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USBORNE INTERNET-LINKED

LATIN FOR BEGINNERS

quod nomen
tibi est?

Marcus,
et tibi?

mihi nomen
est Julia.

quot annos
natus es?

duodecim
annos natus
sum.



scisne loqui
Latine?

Latine paulum
loqui scio.

scisne loqui
Latine, Octavia?

loquor Latine et
paulum Anglice.



Henricus scit
loqui Latine et Anglice
et Germanice.

Internet links

Throughout this book we have recommended useful websites for learning Latin and finding out more about the Romans. You can find links to all the websites, plus downloadable puzzles to print out, at the **Usborne Quicklinks Website**.

1. Go to **www.usborne-quicklinks.com**
2. Type the keywords for this book:
latin for beginners
3. Type the page number of the link you want to visit.
4. Click on the links to go to the recommended sites.

Here are some of the things you can do on the websites recommended in this book:

- Listen to Latin phrases
- Convert your name to Latin
- Solve word searches and play matching games
- Read a cartoon story in Latin about Hercules

Site availability

The links in Usborne Quicklinks are regularly reviewed and updated, but occasionally you may get a message that a site is unavailable. This might be temporary, so try again later, or even the next day. Websites do occasionally close down and when this happens, we will replace them with new links in Usborne Quicklinks. Sometimes we add extra links too, if we think they are useful. So when you visit Usborne Quicklinks, the links may be slightly different from those described in your book.

What you need

To visit the websites you need a computer with an internet connection and a web browser (the software that lets you look at information from the internet). Many language websites have recordings and pronunciation guides that you can listen to. To hear these recordings you need a media player such as Windows Media® Player or RealPlayer®. You probably already have one of these, but if not, you can download them for free from the internet.

For more information about media players, and other free programs called 'plug-ins' that enable your browser to display video clips and animations, go to the Net Help area on the Usborne Quicklinks Website.

Safety on the internet

Ask your parent's or guardian's permission before you connect to the internet and make sure you follow these simple rules:

- Never give out information about yourself, such as your real name, address, phone number or the name of your school.
- If a site asks you to log in or register by typing your name or email address, ask permission from an adult first.

Note for parents and guardians

The websites described in this book are regularly reviewed, but the content of a website may change at any time and Usborne Publishing is not responsible for the content on any website other than its own.

We recommend that children are supervised while on the internet, that they do not use internet chat rooms, and that you use internet filtering software to block unsuitable material. Please ensure that your children read and follow the safety guidelines printed above. For more information, see the Net Help area on the Usborne Quicklinks Website.

COMPUTER NOT ESSENTIAL

This book is a fun and informative language book on its own.

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LATIN FOR BEGINNERS

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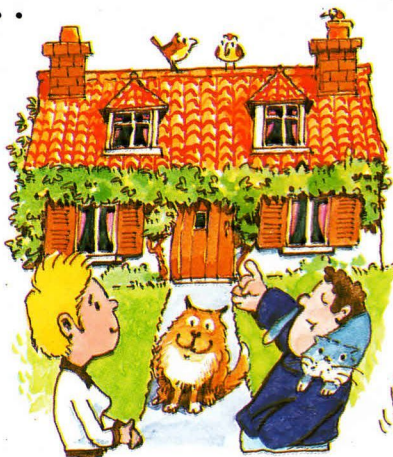
Latin was the language of the Ancient Romans. Although Romans nowadays speak Italian instead, Latin is still spoken in schools and universities all over the world. It is the official language of the Catholic

Church. Scientists use Latin for classifying and naming new species, and scholars even get together to agree on "new" Latin words for ordinary things, like *television* and *pizza*, that didn't exist in Roman times.

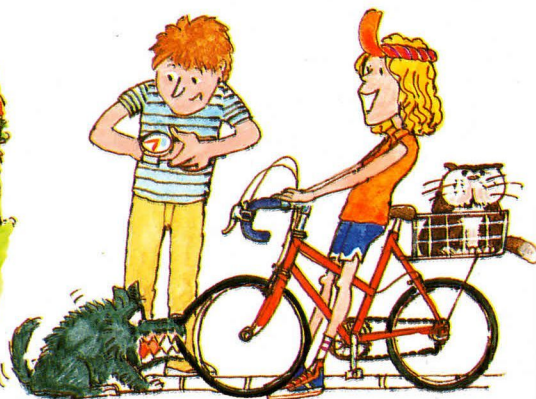
You can find out how to . . .



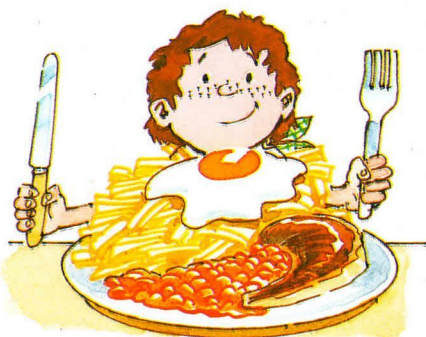
talk about yourself,



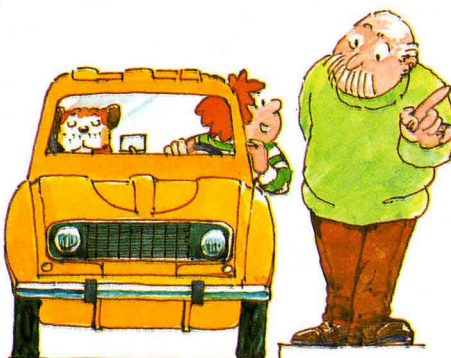
and your home and family,



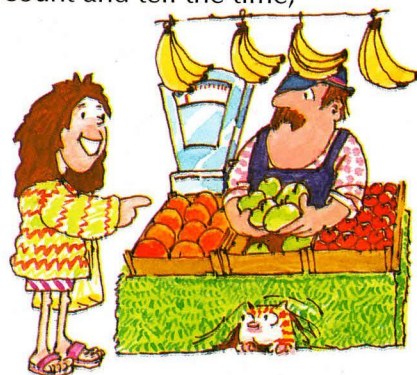
count and tell the time,



ask for the food you like,



find your way around,



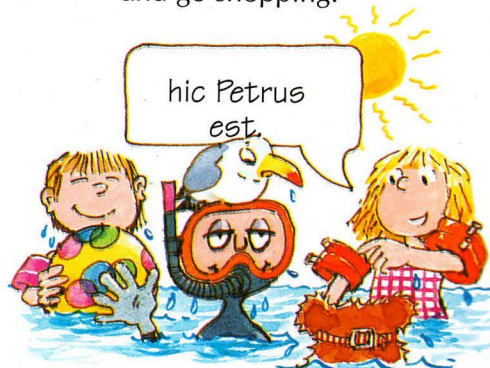
and go shopping.

How you learn



The pictures show you what to say in each situation. Read the speech bubbles, and see how much you can understand by

yourself. Then look up any words you do not know. Words and phrases are repeated again and again, to help you



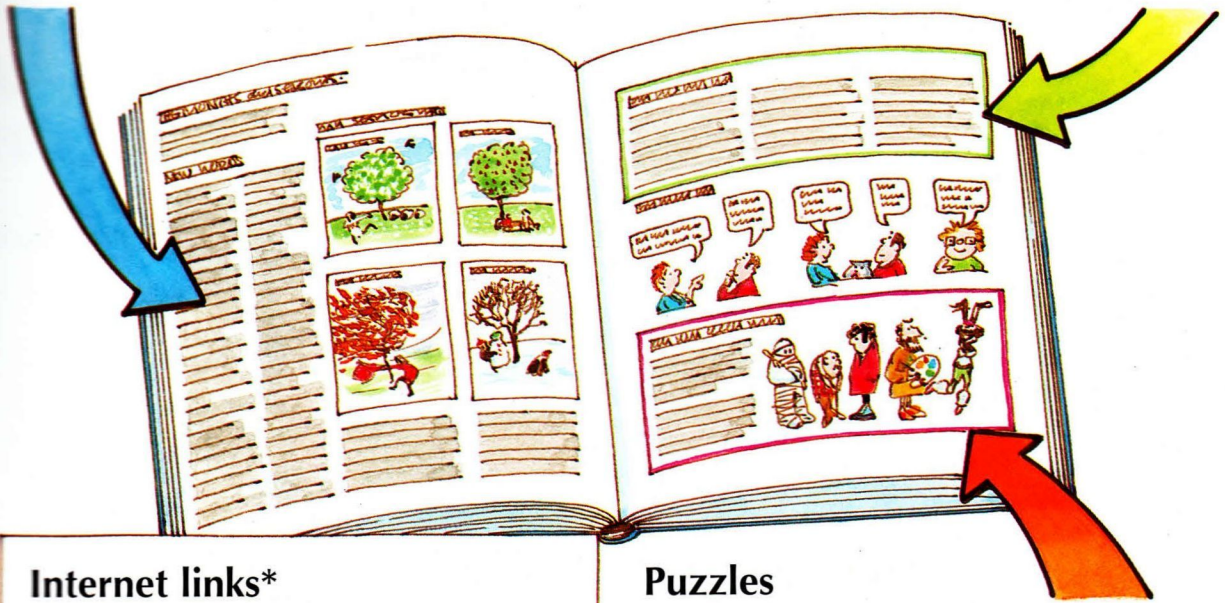
remember them. The book starts with things that are easy to say and gets harder as you go on.

New words

New words are listed on each double page, so you can find them as you go along. If you forget a word, you can look it up on pages 46-48. An asterisk* by a word means there is a note about it at the bottom of the page. The Romans did not use capital letters at the beginning of a sentence, except for names.

Grammar

Latin is easier if you know some of its grammar, or rules, but it doesn't matter if you don't understand it all straightaway. Boxes like this around words show where new grammar is explained. You can look up any of the grammar, including the rules about how Latin word endings change, on pages 41-43.



Internet links*

At the top of each double page you will find descriptions of useful websites for learning Irish. For links to these sites, go to www.usborne-quicklinks.com and enter the keywords **Irish for beginners**.

Puzzles

Throughout this book there are puzzles and quizzes to solve (see answers on pages 44-45). You can also find picture puzzles to print out on the Usborne Quicklinks Website at www.usborne-quicklinks.com

Practising your Latin



Write all the new words in a notebook, and try to learn a few every day. Keep going over them and you will soon remember them.



Ask a friend or someone in your family to test you. Better still, find someone to learn Latin with you, so you can test each other.



Try speaking in Latin whenever you can. Don't be afraid of making mistakes. Look out for Latin written in old buildings or churches.

* For more information on using the Internet, see inside the front cover.

Saying "Hello" and "Goodbye"

The first thing you should know how to say in Latin is "Hello". Here you can find out how to greet people at different times of day.

salve/salvete**	hello
bonum diem	good day
bonam vésperum	good evening
bonam noctem	goodnight
vale/valete**	goodbye

It is polite to add **domine** (Sir) for a man, **domina** (Madam) for a woman, and **dominula** (Miss) for a girl.



salve!*
ut vales?

non
ita bene.

bonum
vesperum!

Saying "Hello"



This is how you say "Hello" to a friend.



bonum
diem,
domina.

bonum
diem,
domine.

bonum diem means "Good day!".



bonum vesperum!

This is how you say "Good evening".

Saying "Goodbye"



salve can mean "Goodbye" as well as "Hello".



vale!

vale!

vale means "Goodbye" and "Farewell".

Saying "Goodnight"



bonam
noctem!

You only use **bonam noctem** last thing at night.

4 *Remember, the Romans did not use capital letters to begin a sentence.
If you are saying "Hello" or "Goodbye" to more than one person, you say **salvete or **valete**.



How are you?

ut vales?



This means "How are you?".

salve,
ut vales?



This woman is saying that she is fine, thank you....

optime
valeo,
gratias ago.

bonum diem,
ut vales?



...but this man is saying that he isn't very well.

non ita bene!

ut vales?

What do you think these people would say if you asked them how they were? Choose from the list below.

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| ut vales? | how are you? |
| bene váleo | I'm fine, well |
| grátias ago | thank you |
| óptime | very well |
| bene | well |
| satis bene | quite well |
| non ita bene | not very well |
| péssime | terrible |

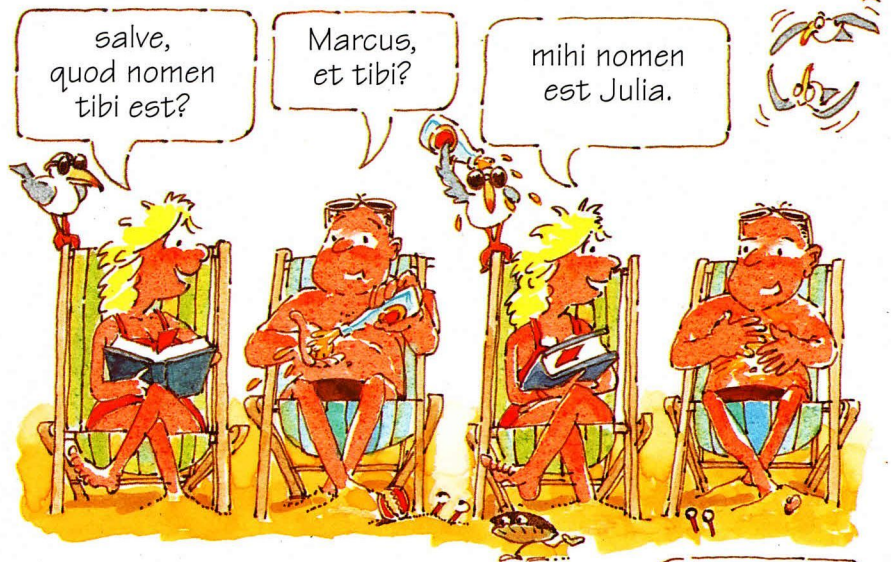


What is your name ?

