

LATIN PRIMER 1

STUDENT EDITION

LATIN PRIMER SERIES

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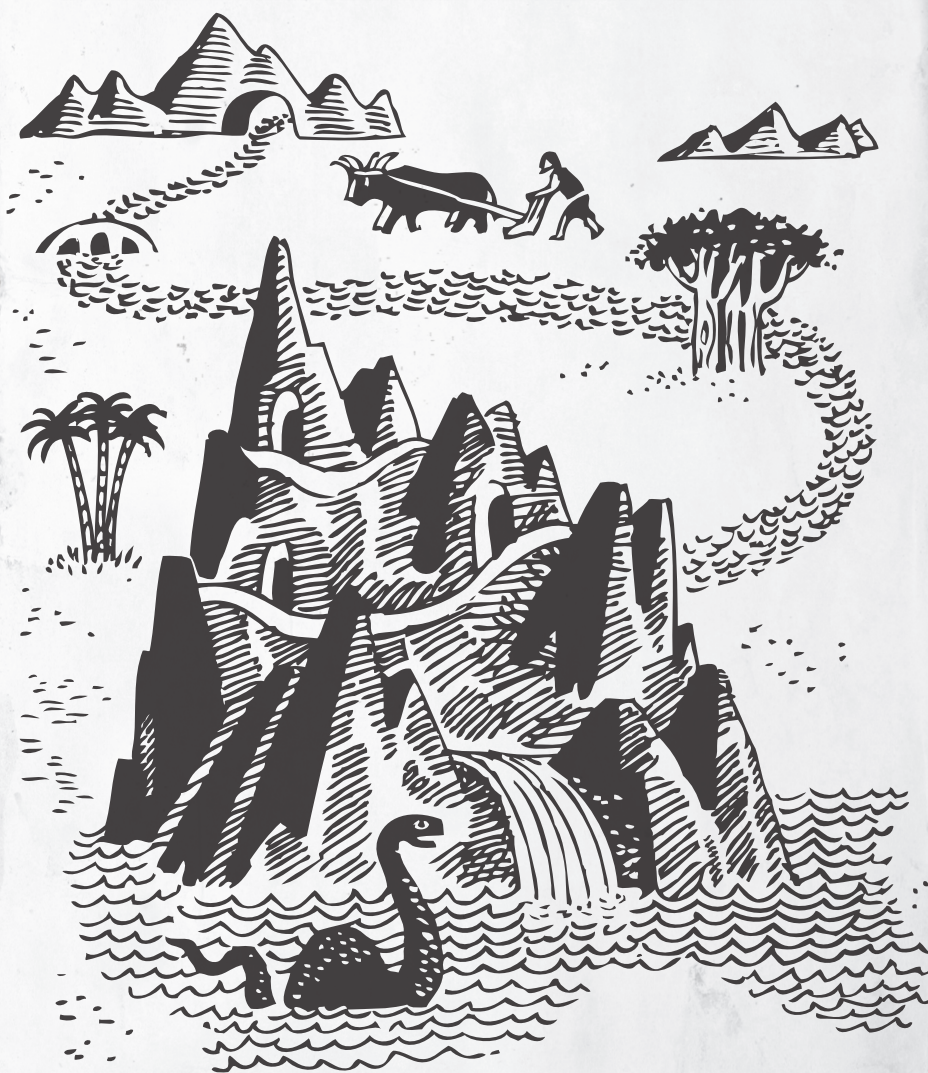
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BOOK 1

Latin PRIMER



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INTRODUCTION

You are about to begin learning a language that most children your age do not learn. It is usually surprising to people when they hear that third-graders are learning Latin. Like most of the people you know, I didn't learn Latin in third grade. I began studying it after I had graduated from college and was teaching school.

Let me tell you a little about what you can expect. One of the first things you will learn is a little saying that begins *amō, amās, amat*. When I was just beginning to teach Latin and told my grandmother what I was doing, she said "Oh—*amō, amās, amat*." She had learned that when she was about fifteen, and this was almost eighty years later and she still remembered it! You will learn a lot of little sayings like that and if you learn them well they will help you greatly as you learn Latin. Maybe you'll be able to tell them to your grandchildren!

One thing that may seem funny is that nobody grows up speaking Latin any more and there is no country in the world where the people speak Latin. If you want to hear English being spoken, you can go to the United States or England; if you want to hear Spanish being spoken, you can go to Spain or Mexico; if you want to hear French you can go to France. But there isn't a country like that for Latin. The people that spoke Latin were the Romans, and the Roman Empire has been gone for a long time. You might wonder why you are learning Latin if that is so. There are a lot of reasons. I will tell you just a few.

