

# Latin 3b 2025 Word Study 2

## Grades and Reviews

### Take to Heart

Word studies offer a unique, multi-person critique of thought processes and writing. If there was something that was observed repeatedly by different people, this is something you might think to work on in the future.

Congratulations on finishing your last word study of the year. There has been quite a lot of progress from your very first word study of Latin 3a, and you will find that whether you continue in Latin or not, this process has provided you with skills that will transfer to many other arenas, both academic and professional. Some lingering problems that I saw in this set of studies were managing the balance between depth and breadth, using enough examples to fully support theories, and taking those important steps beyond collecting the examples to fully synthesizing and analyzing them. Making sure you don't stop too early or that you don't make unsupported leaps takes practice and these skills are ones that will get better the more research projects you do. You're off to a very good start, but there is still room for improvement. I also saw some fizzling out as well, whether in ending studies before they were really concluded or failing to provide line numbers in citations. The details are just as important as the main ideas, so remember to be diligent in the small things as well as the large in future work. Use the comments here to help hone your skills for the future.

The word study ranks from the survey have been translated into the 10-point scale. Your peers ranked you on the first FIVE items. ONLY your instructor handed you the "GRADE." *Take that score more to heart, please.* If the score you had given for a study is significantly different than the final instructor grade, either higher or lower, give some thought to the assignment expectations and yours. This type of reflection will not only help you become a better reviewer but will also help you hone your own word study skills.

Remember, this is all a learning process which takes time to master.

Here's what that 10-point scale means:

97-100 = A+

94-96 = A

90-93 = A-

87-89 = B+

84-86 = B

80-83 = B-

77-79 = C+

74-76 = C

70-73 = C-

### How to read your word study

Everyone should read ALL red comments in case they apply to YOU now or in the future. In my comments I did not address every issue I saw. If your peer reviewers highlighted specific issues well, then I did not necessarily raise those issues myself, but instead concentrated on other areas for which I found particularly compelling or could see improvement was needed. Be sure, therefore, to read the comments of your peer reviewers as well.

Words in blue are comments about specific peer review feedback and would be good for everyone to read. Peer reviewing is a skill and one that you will be asked to use in various ways in college and work. Learning how to see

both value and room for improvement is an integral part of this skill, but that's not all there is. Learning to respectfully praise and critique is a skill too. If you had trouble doing this, think about why that might be. It might be something you need to work on.

### Reviews—how did YOU do?

**Please remember that reviewing is part of the assignment.** For the most part reviews were much better on this last round of studies, with reviewers balancing praise and constructive criticism, although there were still a couple of hold outs for short, one-sided responses. For iron to truly sharpen iron, you need both sides of the blade. Please take this to heart for future peer review situations. Reviewers who took the assignment seriously and worked hard to provide useful feedback to the authors will see their word study average bump up a bit, while those who did not will see their average go down.

### Word study words used:

(h)arena	cinis	destinatus
fluctuare	medulla	mordeo
munus	passer	poena

### Word Study 1

- *Provided good examples: 94*
- *Provided useful and accurate translations w/ citations: 95*
- *Defined the word clearly based on examples: 92*
- *Analysis was helpful: 95*
- *Overall: 95*
- **GRADE: (95%) A**

### Written Critiques:

Great job, I can tell you put good work into this. One thing I was a little confused about was the general topic of the word study-- I know you started off with arena but the majority of the paper was on harena. It was established in the beginning that harena and arena are related, but I would make it a little more clear on your choice word since the title/1st paragraph seem a little misleading. Overall, good job!

I really liked how you included the different forms of your word in parenthesis so the reader knew what form you were referring to. I also really enjoyed your last explanation about the Roman contests, it was very engaging to read. One thing I think you are missing though is a conclusion, you seemed to end on your etymology paragraph which is not necessarily bad, but it does not necessarily close the essay in the best way.

I really loved how the author provided an example of the times when the word was used and how the times differed.

I think that you did well with the examples that you chose for your word, they help the reader better understand harena. I was rather confused, however, whether was harena only used to mean arena by later authors, or if earlier authors used it that way as well, since your only example where harena means arena came from Jerome.

The etymology hook in the beginning is interesting. You had me guessing. However, your conclusion should be focused on the word's meaning and not etymology. The concluding etymology information is a little confusing. Also, you should use an example from an early author.

The introduction was written well and translations were well picked. There were enough passages to prove your point and you explained why each passage mattered quite well. The word arena and its meanings did not vary, however, and it almost always meant sandy area. It also seemed most plausible in my head that an arena was sandy, and your English definition was not what I first thought of.

Very in depth and informative. Fabulously written. Super picky note: in the conclusion you have "sense, since" which is slightly repetitive.

Very rounded and solid paper. The definition that was drawn from the examples sounded professional and supported.

Word study is organized well, progression of the word's usage overtime is apparent from the selection of passages and your analysis. In paragraphs that include multiple texts, consider adding some sort of transition between your analysis of the previous text and your next text.

