



GCSE

C990UA0-1A



S24-C990UA0-1A



Part of WJEC

MONDAY, 10 JUNE 2024 – AFTERNOON

LATIN – Component 3A
Latin Literature (Narratives)

RESOURCE BOOKLET

C990UA01A
01

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This is the official Eduqas Resource Booklet
for use in the GCSE examination in Latin.

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Eduqas Latin GCSE

Prescribed text for Component 3A: Latin Literature (Narratives)

Section A

Suetonius, *Nero*

N.B. The passages in italics are summaries of events to support understanding of the narrative. They are not part of the prescription.

This is the official examination text
for the Eduqas Latin GCSE (2024–2025)

Suetonius: Nero 8, 9, 10, 11, 26, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 47, 48, 49, 50, 57.

Nero was born in Antium, south of Rome, on the 15th December AD 37. There were many unfavourable comments about his birth, and even his father, Gnaeus Domitius Ahenobarbus, said that any child born to him and his wife, Agrippina, could be nothing but detestable and a danger to the public. The young Nero's early life was difficult, as his uncle Gaius (Caligula) seized the boy's inheritance and banished his mother. He was then brought up by his aunt, Domitia Lepida.

When Claudius became emperor in AD 41, Nero regained his inheritance and received a legacy from his stepfather. His mother was recalled from exile, and her influence in court caused some to view him as a rival to Claudius' son, Britannicus. It was rumoured that Claudius' wife Messalina, made an attempt on his life, and that the boy was only saved when a snake slithered from beneath his pillow. When Claudius married Agrippina in AD 54, Nero was adopted by the emperor, and three years later married Octavia, Claudius' daughter.

A

Nero was nearly seventeen when Claudius' death was announced. In the afternoon he went to meet the guards since, due to bad omens, no earlier time was suitable. He was hailed as emperor in front of the palace steps and was taken in a litter to the camp of the Praetorian Guard where he briefly addressed the soldiers. Then he was taken to the Senate, where he stayed until evening, while they heaped endless honours on him; he refused only one, the name 'Father of his Country', because he felt he was too young. 5

B

orsus hinc ab ostentatione pietatis Claudium apparatissimo funere elatum laudavit et consecravit. memoriae Domiti patris honores maximos habuit. matri summam omnium rerum privatarum publicarumque permisit. primo etiam imperii die signum excubanti tribuno dedit 'optimam matrem' ac deinceps eiusdem saepe lectica per publicum simul vectus est. Antium coloniam deduxit, ascriptis veteranis e praetorio additisque per domicilii translationem ditissimis primipilium, ubi et portum operis sumptuosissimi fecit. atque ut certiore adhuc indolem ostenderet, ex Augusti praescripto imperaturum se professus, neque liberalitatis neque clementiae, ne comitatus quidem exhibendae ullam occasionem omisit. 5 10

C

spectaculorum plurima et varia genera edidit: iuvenales, circenses, scaenicos ludos, gladiatorium munus. iuvenalibus senes quoque consulares anusque matronas recepit ad lusum. circensibus loca equiti secreta a ceteris tribuit commisitque etiam camelorum quadrigas. ludis, quos pro aeternitate imperii susceptos appellari maximos voluit, ex utroque ordine et sexu plerique ludicras partes sustinuerunt; notissimus eques Romanus elephanto supersidens per catadromum decucurrit; inducta Afrani togata, quae incendium inscribitur, concessumque ut scaenici ardentis domus supellectilem diriperent ac sibi haberent; sparsa et populo missilia omnium rerum per omnes dies: singula cotidie milia avium cuiusque generis, multiplex penus, tesseræ frumentariae, vestis, aurum, argentum, gemmae, margaritae, tabulae pictae, mancipia, iumenta atque etiam mansuetæ ferae, novissime naves, insulae, agri.