I think that all of you have used these words: *animal, library, elevator, commercial*, and *scribble*. Your parents may have used these words: *constellation, coronation*, and *impecunious*. All those words and many, many more come from Latin words. In fact, over half of the words in English come from Latin. So, while you are learning Latin, you will also be learning English. Once you have studied Latin for a while, you will probably be better at learning and remembering hard English words like *impecunious* and *constellation* and *coronation*.

Someday you might want to learn Spanish or French or Italian. That will probably be easy for you because those languages are what became of Latin in different places after the Roman Empire fell apart. Sometimes I call those languages "New Latin" because that's what they are, in a way.

Let me give you another reason. I think Latin will make you smarter! I had gone to school for many years when I began learning Latin, and I had never had to learn as carefully for a school subject. That is one of the reasons I wish that I had learned Latin at your age. I might have become smarter much faster!

Here is one last reason. You might find that Latin is fun. As you learn, it will take some hard work and you will enjoy it in different ways as you get better and better. But I like Latin, and I hope you will, too!

Valete,
Martha Wilson

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Vowels:

Vowels in Latin have only two pronunciations, long and short. When speaking, long vowels are held twice as long as short vowels. Long vowels are marked with a “macron” or line over the vowel (e.g., ā). Vowels without a macron are short vowels.

When spelling a word, including the macron is important in order to determine the meaning of the word. (e.g., *liber* is a noun meaning *book*, and *liber* is an adjective meaning *free*.)

Long Vowels:

ā	like <i>a</i> in <i>father</i> : frāter, suprā
ē	like <i>e</i> in <i>obey</i> : trēs, rēgīna
ī	like <i>i</i> in <i>machine</i> : mīles, vīta
ō	like <i>o</i> in <i>holy</i> : sōl, glōria
ū	like <i>oo</i> in <i>rude</i> : flūmen, lūdus

Short Vowels:

a	like <i>a</i> in <i>idea</i> : canis, mare
e	like <i>e</i> in <i>bet</i> : et, terra
i	like <i>i</i> in <i>this</i> : hic, silva
o	like <i>o</i> in <i>domain</i> : bonus, nomen
u	like <i>u</i> in <i>put</i> : sum, sub

Diphthongs:

A combination of two vowel sounds collapsed together into one syllable is a diphthong:

ae	like <i>ai</i> in <i>aisle</i>	caelum, saepe
au	like <i>ou</i> in <i>house</i>	laudo, nauta
ei	like <i>ei</i> in <i>reign</i>	deinde
eu	like <i>eew</i> in <i>eulogy</i>	Deus
oe	like <i>oi</i> in <i>oil</i>	moenia, poena
ui	like <i>ew</i> in <i>chewy</i>	huius, hui