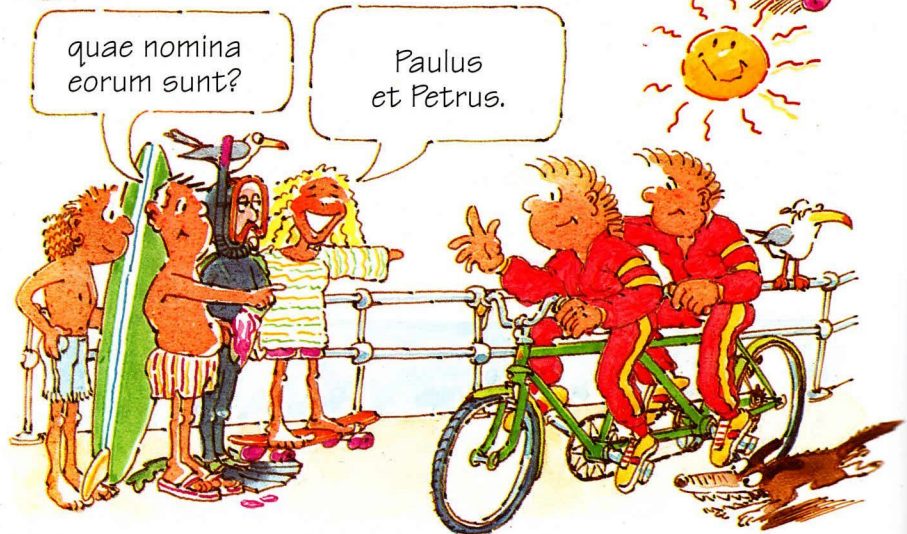
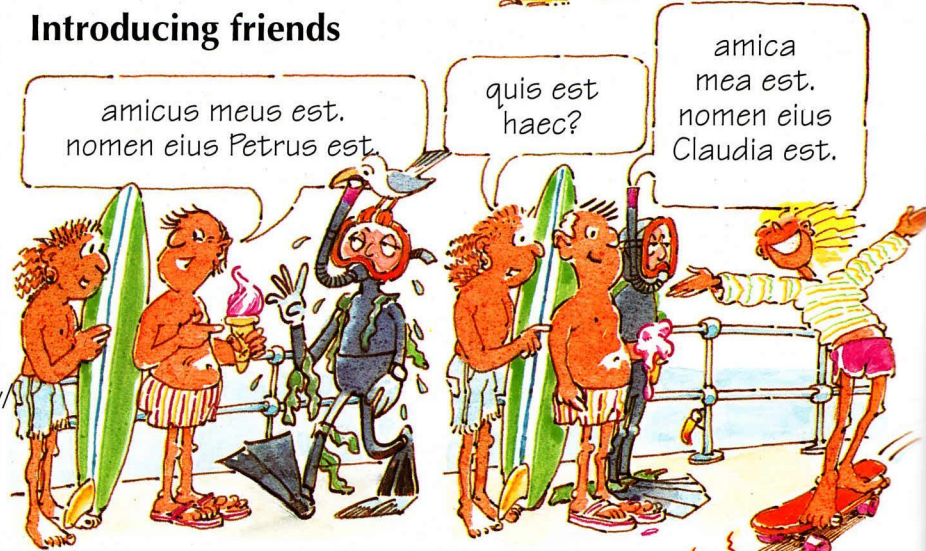
Here you can find out how to ask someone their name and tell them yours, and how to introduce your friends. Read the picture strip and see how much you can understand. Then try doing the puzzles on the page opposite.

New words

quod nomen tibi est ?	what's your name?
mihi nomen est	my name is
quod est nomen amicae meae?	what is my friend's name?
nomen meum	my name
nomen tuum	your name
nomen eius	his/her name
nómina eorum	their names
amicus meus est	he is my friend
amica mea	my (girl) friend
quis?	who?
hic puer	this boy
haec puella et tibi?	this girl and you?
quis est hic /haec*?	who is this (boy/girl)?
quod ... est?	what is...?
quae ... sunt?	what are...?
ita est!	so it is / yes
non	not
sed	but
sunt	(they) are



Introducing friends



Questions

Questions in Latin sometimes have a questioning word at the beginning, such as **quis** (who?), **cur** (why?), **quando** (when?), or **ut** (how?). If there is no questioning word, **-ne** is added to the end of the first word. This shows that the sentence is a question. For example, "**estne nomen eius Petrus?**" means "Is his name Peter?"

What are they called?

Can you answer these questions in Latin?



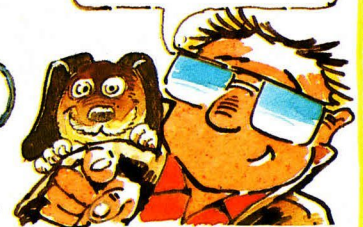
quod nomen eius est?

quod est nomen amicae meae?



quae nomina eorum sunt?

quod nomen tibi est?



Who is who?

Can you answer the questions below the picture?



Who is talking to Quintus?
Who is talking to Beata?

Which person is Lucius?
Who is speaking to him?

Who is reading the paper?
Who is going home?



Can you remember?

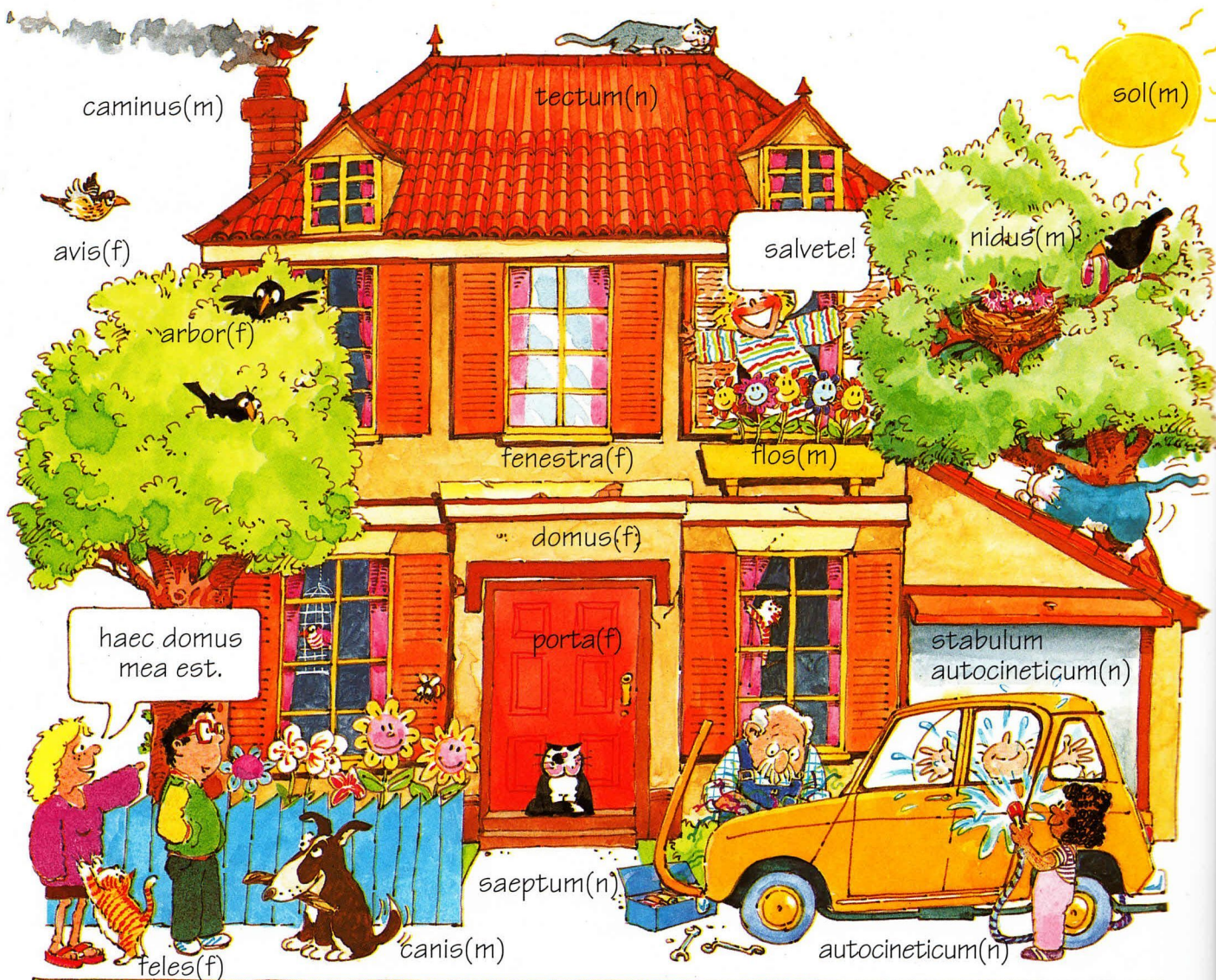
How would you ask someone's name?
How would you tell them your name?

You have a friend called Beata.
How would you introduce her?
How would you tell someone that your friend's name is Gaius?

Finding out what things are called

Everything on this picture has its name on it. See if you can learn the names for

everything, then try the quiz in the box at the bottom of the opposite page.



Nouns

All Latin nouns are either masculine, feminine or neuter (neither). This is called their gender. The gender is shown in the word lists by the letters m, f and n. Many masculine nouns end in **-us**, feminine nouns in **-a** and neuter nouns in **-um**. But there are many exceptions and many other endings too. There is no way of guessing the gender of most things. You just have to learn them. The endings of words also change according

to how they are used. The different endings, called cases, will be explained later.

There is no word in Latin for "the" or "a", but you can often use the word "this" instead: **hic** (m), **haec** (f), **hoc** (n). **hic** and **haec** can sometimes be used to mean "he" and "she".

quid hoc est?
hic/haec/hoc est...

what is this?
this is...

New words

Internet link: For a link to a website where you can browse a Latin picture dictionary, go to www.usborne-quicklinks.com

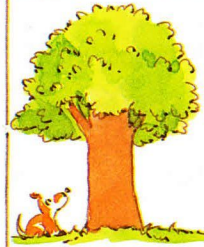


- étiam
 - arbor (f)
 - domus (f)
 - cáminus (m)
 - avis (f)
 - tectum (n)
 - Latíne/Anglice
 - fenéstra (f)
 - flos (m)
 - porta (f)
 - canis (m)
 - feles (f)
 - nidus (m)
 - sol (m)
 - autocinéticum (n)
 - stábulum autocinéticum (n)
 - saeptum (n)
- also
 - tree
 - house
 - chimney
 - bird
 - roof
 - in Latin/English
 - window
 - flower
 - door
 - dog
 - cat
 - nest
 - sun
 - car
 - garage
 - fence



Can you remember?

Cover up the word lists, and see if you can name these things in Latin. Begin your answers with **hic est**, **haec est** or **hoc est**.



Where do you come from?

Here you can find out how to ask people where they come from. You can also find out if they can speak Latin.

New Words

unde venis?

where do you come from?

vénio e/ex ubi hábitas?

I come from...
where do you live?

hábito (in)

I live in...

loquor

I speak

scio

I know (how to)

scisne loqui...?

can you speak...?

paulum

a little

Latíne

(in) Latin

Gállice

(in) French

Germánice

(in) German

Ánglice

(in) English

ecce

here is...

et

and

-que (on the end of a word)

and

Lóndinii

in London

Lutétiae

in Paris

Gállia

France

Caledónia

Scotland

Hispánia

Spain

Germánia

Germany

Itália

Italy

Hungária

Hungary

Where do you come from?



Can you speak Latin?



Who comes from where?

These are the contestants for an international dancing competition. They have come from all over the world. The organizer cannot speak any Latin and does not understand

where anyone comes from. Read about the contestants, then see if you can tell him what he wants to know. His questions are beneath the picture.

Angus
e Caledonia
venit.

ecce Maria
et Petrus!
e Gallia
veniunt.

Arius et Indira
ex India veniunt.

Ianus ex
Hungaria venit.
habitat
Aquinci.



Franciscus ex
Austria venit.

ecce Lolita!
ex Hispania
venit.

Where does Franz (Franciscus) come from?
What are the names of the Indians?
Is Lolita Italian or Spanish?
Who lives in Budapest (Aquincum)?

Is there a Scottish contestant?
Where do Marie and Pierre (Maria and Petrus) come from?
Where is Budapest?

Verbs (action words)

Latin verbs change their endings according to who is doing the action. Verbs ending in **-are** follow the same pattern as **habitare**. Verbs ending in **-ire** (such as **scire**) are like **venire**.

habitare	to live in	venire	to come
habit-o*	I live in	veni-o	I come
habit-as	you live in	veni-s	you come
habit-at	he/she lives in	veni-t	he/she comes
habit-amus	we live in	veni-mus	we come
habit-atis	you live in	veni-tis	you come
habit-ant	they live in	veni-unt	they come



Can you remember?

How would you ask someone where they come from?
How do you say that you can speak Latin?

Can you say where you come from?
How do you ask someone else if they can speak Latin?

More about you

Here you can find out how to say how old you are, how many brothers and sisters you have, and how to count up to 20.

In Latin, a boy says **decem annos natus sum** for "I am ten years old", and a girl says **decem annos nata sum**.

New words

quot?	how many?
quot annos?	how many years?
natus, -a, -um	born
tu	you (singular)
mihi est/sunt...	I have...
tibi est/sunt...	you have...
frater meus	my brother
fratres	brothers
soror mea	my sister
soróres	sisters
paene	almost, nearly
neque...neque	neither...nor

Describing words

The endings of Latin adjectives change according to the word they describe. For example, in the singular you use **natus** for masculine words, **nata** for feminine words and **natum** for neuter words. In the plural, the masculine is **nati**, the feminine is **natae** and the neuter is **nata**.

Numbers*

- 1 unus, una, unum
- 2 duo, duae, duo
- 3 tres, tres, tria
- 4 quattuor
- 5 quinque
- 6 sex
- 7 septem
- 8 octo
- 9 novem
- 10 decem

How old are you?

quot annos natus es?

duodecim annos natus sum. et tu?

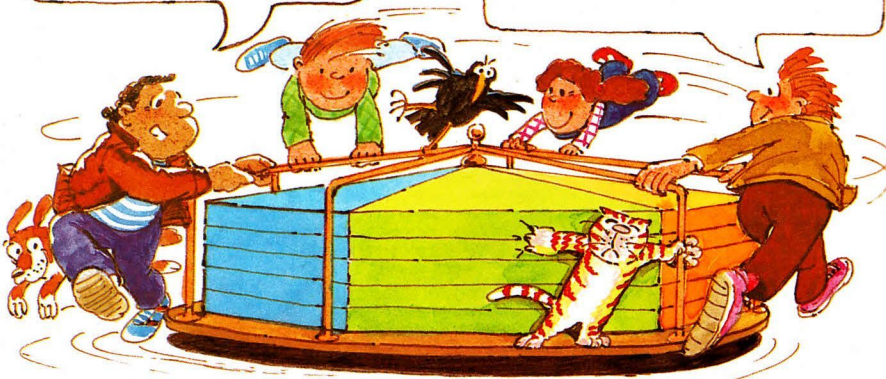
undecim annos natus sum.



Have you any brothers or sisters?

suntne tibi fratres et sorores?

sunt mihi unus frater et una soror.



quot annos nati sunt?

frater meus decem annos natus, soror mea novem annos nata est.

sunt mihi neque fratres neque sorores. mihi canis est.



How old are they ?

Read what these children are saying, then see if you can say how old they are.

Titus duodecim annos natus est.	quindecim annos natae sumus.	Livia undecim annos nata est.	Afer paene quattuordecim annos natus est.	quinque annos nata sum, hic novem annos natus est.
				
Afer	Diana et Sylvia	Titus	Livia	Lucius Aemilia

Brothers and sisters

Below you can read how many brothers and sisters the children have. Can you work out who has which brothers and sisters?

