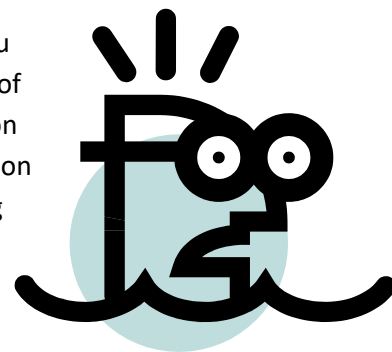


Week 1 Latin 1a Survival Guide

Congratulations! You have lived through your first class session. By the time you make it through your first *month* of Latin, you will have settled in to the rhythm of things. I will not walk you through a “to do” list after this first week because soon you will develop your own best way of getting your work done and earning an A on the quizzes. This list, in general terms, can be used each week. Consider making your own custom list.



Step 1: Recopy your Class Notes

If you wait until a day passes before you recopy notes, you will have forgotten 50% of what you heard but did not write down. I recommend that you immediately re-write your notes from class but under the following guidelines:

1. First read through chapter 1 in your textbook carefully.
2. Recopy your notes from class into your organized class notebook. Have your textbook open to look at information in the textbook and add it to your notes. Write out examples, charts, etc. Writing things out as you come to understand them is an excellent study aid. Aid pictures, colors or anything else that will help you make sense of what you’ve written. This is not wasted time! You are giving your brain a chance to make sense of the new information.

Step 2: Make your first set of flash cards

For this first week I am going easy on you. Master only the first 13 vocabulary words in chapter 1 (starting with ‘*me*’ and going through *moneo*).



In this class you must know “The Four Principle Parts” of all verbs. What is a *principal part*, you say? These four different forms of the same verb are going to be extremely helpful in the future.

Go to page 6 of your textbook and look at the word “**amo**.” After the first form you will also see: “**amare, amavi, amatum**” followed by two meanings (love, like)

On side one of your flash card put the word “**amo**.” On the second side write, “**amare, amavi, amatum**” and the two meanings “love, like.”

You will want to make a separate card for the idiom “**amabo te**” which means “please” (or literally, “I will love you”—a very kind thing to say when you want somebody to pass the mashed potatoes.)

Notice that Wheelock gives you a couple of English words based on this Latin word root “amatory, Amanda.” Some like to add these words to the second side on flash cards, some do not. These English *cognates* words (words that come directly from the Latin) are a memory aid and a good way to expand your English vocabulary and another big advantage to learning Latin.

Also make separate flash cards for each verb ending (-o, -s, -t, -mus, -tis, -nt=a total of 6 flash cards) so that you learn to associate them with correct “person.”

For more hints on making flash cards, see the handout ‘Pointers on Making Flash Cards.’

Step 3: Study your Latin

Many of you may never have had to organize yourself and study something thoroughly. Welcome to Latin. You may take no shortcuts here. Here’s what you should do this week:

1. Master verb endings (-o, -s, -t, -mus, -tis, -nt). Can you put them on all of your verbs and correctly translate them? Do this with all your verbs in this week’s vocabulary. See if you can do it from memory (without having to look up the endings again and again. Translate them. Not sure if you are doing things correctly? Email me with questions!
2. Now add ‘reading’ notes from your chapter. Make sure you know the following terms because there’s **a very good chance you’ll see them on an upcoming quiz** (hint: this is code for ‘YES, these WILL all be on your first quiz and you’d be really angry at yourself for ignoring this obvious warning from your Latin teacher)...
 - Person
 - Number
 - Tense
 - Mood
 - Voice
 - Conjugation (figure out how to tell the difference between a first conjugation verb and a second conjugation verb)
 - Personal ending
 - Infinitive
 - Stem
 - Paradigm
 - Imperative (now how to form the two types of imperatives for each of your vocabulary verbs this week)
3. Play the review games on your class page



Step 4: Turn in your homework

Carefully translate the assignment listed in your syllabus. As always, you may use your textbook to help you complete the translations. Type the assignment into a word processing program on your computer and save it. Next, enter Quia (see “Care and Feeding of Quia), copy and paste the work into the correct spots after you log into the homework assignment link.

Do not hit enter unless you have pasted ALL your work into the assigned spots. If you have to leave before you finish, just close down the browser and enter again later (any time before 7 pm ET on Friday). If you try to enter the homework after the deadline has passed, Quia will give you a stern warning and prevent you from doing so.

Once you are finished, *hit enter*. THEN, take time to look at ALL the sample answers that appear after you hit submit. This is when lots of learning takes place so **DO NOT SKIP THIS STEP**.

Step 5: Take your Quiz

Prepare well for your first quiz. Expect to see questions on the vocabulary, principal parts, and the terms I’ve listed above as well as questions about the Latin alphabet and pronunciation. Complete this quiz prior to 7 pm ET on Monday (it opens Friday morning so chose a calm hour during this four day window). Quia is designed so that a quiz will not open for you after the deadline passes nor will it open a second time. Plan well for this exam and do NOT misinterpret the word ‘quiz’—it is a word I use to distinguish it from ‘midterm’ and ‘final exam’ but it is **NOT** a word that suggests ‘easy’ or ‘lightweight’ or ‘don’t bother preparing well.’ Learn from the Boy Scouts: “be prepared.”