You have done very well with *arena* here in taking this word as far as it can go meaning-wise. I particularly liked how you specified that the word itself can mean either a single grain of sand or can stand collectively for sands. Given words like *littera*, which only means a letter of the alphabet in the singular, this information is important. Your discussion of *arena* having a negative connotation in the Christian period makes sense given what went on in the Colosseum. I would also like to know if there are other connotations or metaphoric uses in earlier times, perhaps in the poets. You have great examples from various poets, all of whom seem to use *arena* literally, albeit often in analogies, but some comment on whether *arena* is always used literally or not would be good. Likewise, since your passages are arranged by topic rather than chronology, it would be helpful to comment on whether there were any other shifts in nuance over time apart from the negative association in Jerome. Finally, some more clarification of the variant spellings and when one should expect to see *harena* vs *arena* would be welcome.

## Word Study 2

- *Provided good examples: 91*
- *Provided useful and accurate translations w/ citations: 92*
- *Defined the word clearly based on examples: 92*
- *Analysis was helpful: 94*
- *Overall: 92*
- **GRADE: (92%) A-**

### Written Critiques:

At the beginning of your word study you mention that some sources define poena as revenge, but I am unclear whether or not you support this as a meaning of poena, since you do not give a proof of poena meaning that or a refutation of it being a possible meaning. I like your explanation of the example from Cicero.

Good job! One thing that caught me off guard was the sudden shift from your analyses to the etymology paragraph. If you could, find a way to make it flow a little more naturally (maybe you could link how litmus tests are used in current day and talk about roots in current languages? I don't know, just an idea). Great job.

I loved the conclusion you came to. It's not something I would think of when first hearing this word, but your examples help prove your point. A more intriguing introductory sentence would make this even better. Fantastic job.

Information about the Roman gods being violated and lashing out is a helpful inclusion on Roman culture in correspondence to the included passage. Consider expanding on your analysis of the word in the context of your passages.

More examples would have been nice. The examples given, however, were highly helpful in the explanation of this word. Well done.

The sentence with "personal business - such as revenge" was hilarious and a good attention hook. I would suggest using examples from more time eras. You did a nice job of finding the deeper meanings of the word. Also, you should try using a bit more of a scholarly tone.

This was wonderful. I was worried when I saw the word you choose, as it's meanings are not very diverse but you did this incredibly well. One thing to watch out for is the length of your explanations, I would practice shortening it, as it was a lot to digest and dig through. In some spots I found myself having to re-read certain parts to fully grasp the entirety of the explanation. Otherwise, I thought this was a very well thought out and well done word study.

Very brave step to use the word Poena. Very common word, but also very interesting. So you were brave and smart. I had no idea that it could mean revenge, very interesting. The Vergil quote needed to be explained before it was quoted, I had to re-read it several times. This word study needed to be longer to fully cover the revenge theory. It was quite interesting and I wanted to know more.

Your analysis is straightforward and concise. Each of your examples quickly explain each point you make with a simple yet profound clarity. You give a great analysis of the word's etymology, especially since you highlight both its old roots and its modern derivatives. I did not quite understand your title - it seems a bit random. Some of your translations are a bit choppy or they completely omit words from the Latin - make sure that every word and meaning is accounted for in your English translation.

Your title was funny but led me think your study was going to be a trainwreck, which thankfully it wasn't. This study was very interesting and provided a broader and more nuanced definition for *poena* than one often thinks of with this common word. Identifying the underlying sense of payment and obligation, specifically to bring things back into balance, is a helpful core idea that the translator can take into any context. Broadening this out to personal and public contexts was also helpful and thus brought forth meanings like revenge. This is where you stop, however, and I think you could have extended your study, eking out even greater nuance if you had provided more examples. Your examples provide support for the definitions you give, but having only three means that you are unable to speak to trends in the word's use over time, between authors, etc. Your authors date to the Republican period and early Golden Age, but not beyond. Do Silver Age authors use *poena* in the same ways? What about those in the Christian period or beyond? You have given an interesting slice of *poena*'s usage and history here, but you have likely left others on the plate.

### Word Study 3

- *Provided good examples: 90*
- *Provided useful and accurate translations w/ citations: 90*
- *Defined the word clearly based on examples: 86*
- *Analysis was helpful: 88*
- *Overall: 88*
- **GRADE: (91%) A-**

### Written Critiques:

A lot of your citations are incomplete. I would maybe include a brief explanation of "feu de joie" that you mention in your paper, as not everyone knows French. I would also add some more substance to your concluding paragraph, as well as more on the background/etymology of your word.