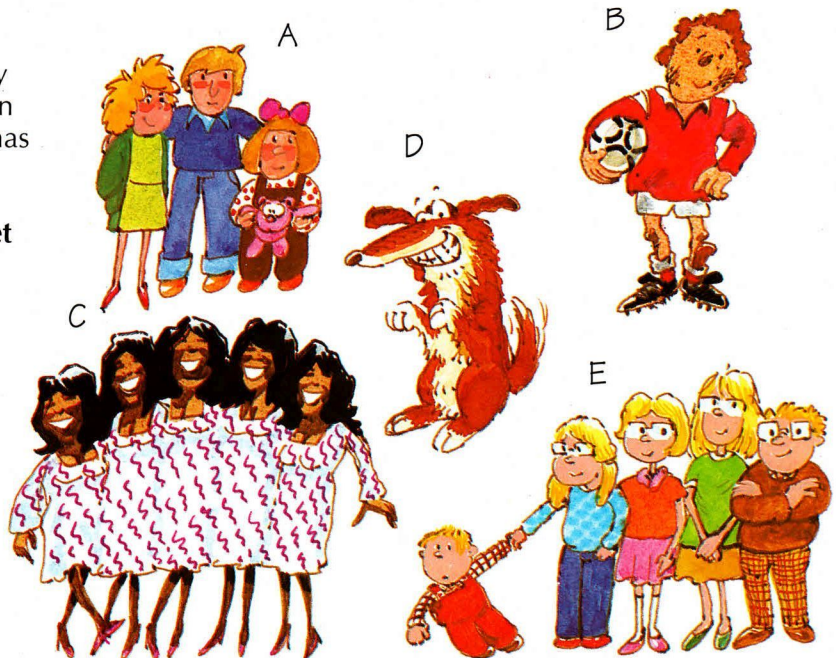
Dianae et Sylviae unus frater et duo sorores sunt.

Liviae tres sorores et duo fratres sunt.

Afro quinque sorores, sed fratres non sunt.

Lucio unus frater est, sed sorores non sunt.

Tito neque fratres neque sorores sunt, sed canis ei est.



The verb "to be"

esse	to be
sum	I am
es	you are
est	he/she/it is
sumus	we are
estis	you are (plural)
sunt	they are

The dative

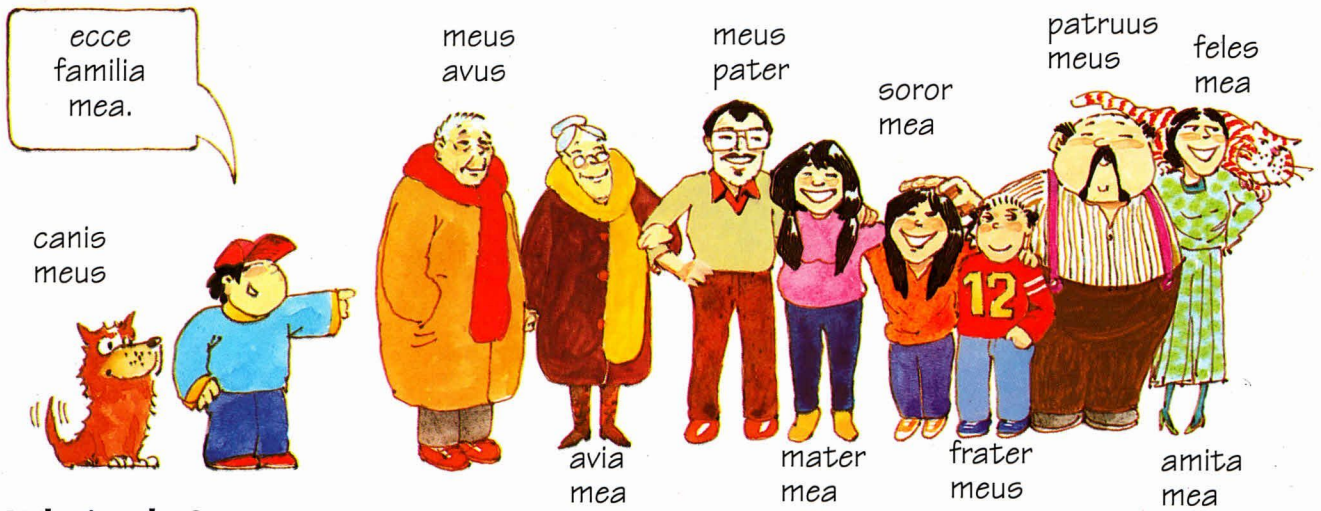
mihi	to me
tibi	to you
ei	to him
Lucio	to Lucius

The Latin for "Titus has one brother" is **est Tito unus frater**, which literally means "To Titus is one brother". This uses the dative case, shown here.

Talking about your family

You will find lots of words on these two pages to help you talk about your family.

Many of the phrases include the words "my" and "your", which you first learned on page 12.



Who's who?



New words

família (f)	family
paréntes (m)	parents
pater (m)	father
mater (f)	mother
avus (m)	grandfather
avía (f)	grandmother

ego	I
nos	we
avúnculus (m)	uncle
pátruus (m)	uncle
ámita (f)	aunt
matértera (f)	aunt
magnus, -a, -um	large

parvus, -a, -um	little
crassus, -a, -um	fat
grácilis, -is, -e	thin
flavus, -a, -um	blonde, yellow
fuscus, -a, -um	dark
tener, -era, -erum	gentle
vetérrimus, -a, -um	very old

"My" and "your"

The words for "my" and "your" vary, just like other adjectives. They have to agree with the gender and number of the noun (whether it is singular or plural).

my (singular)
your (singular)
my (plural)
your (plural)

masculine	feminine	neuter
meus	mea	meum
tuus	tua	tuum
mei	meae	mea
tui	 tuae	tua

Describing your family

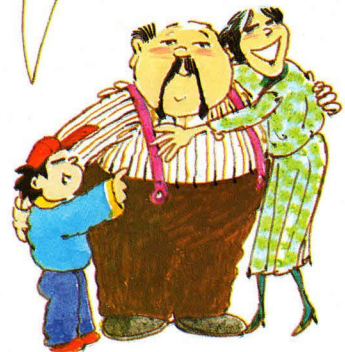
pater meus magnus,
sed mater mea
parva est.



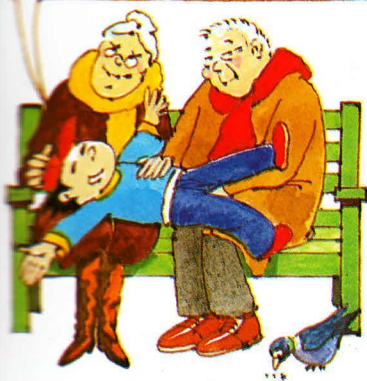
mater mea magna,
sed pater
meus parvus est.



patruus meus crassus,
sed amita mea
gracilis est.



avus meus
veterrimus est.
ego parvus sum.



soror mea
flava est.
frater meus
fuscus est.



canis meus
tener est.



Describing words

As you learned on page 12, Latin adjectives* change their endings according to the gender of the word they are describing. Many end in **-us**, **-a**, **-um**. Some others end in **-is**, **-is**, **-e** in the singular, and **-es**, **-es**, **-ia** in the plural.

Can you describe each of these people in Latin, using the new words you have learned. Start with **hic** or **haec est...**?



* You can find out more about adjectives on page 43.

Your home

Here you can find out how to say what sort of home you live in, and where it is. You can also learn what all the rooms are called.

New words

aut	or
domus (f)	house
ínsula (f)	block of flats
palátium (n)	palace
in urbe	in the city
ruri	in the country
ad mare	at, by the sea
papa (m)	Dad
mamma (f)	Mum/Mom
larva (f)	ghost
ubi es/estis?	where are you?
bálneum (n)	bath
cenáculum (n)	dining-room
cubículum (n)	bedroom
mediánum (n)	living room
coquína (f)	kitchen
vestíbulum (n)	hall
tabulátum (n)	storey
in summo	on the top
tabuláto	storey
hábito	I live in

Where do you live?



Town or country?



Where is everyone?

Dad comes home and wants to find out where everyone is. Look at the pictures and see if you can tell him. (For example, **avia in mediano est.**)

Then see if you can answer the questions below the little pictures.



mater

pater

avus



avia

Petrus

Isabella



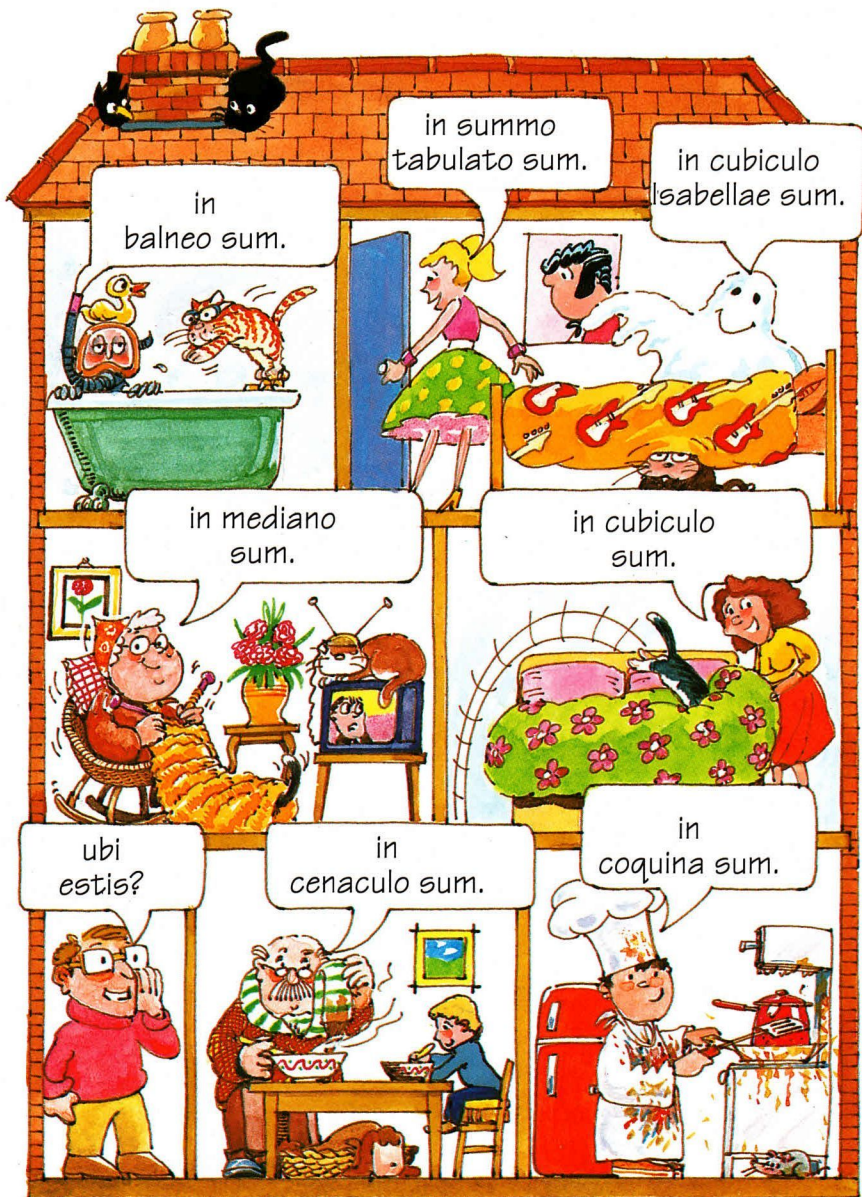
Quintus



larva

quis in cenaculo est?
quis in coquina est?
quis in balneo est?
quis in cubiculo est?

ubi avia est?
ubi larva est?
ubi Isabella est?
ubi Petrus est?



Can you remember?

Cover up the pictures and see if you can remember how to say these things. The answers are on page 44.

I live in a town. You live in the country.
The bedroom is on the top storey.

Grandma lives in a block of flats.
Quintus is in the bath.
We live in a house.

Looking for things

Here you can find out how to ask someone what they are looking for and tell them where things are. You can also learn lots of words for things around the house.

New words

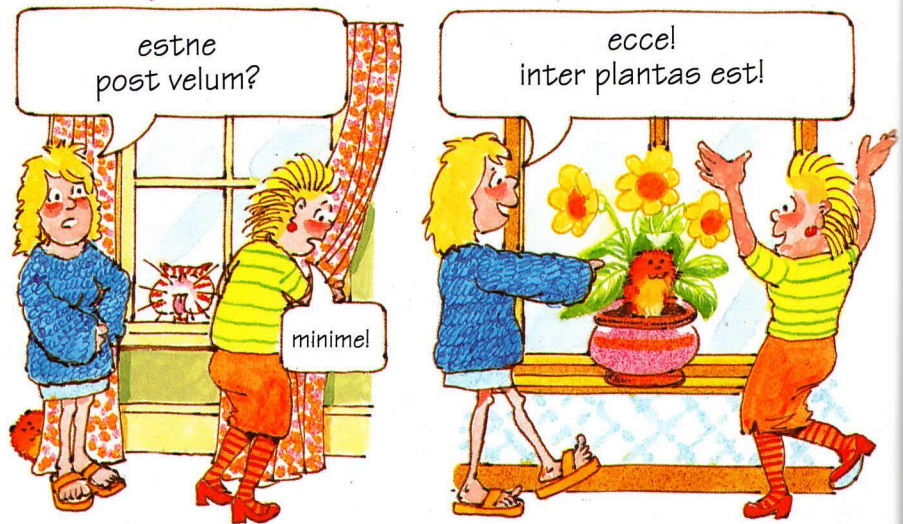
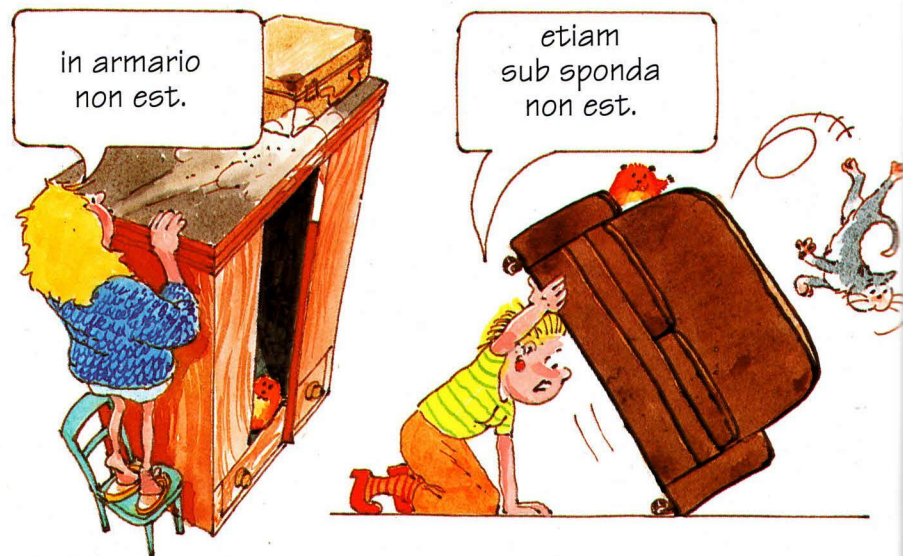
quaero	I look for
quaeris	you look for
aliquid	something
cricetus (m)	a hamster
reperio	I find
eum/eam/id	him/her/it
in armario	in/on the cupboard
sub sponda	under the sofa
post velum	behind the curtain
inter plantas	among the plants
sponda (f)	sofa
sella (f)	chair
velum (n)	curtain
planta (f)	plant
mensa (f)	table
librarium (n)	bookcase
tapete (n)	carpet
televisorium (n)	television
telephorum (n)	telephone
vasculum (n)	vase

Prepositions

ad	at, to, by the side of (+ acc.)
ab	by, from (+ abl.)
ante	in front of (+ acc.)
e, ex	out of (+ abl.)
in	in (+ abl.), into (+ acc.)
post	behind, after (+ acc.)
prope	near (+ acc.)
sub	under (+ acc. & abl.)

