LATIN TO ENGLISH

Latin vocabulary is very much in use in every day conversations, usages and sciences. Though Latin is not the direct ancestor of English, it has nevertheless given us an enormous number of words. This chapter acquaints the students with a few Latin abbreviations, terms and words that are commonly used.

A. Latin Abbreviations

a.m.	ante meridiem (before midday)
p.m.	post meridiem (after midday)
A.D.	Anno Domini (in the year of the Lord)
etc.	et cetera (and the others)
e.g.	exempli gratia (for example)
i.e.	id est (that is)
N.B.	Nota Bene (note well)

B. Latin Terms

Amicus curiae	Friend of the court
Bona fide	In good faith
Imprimatur	Let it be printed
Corpus delicti	Body of the offence
Habeas corpus	May you have the body
Alma mater	Nourishing mother

C. Some Latin words alike in English

agenda	alumni	appendix	consensus	crisis
dictum	dilemma	ego	formula	index
plus	medium	momentum	propaganda	ratio
curriculum	data	exit	minus	album

D. Latin words with their meanings

poeta	-	poet	schola	-	school
angelus	-	angel	servus	-	slave
exemplum	-	example	signum	-	sign

amare	-	to love	monere	-	to advise
regere	-	to rule	audire	-	to hear

doctus,a,um	-	learned	beatus,a,um	-	happy
magnus,a,um	-	great	pulcher,chra,chrum	-	beautiful
stultus,a,um	-	stupid	noster,tra,trum	-	our

E. Latin words with English derivatives

Latin words	Derivatives
aqua (water)	aquarium, aquatic, aqueduct, aqueous
luna (moon)	interlunar, lunacy, lunar, lunatic
nauta (sailor)	nautical, nautilus
herba (grass)	herb, herbivorous, herbage
porta (gate)	port, portal, porthole, porch, portcullis, portico, portiere
amare (to love)	amateur, amatory, amiable, amiably, amicable, amity, amorous, amour
filius (son)	affiliate, affiliation, affiliative, filial
annus (year)	annals, annalist, anniversary, annual, annually, annuity
audire (to hear)	audible, audibly, audience, audit, auditory

POINTS TO REMEMBER

♦ Some Latin words are used as such in English without any change.
  e.g. formula, forum

♦ There are three genders in Latin. They are masculine, feminine and neuter.
  Generally each gender can be identified by its Nominative ending.

    Masculine noun generally ends in *'us'*

    Feminine noun generally ends in *'a'*

    Neuter noun generally ends in *'um'*

♦ Latin verbs are usually identified by its infinitive ending *- are, - ēre, - ĕre, - ire.*

♦ Adjectives in Latin have three genders. (masculine, feminine and neuter)

 ACTIVITIES

I.   Choose the right answer

1.   What is the meaning of the most commonly used abbreviation "e.g." (exempli gratia) in English?
     a) examples please   b) as follows   c) that is   d) for the sake of example

2.   Which commonly used Latin abbreviation is translated into English as "that is"?
     a) i.e.   b) vs.   c) etc.   d) id.

3.   Spell out the full form of "vs.", as in "Liverpool vs. Chelsea".
     a) virses   b) verses   c) versus   d) virsus

4.   What Latin phrase will be used to indicate the term "for a year"?
     a) per annum   b) per diem   c) per functory   d) per cent

5.   We know that "p.m." refers to the afternoon and evening. What does it stand for?
     a) post meridiem   b) ante meridiem   c) post morning   d) plus more

II. Choose the right answer

1. Which phrase would you use to describe "Friend of the Court"?

   a) Actus Reus   b) Anno Domini

   c) Ad Hoc   d) Amicus Curiae

2. Which of the following phrases shows that a person acted "In Good Faith"?

   a) Bona Fide   b) Nota Bene

   c) De Bonis non Administratis   d) Pro Bono

3. What Latin legal phrase means "The Body of the Offence"?

   a) Habeas Corpus   b) Ceteris Peribus

   c) Corpus Delicti   d) Compos Mentis

4. Which phrase would you use to ask the judge to "Produce the Body" of the Defendant?

   a) Pro Hac Vice   b) Hodie Mihi

   c) Habeas Corpus   d) Post Hoc

5. What legal phrase means "Word for Word" exactly?

   a) Vade Mecum   b) Verbatim

   c) Valete   d) Veritas

III. Each word below is spelt in two ways but only one is correct. Put a tick (√) against the correctly spelt word.

1.	nota bene	☐	nota benae	☐
2.	imprimatur	☐	imprimetur	☐
3.	consensus	☐	consenses	☐
4.	exemplum	☐	excemptum	☐
5.	pulcer	☐	pulcher	☐

IV   **Draw arrows from the words given in group A to match those given in group B.**

	A	B
1.	N.B.	Before midday
2.	e.g.	In the year of the Lord
3.	A.D.	That is
4.	a.m.	Note well
5.	i.e.	For the sake of example
6.	etc.	And others and so forth

V   **Match each of the Latin words on the left with the appropriate words from the list on the right, which gives the meanings of the original Latin words.**

	Latin	English
1	agenda	more
2	major	race course
3	curriculum	greater
4	data	things to be discussed
5	exit	less
6	inferior	he / she goes out
7	index	things given
8	media	sign / title
9	minus	things in middle
10	plus	lower

VI   Find out the derivatives of the following words with the help of the dictionary.