Good job finding a lot of examples of the word cinis. Your analysis and explanation of the passages are very insightful. You explain a lot of metaphorical and poetical uses of cinis, but it would be great if you added more about its literal meanings (e.g. what kind of ashes, in what context – not just symbolic examples). Also, it would be helpful for your readers if you include the word's etymology. This will supply your reader with a deeper understanding of the word.
I like how you give the distinction between cinis and other similar words like favilla. At the end of your word study you list the specific examples you used, but you do not give an overall general definition for cinis, which would be helpful for the reader.
<b>Dear reviewer: Please refrain from using emojis in reviews in order to keep them professional.</b> I would group up the 'uses of the word' that are similar or convey the same meanings into one paragraph to make it more cohesive and less blocky. Expand on your definitions more, you gave the reader a vague explanation of the reasoning of the definition but it is best to assume your reader cannot 'fill in the gaps', and give them a more in-depth explanation. There were also a few punctuation problems (most noticeable in your conclusion) and then some formatting problems, but Dr. Fisher already pointed it out 😊
Pretty good, was missing a summary paragraph at the end to show all of the various sorts of uses of the word in total.
The examples were numerous and great. The etymology was sound and the translations up top. A little more observations and analytical information would have improved this paper.
The information about how "cinis" differs from other words was interesting and helpful. None of your examples were from the homework. You should also use an example from an early author. The conclusion seemed to be left hanging in mid air. You need a sentence to wrap it all up.
Well written and made some interesting observations. However, a sprinkling of word etymology would make it even better. Very nice job.
Your current conclusion includes the meaning of the word in the context of each authors passage, though it would be helpful to make a larger claim about the word that could be the result of the meanings found in the authors passages. Analysis of each passage is effective and progresses well.
I love how you have gone down the rabbit hole here in exploring the symbolic uses of <i>cinis</i> , as it's certainly good to know that <i>cinis</i> is often a nuance-infused word that has the association of loss or destruction with it. I also really appreciated the list of various synonyms and the intriguing distinction between hot and cold ashes. Exploring this side of the word, however, should not come at the expense of other literal and metaphoric uses. Some authors, such as Pliny the Younger when describing the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius, use <i>cinis</i> very literally to simply describe the material, with no associated destruction. Even in Pliny the Younger's case, where the backdrop of the passage is the destruction of Pompeii, the actual context of <i>cinis</i> is quite literally one of a variety of rocks and other material the volcano was spewing out. Other authors, such as Plautus in <i>The Rudens</i> , who compares <i>cinis</i> to gold and silver, use the word to indicate that something is worthless. Some mention and examples of these other uses need to be included. Likewise, there should be some analysis of when and where these uses are employed, even if it's simply a statement about context dictating usage. Lastly, make sure when you cite examples that you provide the line numbers as well as the book or chapter numbers. This is what your first reviewer meant by your citations being incomplete.

#### Word Study 4

- *Provided good examples: 93*
- *Provided useful and accurate translations w/ citations: 91*
- *Defined the word clearly based on examples: 89*
- *Analysis was helpful: 91*
- *Overall: 91*
- **GRADE: (90%) A-**

### Written Critiques:

Didn't have a good summing-up for the ending, felt kind of like it petered out. I really liked the word that was chosen and the connections derived from it.
Great job finding passages for each of the specific translations of medulla. Each passage is a colorful depiction of the noun. Also, your analysis of the word's etymology is very helpful, especially since you explain both its roots and its derivatives (the comment on how medulla might have come from medius is especially interesting). A note on history: Cicero was born around 105 BC, so he definitely could not have written anything "around 110 BC." Also, your translations could be polished up a bit. Just make sure to use each Latin word according to its case (some of your English translations of the words do not match up with their cases).
I loved that I really gathered that medulla was a thick and sustaining substance. Marrow and Quintessence being connected defiantly appeals to my sense of humor. Your examples were well chosen and you explained the background of the word thoroughly, like how the Old Irish was connected. Your final analysis and what you really thought of the word was missing. Also the Catullus part with "weak marrow" contradicted with the rest of the paper. You excepted the common meaning of medulla, English cognates would have been nice.
I remember seeing this word in translation and wondering what it meant. This study answered that question and gave me so much more! I noticed you use "it goes" preceding your two Latin translations. It was slightly repetitive. That's just a small picky thing though. Fantastic work!
Introduction is helpful to the reader and the cognates provided in the second body paragraph are interesting. Several small passages from various authors were used in your body paragraphs — consider expanding on your transitions between these passages and authors and the usage of the word in those passages.
Some of your translations and citations are incorrect; I was unable to find your example from Ovid in the Metamorphoses and I think that your translation from Horace does not translate all of the Latin which you cite for that example. At the end of your word study you claim that medulla can mean will or emotions, but I did not find a clear evidence in your word study for this claim to be supported. I like how you give cognates and derivatives of medulla in your word study.
The definition was not perfectly aligned with the examples. The rest was quite good though.
The explanations were grouped in a weird way that chopped the paragraph up and did not allow the reader to fully understand each individual reason for the usage of the word. There was also a weird paragraph (the third one) that felt more like an introduction and I am honestly not sure what it is doing in the middle of your paper. I also think you could broaden up your conclusion and make it more expansive and closing (if that makes any sense lol).
You should expand with your examples to other time eras. Also, in the conclusion you should include a sentence with a core meaning. You did a thorough investigation of the etymology. Nice explanations of your translations.
<i>Medulla</i> is an interesting word, and you have done well here distinguishing between the literal uses describing the interior of bones and the metaphoric uses which refer to someone's core or quintessence. While the latter would be expected in poetry, and you show this in your examples, the literal use in Ovid suggests that context trumps author and the contemporary authors Catullus and Cicero show that chronology, at least in the Republican period, doesn't dictate meaning either. Stating these facts in your analysis as I have done here would be helpful to your readers. While these examples and basics of meaning are well-supported, you do have some trouble with the accompanying information. First, your statement about <i>medulla</i> originating in Old Irish is incorrect. * <i>smer-u-</i> "marrow" is a Proto-Indo-European root which possibly gave rise to the Old Irish <i>smiur</i> and the Latin word as well. Also, the word <i>medulla</i> persists in Latin well beyond the Silver Age, with examples in the Vulgate as well as medieval medical works like that of Celsus. Some exploration of these later texts and whether the word lost its metaphoric meaning or had it changed in some way would be very interesting to know and would be very helpful when translating later works.