The accusative case* for nouns ending in **-us** or **-um** is **-um**, and the ablative case is **-o**. For nouns ending in **-a**, the accusative is **-am** and the ablative is **-a**.

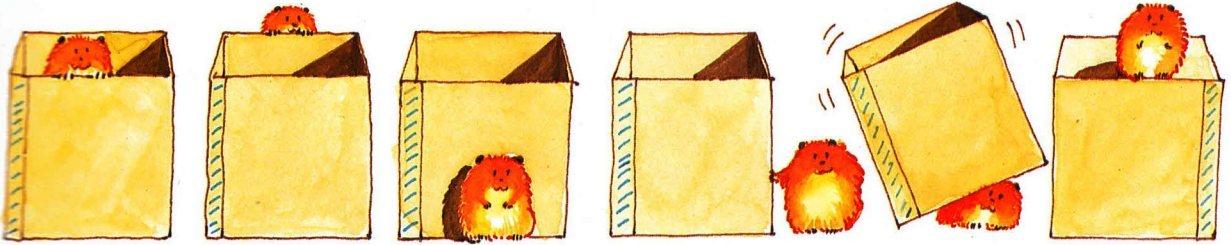
The missing hamster



In, on or under?

in cista means "in the box". What do the other phrases mean? See how the ending of

cista changes with the different prepositions.



in cista

post cistam

ante cistam

ad cistam

sub cista

in cista

Where are the animals hiding?

Grandfather's six pets are hiding somewhere in the room. Can you tell him where they are,

using the prepositions above and giving each noun the right ending?



cricetus



feles parva



canicula



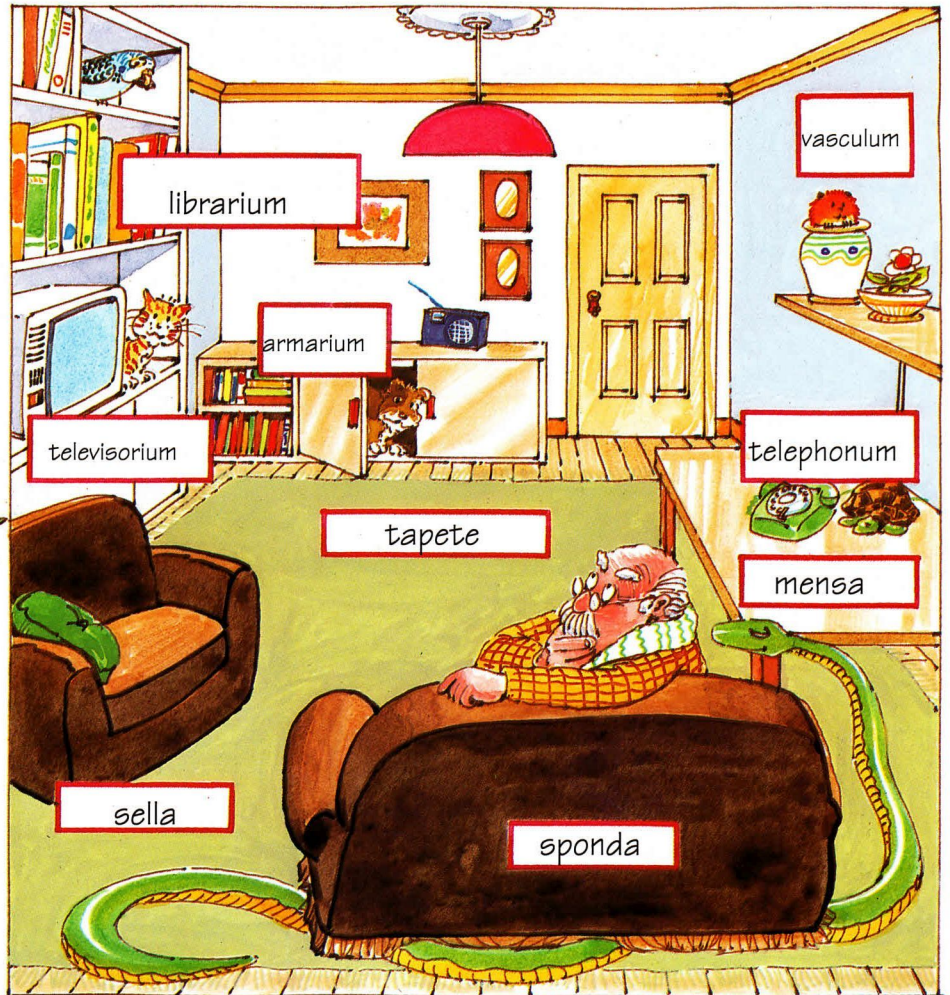
psittacus



serpens



testudo



What do you like eating?

Here you can learn lots of food words and find out how to say what you like and don't like.

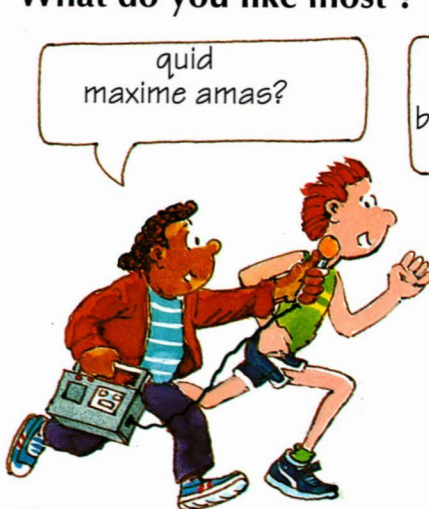
New words

amare	to like, love
amo	I like
amas	you like
amat	he/she likes
quid?	what?
quid ergo?	what then?
valde	very much
mínime	not at all
tum	then
máxime	most, best
praéfero	I prefer
edo	I eat
ego quoque	I also
láctuca (f)	lettuce
piscis (m)	fish
poma terréstria	
assa (n.pl)	chips
placénta (f)	cake
bótulus (m)	sausage
búbula assa (f)	steak
pasta	
vermiculáta (f)	spaghetti
pitta (f)	pizza
Hammaburgénsis (m)	hamburger
óryza (f)	rice
panis (m)	bread
cáseus (m)	cheese
scriblíta (f)	a tart

What would you like?



What do you like most ?



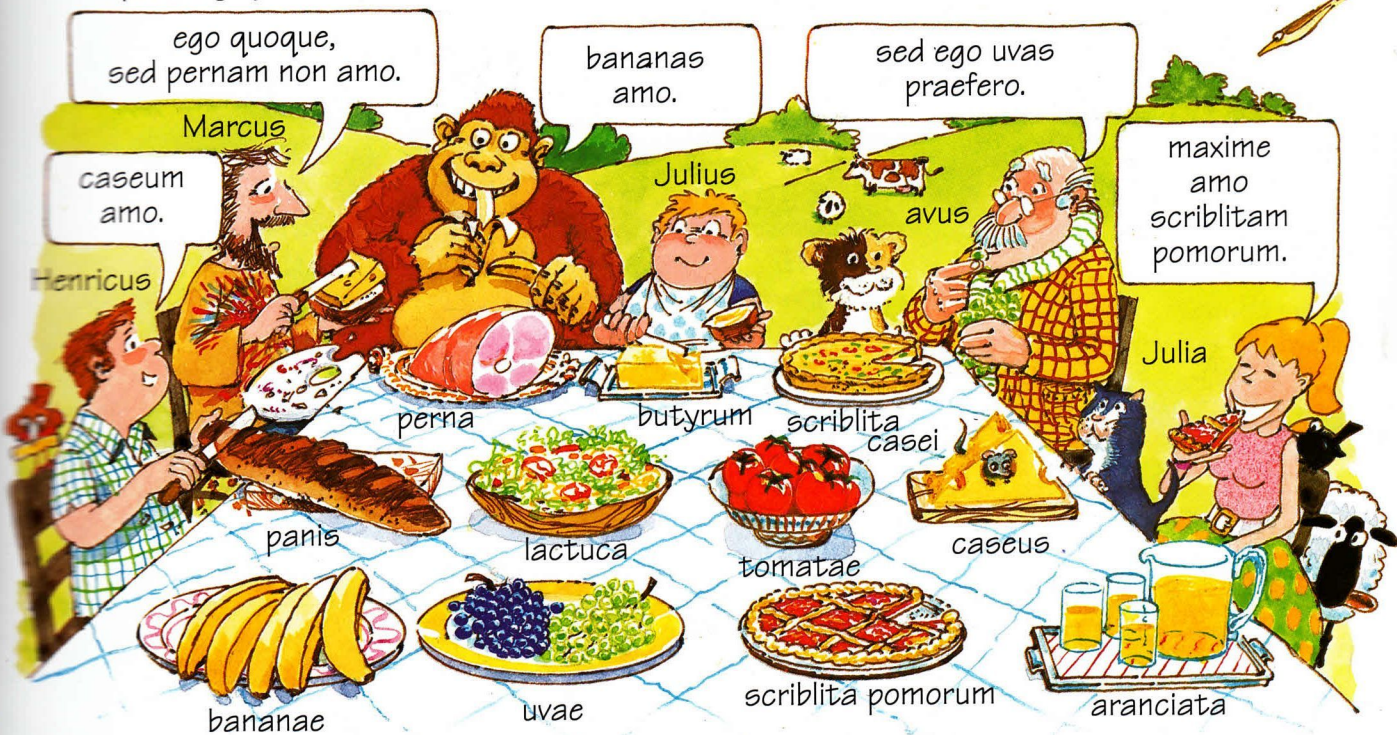
What are they eating?



Who likes what ?

Who likes cheese ? Who likes ham?
Who prefers grapes to bananas?

Can you say in Latin which things you like and which you don't like?



Subject and object

In the sentence **avus pernam amat** ("Grandfather likes ham."), **avus** is the subject and **pernam** is the object. In Latin, the subject uses the nominative case*, which

*You can find more about different cases on pages 42-43.

is the one we use when talking about a noun. The object uses the accusative case. This is why when Henricus says **caseum amo** ("I love cheese"), **caseum** is in the accusative.

Table talk

Here you can learn about things to say during a meal.

New words

veníte ad mensam! come to the table!

quaeso I beg/please
esúrio I am hungry
sume áliquid! Take

bene tibi sápiat! Bon appetit!
sapítne bene? Does it taste good?

óptime excellent
potésne mihi dare... Can you give me...

aqua/aquam (acc.) (f) water

panis/panem (acc.) (m) bread

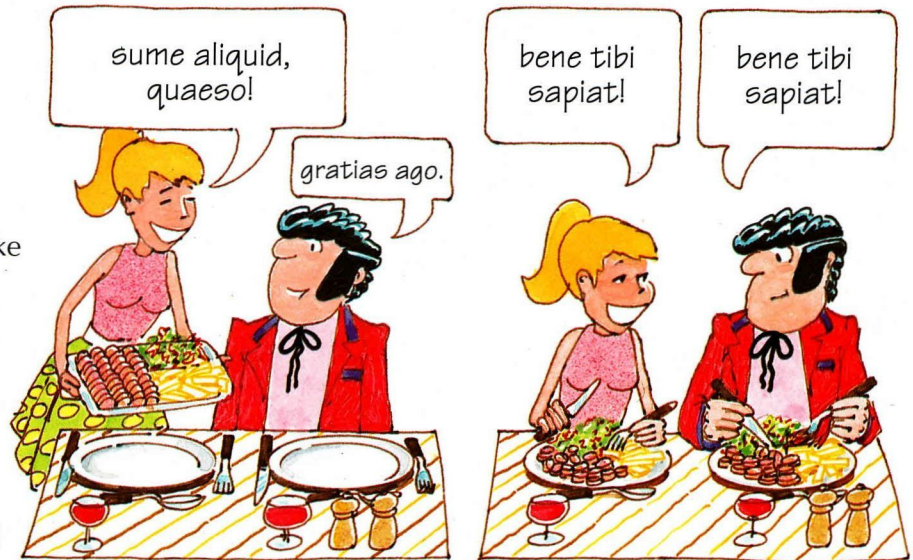
hýalus/hýalum (acc.) (m) a glass

caro/carnem (acc.) (f) meat
visne áliquid? Would you like anything?

voló I wish, want
vis you wish, want

etiam also
noló I don't want
satis enough
estne bonum? Is it good?
óptimum est! It's very good!

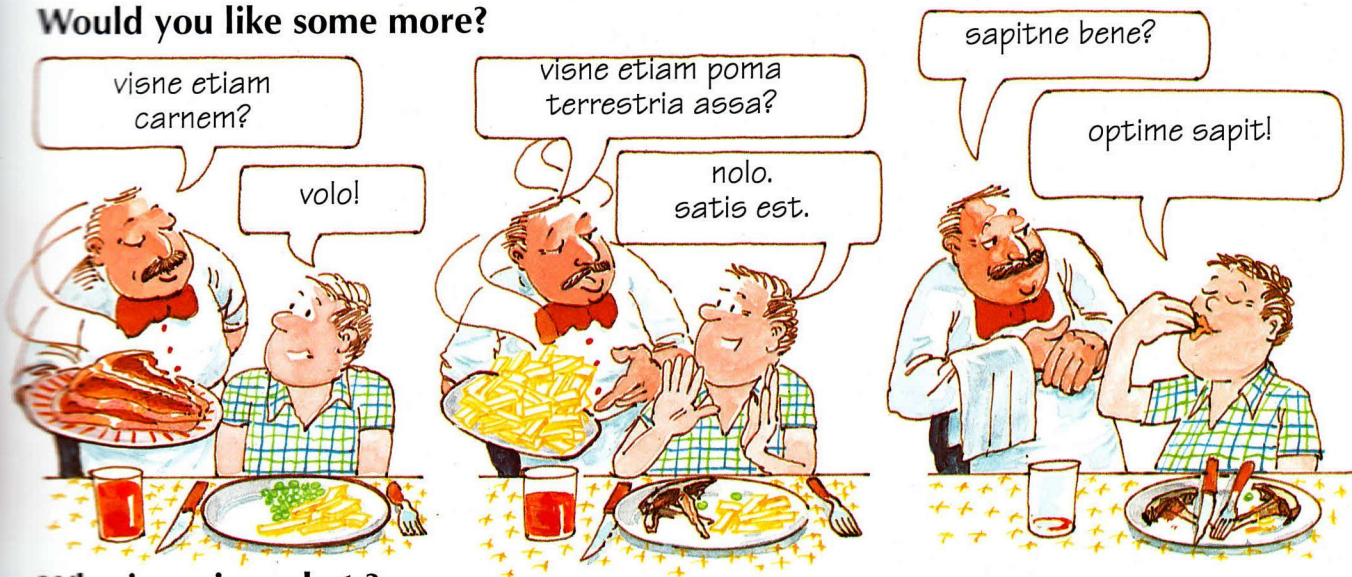
Dinner is ready



Please will you pass me...



