



## Latin Transition Secundus: Week 2 Reading

Marcus Junius Juvenal, Satira 6.434-56

*Roman satire was written in poetry and Satire 6 is the most famous of Juvenal's satires. While a vicious diatribe against women and the institution of marriage, Satire 6 is still satire and as such full of hyperbole. How much represents Juvenal's true feelings? That remains up to debate.*

Illa tamen gravior, quae cum discumbere coepit  
laudat Vergilium, periturae ignoscit Elissae,  
committit vates et comparat, inde Maronem  
atque alia parte in trutina suspendit Homerum.  
cedunt grammatici, vincuntur rhetores, omnis  
turba tacet, nec causicus nec praeco loquetur,  
altera nec mulier. verborum tanta cadit vis,  
tot pariter pelves ac tintinnabula dicas  
pulsari. iam nemo tubas, nemo aera fatiget:  
una laboranti poterit succurrere Lunae  
inponit finem sapiens et rebus honestis;  
nam quae docta nimis cupit et facunda videri  
crure tenus medio tunicas succingere debet,  
caedere Silvano porcum, quadrante lavari.  
non habeat matrona, tibi quae iuncta recumbit,  
dicendi genus, aut curvum sermone rotato  
torqueat enthymema, nec historias sciat omnes,  
sed quaedam ex libris ex non intellegat. odi  
hanc ego quae repetit volvitque Palaemonis artem  
servata semper lege et ratione loquendi  
ignotosque mihi tenet antiquaria versus  
nec curanda viris. opicae castiget amicae  
verba: soloecismum liceat fecisse marito.

**gravior, ius** (comparative adjective) – Since this is not the beginning of the satire there was segment before in which another type of woman was being criticized by Juvenal. The gravior here is indicating that this next type of woman is even worse than the one he described before.

**coepit, -isse, coeptum** – perfect with a present meaning

**discumbo, discumbere, discubui, discubitus** – recline (at dinner)

**pereo, perire, perii, peritum** – die, perish (periturus, a, um is the future active participle)

**ignosco, ignoscere, ignovi, ignotum** – pardon, make allowances for (+ dat)

*Elissa is another name for Dido the Carthaginian queen in Vergil's Aeneid.*

**committo, -committere, commisi, commissum** – pit against, match

**vates, -is (m)** – poet

**inde** (adv) – then

**Maro,-onis** (m) – *Publius Vergilius Maro* – the Roman author we call Vergil who is best known for his poetry, in particular his epic called *The Aeneid*.

**trutina, -ae** (f) – scale, balance

**Homer, -eris** (m) – Greek author known for his epic poems *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*

**cedo, cedere, cessi, cessum** – give way, yield, cede

**grammaticus, -i** (m) – literature teacher

**rhetor, -oris** (m) – teacher of public speaking, rhetorician

**taceo, tacere, tacui, tacitum** – be silent

**causidicus, -i** (m) – lawyer, advocate, person who pleads a case

**praeco, -onis** (m) – auctioneer

**loquor, loqui, locutus sum** – speak up

**cado, cadere, cecidi, casus** – fall

**tot** (indeclinable adj) – so many

**pariter** (adv) – equally, at the same time as

**pelvis, -is** (f) – shallow bowl, basin, bucket

**tintinnabulum, -i** (n) – bell

**pulso** (1) – bang, beat

**tuba, -ae** (f) – trumpet

**aera** (n. pl. of *aes, aeris*) – cymbals in the plural (In the singular this just means bronze or copper)

**fatigo** (1) – wear down, wear out, tire (*fatiget* is a present subjunctive – jussive here)

**succurro, succurrere, succurri, succursus** – (+ dat) – help

**laboranti Lunae** - this is a reference to lunar eclipses. People would bang pots and make loud noises to scare off the evil spirits that caused the eclipse and to bring the moon back.

**imponit finem sapiens et** – here the *et* is adverbial like an *etiam* rather than a conjunction – translate it as “even” and *imponit* takes the dative.

*sc. esse following cupit with the docta* - *cupit* governs this implied *esse* and the *videri* as well in the relative clause

**facundus, a, um** (adj) – fluent, eloquent

**crus, -cruris** (n) – leg, shin

**tenus** - (prep + adv) – up to, as far as

**succingo, succingere, succinxi, succinctum** – tuck up

**Silvanus, -i** (m) – Farmers made sacrifices to Silvanus, a rustic god, and given the margin notes in some of the manuscripts (*Sylvano mulieres non licet sacrificare*) there is a good likelihood that only men were allowed to make these sacrifices.

**quadrans, -antis** – the smallest Roman coin, worth ¼ of an *as*. This was the cost of the cheapest public baths in Rome. Women were not allowed at these baths and had to pay twice as much for their baths.

*NB: All three activities, wearing a tunic at the knee, sacrificing to Silvan and going to the cheap baths were activities specific to men.*

**non habeat = ne habeat** (Sometimes poet will break the rules of negatives with subjunctives like you see here)

**sermo rotato** – literally “rounded speech” but this is actually a military metaphor for speech brandished like a weapon

**torque, torquere, torsi, tortum** – bend, twist

**enthymema, -atis** (n) – an argument, particularly one based upon deductive reasoning (a Greek word that was adopted into Latin)

**volvo, volvere, volvi, volutum** – literally roll but here it is more metaphoric – reel off, recite

**Palaemo, -onis** (m) – Remmius Palaemon was a Roman grammarian who lived in the late 1<sup>st</sup> c. B.C./early 1<sup>st</sup> c. A.D.

**servata semper lege et ratione** – ablative absolute

**tenet** – *sc. memoria* - “holds in memory” or more idiomatically in English “knows by heart”; (*NB: antiquaria* is the subject of *tenet* – it’s in apposition to the unwritten “she” who is the antecedent of *quae repetit*)

**opicus, a, um** (adj) – stupid, not-learned, uncultured

**castigo** (1) – find fault in, castigate, correct

**soloecismus, -i** (m) – solecism, misuse of language

**maritus, -i** (m) - husband