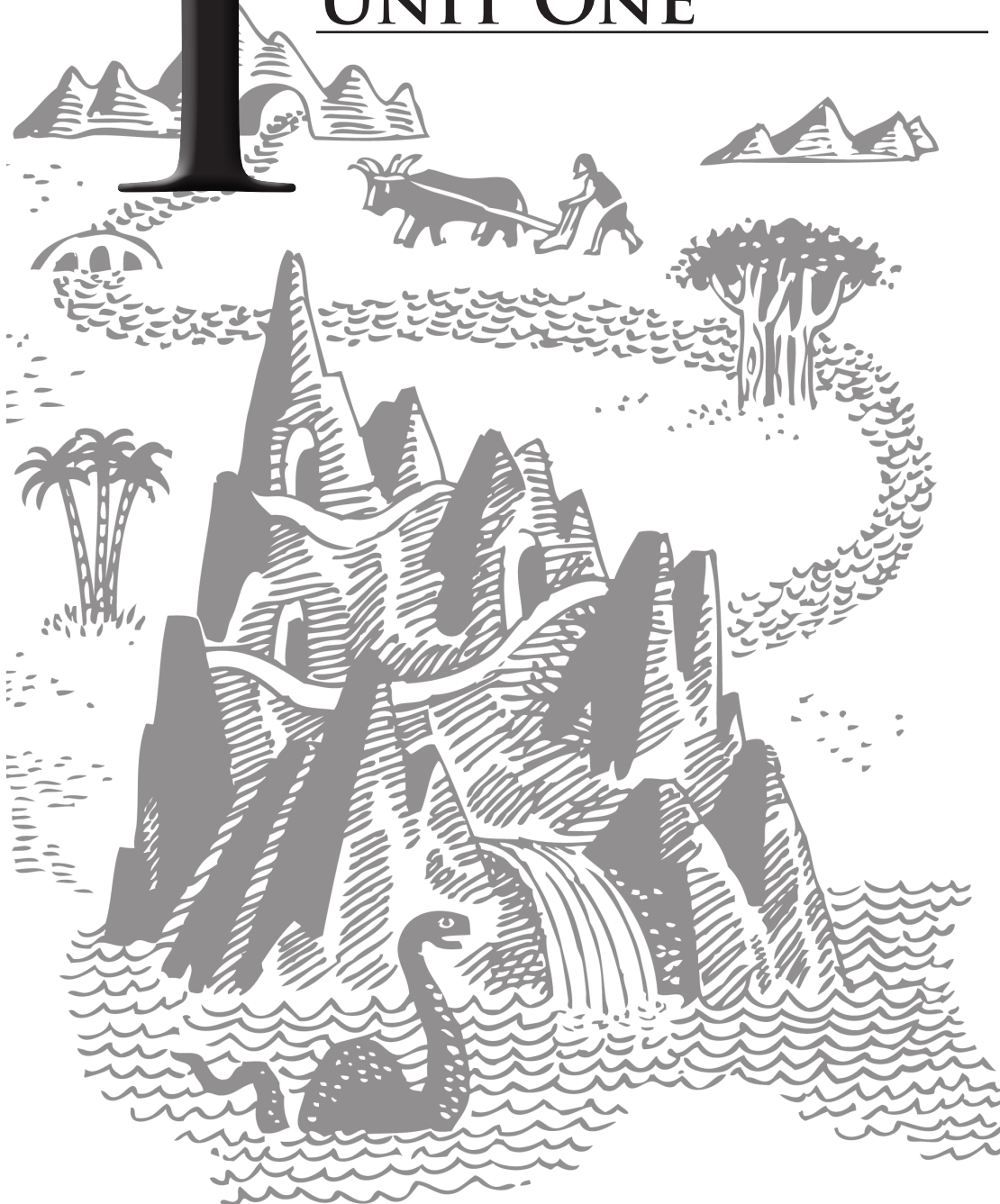
Consonants:

Latin consonants are pronounced with the same sounds with the following exceptions:

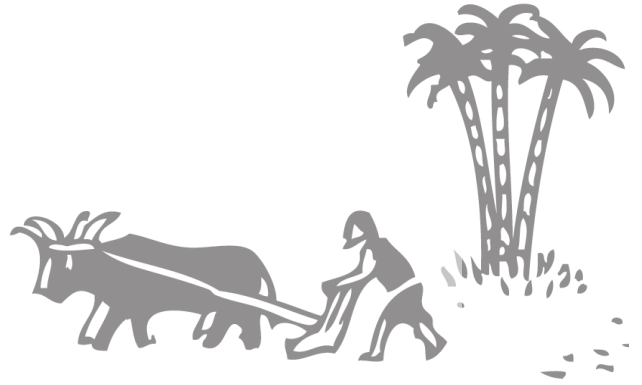
c	like <i>c</i> in <i>come</i>	never soft like <i>city</i> , <i>cinema</i> , or <i>peace</i>
g	like <i>g</i> in <i>go</i>	never soft like <i>gem</i> , <i>geology</i> , or <i>gentle</i>
v	like <i>w</i> in <i>wow</i>	never like <i>Vikings</i> , <i>victor</i> , or <i>vacation</i>
s	like <i>s</i> in <i>sissy</i>	never like <i>easel</i> , <i>weasel</i> , or <i>peas</i>
ch	like <i>ch</i> in <i>chorus</i>	never like <i>church</i> , <i>chapel</i> , or <i>children</i>
r	is trilled	like a dog snarling, or a machine gun
i	like <i>y</i> in <i>yes</i>	when used before a vowel at the beginning of a word, between two vowels within a word, otherwise it's usually used as a vowel

1

UNIT ONE



UNIT 1: GOALS



By the end of Week 7, you should be able to . . .

- Chant from memory the *amō* and *sum* verb chants
- Chant from memory the present, future, and imperfect verb ending chants
- Recognize a first conjugation verb
- Give the meanings for Latin words (e.g., *aqua* means “water”)
- Translate simple present, future, and imperfect tense verbs (e.g., *amāmus* means “we love”)

WEEK 1

Word List:

NOUNS

1. caput head

VERBS

3. amō (amāre). I love

CONJUNCTIONS

2. et and

Chant:

Amō, *I love*—Present Active

First Conjugation or “ā” Family Verb

	LATIN			ENGLISH	
	SINGULAR	PLURAL		SINGULAR	PLURAL
1 ST	amō	amāmus		I love	we love
2 ND	amās	amātis		you love	you all love
3 RD	amat	amant		he/she/it loves	they love



Quotation:

etc., et cetera — “and the rest”



Weekly Worksheet 1

name: _____

A. Write the chant for this week in the box (Latin on the left, English translation on the right). The verb *amō* is first conjugation or "ā" family. Once you've completed the chant, then answer the questions about it.