Nero introduced a lot of positive improvements to Rome. Amongst other things he adapted the architecture of Roman houses so that there was a fire-fighting platform in front of them. He held gladiatorial combats in the Campus Martius where no one was to be killed, though he famously inflicted punishments on Christians. He also forbade charioteers to wander the streets after dark robbing passers-by, and seems to have made attempts to stop the forgery of wills. Nero visited Greece, where he tried to have a canal cut through the Isthmus of Corinth and he took part in musical contests and theatrical performances, at which he always seemed to do rather well. However, not everything he did was good.

D

petulantiam, libidinem, luxuriam, avaritiam, crudelitatem sensim quidem primo et occulte et velut iuvenili errore exercuit, sed ut tunc quoque dubium nemini foret naturae illa vitia, non aetatis esse. post crepusculum statim adrepto pilleo vel galero popinas inibat circumque vicus vagabatur ludibundus nec sine pernicie tamen, siquidem redeuntes a cena verberare ac repugnantes vulnerare cloacisque demergere assuerat, tabernas etiam effringere et expilare; quintana domi constituta, ubi partae et ad licitationem dividendae praedae pretium absumeretur.

E

Nero began his reign of slaughter with Claudius; though not responsible for his death, he was certainly aware of it, nor did he pretend otherwise, as he used to praise mushrooms, (in which the poison had been administered) as the 'food of the gods', according to the Greek proverb. He poisoned Britannicus, out of envy of his voice and through fear that the boy was held in more affection by the people because of the memory of his father. The poison came from Locusta, an expert poisoner; and it acted too slowly (having only a laxative effect on Britannicus), he beat the woman complaining that she had administered medicine rather than poison. She explained she had used a milder dose to avoid suspicion. Nero made her mix more which he tried on goats and pigs until the animals died. The potion was added to Britannicus' wine, and he dropped dead immediately, while Nero explained that this was due to seizures which he had suffered from for years.

F

When he was first emperor, Nero felt so weighed down by his mother's influence that he threatened to remove all her power and then expelled her from his palace. He continued to threaten her with lawsuits until she left Rome for Baiae where he continually sent people to drive and sail past her house while shouting abuse and mocking her. At last, he decided to kill her, but discovered that she had been taking antidotes, so poison did not work. Firstly, he arranged for her bedroom ceiling to fall on her, but she learnt of the plot; he then contrived a collapsible cabin on a boat and invited her to dinner near Baiae promising reconciliation. He had the vessel which brought her wrecked and offered her the booby-trapped boat for her return journey. The next morning, news was brought to him that the plan had failed; his mother had swum to safety. Nero sent men to kill his mother and claimed it was suicide. He then disposed of his aunt, Domitia.

G

uxores praeter Octaviam duas postea duxit, Poppaeam Sabinam quaestorio patre natam et equiti Romano antea nuptam. deinde Statiliam Messalinam Tauri bis consulis ac triumphalis abnepsem. qua ut poteretur, virum eius Atticum Vestinum consulem in honore ipso trucidavit. Octaviae consuetudinem cito aspernatus, corripientibus amicis 'sufficere illi debere' respondit 'uxoria ornamenta.' eandem mox saepe frustra strangulare meditatus, dimisit ut sterilem, sed improbante divortium populo nec parcente conviciis, etiam relegavit, denique occidit sub crimine adulteriorum adeo impudenti falsoque, ut in quaestione pernegantibus cunctis Anicetum paedagogum suum indicem subiecerit, qui fingeret dolo stupratam a se fateretur. Poppaeam duodecimo die post divortium Octaviae in matrimonium acceptam dilexit unice; et tamen ipsam quoque ictu calcis occidit, quod se ex aurigatione sero reversum gravida et aegra conviciis inceserat. ex hac filiam tulit Claudiam Augustam amisitque admodum infantem.

