



FOREWORD


The *aurea mediocritās* of Latin textbooks has arrived! Not a grammar-translation nor a reading approach book, *Latin for the New Millennium* is a blend of the best elements of both.

The key to *Latin for the New Millennium*, Level 1, is the emphasis on reading Latin at the beginning of each chapter and using conversational Latin at the end of each chapter, or, as the authors indicate in the Preface, ‘it (Latin) offers you the linguistic key to the minds that shaped European (and therefore American) culture from the time of the Romans to the modern scientific revolution . . . In this book you will learn about the language, step by step by using it.’

The reading passages at the opening of each chapter are based on Latin literature and proceed in chronological order from Plautus to Boethius. Each reading is supported by pre-reading and facing page vocabulary. Grammar is introduced using sentences already seen in the reading passage and, *mīrābile dictū*, there are plenty of exercises. The Vocabulary to Learn, chosen from the adapted reading passage, thus contains some Advanced Placement literature-based words and is reiterated consistently in the exercises and other short reading passages.

Something not seen in most Latin textbooks is the conversational dialogue at the end of each chapter. This will pique the student’s interest in the Latin version of modern-day activities and meet certain classical language standards directly. The authors, Milena Minkova and Terence Tunberg, professors at the University of Kentucky at Lexington, are the directors of the hugely popular *Conventiculum Lexintoniense*, the annual summer program that has been running for more than ten years. They are also on the faculty of the *Conventiculum Bostoniense*, a similar program that draws participants to experience conversational Latin in different geographical settings. At the 2007 American Classical League Institute at Vanderbilt University, I participated in a conversational Latin workshop presented by Minkova and Tunberg. Though the participants were seasoned Latin teachers, most were experiencing for the first time the tried and true methods these two experts were using to inspire us to speak Latin. By the end of the workshop, we could converse in familiar Latin phrases and saw how useful this could be for our own students. Tunberg’s and Minkova’s leadership in these summer programs made them uniquely well suited to design the conversational dialogues in *Latin for the New Millennium* and the copious oral exercises that are contained only in the teacher manual, thus allowing teachers to pick and choose which exercises best meet the needs of their own students.

This book with its range of offerings will appeal to all types of language students and will allow teachers to bring the many facets of the Roman and post-Roman world into the classroom. How wonderful it is to see a passage of adapted Plautus in Chapter 2, a prose adaptation of Catullus’ *passer* poem in Chapter 7, of Horace’s satire on the boor in Chapter 13, and even of Tacitus’ description of the great fire in Rome in Chapter 17. Roman culture is embodied in each of these passages, thus meeting another classical language standard. Accompanying each passage is a quotation or motto, connected to the passage or chapter.



All of this said, *Latin for the New Millennium* is student friendly. Study tips, rhymes, and mnemonics abound in each chapter and little sections called “By the Way” offer additional information for those who always want to know more.

The unit review sections are truly gems! After three chapters, a Latin review chapter provides not just the complete list of Vocabulary to Learn and plentiful exercises but often another piece of adapted literature to read—snippets of Martial or Petronius and more.

But this is not all. A section called “Considering the Classical Gods” offers high-interest readings in both English and Latin on the pantheon of classical gods. Another section, entitled “Connecting with the Ancient World,” provides in English additional information on a particular aspect of Roman life contained within the unit.

Capping each review unit is a distinctive essay that explores Roman and modern topics, each written by a university scholar. From the University of Massachusetts to Stanford University, and many places in between, these professors have contributed their special expertise on subject matter related to the chapters. I know of no other book that does this!

There are many useful photographs and maps appropriately placed throughout. The reproductions of fine art and photographs of archaeological sites provide a visual learning experience as well. Needless to say, there are appendices on grammar and syntax and English to Latin and Latin to English glossaries with an added section on various mottoes.

The authors, editors, consultants, and pilot teachers have done a superior job of organizing this book for maximum usefulness and effectiveness. This unique series will include the following: Level 1 Student Text, Level 1 Student Workbook, Level 1 Teacher’s Manual, and Level 1 Workbook Teacher’s Manual; Level 2 Student Text, Level 2 Student Workbook, Level 2 Teacher’s Manual, and Level 2 Workbook Teacher’s Manual. Many online and electronic resources will also accompany this series.

Latin for the New Millennium has been thoughtfully designed for and with the twenty-first century student in mind. Please join me in heralding the appearance of this unique new series that will improve and enhance the study of Latin for the twenty-first century.

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PREFACE

Learning Latin helps you learn English and other languages better, and, perhaps even more importantly, it offers you the linguistic key to the minds that shaped European (and therefore American) culture from the time of the Romans to the modern scientific revolution. Latin was the language these people used to express themselves and to record their ideas in permanent form across so many centuries. In this book you will learn about the language by using it, step by step.