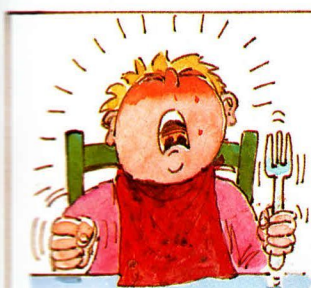
Would you like some more?



Who is saying what ?

These little pictures show different mealtime situations. Cover up the rest of the page and

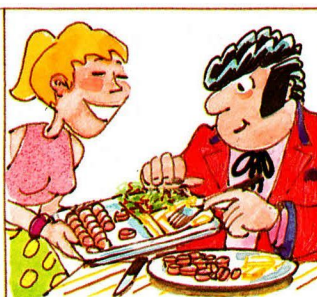
see if you know what each of them would say in Latin.



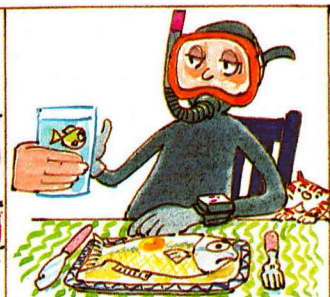
Julius is crying that he is hungry.



The chef wants you to enjoy your meal.



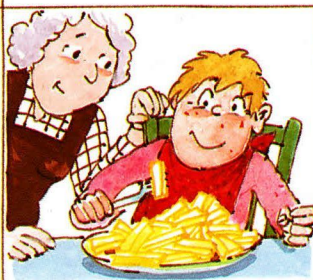
Julia is saying "Help yourself".



Peter wants someone to give him a glass.



Julius's mother asks him if he wants more chips.



He says "Yes, please", and that he likes chips.



Then he says "No thanks", he's had enough.



Mark is saying the food tastes delicious.

Nouns and cases

Here are the endings of most of the nouns and cases you have met so far. Another group of nouns ends in **-em** in the accusative singular, and **-es** in the accusative plural.

Singular

Nom. -us	-a	-um
Acc. -um	-am	-um
Dat. -o	-ae	-o

Plural

Nom. -i	-ae	-a
Acc. -os	-as	-a
Dat. -is	-is	-is

Your hobbies

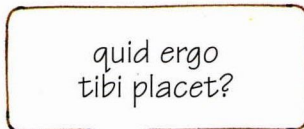
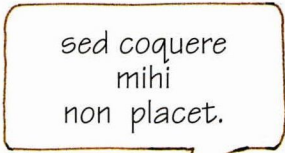
These people are talking about their hobbies.

New words

pingere	to paint
coquere	to cook
mihi placet...	I like to...
plassare	to make models
saltare	to dance
legere	to read
spectare	to watch/look at
texere	to weave/knit
natare	to swim
audire	to listen to
athletica (f)	sport
canere	to play (an instrument)
ludere	to play (a game)
pedifollis (m)	football
teniludium (n)	tennis
musica (n.pl)	music
instrumentum	musical
musicum (n)	instrument
violina (f)	violin
clavarium (n)	piano
vesperi	in the evening
soleo...	I usually
libri (m.pl)	books

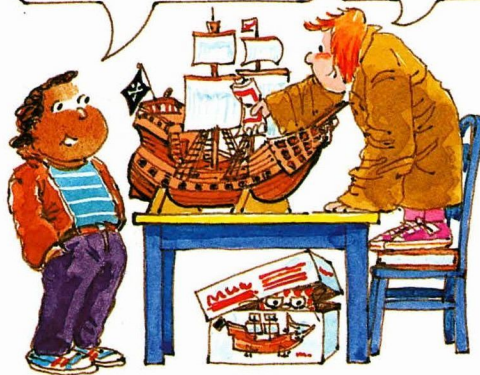


pingere mihi placet.



mihi placet plassare.

mihi placet saltare.



More verbs

Two different types of verb endings were shown on page 11. Here are two more.

placere*	to please
plac-eo	I please
plac-es	you please
plac-et	he/she/it pleases
plac-emus	we please
plac-etis	you please
plac-ent	they please
ludere*	to play
lud-o	I play
lud-is	you play
lud-it	he/she/it plays
lud-imus	we play
lud-itis	you play
lud-unt	they play

What do you do in the evenings?



aut libros legere...

...aut televisorium spectare et texere soleo.



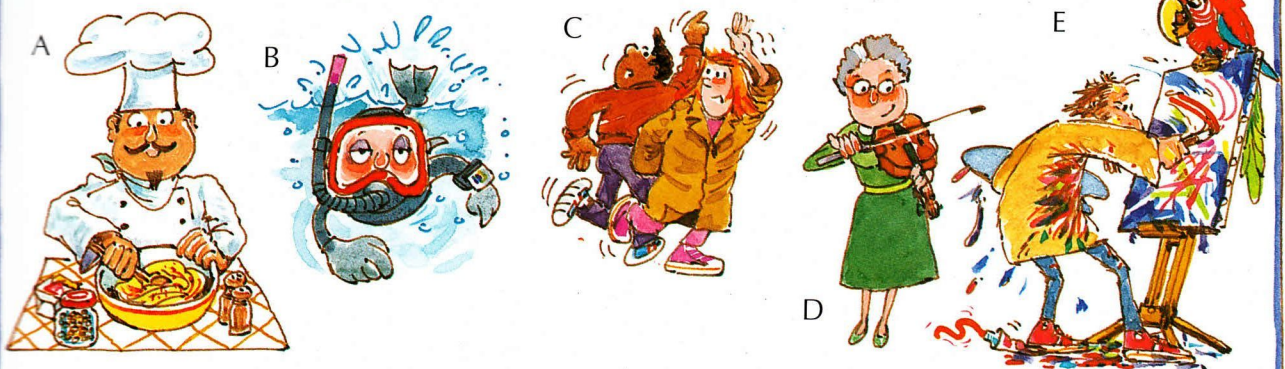
The sporty type



Music lovers



What are they doing?



Can you say in Latin what these people are doing? (E.g. A: **hic coquit.**) How would you

ask the cook what he is doing? What would he answer? And the others?

Telling the time

Here you can find out how to tell and ask the time in Latin. For "one o'clock" in Latin, you would say **prima hora** (first hour).

The Ancient Romans divided the day in a different way from us. You can find out how they told the time on page 48.

New words

dic mihi	tell me
quota hora est?	What is the time?
prima hora est.	It's one o'clock.
secúnda hora est.	It's two o'clock.
quinque minútae	five minutes
ante/post +acc.	to/past...
quadrans ante/post + acc.	a quarter to./past...
quadránte...	at a quarter...
tértia hora et dimidia	half past three
merídiēs (m)	midday, noon
média nox (f)	midnight
mane (n)	(in the) morning
súrgere	to rise, get up
ientáculum (n)	breakfast
prándium (n)	lunch
cena (f)	dinner, supper
in scholam ire	to go to school
dórmítum ire	to go to bed

First, second, third...

1st	primus,	-a,	-um
2nd	secúndus,	-a,	-um
3rd	tértius,	-a,	-um
4th	quartus,	-a,	-um
5th	quintus,	-a,	-um
6th	sextus,	-a,	-um
7th	séptimus,	-a,	-um
8th	octávus,	-a,	-um
9th	nonus,	-a,	-um
10th	décimus,	-a,	-um
11th	úndecimus,	-a,	-um
12th	dúodecimus,	-a,	-um

What is the time?



This is how you ask the time.



The time is...



quinque minutae sunt post nonam horam.



quadrans post nonam horam est.



nona hora est et dimidia.



quadrans ante decimam (horam)



quinque minutae ante decimam



meredies/media nox

What time of day?



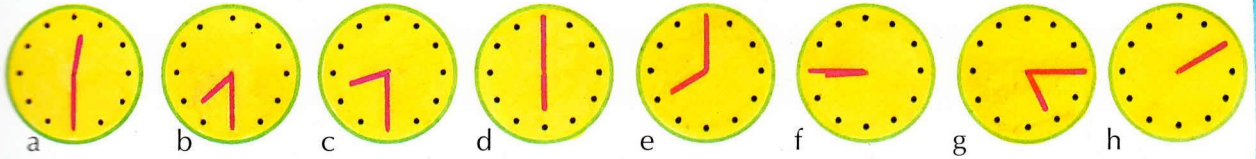
sexta hora ante meridiem est.



sexta hora post meridiem est.

Marcus's day

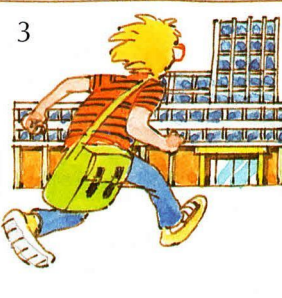
Read what Marcus does during the day, then see picture. You can check your answers on page 45.



1
Marcus surgit septima
hora et dimidia.



2
hora octava
ientaculum sumit.



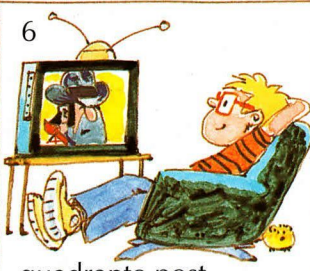
3
quadrante ante
novam in scholam it.



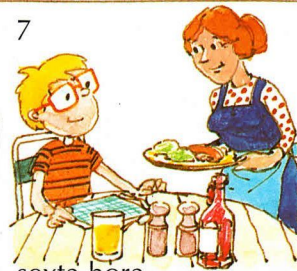
4
duodecima et dimidia
prandium sumit.



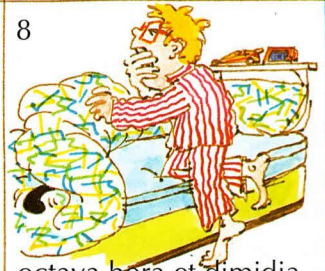
5
decem minutis post
secundam pedifolle
ludit.



6
quadrante post
quintam
televisorium spectat.



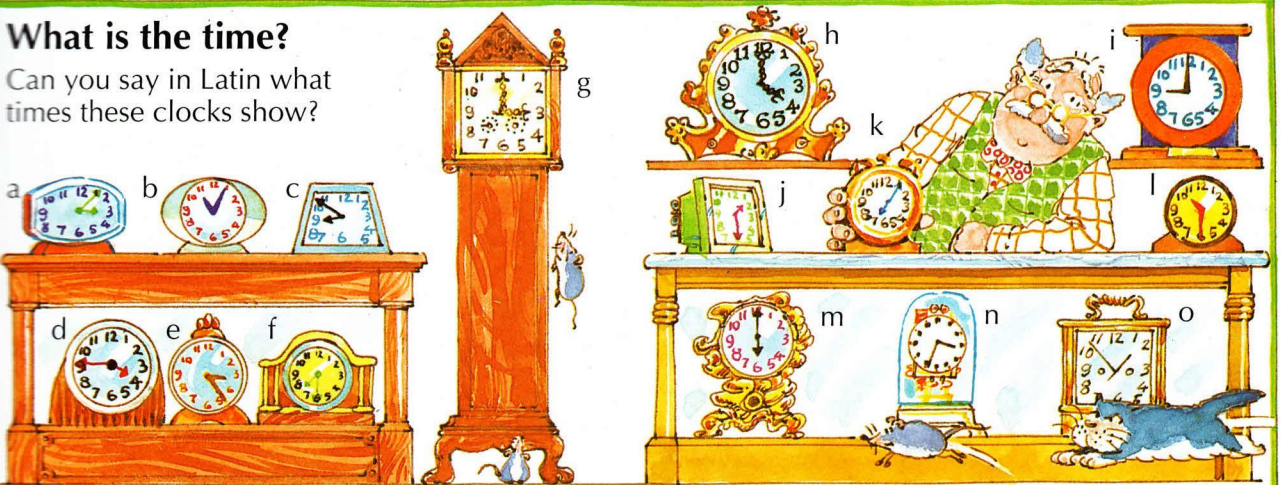
7
sexta hora
cenam sumit.



8
octava hora et dimidia
dormitum it.

What is the time?

Can you say in Latin what times these clocks show?



Arranging things

Here is how to arrange to do things with your friends.

New words

quando when
usque ad + acc. until...
post merídiem in the afternoon

bene good
hódie today
vésperi in the evening

cras (adverb) tomorrow
dies crastínus (m) tomorrow
possum I can
potes you can
adíre cínema to go to the cinema

ádibis you will go to
ludémus we will play
natábimus we will swim
convívium (n) party
discothéca (f) disco
saltáre to dance
dóleo quod I am sorry that

Days of the week

dies Lunae Monday
dies Martis Tuesday
dies Mercúrii Wednesday
dies Iovis Thursday
dies Vénérís Friday
dies Satúrni Saturday
dies Solis Sunday

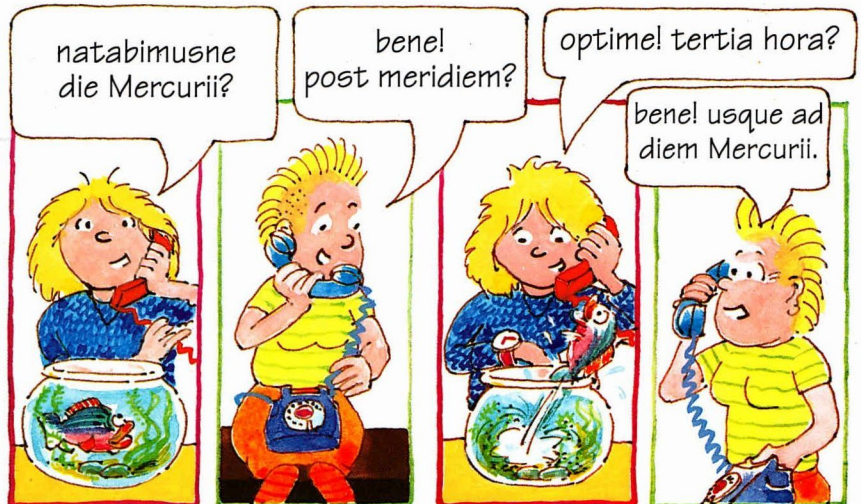
Going to the cinema



Tennis



Swimming



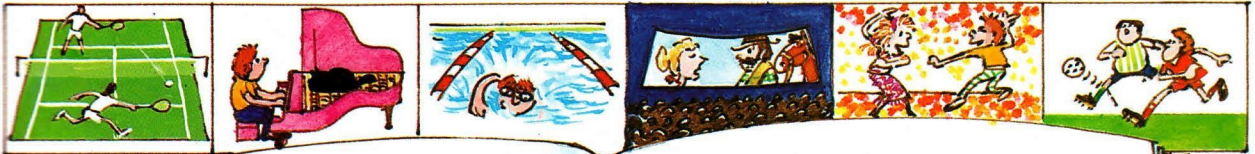
Going to a party



Your diary for the week

This is your diary for the week. Read it and see if you can answer the questions.

What are you doing on Friday evening?
When are you playing tennis?
What are you doing on Tuesday afternoon?