H

Nero drove his tutor, Seneca, to suicide even though the old man frequently begged to retire and offered to give him his estates. In place of cough medicine which he had promised, Nero sent poison to Burrus, the prefect of the guard. He was no less cruel to those outside his household. After a comet foretold the death of a prominent person, Nero, advised by his astrologer, executed a large number of the nobility to avert the omen. An easy decision because he had recently discovered two conspiracies against him. The alleged conspirators were arrested and admitted their plot, saying that there was no way to help a man as evil as Nero, except to kill him. All the children of the conspirators were banished from Rome and then killed by poison or starvation.

I

He showed no greater concern for the people and, pretending that the ugliness of the buildings and the narrow, winding streets of Rome offended him, he set fire to the city so openly that several former consuls spotted his closest slaves on their property with kindling and blazing torches but dared not stop them. Nero also coveted the sites of the stone granaries near the Golden House. He demolished them and set them alight. The disastrous fire raged for six days and seven nights and people were compelled to take refuge in tombs. As well as the large number of tenements which burned down, the houses of former leaders, still adorned with the spoils of war, were burnt, as were the temples of the gods back to the time of the kings and every memorable monument from antiquity that had survived. Nero watched the fire from the gardens of Maecenas and delighted, as he said by the 'beauty of the fire', he sang 'The Sack of Troy' while wearing his tragedian's costume.

In AD 68, the general Galba and the Spanish provinces revolted against him, Nero was inconsolable, and he was soon plagued by omens and dreams which were not favourable to him.

J

nuntiata interim etiam ceterorum exercituum defectione litteras prandenti sibi redditas concepsit. sumpto a Locusta veneno et in auream pyxidem condito transiit in hortos Servilianos, et tribunos centurionesque praetorii de fugae societate temptavit. sed partim tergiversantibus, partim aperte detrectantibus, uno vero etiam proclamante: 'usque adeone mori miserum est?' varie agitavit sed tandem obdormivit. sic cogitatione in posterum diem dilata ad mediam fere noctem excitatus, ut comperit stationem militum recessisse, prosiluit e lecto misitque circum amicos, et quia nihil a quoquam renuntiabatur, ipse cum paucis hospitia singulorum adiit. verum clausis omnium foribus, respondente nullo, in cubiculum rediit, unde iam et custodes diffugerant, direptis etiam stragulis, amota et pyxide veneni; ac statim Spiculum murmillonem vel quemlibet alium percussorem, cuius manu periret, requisivit et nemine reperto: 'ergo ego,' inquit, 'nec amicum habeo nec inimicum?' procurritque, quasi praecipitaturus se in Tiberim.

K

Nero then asked for a secluded place in which to gather his thoughts. His freedman, Phaon, offered his own suburban villa, four miles from Rome. So barefoot and wearing only a tunic, Nero threw on a faded travelling-cloak, covered his head and holding a cloth in front of his face, mounted his horse with only four attendants. Immediately he was frightened by an earth tremor and a flash of lightning, and heard the shouting of soldiers in a nearby camp who were prophesying defeat for him and victory for Galba. One passer-by said, 'These fellows are pursuing Nero', and another asked 'Is there any news about Nero from the city?' Then his horse was frightened by the smell of a corpse that had been thrown out at the side of the road making Nero drop his face-covering. He was then saluted by a praetorian veteran. At last they came to the back entrance to the villa; they left their horses and followed an overgrown path to the rear wall of the house. When the slaves had tunnelled through the wall, Nero crawled in and lay down in a meagre bedroom with an old cloak spread over him.

L

tunc scrobem coram fieri imperavit dimensus ad corporis sui modulum, componique simul, si qua invenirentur, frusta marmoris et aquam simul ac ligna conferri curando mox cadaveri, flens ad singula atque identidem dictitans: 'qualis artifex pereol!' ferrum iugulo adegit iuvante Epaphrodito a libellis. semianimisque adhuc irrumpenti centurioni et paenula ad vulnus adposita in auxilium se venisse simulanti non aliud respondit quam: 'sero' et: 'haec est fides.' atque in ea voce defecit, extantibus rigentibusque oculis usque ad horrorem formidinemque visentium. nihil prius aut magis a comitibus exegerat quam ne potestas cuiquam capitis sui fieret, sed ut quoquo modo totus cremaretur. permisit hoc Icelus, Galbae libertus, non multo ante vinculis exolutus, in quae primo tumultu coniectus fuerat.