## Word Study 5

- *Provided good examples:* 89
- *Provided useful and accurate translations w/ citations:* 88
- *Defined the word clearly based on examples:* 90
- *Analysis was helpful:* 88
- *Overall:* 88
- **GRADE: (89%) B+**

### Written Critiques:

A nice title, and I understood your analysis. Plenty of examples and overall good translations. Introduction needed to be longer and more elaborate, you just jumped in without much of a preface. *Destinatus* and your analysis of it was pretty predictable. You did not vary very much from my dictionary definition.

Good job sourcing passages from multiple notable authors. Your explanation of the verb's tense, voice, and use in each sentence really helps the reader understand each example. Your second sentence is a bit confusing. Is *destinatus* also an English word? Or are you talking about how it can be translated? It would also be helpful if you had a longer introduction paragraph to give your reader a roadmap of what you will discuss in the word study. Your translations could also be polished up a bit; some of them are a bit choppy in the English.

I found your mix of adjectival and verbal forms of *destinare/destinatus* to be confusing, since you refer to *destinatus* as an adjective at the beginning of your word study and then go on to list examples from the verb *destinare*. I think you did well on your explanation of the example from Catullus.

I like how this paper is very clear to the point, little to no fluff. However, I would recommend some variation in how you begin your paragraphs/analyses, since most of them are "[Author's Name] used..." Good work.

It was all good. The etymology and examples could have excelled if I had more of them. Smashing job.

**Dear reviewer: What specifically did you find nice about it?**

Nice study. Missing the etymology though.

This was a solid essay with a nice range of examples from different authors. I think it could've hit harder at the end though---the conclusion kinda just faded out instead of really wrapping up the evolution and meaning of *destinatus* over time. I liked the bit about the connection to destiny and Old French *destinée*, that was cool, just wish it all tied together a little more clearly. The translations were kind of hard to understand

This was a well-structured study. Nice job with examples and showing how the word was used through time. Also nice job explaining how the word works both in context and with the core meaning. However, most of your examples use a verb form which is confusing since otherwise you say you are referring to an adjective.

Two sentences is not a paragraph, so combine it with the first one and make an actual, fully encompassing introduction. I really enjoyed your explanations, I felt they were relevant and helped come to well thought out conclusions on the meaning of the word. I also really enjoyed your conclusion, I thought it tied up the entire essay very nicely.

There are some Latin adjectives that are participles, derived from verbs, and some that are purely adjectives, which, although they may be related in meaning to a verb or a noun, are not technically derived from one. *Destinatus* is the perfect passive participle of *destino, destinare*, and while that does slowly come out over the course of the study, it would be better to state that at the beginning, or better yet to focus the word study on *destino, destinare*, using *destinatus* as one of the examples. This would have more accurately contextualized *destinatus*, cut down confusion for your readers, and would also have set you up well to provide etymological information for the word. In



addition to having some Proto-Italic and Proto-Indo-European roots, *destino* is related to the word *sto* (stand), a core meaning that would be helpful in ultimately providing a set of basic definitions. Your examples are quite good, spanning early Latin through the Silver Age, with both poets and prose authors. While you show different usages, there is no sense of what the most common ones are or whether the meaning changes over time. A final analysis paragraph including not only the etymology but also a summary of potential meanings is needed to synthesize what is quite a lot of loosely connected information. Watch your citations too – e.g. the Catullus example had only the poem number but not the lines.