	LATIN			ENGLISH	
	SINGULAR	PLURAL		SINGULAR	PLURAL
1 ST	amō			I love	
2 ND					
3 RD					

1. In the sentence, "The rabbit loves carrots," which word is the subject? _____

2. Which word is the verb? _____

3. Is *amō* a verb or a noun? _____

4. In the sentence, "The rabbit loves carrots," would you use *amō*, *amat*, or *amātis*?

B. Translate each word on its line. When you *translate* a word, you give its meaning in English. The one in italics will probably be harder because you'll need to translate it from English into Latin.

1. amō _____ 3. head _____

2. et _____

C. Fill in these blanks to answer these questions about *derivatives* of this week's words. A *derivative* is an English word that comes from Latin. The English word must have a similar spelling and related meaning to the original Latin word.

1. The English word *amateur* comes from the Latin word _____.

2. An *amateur* does something because he _____ it, rather than for money.

D. Fill in the blanks about the quotation you learned this week.

1. *Etc.* is an abbreviation for _____ which means _____ .

2. What is wrong with saying "and etc."? _____

WEEK 2

Word List:

NOUNS

1. amīcus friend
2. canis dog
3. domus house, home
4. māter mother
5. pater father
6. puella girl
7. puer boy
8. vir man

VERBS

9. audiō I hear
10. cōgitō (cōgitāre) I think
11. laudō (laudāre) I praise
12. sum I am
13. vīvō I live

INTERJECTIONS

14. salvē Good day! (Be well)
15. valē Goodbye! (Be well)

Chant:

Sum, *I am*— Present Active
Irregular Verb

	LATIN			ENGLISH	
	SINGULAR	PLURAL		SINGULAR	PLURAL
1 ST	sum	sumus		I am	we are
2 ND	es	estis		you are	you all are
3 RD	est	sunt		he/she/it is	they are



Quotation:

Cave canem—"Beware of the dog"



Weekly Worksheet 2

name: _____

A. Conjugate *amō* in the box on the left and translate it in the box on the right. *Amō* is a first conjugation or “ā” family verb.

LATIN			ENGLISH		
	SINGULAR	PLURAL		SINGULAR	PLURAL
1 ST	amō			I love	
2 ND					
3 RD					

Answer the following questions:

1. What is the stem of *amō* (*amāre*)? _____
2. What is the stem of *cōgitō* (*cōgitāre*)? _____
3. What is the stem of *laudō* (*laudāre*)? _____

B. Translate these words from this week’s Word List. Some will need to be translated from English to Latin. When you *translate* a word you give the meaning.

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. laudō _____ | 9. vīvō _____ |
| 2. domus _____ | 10. cōgitō _____ |
| 3. sum _____ | 11. puer _____ |
| 4. puella _____ | 12. salvē _____ |
| 5. valē _____ | 13. audiō _____ |
| 6. canis _____ | 14. mother _____ |
| 7. father _____ | 15. man _____ |
| 8. friend _____ | |

C. Fill in these blanks telling about derivatives of this week's words.

1. The English word *maternal* comes from the Latin word _____.
2. *Maternal* love is the love of a _____.
3. There is a hymn that begins with these words: "All glory, laud, and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King." What do you think the word *laud* means? _____
4. Terriers, German shepherds, and collies are all *canines*. This is because they are all _____.
5. If a noise is *audible*, that means you can _____ it.
6. The English word *domestic* comes from the Latin word _____.
7. *Domestic* chores are jobs you do around the _____.

D. Write and translate the chant for this week. Then answer the questions.

	LATIN			ENGLISH	
	SINGULAR	PLURAL		SINGULAR	PLURAL
1 ST	sum			I am	
2 ND					
3 RD					

1. Does *sum* conjugate regularly or irregularly? _____
2. Is this a chant of verb endings or of a complete verb? _____

E. Fill in the blanks.

1. Italian, French, Spanish, Portuguese, and Romanian are languages spoken today in different parts of the world. They are called _____ languages because they come from the language of the Romans.

2. The language of the Romans was _____.

3. What is the Spanish word for "friend"? _____

F. The quotation for this week is *Cave canem*. Draw a picture using the words in the picture to show your understanding of the quotation.