No	Words	Derivatives
1	corpus	
2	mater	
3	schola	
4	amare	
5	regere	
6	doctus	
7	beatus	

QUOTES

"Errare humanum est."

(To err is human.)

- Seneca -

"Mens sana in corpore sano."

(A sound mind in a sound body.)

- Juvenal -

INFLECTION AND CASES

Poeta filiam amat. **Poetae** lunam monstrant. **Poeta**, reginam laudas. **Poetae**, mensas ornatis. Filiam **poetae** amo. Mensas **poetarum** rosis ornamus. Nauta aquam **poetae** dat. Filiae stellas poetis monstrant. Regina **poetam** vocat. Spinae **poetas** vulnerant. Agricola cum **poeta** laborat. Reginae cantant cum **poetis**.

Poeta filiam **amabat**. Poetae lunam **monstrabant**. Poeta, reginam **laudabas**. Poetae, mensas **ornabatis**. Filiam poetae **amabam**. Mensas poetarum rosis **ornabamus**. Nauta aquam poetae **dabit**. Filiae stellas poetis **monstrabunt**. Regina poetam **vocabit**. Spinae poetas **vulnerabunt**. Agricola cum poeta **laborabit**. Reginae **cantabunt** cum poetis.

A. Inflection

In each of these sentences, the word poet is used in different forms. It changes its form in each sentence to indicate different meanings and uses. This change in the form of a word, in order to change its meaning and uses, is called Inflection.

e.g.   is, am, are, were, etc. are the forms of 'to be.' (a verb)

The inflection of a noun, adjective and pronoun is called Declension. There are five declensions of noun in Latin. The inflection of a verb is called Conjugation.There are four conjugations in Latin.

B. Declension

To decline a word means, to give in order all its different forms.

Each of the form is called a Case.

In Latin there are six cases. They are:

1.   **Nominative** case is used for the **subject**.

e.g.   *The farmer* praises the queen.

Agricola reginam laudat.

2.   **Vocative** case is used for **addressing.**

e.g.   *Oh, farmer*, praise the queen.

Agricola, reginam lauda.

3. **Genitive** case is used for **possession.**
   e.g. The daughter *of the farmer* praises the queen.
   Filia *agricolae* reginam laudat.
4. **Dative** case is used for **indirect object.**
   e.g. The daughter gives water *to the farmer*.
   Filia aquam *agricolae* dat.
5. **Accusative** case is used for **direct object.**
   e.g. The daughter praises *the farmer*.
   Filia *agricolam* laudat.
6. **Ablative** case is used for expressing manner, time, place, agent, etc. **after some prepositions.**
   e.g. The sailor works *with the farmer.*
   Nauta laborat *cum agricola*.

C. Case, Number & Gender

There are six cases in Latin. They are given above.

There are two numbers in Latin.

a) **Singular** and b) **Plural.**

There are three genders in Latin.

a) **Masculine**, b) **Feminine** and c) **Neuter**

	First Declension			

Regina, ae (f) - Queen

Case	Singular		Plural	
Nominative	Regin-**a**	a queen	Regin-**ae**	queens
Vocative	Regin-**a**	o queen	Regin-**ae**	o queens
Genitive	Regin-**ae**	of a queen	Regin-**arum**	of queens
Dative	Regin-**ae**	to a queen	Regin-**is**	to queens
Accusative	Regin-**am**	a queen	Regin-**as**	queens
Ablative	Regin-**a**	by/from a queen	Regin-**is**	by/from queens

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- ◆ Most of the nouns of the first declension are **Feminine**. A few of them are **Masculine**. e.g. *agricola, poeta, nauta,* etc.

- ◆ The declension is identified by the **Singular Nominative** ending and **Singular Genitive** ending. e.g. *nauta, nautae*

- ◆ There is **no article** in Latin. *Regina* means **queen** or **a queen** or **the queen**. When translating from Latin into English the right article must be inserted or omitted by the student in accordance with correct English usage.

D. Conjugation

The **tense** of a verb refers to the *'time'*. In Latin there are s**ix** tenses. They are *present, imperfect, future, perfect, pluperfect and future perfect*. The first of these is **present** which tells us '*what is happening now'*.

Inflection of a **verb** is called conjugation. There are **four** conjugations in Latin. Here the first one is conjugated in the present, imperfect and future tenses as follows.