## Word Study 6

- *Provided good examples:* 95
- *Provided useful and accurate translations w/ citations:* 94
- *Defined the word clearly based on examples:* 91
- *Analysis was helpful:* 93
- *Overall:* 95
- **GRADE: (96%) A**

### Written Critiques:

I liked the topic sentences you provided at the beginning of each body paragraph — they provided the reader with good information about the general latin usage of the word and the specific author you were translating. Consider including some cognates of the word in other languages, which would be effective at the end of your study.

[Dear reviewer: Great positives here. What do you think could be improved?](#)

All the roots and etymologies were clearly defined. The examples were long and hearty. Great work.

Great thesis and great points. The etymology could have gone deeper though. Very nice conclusion

I thought about using this but I'm glad you did it, I wouldn't have finished it with very much patience and it needed a lot of words to explain the human emotions that came with it. However, you did a good job balancing the simple meaning of the word and the more implicate contexts in which it is used. You started many times in the middle of a latin sentence and it was rather confusing. The *fluere* and *Fluctuare* needed to be expanded upon.

In your example for Cicero, you say that the meaning of wavering is an obscure translation, but you do not give any reasoning for this claim, which would be helpful. I like how you give a description of how *fluctuare*'s meaning changed over time.

This was a super strong essay overall. I really loved how the author tied the emotional and physical meanings of *fluctuare* together. That said, the conclusion felt a little bit repetitive and like it was too fluffy? That's the only real criticism I have

This was an interesting word. You did a nice job tying together the meanings and usages of the word throughout the body paragraphs, but I would have liked to see a core meaning in the conclusion. There are some editing errors which you should clean up. Also, the structure of your examples is a little strange.

[Dear reviewer: Great positives here. What do you think could be improved?](#)

Wow, really thorough analysis, I like it! I really like the links you made with *fluere* and how you wrapped up the whole paper nicely with a succinct conclusion.

You supply many examples of the word *fluctuare*, your translations are clear, and your citations are neat. You provide a lot of insightful analysis from each specific example of the word's varied uses. You also explain the word's derivatives. Be careful with the word's etymology. The English "fluid" comes directly from the Latin verb *fluo*, *fluere*, not *fluctuo*, *fluctuare*, even though they are related. Basically, "fluctuate" comes from *fluctuare* which comes from *fluo*, but "fluid" comes directly from *fluo*. It would be especially helpful if you included the etymological roots of *fluctuare*, such as what language it came from before Latin, and what did it or its root mean in that language.



An interesting word and a well-done word study. You have done an excellent job distinguishing the Latin verb *fluctuare* from the modern English cognate *fluctuate*, which one might originally default to without understanding the stronger and more intense nature of the original word. The relationship between *fluctuare* and *fluere* is also intriguing, but the discussion of that was not as well developed as I would have liked. Most specifically, I couldn't tell if the intensity found in *fluctuare* is present in *fluere* as well or if that had the flat meaning that cognates like *fluid* have today. Your examples are very good and span the range from Archaic Latin (Plautus) to the Vulgate and you provide a mixture of poets and prose authors too. Your analysis in the examples is thorough and targeted, but you have some redundancy at the end of your study. Here instead of a summary with so much repetition, think about revisiting your definitions and main points while also drawing in some other questions, like a possible relationship to *flumen* or other etymological connections for readers to explore on their own.

## Word Study 7

- *Provided good examples: 95*
- *Provided useful and accurate translations w/ citations: 93*
- *Defined the word clearly based on examples: 93*
- *Analysis was helpful: 92*
- *Overall: 94*
- **GRADE: (96%) A**

### Written Critiques:

Great job finding so many examples of *mordeo*. Your translations are clear and easy to follow, and your citations are very neat and clean. Great job explaining each translation of *mordeo* – your comments are clear, straightforward, and yet profound. Your analysis is in-depth and thorough. You could add some kind of hook to your introduction paragraph to make it more interesting. Also, you could consider reversing the order of your passages from (figurative to literal) to (literal to figurative), since it is always the literal translation that leads to a figurative translation. You provide lots of passages, but at some point it gets a bit repetitive. You could pare down on some of the passages to keep the flow of thought smooth.

Introduction could be more fleshed out. At the beginning of every paragraph you have similar first sentence. It would be nice to shake things up a bit. You have an amazing amount of examples. Great work!

Overall, great! I found the overall structure of the essay a little strange, for example almost every paragraph starts with "Mordeo can mean..." I think it would be great if you varied the starters a little bit. All in all it was great, I liked that you used many different sources.

Overall, the word study was well written. There were plenty of examples and the examples were translated well. The analysis was lacking somewhat and it missed the part where I understood what your definition of morsel other than bite was.

The analysis and insight were superb. However, the translations seemed a little rusty. Loved the sharp bite of the words, though.

The author went all in on explaining the different uses of *mordeo* and backed it up with solid examples. I liked how you showed how it branches out from just "to bite" into meanings like "vex" and "sting"---it felt really natural the way you broke it down. Some of the sentences felt a little stiff (like pointing out frost doesn't have teeth to bite with)

The thesis statement should include analytical information as to the core meaning. You also need to edit out repetitive/self-evident/unnecessary information. Also, you should cite your etymological information. Your demonstration of the wide applications of "mordeo" was very interesting and helpful.

