep-er-iō -īre -peri -ertum* discover; *senect-us -ūtis* ♀ old age; *vid-eō -ēre vidī vīsum* see, (pass.) seem; *āvoc-ō -āre -āvī -ātum* remove; *ā rēbus gerendīs* from the active life; *alter -a -um*: the other/second; *infir-mius* comparative adjective of *infir-m-us -a -um* weak; *prīv-ō -āre -āvī -ātum* deprive (supply the object *hominēs* after *quod*

privet); *ferē* almost; *volupt-ās -ātis* ♀ pleasure; *haud* not; *ab-sum -esse āfuī āfutūrus* be away; *quam* how; *videāmus* jussive subjunctive “let us see”; *abs-trah-ō -ere -trāxī -tractum* cut off; Q. Maximus = Quintus Fabius Maximus Cunctator; L. Paulus = Lucius Aemilius Paulus; *socer -ī* ♂ father-in-law; (the *ut* clause is the subject of *accedebat* - “to the old age of Appius Claudius was added also the fact that he was blind”); the story here is that an old, blind Claudius was carried into the senate to protest against negotiations with Pyrrhus, an enemy of Rome still on Italian soil.; *foed-us -eris* ♂ treaty; *dubit-ō -āre -āvī -ātum* doubt; *vers-us -ūs* ♂ verse; *per-sequ-or -ī--secutus sum* relate; Ennius = Quintus Ennius - first of the great Roman poets; *quō...viae* to what course have your senses, which up to now have stood unmoved, turned mad?; *rēct-us -a -um* unmoved; *st-ō -āre -etī -ātum* to stand; *sol-eō -ēre -itus sum* be accustomed; *antehāc* up to now; *dē-mēns -mentis* mad; *flexēre* = *flexērunt* turned.

5. AUSONIUS

Epitaphs for Heroes of Troy

Hector: Hectoris hīc tumulus, cum quō suā Trōiā sepulta est: conduntur pariter, quī periēre simul. *Astyanax*, *Hector’s son*: flōs Āsiae, tantaque ūnus dē gente superstēs, parvulus, Argīvīs sed iam dē patre timendus, hīc iaceō *Astyanax*, Scaeis dēiectus ab altīs. prō dolor! Īliacī Neptūnia moenia mūrī vīdērunt aliquid crūdēlius Hectore tractō.

tumul-us -ī ♂ A burial mound, grave; *flōs flōris* ♂ flower; *super-stes -stitis* surviving; *iac-eō -ēre -uī* × to lie; *Scae-a -ae* ♀ The western gate of Troy. *Īliac-us -ī* ♂ Trojan.

Mediaeval Latin Poetry – O Fortuna

ō fortūna, velut lūna statū variābilis,
semper crēscis aut dēcrēscis;
vīta dētestābilis nunc obdūrat et tunc cūrat
lūdō mentis aciem; egestātem, potestātem,
dissolvit ut glaciem.
sors immānis et inānis, rota tū volūbilis,
status malus, vāna salūs semper dissolūbilis;
obumbrāta et vēlāta mihi quoque nīteris;
nunc per lūdum dorsum nūdum ferō tuī sceleris.
sors salūtis et virtūtis mihi nunc contrāria;
est affectus et dēfectus semper in angariā.
hāc in hōrā sine morā cordae pulsum tangite!
quod per sortem sternit fortem,
mēcum omnēs plangite!

stāt-us -ūs ♂ state or position; *crēsc-o -ere crē-vī -tum* to grow;
aci-ēs -ēī ♀ sharpness, battle-line; *angari-a -ae* ♀ service,
vassalage.

6. VIRGIL

Queen Dido of Carthage listens in awe to the Trojan hero Aeneas and wants to hear all his adventures

nec nōn et variō noctem sermōne trahēbat
īnfēlix Dīdō longumque bibēbat amōrem
multa super Priamō rogitāns, super Hectore multa;
nunc quibus Aurōrae vēnisset filius armīs,
nunc quālēs Diomēdes equī, nunc quantus Achillēs.
“immō age et ā prīma dīc, hospes, orīgine nōbīs īnsidiās”
inquit “Danaum cāsūsque tuōrum
errōrēsque tuōs; nam tē iam septima portat
omnibus errantem terrīs et flūctibus aestās”.

nec nōn indeed; *serm-ō -ōnis* ♂ speech; *trah-ō -ere trāxī tractum* drag;
īnfēl-ix -īcis unlucky; *bib-o -ere -ī -itum* drink; *rogit-ō -āre -āvī -ātum* frequentative form of *rog-ō -āre -āvī -ātum* ask; *super* (+acc) over,
concerning; *Priam-us -ī* ♂ king of Troy; *Hect-or -oris* ♂ Hector, greatest
of the Trojan heroes; *Aurōrae...filius* Memnon, king of the Ethiopians;
equ-us -ī ♂ horse. (Diomedes stole some fine horses from King Rhesus);
ag-ō -ere ēgī āctum do, act; *dīc* (irregular) imperative of *dīc-ō -ere dīxī*
dictum say; *hosp-es -itis* ♂ guest; *orīg-ō -inis* ♀ origin; *īnsidi-ae -ārum*
♀ ♀ ambush, treachery; *Dana-us -a -um* Greek; *cās-us -ūs* ♂
misfortune; *tuōrum* of your family/people; *err-or -ōris* ♂ wandering;
septima...aestas the seventh summer *fluct-us -ūs* ♂ wave.