The ablative

The ablative is one of the six cases used with Latin nouns. It is used for time. For example **die** (abl.) **Lunae** means "on Monday". It is also used with prepositions. **in urbe** (abl.) means "in the city".

The future

	I shall...	you	he/she/it
habitare (to live):	habitabo,	-abis,	-abit*
placere (to please):	placebo,	-ebis,	-ebit
ludere (to play):	ludam,	-es,	-et
venire (to come):	veniam,	-ies,	-iet

*You can find the future tense conjugated in full on page 42.

Asking the way

The next three pages show you how to find your way around.

New Words

da mihi véniam
illic, ibi
nihil labóris est
in diréctum

flecte te
sinistrórum
dextrórum
deinde

a laeva parte
a dextra parte
officium

postále (n)
deversórium
statiónis

ferriviáriae (n)
ubi est?

forum (n)

in propínquo
i, ibis

estne longínquum?
fere

minúta (f)
pédibus

cafea (f)

pharmacopóla (f)

argentária (f)

contra

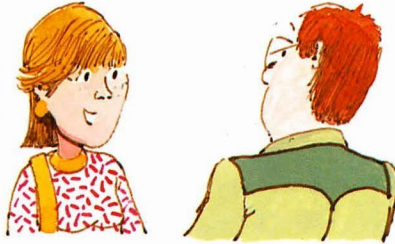
supermercátus (m)

excuse me
there
it's no trouble
straight ahead
turn (to the)
left
(to the) right
then
on the left
on the right
post office

station hotel
where is?
market-place
nearby
go!, you
will go
is it far?
almost
a minute
on foot,
walking
café, coffee
chemist,
pharmacy
bank
against,
opposite
supermarket

Being polite

da mihi veniam, domine...



gratias ago.

nihil laboris est.



To ask something politely, remember to add **domine**, **domina** or **dominula**.

If someone thanks you for something, it is polite to answer **nihil laboris est**.

Where is...?

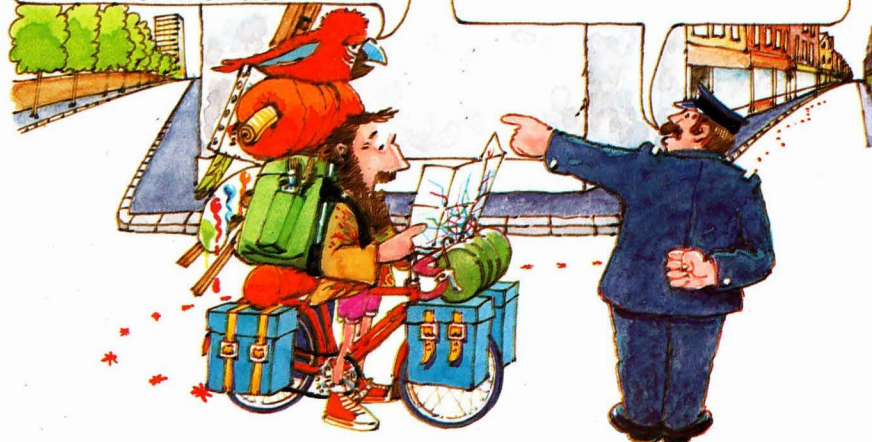
da mihi veniam domina,
ubi est officium postale?

illic, in foro.



ubi est, quæso,
deversorium stationis
ferriviariae?

flecte te sinistrorsum,
deinde i in directum.



Direction signs

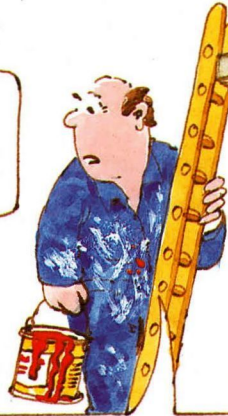


Is there a . . . nearby?

da mihi veniam domine,
estne cafea
in propinquo?



ita est.
i sinistrorsum in
viam poetae Ovidii.



Is it far?

estne
longinquum?



minime,
pedibus quinque
minutas ibis.

da mihi veniam dominula,
estne supermercatus
in propinquo?



ita est.
illic contra
argentariam.

estne etiam
pharmacopola
in propinquo?



ibi prope
supermercatum.

Other useful places to ask for

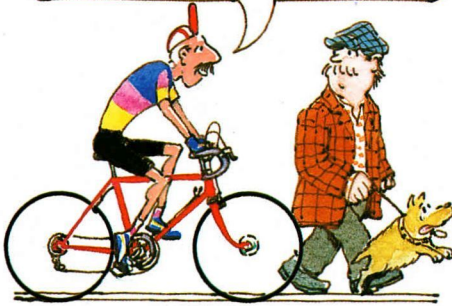
<p>statio ferriviaria</p>	<p>statio benzinaria</p>	<p>latrina</p>	<p>receptaculum epistularum</p>
<p>railway station</p>	<p>garage</p>	<p>toilet</p>	<p>postbox</p>
<p>cella telefonica</p>	<p>campus tentorius</p>	<p>valetudinarium</p>	<p>aeriportus</p>
<p>telephone box</p>	<p>camp site</p>	<p>hospital</p>	<p>airport</p>

Finding your way around

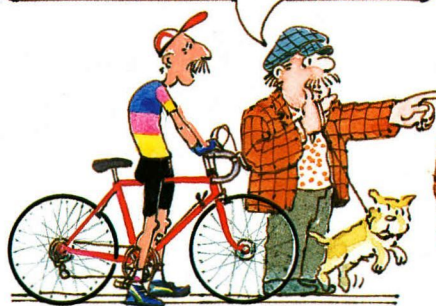
Here you can find out how to ask your way around and follow directions. When you

have read everything else, try the map puzzle on the opposite page.

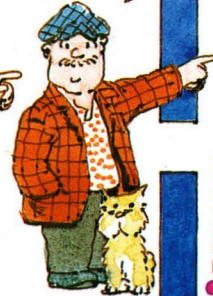
da mihi veniam, qua
via ad stationem
ferrivariam venio?



flecte te dextrorsum,
deinde i secunda
via sinistrorsum.



statio ferriviaria
a dextra parte sita est.



qua via ad
deverticulum
iuvenum venio?



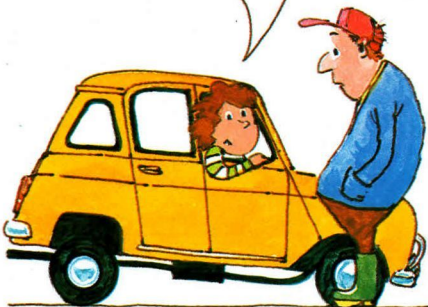
i in directum usque
ad ferrivariam
stationem...



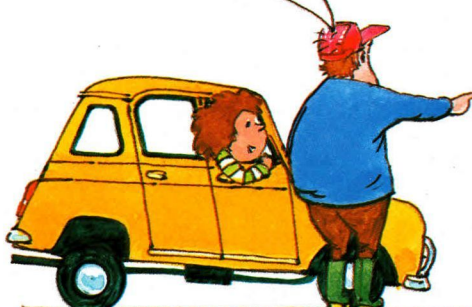
... deinde cape
tertiam viam
a dextra.



qua via ad
praefecturam
commeatus venio?



autoraedane?
vehere in directum...



... deinde cape
proximam
viam a sinistra.



New words

qua via vénio ad..?

cape

véhere

autoraedáne?

via prima

via próxima

devertículum júvenum (n)

how do I get to..?

take

drive!

by car?

first road

next road

youth hostel

praefectúra commeátus (f)

cúria (f)

tabérna (f)

piscína (f)

deversórium (n)

ecclésia (f)

síta est

tourist office

town hall

shop

swimming baths

hotel

church

is situated

The imperative form

The imperative is the part of the verb you use for giving orders. Here are some examples in the singular: **i** (go!), **veni** (come!), **flecte**

(turn!), **cape** (take!), **vehere** (drive!) and **da** (give!). There is more about the imperative on page 41.

Finding your way around Messina



How would you ask someone the way to the market place? How would you ask if there is a café nearby?

Can you tell the driver of the red car how to get to the station? Then tell the driver of the yellow car how to get to the church.

Where would these directions take the yellow car?
i secunda via sinistrorsum, deinde vehere semper in directum.

Going shopping

Here you can find out what to say in Latin when you go shopping.

New words

émere	to buy
cibária (n.pl)	food, provisions
pistrína (f)	bakery
tabérna	
alimentária (f)	grocer's
laniéna (f)	butcher's
lac (n)	milk
ovum (n)	egg
pomum (n)	fruit
hóléra (n.pl)	vegetables
caro (f)	meat
panicéllus (m)	roll, bun
malum (m)	apple
tomáta (f)	tomato
quid requiris?	what do you want?
pecúnia (f)	money
quid áliud?	what else?
quanti constant?	how much do they cost?
ómnia	everything
nihil iam	nothing now
libra (f)	pound (weight)

Roman money

Throughout the long history of the Roman empire, the look and value of coins was always changing, just as they do today. The coins in use were:

- quadrans** (copper)
- semis** (copper) = 2 **quadrantes**
- as** (copper) = 2 **semisses**
- dupóndius** (copper) = 2 **asses**
- sestértius** (copper) = 2 **dupóndii**
- denárius** (silver) = 4 **sestértii**
- aúreus** (gold) = 25 **denárii**

Although it was not worth very much, the **sestertius** was the coin the Romans used most often when describing the value of something. It was rather like a British penny or US cent.

Cornelia goes shopping

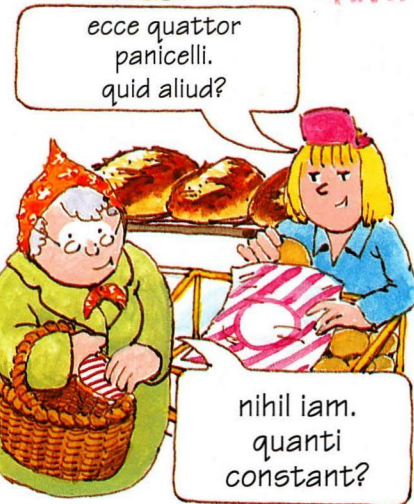


Cornelia cibaria emit.

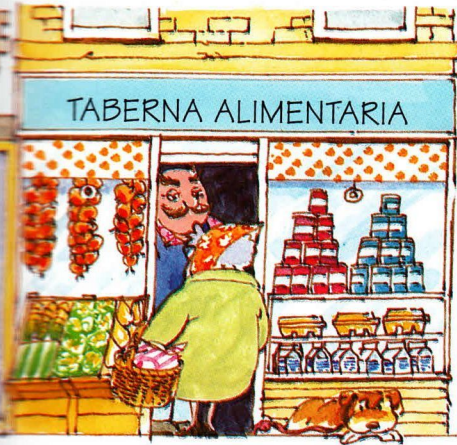


in pistrina panem emit.

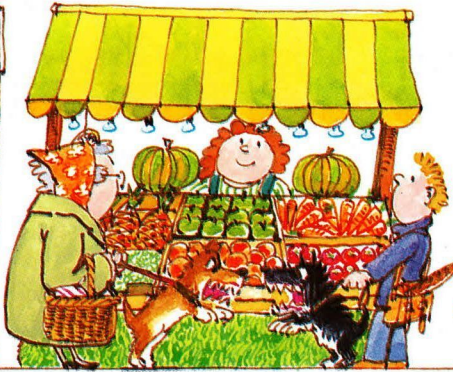
In the baker's



34 *The abbreviation for **sestertii** was HS. 50 **sestertii** was written HS L. You can find out how the Romans wrote their numbers on page 48.



lac et ova in taberna alimentaria emit.

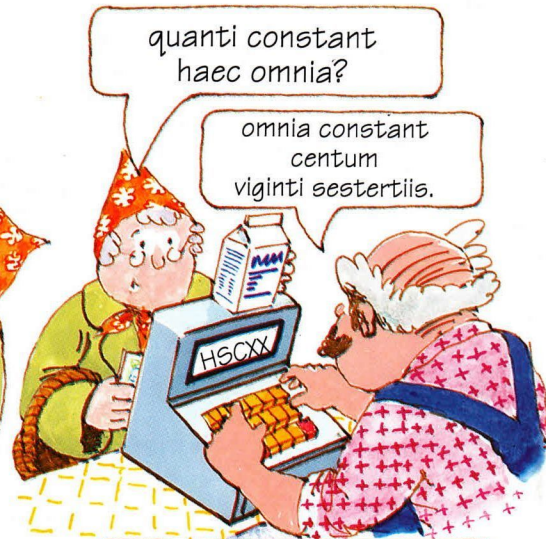


poma et holera in foro emit.



carnem in laniena emit.

At the grocer's



At the market



*You will find a list of Latin numbers on page 40.

Shopping and going to a café

Here you can find out how to ask how much things cost and how to order in a café.

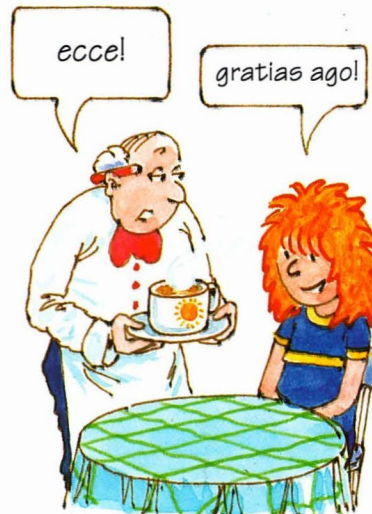
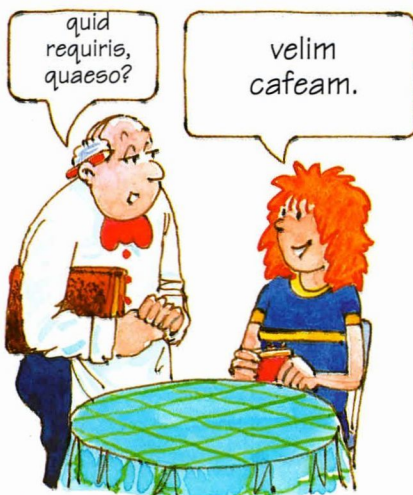
Asking how much things cost

New words

chártula (f)	postcard
rosa (f)	rose
rátio/ratiónem (acc.f)	bill
aráncium (n)	orange
aránciáta (f)	orange juice
ananása (f)	pineapple
cítream (n)	lemon
limonáta (f)	lemonade
pérsicum (n)	peach
cola (f)	cola
thea (f)	tea
cum lacte	with milk
cum citreo	with lemon
potus	drinking
socolatae (m)	chocolate
glácies (f)	ice-cream
velim	I would like
hyalus (m)	a glass
cafea (f)	a café, coffee
quanti constat...?	how much does...cost?
quanti constant..?	how much do...cost?



Going to a café



Buying fruit

Everything on the fruit stall is marked with its name and price. Look at the picture, then see if

you can answer the questions below it.



How do you tell the stallholder you would like four lemons, a pound of bananas and a pineapple? How much do each of these things cost? How much is the total?

quid constat HS CX?
quid constat HS CCLX?
quanti constant tres aranciae?
quanti constat una libra malorum?