First Conjugation		
Amare - to love		
Present Indicative (Simple Present & Present Continuous)	Am-**o**	I love/I am loving
	Am-**as**	You love/You are loving
	Am-**at**	He/She/It loves/is loving
	Am-**amus**	We love/We are loving
	Am-**atis**	You love/You are loving
	Am-**ant**	They love/They are loving

Imperfect (Past Continuous)	Am-**abam**	I was loving
	Am-**abas**	You were loving
	Am-**abat**	He/She/It was loving
	Am-**abamus**	We were loving
	Am-**abatis**	You were loving
	Am-**abant**	They were loving
Future (Simple Future & Future Continuous)	Am-**abo**	I shall love
	Am-**abis**	You will love
	Am-**abit**	He/She/It will love
	Am-**abimus**	We shall love
	Am-**abitis**	You will love
	Am-**abunt**	They will love

Present Imperative	
Second Person Singular	Am**a**
Second Person Plural	Am**ate**

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- ◆ A verb in a sentence expresses 'an action / a state or a time'.
- ◆ A Latin verb has two parts.

   They are: i) a stem and ii) an ending. (e.g. **am** - **at**)

- ◆ A verb has three persons: First Person, Second Person and Third Person.
- ◆ A verb has two numbers: Singular and Plural.
- ◆ The ending of a verb alters depending on the person and number of the verb.
- ◆ All the infinitive forms of the verbs ending in "-**are**" belong to the 1st conjugation.

VOCABULARY

Nouns

agricol**a, ae** (m)	-	farmer
fili**a, ae** (f)	-	daughter
ros**a, ae** (f)	-	rose
regin**a, ae** (f)	-	queen
stell**a, ae** (f)	-	star
lun**a, ae** (f)	-	moon
aqu**a, ae** (f)	-	water
mens**a, ae** (f)	-	table
poet**a, ae** (m)	-	poet
naut**a, ae** (m)	-	sailor
schol**a, ae** (f)	-	school
spin**a, ae** (f)	-	thorn

Verbs

am**are**	-	to love (amo, amas, amavi, amatum)
laud**are**	-	to praise (laudo, laudas, laudavi, laudatum)
labor**are**	-	to work (laboro, laboras, laboravi, laboratum)
monstr**are**	-	to show (monstro, monstras, monstravi, monstratum)
vulner**are**	-	to wound (vulnero, vulneras, vulneravi, vulneratum)
orn**are**	-	to decorate (orno, ornas, ornavi, ornatum)
voc**are**	-	to call (voco, vocas, vocavi, vocatum)
cant**are**	-	to sing (canto, cantas, cantavi, cantatum)
navig**are**	-	to sail (navigo, navigas, navigavi, navigatum)
d**are**	-	to give (do, das, dedi, datum)

ACTIVITIES

I.   Decline the following words in singular and plural.

   1.   stella, ae
   2.   aqua, ae
   3.   luna, ae
   4.   poeta, ae
   5.   regina, ae

II.   Decline the following words in singular and plural with meaning.

   1.   mensa, ae
   2.   rosa, ae
   3.   agricola, ae
   4.   schola, ae
   5.   nauta, ae

III   Translate the following English words into Latin.

   1.   of the poet
   2.   to the queen
   3.   stars (subject)
   4.   to the farmers
   5.   queen (subject)
   6.   sailors (object)
   7.   moon (subject)
   8.   by roses
   9.   of the sailors
   10.   of the school

IV.   Identify the case, number and gender of the following.

   1.   rosam
   2.   stellae
   3.   nautis
   4.   poetarum
   5.   reginas
   6.   schola

7. agricolam

8. lunas

9. mensarum

10. aquae

V. **Conjugate the following verbs in prsent, imperfect and future tenses.**

1. ornare

2. laborare

3. cantare

4. navigare

5. vocare

VI. **Translate the following.**

1. We are working.

2. They will sing.

3. She was praising.

4. I sing.

5. You were singing. (singular)

6. I was calling.

7. You decorate. (plural)

8. He was loving.

9. They will demonstrate.

10. She works.

VII. **Match the following.**

1	present	six
2	conjugation	noun
3	genitive	laudabat
4	future	monstrat
5	cases	of the farmer
6	dative	verb
7	declension	to a poet
8	imperfect	amabit

VIII. In the following sentences add the proper Latin endings.

1. The poet loves the farmer.   (Poet--- amat agricol---.)
2. The farmer's daughter calls the queen.   (Agricol--- fili--- vocat regin---.)
3. The poet of the queen praises the stars. (Poet--- regin--- laudat stell---.)
4. The daughter decorates the table.   (Fili--- ornat mens---.)
5. The sailor gives water to the farmer.   (Naut--- dat aqua--- agricol---.)

IX. Translate the following sentences into English.

1. Regina puellam amat.
2. Puella reginam amat.
3. Puella filiam agricolae vocat.
4. Filia agricolae puellam amat.
5. Filia agricolae vocat.

X. Translate the following sentences into Latin.

1. The queen is farmer's daughter.
2. The poet is sailor's uncle.
3. The girls give the farmer's table to the queen.
4. The girl loves the queen's daughter.
5. The girls are daughters of the farmers.

QUOTES

"Omne initium est difficile."

(Every beginning is hard.)

"Festina lente."

(Make haste slowly.)