M

Nero was buried at a cost of two hundred thousand sesterces, wrapped in white robes embroidered with gold. His nurses Egloge and Alexandria, and his mistress Acte, laid his remains in the Domitian family tomb on the Hill of the Gardens which can be seen from the Campus Martius. Nero died in his thirty second year, on the anniversary of the day on which he had killed his first wife, Octavia. There was such widespread public rejoicing that the people ran through the city wearing caps of liberty; however, for a long time afterwards people decorated his tomb with spring and summer flowers and raised statues to him. 5

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List of abbreviations used

abl.	ablative
acc.	accusative
dat.	dative
f.	feminine
gen.	genitive
m.	masculine
n.	neuter
pl.	plural

A

a/ab + abl. - from, by, with
abneptis, -is, f. - great-great-granddaughter
absumo, -ere - squander, waste
ac - and
accipio, -ere, -cepi, acceptus - receive
ad + acc. - to, towards, at (about), on, with regard to, according to, for
addo, -ere, -didi, -ditus - add
adeo - so (much)
adeo, -ire, -ii - go to, approach
adhuc - still, as yet, so far
adigo, -ere, -egi - force, drive
admodum - very
adpono, -ere, adposui, adpositus - apply to, place on
adripio, -ere, -ui, adreptus - seize, grab
adscribo, -ere, scripsi, scriptus - enroll
adulterium, -i, n. - adultery
aeger, -ra, -rum - ill
aetas, -atis, f. - age
aeternitas, -atis, f. - immortality, permanence
Afranius, -i, m. - Afranius (a Roman playwright)
ager, agri, m. - land
agito, -are, -avi - be distressed,
alius, alia, aliud - other
amicus, -i, m. - friend
amitto -ere, amisi - lose
amoveo, -ere, amovi, amotus - remove
Anicetus, -i, m. - Anicetus (freedman and Nero's tutor)
ante - beforehand
antea - before this, formerly
Antium, -ii, n. - Antium (Nero's birthplace)
anus, -us, f. - old woman
aperte - openly
apparatus, -a, -um - magnificent
appello, -are - call, name
aqua, -ae, f. - water
ardens, -entis - burning
argentum, -i, n. - silver
artifex, -icis, m. - artist
aspernor, -ari, aspernatus sum - reject, refuse
assuesco, -ere, -evi - accustom to
atque - even
atque - and
Atticus Vestinus, m. - Atticus Vestinus (Statilia's husband)
Augustus, -i, m. - Augustus (great-great-grandfather of Nero and founder of the Julio-Claudian line of Caesars)
aureus, -a, -um - golden
aurigatio, -ionis, f. - a chariot race
aurum, -i, n. - gold
aut - or
auxilium, -ii, n. - help
avaritia, -ae, f. - greed
avis, -is, f. - bird