Two sentences is not a paragraph, nor is it suitable for an introduction, this paper cannot fully be appreciated without a proper introduction that sets the reader up with all information needed to know about what is going to be in the paper. Do not get stingy with your topic sentences, make them less repetitive and more engaging. Same thing with your explanations, they seemed to trail off towards the end, keep the momentum going and properly explain each and every one in full. I think your etymology paragraph is very well thought out but I would suggest splitting it up with your conclusion instead of combining them.

Your analysis of the included passages was helpful, especially the context given on each passage within your analysis. Consider expanding on your topic sentences for each body paragraph, as they were short and didn't provide the reader with much to consider going into the paragraph.

This word study was very clear and did a great job laying out a variety of uses, both literal and metaphoric, for *mordeo* with appropriate examples to back them up. What was particularly interesting to me in these different definitions was just how many are ideas that we still use today. Hardware that clasps we say bites and Jack Frost nips at noses. Whether this is a natural human tendency for the idea of biting or these associations have come down to us from the Romans, is difficult to say, but it's certainly interesting. While your bullet point-esque format makes for great clarity, it is somewhat abrupt and would benefit from connections drawn between things that are similar, as these separate definitions don't stand entirely on their own. I would also suggest moving the etymological information to the introduction to provide more context for your examples, while keeping the information about trends in the verb's usage at the end. Be careful about stating that the word was used only through Juvenal, because there are some later examples (Boethius, Gellius, etc.), although not all that many. This suggests that the word did go out of fashion after the Classical period but was not lost all together since there are also so many modern cognates. It would be interesting to see what took the place of this rather versatile verb in later Latin.

## Word Study 8

- *Provided good examples: 96*
- *Provided useful and accurate translations w/ citations: 92*
- *Defined the word clearly based on examples: 93*
- *Analysis was helpful: 90*
- *Overall: 93*
- **GRADE: (96%) A**

## Written Critiques:

Beautifully written, a nice wide overview of cinis. You gave plenty of examples. You lacked showing how interesting cinis is. The word study had a good overview over the meanings and roots of cinis but not really of how the meaning were used.

**Dear reviewer: There is always something that can be improved.**

Great study! The last sentence was very clever. I can't find anything to critique.

I like how you point out that there are no significant differences in the translations of plural and singular forms of cinis. Some of your citations are missing line numbers, which they need in order to be accurate.

Organization of word study is effective, I liked the topic sentences your provided as they touch on various periods of Latin. Consider expanding your analysis on the included passages as some provided analysis is brief.

Really nice! The research is extensive and helpful. One thing I think you could do it add more of your analyses because I see many, many quotes/references (these are good, but I would love seeing more of your own ideas because it's great!).

This study was pretty good, I think the issue I had with it was the fact that there wasn't any particularly unique meaning cinis actually has beyond the surface level stuff. It's not a super

interesting word, and so the author couldn't really do a lot in the latter part of the essay to be like, "this is how cinis actually is!"

This was good, in that there was a lot of information to digest. However, be careful with your explanations, a lot of them felt either rushed or incomplete. You have good ideas with each one, so make sure to fully explain them. Your conclusion is very well written, along with your introduction. Also consider introducing your latin translations (for example stating the name of the author or the book it was written in) right before the translation, not just in the topic sentence (I think it will help it flow better).

**Dear reviewer: Any constructive criticism to offer?**

Wonderful examples. The translations and observations combine for a delightful read. Good work!

Your study flows very smoothly and is a very interesting read, something hard to achieve for a word study. You use a variety of passages from authors of different time periods and genres and you thoroughly explain the implications of those differences on the translations of cinis. You explore the word's etymology, both its roots and derivatives, which helps the reader understand how the word is used in the Latin. Your analysis of each passage is clear, well thought through, and insightful. Well done! You should make sure to tell your reader that the first passage is from a play. Otherwise it seems choppy and messy. Also, your concluding paragraph is a bit drawn out since it basically repeats the concluding sentences of each of your previous paragraphs. If you can, just sum up your ideas in a few sentences to give the word study a more satisfying finish.

This was a very balanced examination of *cinis*, from the literal to the metaphoric, with an excellent sample of examples from the earliest Latin through the Silver Age. I particularly liked the attention you paid to singulars vs. plurals and how one singular use may be specific to cremations. It's no problem that you were unable to arrive at a conclusive statement on this, as this is the sort of thing that would require a much more extensive study, but having this on the radar is very helpful for translators. Also helpful were the complementary examples from Pliny the Elder and Suetonius, which spell out the distinction between *cinis* and *favilla*. There were some things that could be improved as well, including providing line numbers in all your citations. Likewise, the first Plautus example with the abbreviated characters was somewhat confusing. Best to provide the characters' full names, at least the first time, so that your readers aren't confused about what those stand for. A word like *cinis* is unlikely to have multiple definitions, but you have done well here to pull out many associated meanings.