King Priam's wife points out to her husband the futility of donning the armour of his youth and urges him to seek the protection of the gods

ipsum autem sūmptīs Priamum iuvenālibus armīs
ut vīdit, “quae mēns tam dīra, miserrime coniūnx,
impulit hīs cingī tēlīs? aut quō ruis?” inquit.
tempus eget; nōn, ipse meus nunc adforet Hector.
hūc tandem concēde; haec āra tuēbitur omnīs.

sūm·ō -ere -psī sumptum take up; *iuvenāl-is -e* youthful; *mēns mentis*
♀ mind, judgement; *dīr-us -a -um* terrible; *miserrime* vocative case of the
superlative degree of *miser -a -um* miserable; *con·iunx -iugis* ♂ ♀
spouse; *im·pell·ō -ere -pul·ī -sum* push, drive; *cing·ō -ere cinxī cinctum*
surround (passive infinitive here); *tēl·um*
-ī ♂ weapon; *quō* to where?; *ru·ō -ere -ī -tum* rush; *auxili·um -ī* ♂ help;
dēfēns·or -ris ♂ defender; *adforet = adesset*; *con·ced·ō -ere -cess·ī -um*
withdraw; *ār·a -ae* ♀ altar; *tu·eor -ērī -tus* sum protect.

The bitter memory of Turnus' slaying of Pallas fills Aeneas with rage and he kills Turnus despite his appeal for his life

et iam iamque magis cūctantem flectere sermō
coeperat, infēlix humerō cum appāruit altō
balteus et nōtīs fulsērunt cingula bullīs
Pallantis puerī, vīctum quem vulnere Turnus
strāverat atque humerīs inimicum īsigne gerēbat.
ille, oculīs postquam saevī monumenta dolōris

exuviāsque hausit, furiīs accēsus, et irā
terribilis: “tūne hinc spoliīs indūte meōrum
ēripiāre mihi? Pallās tē hōc vulnere, Pallās
immolat, et poenam scelerātō ex sanguine sūmit.”
hoc dīcēns ferrum adversō sub pectore condit
fervidus. ast illī solvuntur frīgore membra,
vītaque cum gemitū fugit indignāta sub umbrās.

magis greatly; *flect·ō -ere flexī -tum* turn, influence; *coeperat* had begun;
(h)umer·us -ī ♂ shoulder; *appar·eō -ēre -uī -itum* come in sight; *balte·us*
-ī ♂ sword-belt; *fulg·eō -ēre -fuls·ī -um* shine; *cingul·a -ōrum* ♂ belt;
bull·a -ae ♀ stud; *Pall·as -antis* ♂ Pallas, the son of Evander, had been
killed by Turnus in battle and stripped of his armour. Turnus is wearing
some of the armour he took as a trophy of victory; *vuln·us -eris* ♂
wound; *inimic·us -a -um* hostile; *īsign·is -e* notable, marked (here as a
noun); *ger·ō -ere ges·sī -tum* wear; *saevi monumenta doloris exuviasque*
the spoils which reminded him of the cruel grief; *haur·iō -īre -haus·ī -*
tum: drain; *furi·a -ae* ♀ madness; *ac·cend·ō -ere -ī -cēsum* inflame, set
alight; *īr·a -ae* ♀ anger; *tūne...mihi* “Are you to be snatched away from
me, clad in the spoils of those I love”; *tūne = tu-ne*; *indūte* vocative from
indūt·us -a -um clad, clothed; *ēripiāre = ēripiāris*; *immol·ō -āre -āvī -*
ātum sacrifice; *poen·a -ae* ♀ punishment; *scelerāt·us -a -um* impious,
wicked; *sangu·is -inis* ♂ blood; *ferr·um -ī* ♂ blade; *advers·us -a -um*
facing, opposed; *pect·us -oris* ♂ breast; *cond·ō -ere -idī -itum* shove,
bury; *fervid·us -a -um* boiling, raging, violently; *ast = at* but; *solv·ō -ere -*
ī solūtum loose; *frig·us -oris* ♂ cold(ness); *gemit·us -ūs* ♂ groan;
membr·um -ī ♂ limb; *indignāt·us -a -um* indignant, reluctant; *umbr·a -ae*
♀ shade (shades—the dead existed in a world of shadow).