CHAPTER COMPONENTS

READING PASSAGES


Each chapter begins with a Reading Passage and notes on the facing page that will help you understand any linguistic elements you have not previously seen. These notes feature vocabulary words in an easy to follow alphabetical listing, providing you the exact meaning needed to understand the reading passage but not the full lexical entries at this point. By reading and seeing these new elements in their natural context, often you will need no explanation to understand how they function, because they appear with words you already know. The Reading Passages are adapted from authentic works of Latin literature, and they are presented in chronological order. As you complete each chapter, you will be tracing the story of Latin as a literary language and the stories of the authors who used it. In addition, you will learn about Roman culture over the periods of time in which the featured reading of each chapter was produced.

VOCABULARY TO LEARN

The Vocabulary to Learn repeats some words encountered in the Reading Passage for each chapter, but in this section the words are listed by parts of speech instead of alphabetically and here the full lexical entry is given. These are words you will need to memorize in order to recognize and use them throughout the remainder of the book. In order to aid you in recognizing connections between Latin words and the English words derived from or related to them, a derivative exercise follows each Vocabulary to Learn.

LANGUAGE FACTS AND EXERCISES

In the body of each chapter you will find simple explanations of the Language Facts featured in the chapter reading passage, along with many different exercises that allow you to *use* all the information you are learning. By doing the exercises in each chapter and in the student workbook, you will not only be reading and writing Latin, you'll be speaking it! Some exercises involve oral exchanges with the teacher and with other students. Because Latin communicates thought, it is a living thing. Therefore, a person who gains an active working knowledge in the language, along



with a reading ability, is more likely to progress quickly to a deeper understanding of the language and the enjoyment of its literature. If you have an oral facility and can write in a language, you will not need to be reminded about forms and grammatical rules so often. In this book you will acquire that active facility as a basic part of learning the language.

CONVERSATIONAL LATIN

Toward the end of each chapter there is a Latin dialogue in which a group of modern students are the participants. They discuss, in Latin, situations often encountered in our daily lives. In these dialogues, you will find a bridge between our lives and the thoughts of the ancient, medieval, or renaissance authors who wrote in Latin—a bridge constructed of the same basic language, Latin.

OTHER FEATURES

In each chapter you will find other interesting matter that will help you learn and enjoy Latin.

- **Memorabile Dictū** The first page of each chapter features a famous saying labeled *Memorabile Dictū* (A Memorable Thing to Say), a Latin phrase so well known that it has become an often repeated proverb or quotation. Learning each famous saying will increase your understanding not just of Latin, but of the thoughts and ideas that were important to Romans and have continued to be an integral part of modern life.
- **Study Tips** Each chapter contains sayings, rhymes, mnemonic devices, verses, or other information that will help you remember the various things you are learning.
- **By the Way** You will see this phrase repeated throughout every chapter. When you see this label, you will know that additional information is being presented.

REVIEW COMPONENTS

At the conclusion of every set of three chapters, there is a review containing various components:

VOCABULARY TO KNOW

This is a complete list of all the Vocabulary to Learn words presented in the three chapters, arranged by parts of speech.

EXERCISES

Here you will see many new exercises that will help you review and reinforce the material in the three preceding chapters. In the review exercise section there is often an additional reading passage to help you understand more about Latin literature and its heritage today.

CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY

This section, entitled *Considering the Classical Gods*, includes passages on mythology, one in English and one in Latin, which tell some of the principal stories about the Greek and Roman gods. These stories reflect many of the main themes seen in literature and art from classical to modern times.



ASPECTS OF ROMAN LIFE

Next you will find a reading in English on an important aspect of Roman daily life. This section, entitled *Connecting with the Ancient World*, will present additional information on a topic encountered in the previous chapters.

EXPLORING ROMAN AND MODERN LIFE

Following the section on daily life, there will be a short essay in English that compares and contrasts some aspect of Roman and American life and illustrates a way in which Latin is a part of our life today. Each of these essays has been written by a university scholar with special expertise in this field of study.

MĪRĀBILE AUDĪTŪ

Each review chapter concludes with a list of Latin quotations, mottoes, phrases, or abbreviations used in English. These sayings relate to one of the unit topics.

The Latin language and Roman culture have not only inspired writers throughout the ages and influenced modern life but have also left their presence in art and archaeology. In this volume, reproductions of paintings, drawings, sculpture, mosaics, frescoes, and other artifacts from antiquity through the present abound with depictions of and references to the stories and lives of the Romans. Likewise, views of archaeological sites remind us of what Rome and its area of influence was like in ancient times. The illustrations throughout the text support the written word in visual form, thus offering you a vivid recollection of the chapter content.

Each author of this book has written different sections of the textbook but both authors have benefited, throughout the composition of the textbook, from continuous mutual advice and support.

M.M. and T.T.
2008

Visit www.lnm.bolchazy.com to see the electronic resources that accompany *Latin for the New Millennium*.