## Word Study 9

- *Provided good examples: 92*
- *Provided useful and accurate translations w/ citations: 89*
- *Defined the word clearly based on examples: 93*
- *Analysis was helpful: 92*
- *Overall: 89*
- **GRADE: (86%) B**

## Written Critiques:

I REALLY liked the second half of this essay, compared to the first. It took a long while to bridge into the actual meat of the thing, because of the lengthy segment on passerflores (which maybe could've been inside the essay itself but I digress). However, the utilization of passer as a term of endearment was excellent!

Love the introduction but make sure you have a distinct topic sentence. I really liked how extensively you explained the history and background of the word, it really set the reader up to fully understand the extent of your explanations. However, I would say it did take a long time to get to the actual Latin so maybe shortening your background information or summarizing it more would be helpful.

My first impression is that it's pretty lengthy, yet I found the information you put really interesting. You did an amazing job of including the role of sparrows in different cultures. For your citation of the Vulgate, it should be okay to just cite Proverbs 26:2. Amazing work.
Please refrain from rhetorical questions and maintain a scholarly tone. While your introduction might be interesting to someone who is reading purely for entertainment, it is entirely irrelevant and really should be deleted. Also, it appears that you need to review the rules for formatting translations and citations. However, you definitely gave interesting information about the root of the word and its uses.
The information at the beginning of the word study about passeriformes is rather long and it draws attention from what the main point of word study should be, the meaning of the Latin word passer. You only give one example where passer can be used as a term of endearment, and it comes from Plautus, an early Roman writer. Since Plautus is such an early author, I think that it would be good to give examples of this use from later authors as well, if they exist, to show that this use continued over time. I like how you specify that passer refers to a small sparrow-like bird, rather than any kind of bird.
The introduction doesn't provide the reader with much information going into the study — to me it was unclear what the topic of the study was. The topic sentences you provided for later body paragraphs was insightful to some information on Roman culture which was helpful to the reader. Consider including a more descriptive title in the future.
Very informative study. Rhetorical questions and mentioning the paper within the paper are not super professional. Your citations should go after the English.
Very nice overview of all the uses of passer. It was quite interesting the way in which you started. The examples were well chosen and your analysis followed mostly with the passeriformes idea. You need to finish through with the passeriformes train of thought it was like almost completed but not quite.
Your word study is a very interesting read and it flows smoothly. Your explanation of each passage (not only the translation but also the context behind each passage) is very helpful. Be careful to stay on topic. Since this is a word study, it probably would have been more beneficial to supply more example passages of passer than to include such a long introduction. In your fourth paragraph you say, "This is the topic of this paper." Generally, if you write clearly and orderly enough, you will not need to make such a statement.
What distinguishes word studies from other sorts of research papers is that they focus entirely on the word being studied, with peripheral information provided specifically and solely to support an understanding of the word. While the information you provide in the first half of your study is interesting, and in part applicable to contextualizing your word <i>passer</i> , much of it is extraneous to the heart of the word study and even breaches the boundaries of scholarly writing in tone and the fact that the information you are quoting is not cited. It would be best to pare this way down and use just the pertinent pieces for some basic context and support for your examples of the noun being studied. As for the word itself, you have done well finding various examples of <i>passer</i> in use from actual birds to metaphor and endearment. I was particularly interested in Cicero's example of sparrows being used for augury. However, you didn't follow the citation format properly and had translation issues in the Plautus example. Being thorough in the formatting and translation will help keep your study more scholarly and will also give your readers more confidence in your findings.

## Word Study 10

- *Provided good examples: 81*
- *Provided useful and accurate translations w/ citations: 86*
- *Defined the word clearly based on examples: 86*
- *Analysis was helpful: 80*
- *Overall: 78*
- **GRADE: (80%) B-**