In the café

Here are some things you might order in a café.



 unam limonatham	 unam colam	 unam theam cum lacte	 unam theam cum citreo
 unam aranciatam	 unum potum socolatae	 unum hyalum lactis	 unam glaciem

Months, seasons and dates

Here you can learn what the seasons and months are called and find out how to say what the date is.

New Words

annus, anni (gen.m)	year
mensis, -sis (gen.m)	month
natális (m)	birthday
hódie	today
qui dies?	what day?
quando?	when?

The seasons

ver (n)	spring
aestas (f)	summer
autúmnus (m)	autumn
hiems (f)	winter

The months

Ianuáriu, -arii	January
Februáriu, -arii	February
Mártiu, -tii	March
Aprílis, -is	April
Maius, -ii	May
Iúnus, -ii	June
Iúlius, -ii	July
Augústus, -i	August
Septémber, -bris	September
Octóber, -bris	October
Novémber, -bris	November
Decémber, -bris	December

The seasons



The genitive and ablative

The genitive case is used for "of..": e.g. **anni** (of the year). The ablative case is used for time and often means "on" or "at": e.g. **secundo die Maii** (on the second day of May). It is also used (often with prepositions) to mean "by", "with" or "from": e.g. **cum meo patre** (with my father) and **ex urbe** (from the city). Another use is for describing a position: e.g. **a sinistra parte** (on the left) and **in urbe** (in the city).

Ianuarius
primus
mensis anni est.

Februarius
secundus
mensis anni est.

December
duodecimus
mensis anni est.



Can you describe the other months of the year in the same way?

What is the date*?



Writing the date



The little sign º is the abbreviation of the ordinal number (first, second, third...). For example, 2.º is **secundo** (second).

When is your birthday?



When are their birthdays?

The dates of the children's birthdays are written below their pictures. Can you say in Latin when

they are (e.g. **natalis Carinae est die 2.º mensis Aprilis.**)?

Carina	Robertus	Helena	Clara	Claudius	Leo
die 2.º m. Aprilis	die 21.º m. Iunii	die 18.º m. Octobris	die 31.º m. Augusti	die 3.º m. Martii	die 7.º m. Septembris

*The Ancient Romans had a very different way of writing dates. Their system is explained on page 48.

Colours and numbers

Colours are adjectives (describing words). They have endings like **-us**, **-a**, **-um** and **-er**, **-a**, **-um**, which change according to the noun they are describing.

The colours



What colour is it?

Cover up the picture above and see if you can say what colour everything is in the painting. (You can check the answers on page 45.)



Numbers

1	unus	11	undecim	21	viginti unus	31	triginta unus*
2	duo	12	duodecim	22	viginti duo	40	quadraginta
3	tres	13	tredecim	23	viginti tres	50	quingenta
4	quattuor	14	quattuordecim	24	viginti quattuor	60	sexaginta
5	quinque	15	quindecim	25	viginti quinque	70	septuaginta
6	sex	16	sedecim	26	viginti sex	80	octoginta
7	septem	17	septendecim	27	viginti septem	90	nonaginta
8	octo	18	duodeviginti	28	duodetriginta	100	centum
9	novem	19	undeviginti	29	undetriginta	200	ducenti, -ae, -a
10	decem	20	viginti	30	triginta	1000	mille

*The rest of the numbers from 32 to 99 are formed in the same way, so you can work them out for yourself. **duo-de...** means "two from..." and **un-de...** means "one from...".

Pronunciation and grammar

Nobody knows exactly what Latin sounded like when the Ancient Romans spoke it. Today Latin is pronounced slightly differently in different parts of the world. In English-speaking countries, the letters are usually pronounced as they are written. There are a few exceptions: “c” is always pronounced “k”, “v” is pronounced “w”, and “i” before a vowel at the beginning of a word is pronounced “y”. For example, **iam** is pronounced “yam”. In some books, this “i” is printed “j”, so it would be written **jam**, but is still pronounced “y”.

Accentuation

In words of two syllables, such as **mensa**, the stress is put on the first syllable. In this book, words with more than two syllables have an accent mark over the syllable that needs to be stressed, like this: **música**. The stress is never on the last syllable. You should not write this accent, though. It is just there to help you pronounce the word.

Conjugation of verbs

The endings of Latin verbs change according to time (whether it is in the past, present or future) and person (I, you, we etc.). This is called conjugation. The unchanging part of the verb is called the stem.

There are four regular types of verbs: those with an “a” stem (such as **ama-re**), those with an “e” stem (such as **habe-re**), those with a hard letter (or consonant) stem (such as **leg-ere**), and those with an “i” stem (such as **audi-re**).

Personal pronouns (I, you, we etc) are not usual in Latin. You can tell which person it is by the verb ending. The endings are:

-o/m	I	-mus	we
-s	you	-tis	you (pl)
-t	he/she/it	-nt	they

Here are the four main types of verbs in the present tense.

1. The “a” stem

amare	to love
am-o	I love
ama-s	you love
ama-t	he/she/it loves
ama-mus	we love
ama-tis	you love
ama-nt	they love

2. The “e” stem

habere	to have
habe-o	I have
habe-s	you have
habe-t	he/she/it has
habe-mus	we have
habe-tis	you have
habe-nt	they have

3. The consonant stem

legere	to read
leg-o	I read
leg-i-s	you read
leg-i-t	he/she/it reads
leg-i-mus	we read
leg-i-tis	you read
leg-unt	they read

4. The “i” stem

audire	to hear
audi-o	I hear
audi-s	you hear
audi-t	he/she/it hears
audi-mus	we hear
audi-tis	you hear
audi-unt	they hear

The verb “to be”

esse	to be		
su-m	I am	su-mus	we are
e-s	you are	es-tis	you are
es-t	he/she/it is	su-nt	they are

Imperative forms

	‘a’ conj.	‘e’ conj.	‘cons.’ conj.	‘i’ conj.
Sing.	ama	habe	lege	audi
Plur.	amáte	habéte	légite	audíte

More grammar

The future

The future tense of the 1st and 2nd conjugations is formed by adding **-bo**, **-bis**, **-bit** to the stem:

ama-b-o	I shall love
ama-b-is	you will love
ama-b-it	he/she/it will love
ama-bi-mus	we shall love
ama-bi-tis	you will love
ama-bu-nt	they will love

habe-b-o	I shall have
habe-b-is	you will have
habe-bi-t	he/she/it will have
habe-bi-mus	we shall have
habe-bi-tis	you will have
habe-bu-nt	they will have

The future tense of 3rd and 4th conjugation verbs is formed by adding **-am**, **-es**, **-et** to the stem:

leg-a-m	I shall read
leg-e-s	you will read
leg-e-t	he/she/it will read
leg-e-mus	we shall read
leg-e-tis	you will read
leg-e-nt	they will read

audi-a-m	I shall hear
audi-e-s	you will hear
audi-e-t	he/she/it will hear
audi-e-mus	we shall hear
audi-e-tis	you will hear
audi-e-nt	they will hear

Declension and cases

The change in the endings of nouns, pronouns and adjectives is called declension. The different endings are called cases. Here are the names of the cases and a rough guide to their uses.

Nominative	For the subject of a sentence
Vocative	To speak to someone
Accusative	For the object of a sentence
Genitive	Used for "of"
Dative	Used for "to" or "for"
Ablative	Used for "by", "with", and "from".

The vocative has the same ending as the nominative, except with 2nd declension singular nouns ending in **-us**. The vocative ending for those is **-e**, e.g. **serve!** (slave!)

1st declension nouns

Example: **mensa** a table

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	mens-a	mens-ae
Acc.	mens-am	mens-as
Gen.	mens-ae	mens-arum
Dat.	mens-ae	mens-is
Abl.	mens-a	mens-is

2nd declension nouns

This declension includes nouns ending in **-us** and **-er** and neuter nouns ending in **-um**. Examples are **ann-us** (a year), **pu-er** (a boy) and **tect-um** (a roof).

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	ann-us	ann-i
Voc.	ann-e	ann-i
Acc.	ann-um	ann-os
Gen.	ann-i	ann-orum
Dat.	ann-o	ann-is
Abl.	ann-o	ann-is

Nouns ending in **-er** are different only in the nominative singular.

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	tect-um	tect-a
Acc.	tect-um	tect-a
Gen.	tect-i	tect-orum
Dat.	tect-o	tect-is
Abl.	tect-o	tect-is

In all neuter words, the ending of the accusative case (singular and plural) is the same as the ending of the nominative case.

3rd declension nouns

These nouns can be masculine, feminine or neuter. They have many different forms in the nominative singular.

Example: **canis, -is (m)** a dog

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	canis	can-es
Acc.	can-em	can-es
Gen.	can-is	can-um
Dat.	can-i	can-ibus
Acc.	can-e	can-ibus

Example: **aestas, -atis (f)** summer

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	aestas	aestat-es
Acc.	aestat-em	aestat-es
Gen.	aestat-is	aestat-um
Dat.	aestat-i	aestat-ibus
Abl.	aestat-e	aestat-ibus

1st and 2nd declension adjectives

These adjectives have the same feminine endings as nouns of the 1st declension. They have the same masculine and neuter endings as nouns of the 2nd declension.

Example: **bonus, -a, -um**, good

	Singular		
	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
Nom.	bon-us	bon-a	bon-um
Voc.	bon-e	bon-a	bon-um
Acc.	bon-um	bon-am	bon-um
Gen.	bon-i	bon-ae	bon-i
Dat.	bon-o	bon-ae	bon-o
Abl.	bon-o	bon-a	bon-o

	Plural		
	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
Nom.	bon-i	bon-ae	bon-a
Acc.	bon-os	bon-as	bon-a
Gen.	bon-orum	bon-arum	bon-orum
Dat.	bon-is	bon-is	bon-is
Abl.	bon-is	bon-is	bon-is

3rd declension adjectives

These adjectives all end in **-is** in the genitive singular. There are three groups. The plural is the same in all of them.

Group 1 (3 endings in the nom. sing.)

Example: **acer, -is** sharp, fierce

	Singular		
	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
Nom.	acer	acris	acre
Acc.	acrem	acrem	acre
Gen.	acris	acris	acris
Dat.	acri	acri	acri
Abl.	acri	acri	acri

	Plural		
	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
Nom.	acres	acres	acria
Acc.	acres	acres	acria
Gen.	acrium	acrium	acrium
Dat.	acribus	acribus	acribus
Abl.	acribus	acribus	acribus

Group 2 (2 endings in nom. sing.)

Example: **fortis, -is** brave, strong

	Singular		
	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
Nom.	fortis	fortis	forte
Acc.	fortem	fortem	forte
Gen.	fortis	fortis	fortis
Dat.	forti	forti	forti
Abl.	forti	forti	forti

Group 3 (1 ending in nom. sing.)

Example: **felix, -icis** happy, lucky

	Singular		
	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
Nom.	felix	felix	felix
Acc.	felicem	felicem	felix
Gen.	felicis	felicis	felicis
Dat.	felici	felici	felici
Abl.	felici	felici	felici

Answers to puzzles

Page 7

What are they called?

nomen eius Petrus est.
nomen eius Claudia est.
nomina eorum Paulus et Petrus sunt.
nomen meum est...

Who is who?

Lucius is speaking to Quintus.
Cornelia is speaking to Beata.
Lucius is swimming, bottom right, with a green bathing-cap.
Quintus is talking to him.
Carolus is reading the paper.
The man saying "good-bye" to Carolus.

Can you remember?

quod nomen tibi est?
nomen meum est ...
haec amica mea est. nomen eius Beata est.
hic amicus meus est. nomen eius Gaius est.

Page 9

Can you remember?

hic flos est. haec feles est.
haec arbor est. hic nidus est.
haec avis est. haec domus est.
hic sol est. haec fenestra est.
hoc autocineticum est. hic canis est.

Page 11

Who comes from where?

Franciscus comes from Austria.
Arius and Indira.
Lolita is Spanish.
Janus lives in Hungary.
Yes, Angus comes from Scotland.
Marie and Pierre come from France.
Budapest is in Hungary.

Can you remember?

unde venis. venio e/ex...
scio loqui Latine. scisne loqui Latine?

Page 13

How old are they?

Afer is 13. Livia is 11.
Diana and Sylvia are 15. Lucius is 9.
Titus is 12. Aemilia is 5.

Brothers and sisters

A = Diana et Sylvia B = Lucius C = Afer
D = Titus E = Livia

Page 17

Where is everyone?

avus in cenaculo est.
Quintus in coquina est.
Petrus in balneo est.
mater in cubiculo est.

avia in mediano est.
larva in cubiculo Isabellae est.
Isabella in summo tabulato est.
Petrus in balneo est.

Can you remember?

ego in urbe habito, tu ruri. cubiculum in summo tabulato est. avia in insula habitat. Quintus est in balneo. habitamus in domo.

Page 19

Where are the animals hiding?

cricetus in vasculo est.
feles parva post televisorium est.
canicula in armario est.
psittacus in librario est.
serpens sub sponda est.
testudo prope telephorum est.

Page 21

Who likes what

Henricus caseum amat.
Marcus pernam non amat.
avus uvas praefert.
amo/non amo...

Who is saying what?

"esurio!"

"bene tibi sapiat."

"sume aliquid, quaeso!"

"potesne mihi dare hyalum?"

"visne etiam poma terrestria assa?"

"volo."

"nolo. satis est."

"optime sapit."

What are they doing?

A coquit B natat C saltant D violina canit
E pingit

Questions and answers

quid facis?	coquo.
quid facis?	nato.
quid facitis?	saltamus.
quid facis?	violina cano.
quid facis?	pingo.

Marcus's day

1B, 2E, 3F, 4A, 5H, 6G, 7D, 8C.

What is the time?

- A quinque minutis post tertiam horam.
- B quinque minutis post undecimam horam.
- C octo minutis ante nonam horam.
- D quadrante ante quartam horam.
- E viginti quinque minutis post tertiam horam.
- F septima hora et dimidia.
- G tertia hora.
- H quarta hora.
- I nona hora.
- J prima hora et dimidia.
- K quinque minutis post septimam horam.
- L decima hora et dimidia.
- M sexta hora.
- N viginti quinque minutis ante quartam horam.
- O septem minutis ante secundam horam.

Your diary for the week

vesperi saltabo cum Tito.
die Lunae, Mercurii, Solis teniludio ludo.
die Martis secunda hora clavario cano.

In Messina

qua via ad forum venio/adibo? da mihi veniam,
estne cafea in propinquo? cape tertiam viam a
dextra, deinde vehere semper in directum. cape
tertiam viam a sinistra, deinde vehere semper in
directum.

To the school.

Buying fruit

requiro quattuor citrea, unam libram bananarum
et unam ananasam. quattuor citrea constant
sexaginta sestertiis, una libra bananarum constat
quinquaginta octo sestertiis, et una ananasa
constat centum decem sestertiis. omnia constant
ducentis quinquaginta sestertiis. una ananasa.
una libra persicarum. tria arancia constant
sexaginta sex sestertiis. una libra malorum
constat quinquaginta quinque sestertiis.

