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Year 7

# Department of Latin (Classics)

# OVERVIEW

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Study of the Latin language is compulsory in the first year of Nonsuch, Year 7.

This is for two reasons:

- First, Latin was the shared language of government, scholarship and religion across Western Europe from the 1<sup>st</sup> century BCE until the 17<sup>th</sup> century CE. Latin
  - is the source of more than half of the words in **English vocabulary**
  - is the basis for most **technical and advanced English** terms.
  - shapes our description and understanding of **English grammar**.
  - improves students' skills in grasping **complex language**, when studying
    - Humanities such as **English and History**, as well as in **Ancient and Modern Languages**;
    - in **Science, Technology and Maths** where technical terminology is most often Latin-based.
- Secondly, the Roman Empire made Greek and Roman culture common across much of Europe. Your child will discover the Greek and Roman basis of:
  - European approaches to **Politics and Law** as well as **Empire**.
  - a wide range of **Beliefs and Philosophies** as well as well-known **Myths**
  - many genres of **Literature** including **Love Poetry, Drama and Epic**

## Skills Developed

- Learning and understanding Latin Vocabulary and Sentence Formation
- Reading Latin stories and performing scripts
- Following short original Latin verse and prose excerpts with commentaries / translations.
- Recalling and discussing life in the Roman Empire – especially Pompeii.

More Widely:

- Using more sophisticated English vocabulary - with excellent spelling!
- Expressing ideas in English with grammatical precision.
- Accessing foreign modern languages with greater ease.
- Understanding of the basis of European history and culture.

## Topics covered

In Year 7, Nonsuch follows the *Cambridge Latin Course*, Book 1, which contains the following Stages (chapters):

### 1) Caecilius

- a) Grammar: family/household vocabulary; the verb 'is' – subject and complement (nominative singular)
- b) History: the Roman family and home (design)

### 2) in villa

- a) Grammar: daily vocabulary; active verbs – subject and object (accusative singular)

b) History: daily life, social relations, food/meals

**3) negotium**

a) Grammar: language of trade/professions: noun declensions: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>

b) History: layout and functioning of the town of Pompeii

**4) in foro**

a) Grammar: verbal conjugations, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> – Verbal Persons: 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> person singular

b) History: The forum – centre of civic, religious and economic life

**5) in theatro**

a) Grammar: language of entertainment; verbs in 3<sup>rd</sup> person plural and nouns in nominative plural.

b) History: Roman theatre (and Greek origins)

**6) Felix**

a) Grammar: Perfect and Imperfect tenses (3<sup>rd</sup> person singular/plural only)

b) History: Slavery, Freed status

**7) cena**

a) Grammar: Absence of expressed subject (grammatical subject within verb ending)

b) History: Roman beliefs about the dead / after-life.

**8) gladiatores**

a) Grammar: Accusative plurals (plural object); superlative adjectives.

b) History: Gladiator shows and the use of the amphitheatre.

**9) thermae**

a) Grammar: Indirect object – Dative case; personal pronouns, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> person singular.

b) History: Construction, usage and social role of public baths.

**10) rhetor**

a) Grammar: 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> person plural verbs; 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> person plural pronouns.

b) History: Education – stages, subjects, materials.

**11) candidati**

a) Grammar: Particular verbs which required the dative in Latin; forming questions.

b) History: Local politics and graffiti/election notices.

**12) Vesuvius**

a) Grammar: 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> person plural verbs in imperfect and perfect tenses (full paradigms)

b) History: Vesuvian eruption, destruction of Pompeii, excavation.

**Enrichment in addition to the above:**

- Roman World 'News' and Historic primary sources
- Pompeian Artefacts and Culture
- Topical Latin Wordsearches and Crosswords (for Vocab Building)
- Pompeian Graffiti and Roman Life Quizzes
- Samples of original Latin poetry
- Opportunities for external Latin Reading Competitions

### **How we assess your daughter's progress**

1. Regular and incremental vocabulary tests.
2. Grammar exercises.
3. Key Assessments towards the end of each term.
4. Homework will be given every week (20-30 minutes) and may be learning for a vocabulary test or revising for a short grammar test.
5. Milestone written assessments will be marked and graded, and your daughter will be given clear guidance on what she has done well and what she needs to do in order to improve.
6. There will be a revision lessons before the end-of-year exam.
7. Progress of the class will also be assessed during lessons (by written work, mini-whiteboard work, student responses, etc.) and your daughter's teacher will adapt the lesson according to the needs of the class.

### **How we support and develop your daughter**

#### **Every pupil will be issued with**

- the textbook Cambridge Latin Course, Book 1
- a bookmark summarising the core grammar to be learnt
- an exercise book, especially for grammar work
- a workbook for each Stage (chapter) for language practice and enrichment
- a tracking sheet to monitor student's progress
- links to online vocabulary and grammar learning applications for revision

### **How you can help your daughter**

- Assist with learning new vocabulary. Everyone has different methods to learn vocabulary so help your daughter to discover which is the best one for her. Some use flashcards, some rewrite the words several times, some use the "learn, cover and write technique". Vocab lists will also be available on Quizlet.
- Review the feedback with your daughter following class tests, focusing on areas to improve
- Review your daughter's homework book, ensuring that she has completed corrections or has caught up with missing work.