### Written Critiques:

Word study is a little too short to be effective. Consider expanding upon your analysis of the word in the context of the passages you provided. Additionally, expand on your conclusion as there is not much analysis present based on the provided passages and translations. The decedents of the word in other languages that you provided are interesting.
Good job explaining the etymology of harena. Also, good job finding different passages for the different translations of harena. You only have three example passages, so it would have been helpful to add more evidence. You also have barely any commentary on each passage, so you leave out some explaining which could be helpful. Your concluding paragraph is very short, which in some ways is helpful, but there is still a lot of room for extra analysis.
I think that your word study would be improved if you had more analysis, since you only give very short analyses at the end of each example. Also, I think more examples would help the reader better understand how the word was used. I like how you give derivatives of harena at the beginning of your word study.
The title being SAND. all caps and with period made me laugh really hard. Unfortunately the length of the essay was less than 4/5ths the minimum requirement, and the citations were lacking in depth and number. The formatting was also completely wrong! It kind of felt like a worse and more depthless version of the first harena essay.
There is not enough meat to this study. You should use more examples preferably one from an earlier author. I too, found the association of arena with sand intriguing.
This felt rushed and not very well thought out. There are little to no topic sentences, not proper indentations, short explanations, non-italicized latin, and a two sentence conclusion. I am not even sure if this meets the word count. For essays in the future, I would recommend fully outlining your essay before you write it, organize your ideas in full, and make sure you have enough examples and evidence to back it up.
This wordy study nicely shows dthe relationship of sand in an arena and sand in its connections to the desert and sea.. It was too short however to have a deep analysis, it also had too few examples.
Wonderful brief summary. Too brief, though; more examples would be welcome. Some formatting issues.
You mention Ukranian and Albanian languages, yet provide no examples. The Latin examples were not italicized, and I didn't really get any of your analyses; they were all one brief sentence with no elaboration. I feel like there are many more interpretations for harena, and this paper only explored that it was a "large concentration of sand."
The title was hilarious and does really sum up what <i>harena</i> is all about, but your study needed to go beyond the basics of sand and places where you get a lot of sand (i.e. arenas, beaches and deserts) for it to be very helpful to the translator. You draw your examples from both poets and prose authors from the Republic through the Silver Age, so that is good. More information about the earliest and latest uses and whether the meaning or usage changes over time would also be welcome. I would also like to know if there are any non-literal uses of <i>harena</i> , apart from the association with locations that you mention here. Sometimes a word can only go so far by its nature, and <i>harena</i> might be one of those words. Still, you haven't taken <i>harena</i> as far as it can go.

### Word Study 11

- *Provided good examples: 87*
- *Provided useful and accurate translations w/ citations: 90*
- *Defined the word clearly based on examples: 90*
- *Analysis was helpful: 92*

- Overall: 86
- **GRADE: (85%) B**

### Written Critiques:

Including a wider variety of authors may be helpful to the reader, currently, it appears you have used Ovid and Cicero. More analysis of the word in the context of the passage is needed. The conclusion is effective — I liked your inclusion of the Proto-Italic root.
For being shorter than the usual, I think the author still put a lot of good information into the study. More context could be provided with some of the translations
Great job finding passages for the different meanings of munus. Your explanation about different kinds of munera was very interesting and insightful. You also included the word's etymology which helps the reader understand the connotations of the Latin word. Your word study is concise and clear. You describe munus being used in the plural, munera. You also say, "munus has been used to mean as a gift with no external pressures." However, you do not provide any passages with either of those uses. It would have been helpful if you supplied a few more passages to explain those other uses of munus.
Introduction is wonderful, as well as your conclusion. This feels rushed and not well thought out. I do not think this meets the word count either. Your explanations were not very helpful and in the second paragraph I do not even think there is a clear explanation of why the word is what it is. Assume the reader knows little to nothing, fully explain it to them, do not leave them guessing and having to fill in gaps in your writing.
Munera being a game is so interesting! I think you did a great job, but I would add more of an intro before diving into all of the authors. Great job!
The conjectures about why some authors use the word to mean solely a gift, while speculative, were interesting and helpful. You need more examples and you should have at least one from prose. Also two small things - Cicero wasn't a poet and "Pyrrhus" means "Pyrrhus" not Pyramus.
The examples were too few, but they were translated by a sure and intelligent hand. Great work. I loved the insight and knowledge packed behind this witty work.
This word study nicely showed the connection of giving out of the generosity of one's heart or out of obligation (an interesting subject). The examples were quite interesting, however it could do with a few more examples to really prove the point. Also the relations to how the romans used munus were nicely studied.
You claim that munera can be used to mean a gladiatorial game, but I suggest that you also give a Latin example of this use for it to be supported. I also suggest that you use a greater variety of authors, since the only authors you give examples from are Catullus and Ovid. I like how you point out that munus has a connotation of obligation to it.
You did a great job showing how munus has a bunch of different meaning---like how it's not just "gift." I liked that you brought in not just poetic examples but historical and societal uses too, like the gladiator games and Roman taxes. It made the whole word feel more alive and complex. One thing you could improve on a little is the transitions between examples---they felt kind of choppy at times. Like, the Ovid examples were strong, but they were placed back to back without much connection or commentary tying them together
You have provided a lot of great information, but you have <b>proven</b> only some of it because you have only provided examples from two authors. Where are examples from Horace and Cicero (also, the latter is not usually considered a poet) to whom you refer in your opening? And do prose authors use <i>munus</i> the same way? Where are the examples and citations of <i>munera</i> as gladiatorial combats and taxes? What about the <i>munus triplex</i> from early Christian Latin? More explanation is needed. What exactly are the "deeper meanings and subtexts" you mention in your last paragraph that distinguish <i>munera</i> in later Latin compared to earlier Latin. All of these are valid and excellent points, but they need to be supported by examples and explanations for them to be considered substantiated.