When is your birthday?

natalis Roberti est die vicesimo primo m. lunii.
natalis Helenae est die duodevicesimo m. Octobris.
natalis Clarae est die tricesimo primo m. Augusti.
natalis Claudii est die tertio m. Martii.
natalis Leonis est die septimo m. Septembris.

What colour is it?

via cana est. sol flavus est. tectum luteum est.
caelum caeruleum est. flores rosei sunt. canis
fuscus est. avis nigra est. autocineticum rubrum
est. arbores virides sunt. domus alba est.

Vocabulary

The nouns are shown with both their nominative and genitive endings. For example: **mensa, -ae** (f) table. **mensa** is nominative, **mensae** is genitive and (f) means the noun is feminine.

The other abbreviations are adv. (adverb), pl. (plural), pr. (present tense), irr. (irregular), acc. (accusative), and abl. (ablative).

a sinistra parte	on the left side
ad + acc.	at, to
adeo/adire (irr.)	to go to
aestas, -atis (f)	summer
aliquid	something
amo/amare 1	to love
amica, -ae (f)	friend
amicus, -i (m)	friend
amita, -ae (f)	aunt (father's sister)
ananasa, -ae (f)	pineapple
Anglice	in English
annus, -i (m)	year
ante + acc.	in front of, before
Aprilis, -ilis (m)	April
aqua, -ae (f)	water
aranciata, -ae (f)	orangeade
arancium, -i (n)	an orange
arbor, -oris (f)	tree
argentaria, -ae (f)	bank
armarium, -i (n)	cupboard
athletica, -ae (f)	sport
audio/audire 4	to hear
Augustus, -i (m)	August
Austria, -ae (f)	Austria
aut	or
autocineticum, i (n)	motor car
autoraeda, -ae (f)	motor car
autumnus, -i (m)	autumn
avia, -ae (f)	grandmother
avis, is (f)	bird
avunculus, -i (m)	uncle (mother's brother)
avus, -i (m)	grandfather
balneum, -i (n)	bath
banana, -ae (f)	banana
bene	well, good!
bene tibi sapiat!	bon appetit!
bene valeo/valere 2	to be well
bonus, -a, -um	good
botulus, -i (m)	sausage
Britannia, -ae (f)	Britain
bubula assa, -ae, (f)	steak
butyrum, -i (n)	butter
cafea, -ae (f)	café, coffee
caminus, -i (m)	chimney
canicula, -ae (f)	puppy
canis, -is (m)	dog
cano, canere 3	to play
caseus, -i (m)	cheese
cena, -ae (f)	dinner
cenaculum (n)	dining room
chartula, -ae (f)	postcard
chiliogrammmum, -i (n)	kilogram
cibaria, -orum (n.pl.)	food
cinema, -ae (f)	cinema

citreum, -i (n)	lemon
clavarium, -i (n)	piano
cola, -ae (f)	cola
contra + acc.	opposite, against
coquo/coquere 3	to cook
crassus, -a, -um	thick, fat
cricetus, -i (m)	hamster
cubiculum, -i (n)	bedroom
cum + abl.	with
curia, -ae (f)	town hall
do/dare 1	to give
decem	ten
December, -bris (m)	December
decimus, -a, -um	tenth
deinde	then
desidero/desiderare 1	to desire
deversorium, -i (n)	hotel
deverticulum juvenum (n)	youth hostel
dexter, -tra, -trum	right (-hand)
dextrorsum	to the right
dic mihi	tell me
dies, diei (m)	day
dies Iovis (m)	Thursday
dies Lunae (m)	Monday
dies Martis (m)	Tuesday
dies Mercurii (m)	Wednesday
dies Solis (m)	Sunday
dies Veneris (m)	Friday
dimidius -a, -um	half
discotheca (f)	disco
displicet mihi ...	I don't like ...
doleo/dolere 2 quod..	I am sorry that ...
domus, -us (f)	house
dormitum ire	to go to bed
duo, duae, duo	two
e, ex + abl.	from, out of
ecce!	here is, look!
ecclesia, -ae (f)	church
edo/edere 3	to eat
ego	I
eius	his, her, of him
emo/emere 3	to buy
eo/ire (irr.)	to go
eorum	their, of them
ergo	then, therefore
esurio/esurire 4	to be hungry
etiam	also, even
facio/facere 3	to do, to make
familia, -ae (f)	family, household
Februarius, -i (m)	February
feles, is (f)	cat
fenestra, -ae (f)	window
ferre	almost, about

Adjectives are shown in the nominative singular, with the masculine ending followed by the feminine and neuter ones. For example: **fuscus, -a, -um** brown.

Verbs are shown in the first person singular (I...), followed by the infinitive (to...). The declension number is also shown. For example: **amo/amare** 1 to love.

flavus, -a, -um	blond, yellow
flecte te	turn!
flos, floris (m)	flower
frater, -tris (m)	brother
fuscus, -a, -um	dark, brown
Germania, -ae (f)	Germany
Germanice	(in) German
glacies, -iei (f)	ice, an ice
gratias ago/agere 3	to thank
gracilis, -is, -e	thin
habeo/habere 2	to have
habito/habitare 1	to live in
Hammaburgensis, -is (m)	hamburger
Helvetia, -ae (f)	Switzerland
hic, haec, hoc	this
hiems, hiemis (f)	winter
Hispania, -ae (f)	Spain
hodie	today
holus, -eris (n)	vegetable
hora, -ae (f)	hour
Hungaria, -ae (f)	Hungary
hyalus, -i (m)	a glass
Ianuaris, -i (m)	January
ibi	there
ientaculum, -i (n)	breakfast
illic	there
in + acc.	into, onto
in + abl.	in, on
in directum	straight ahead
in propinquo	nearby
India, -ae (f)	India
instrumentum	musical
musicum, -i, (n)	instrument
inter + acc.	among, between
ire (pr. tense eo)	to go
is, ea, id	that
ita	so, thus
ita est	yes
Iulius, -i (m)	July
Iunius, -i (m)	June
lac, lactis (n)	milk
lactuca, -ae (f)	lettuce, salad
laniena, -ae (f)	butcher's (shop)
larva, -ae (f)	ghost
Latine	(in) Latin
lego/legere 3	to read
libra, -ae (f)	a pound (weight)
librarium, -i (n)	bookcase
limonata, -ae (f)	lemonade
Londini	in London
longinquus, -a, -um	distant, far
loquor/loqui 3 dep.	away to talk

ludo/ludere 3	to play (a game)	pessime (adv.)	very bad, terrible	sed	but
Lutetiae	in Paris	pharmacopola, -ae (f)	chemist's (shop)	sella, -ae (f)	armchair
agnus, -a, -um	large, big	pingo/pingere 3	to paint	septem	seven
Maius, -i (m)	May	piscina, -ae (f)	swimming pool	September, -bris (m)	September
malum, -i (n)	apple	pitta, -ae (f)	pizza	septimus, -a, -um	seventh
mane (adv. & noun)	(in the) morning	placenta, -ae (f)	cake	sex	six
mare, maris (n)	sea	planta, -ae (f)	plant	sextus, -a, -um	sixth
Martius, -i (m)	March	plasso/plassare 1	to make models	sinister, -tra, -trum	left
mater, -tris (f)	mother	poma terrestria		sol, -is (m)	sun
matertera, -ae (f)	aunt (mother's sister)	assa (n.pl)	chips	soror, -oris (f)	sister
maxime	very much, most	pomum, -i (n)	fruit	specto/spectare 1	to look at, gaze at
media nox, mediae noctis (f)	midnight	porta, -ae (f)	door, gate		sofa
medianum, -i (n)	living-room	possum/posse (irr.)	to be able	sponda, -ae (f)	
mensa, -ae (f)	table	post + acc.	behind, after	stabulum	
mensis, -is (m)	month	potus socolatae (m)	chocolate drink	autocinetum (n)	garage
meridies, -iei (m)	midday	praefectura (-ae)	travel information	statio ferroviaria (f)	railway station
meus, -a, -um	my	commeatus (f)	bureau	sub + abl.	under
mihi (dat. of ego)	to me, for me	praefero/-ferre (irr.)	to prefer	sum/esse (irr.)	to be
mihi est/sunt...	I have ...	prandium, -i (n)	lunch	supermercatus, -us (m)	supermarket
mihi placet...	I like ...	primus, -a, -um	first	surgo/surgere 3	to rise
minime	not at all, least	pistrina, -ae (f)	bakery		
minuta, -ae (f)	minute	prope + acc.	near	taberna, -ae (f)	shop, tavern
musica, -orum (n.pl)	music	proximus, -a, -um	next, nearest	taberna alimentaria (f)	grocer's (shop)
nam	for	puella, -ae (f)	girl	tabulatum, -i (n)	storey
natalis, -is (m)	birthday	puer, -i (m)	boy	tapete, -is (n)	carpet
nato/natare 1	to swim	qua via?	by what road?	tectum, -i (n)	roof
natus, -a, -um	born (old)	quadrans, -ntis (m)	how?	telephorum, -i (n)	telephone
-ne	(asks a question)	quaero/quaerere 3	a quarter	televisorium, -i (n)	television
neque ... neque	neither ... nor	quaesio	to look for, ask	tener, -era, -erum	gentle
nidus, -i (m)	nest	quando?	please	teniludium, -i (n)	tennis
nihil laboris est	it's no trouble	quanti constat/constant ...?	when?	tertius, -a, -um	third
nolo/nolle (irr.)	I do not want	quartus, -a, -um	how much	texo/texere 3	to weave, knit
nomen, -inis (n)	name	quattuor	does...cost?	thea, -ae (f)	tea
non	not	-que	fourth	tibi (dat. of tu)	to you, for you
nonus, -a, -um	ninth	qui dies hodie est?	four	tibi est/sunt...	you have ...
novem	nine	quid?	and	tomata, -ae (f)	tomato
November, -bris (m)	November	quid aliud?	what day is it	tres, tres, tria	three
octavus, -a, -um	eighth	quinque	today?	tu (acc. = te)	you (singular)
officium postale (n)	Post Office	quintus, -a, -um	what?	tum	then
omnia, -ium (n. pl)	everything	quis?	what else?	tuus, -a, -um	your
optime	very good, excellent	quod nomen?	five	ubi?	where?
oryza, -ae (f)	rice	quoque	fifth	unde?	where from?
ovum, -i (n)	egg	quot?	who?	unus, -a, -um	one
paene	almost, nearly	quota hora est?	what name?	urbis, urbis (f)	city
palatium, -i (n)	palace	ratio, -ionis (f)	also	usque ad diem	until tomorrow
panicellus, -i (m)	roll, bun	reperio/reperire 4	how many?	crastinum	how
panis, -is (m)	bread	requiro/requirere 3	what time is it?	ut	grape
parentes, -ium (m)	parents	Romae	bill	uva, -ae (f)	
pars, partis (f)	part	rosa, -ae (f)	to find	valde	very much
parvus, -a, -um	small, little	ruri	to want	vale!	goodbye!
pasta vermiculata		saeptum, -i (n)	in Rome	valeo/valere 3	to be well
-ae, -ae (f)	spaghetti	salto/saltare 1	in the country	vasculum, -i (n)	vase
pater, -tris (m)	father	salve!		vehere!	drive!
patruus, -i (m)	uncle (father's brother)	sapio/sapere 3	fence	velim	I would like
paulum (adv.)	a little	sapitne bene?	to dance	velum, -i (n)	curtain, sail
pedibus	on foot, walking	satis (adv.)	hello!	venio/venire 4	to come
pedifollis, -is (m)	football	schola, -ae (f)	to taste	ver, -is (n)	spring
pediludium -i (n)	football	scio/scire 4	does it taste good?	vesperi	in the evening
perna, -ae (f)	ham	scriblita, -ae (f)	enough	vestibulum, -i (n)	entrance hall
persicum, -i (n)	peach	secundus, -a, -um	school	veterrimus, -a, -um	very old, oldest
			to know (how to...)	via, -ae (f)	road, street
			a tart	vicesmus, -a, -um	twentieth
			second	viginti	twenty
				violina, -ae (f)	violin
				volovelle (irr.)	to want
				visne?	do you want?

Numbers, dates and time

How the Romans told the time

The Romans divided the daylight, from sunrise to sunset, into twelve equal hours. These hours varied in length as the days became longer or shorter, depending on the time of year. **hora prima** always started at sunrise, and **hora septima** always started at midday. The night was divided into four equal **vigiliae** (meaning "watches"). **vigilia prima** was from sunset to approximately 9 p.m. **vigilia tertia** always started at midnight. The Romans only had water clocks and sun dials to help them tell the time, and these were not very convenient.

Roman Numbers

The signs the Romans used for numbers were **I** (one), **V** (five), **X** (ten), **L** (50), **C** (100), **D** (500), **M** (1000).

In most cases, you can identify the other numbers by adding the signs together. This works for signs of equal value next to each other. For example, **III** = 3 and **CCC** = 300. It also works if the sign of a larger value is followed by a smaller one. For example, **VIII** = 8, **XXVII** = 27, **LXI** = 61, and **CCLVII** = 257.

But if a sign is followed by one of a larger value, the first sign is subtracted from the second, larger one. For example, **IV** = 4, (**I** is subtracted from **V**), **IX** = 9, **XLIV** = 44, **XC** = 90, **CM** = 900, **MCM** = 1900, **MCMXCIII** = 1993.

Can you work out what these numbers are: **XXXIX**, **CCXLVII**, **MLXVI**, **MDCCXXIV**, **MMMDCCLXXIX**?

How would you write these numbers in Roman numerals: 17, 59, 385, 1,234, 4,321?

Roman dates

The names of the different months of the year come from the names the Romans used. After the time of Julius Caesar, the Roman months were the same as ours, except that they had no leap year, and no names for days and weeks. There were three fixed times in each month. The first day of the month was always called the **Kalends**. For most months of the year, the fifth day was called the **Nones** and the thirteenth day was called the **Ides**. But in March, May, July and October, the **Nones** and **Ides** were the seventh and fifteenth days.

The Romans described the date in relation to the next fixed point. So, for example, January 31st was "the day before the Kalends of February". They wrote this as **pridie KAL. FEB.**

The Romans included the days on which they started and finished counting. So January 30th was "three days before the Kalends of February", or "the third day-before the Kalends of February" : **antediem tertium KAL. FEB.** This was usually abbreviated to **a.d.III KAL. FEB.**

Here are a few more examples:


February 1st was **KAL. FEB.** February 2nd was **a.d.IV NON. FEB** (four days before the Nones). February 4th was **pridie NON. FEB.** February 5th was **NON. FEB.** February 6th was **a.d.VIII ID. FEB.**

See if you can translate these modern dates into Roman ones: March 15, April 3, June 10, July 24, October 6, November 1. The answers are at the bottom of the page. (Note: **Ides** were abbreviated to **ID.**)

Answers:

Roman numbers: 39, 247, 1066, 1724, 3779: **XVII**, **LIX**, **CCCLXXXV**, **MCCXXXIV**, **MMMCCCXXI**.

Roman dates: **ID. MAR.**; **a.d.III NON. APR.**; **a.d.IV ID JUN.**; **a.d.IX KAL. AUG.**; **pridie NON. OCT.**; **KAL. NOV.**

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