B

bis - twice

C

cadaver, -eris, n. - corpse
calcius, -i, m. - shoe
camelus, -i, m. - camel
caput, -itis, n. - head
catadromus, -i, m. - tight-rope
cena, -ae, f. - dinner
centurio, -ionis, m. - centurion (commander of a century, lower rank than tribune)
certior, -ior, -ius - more certain
ceterum, -i, n. - the rest
Circensis, -e - of the Circus
circenses - chariot races (in the Circus Maximus)
circum + acc - around
cito - quickly
Claudia Augusta - Claudia Augusta (Nero's daughter by Poppaea)
Claudius, -ii, m. - Claudius (emperor and Nero's great uncle)
claudio, -ere, -si, clausus - close
clementia, -ae, f. - mercy
cloaca, -ae, f. - sewer, drain
cogitatio, -ionis, f. - decision
colonia, -ae, f. - colony, settlement
comes, -itis, m. - companion
comitas, -atis, f. - friendliness
committo, -ere, -misi - set together (to race)
comperio, -ire, comperi - find, discover
compono, -ere - place, arrange
concedo, -ere, concessi, concessus - allowed
concerpo, -ere, concerpsi - tear up, rip
condo, -ere, -idi, conditus - hide
confero, conferre - bring
conicio, -ere, -eci, coniectus - throw, here: throw into prison
consecro, -are, -avi - deify, make a god
constituo, -ere, -ui, constitutus - organise
consuetudo, -inis, f. - intimacy,
consul, -is, m. - consul (one of the two highest ranking magistracies in Rome)
consularis, -e - consular, of the rank of consul
convicium, -i, n. - complaint, rebuke
coram - in front of him
corpus, -oris, n. - body
corripio, -ere - criticise, reproach
cotidie - every day
cremo, -are - cremate, burn
crepusculum, -i, n. - dusk, twilight
crimen, -inis, n. - accusation
crudelitas, -atis, f. - cruelty
cubiculum, -i, n. - bedroom
cum + abl. - with
cunctus, -a, -um - all, everyone
curo, -are - care
custos, -odis, m. - guards

D

de + abl. - about
debeo, -ere - ought
decurro, decurrere, decurri - to move down quickly, run down
deduco, -ere, duxi, ductus - found, establish
defectio, -ionis, f. - revolt
deficio, -ere, -feci - die
deinceps - thereafter, on the following days
deinde - then
demergo, -ere - plunge, drop
denique - at last
detrecto, -are - refuse
dictito, -are - repeat
dies, -ei, m./ f. - day
differo, differe, distuli, dilatus - put off, postpone
diffugio, -ere, diffugi - scatter, flee in different directions
diligo, -ere, -exi - love, adore
dimetior, -iri, dimensus sum - measure
dimitto, -ere, misi - divorce
diripio, -ere, -ui, direptus - plunder, snatch away
ditissimus, -a, -um - very rich
divido, -ere - divide, distribute
divortium, -ii, n. - divorce
do, dare, dedi - give
dolus, -i, m. - trickery
domicilium, -i, n. - home, residence
Domitius, -i, m. - Domitius (Lucius Domitius Ahenobarbus, Nero's father)
domus, -us, f. - house
domi (locative) - at home
dubius, -a, -um - doubt
duco, -ere, duxi - here: marry
duo, -ae, -o - two
duodecimus, -a, -um - twelfth

E

elex + abl. - from, out of, according to, formerly part of
edo, -ere, -didi, -itus - give, sponsor
effero, efferre, extuli, elatus - carry out
effringo, -ere - break in
ego, mei - I
elephantus, -i, m. - elephant
Epaphroditus, -i, m. - Epaphroditus (one of Nero's freedmen)
eques, -itis, m. - equestrian (member of equestrian order, Roman business class between senators and the plebs)
ergo - so, in this way
error, -oris, m. - mistake
et - and, also, even
et ... et - both ... and
etiam - even, actually, also
excito, -are, -avi, excitatus - wake up
excubo, -ere - keeping watch, on duty (i.e. out of his bed)
exerceo, -ere, -ui - practise
exercitus, -ūs, m. - army
exhibeo, -ere, -ui, -itus - show, exhibit

exigo, -ere, -egi - demand
expilo, -are - plunder, rob
exsolvo, -ere, -i, exsolutus - release, set free
exto, -are - bulge

F

facio, -ere, feci, factus - build, construct
falsum, -i, n. - false, wrong
fateor, -eri - confess, reveal
fera, -ae, f. - wild beast
fere - about
fero, ferre, tuli - produce
ferrum, -i, n. - sword
fides, -ei, f. - loyalty
filia, -ae, f. - daughter
tingo, -ere - invent, lie
fio, fieri - be made, occur, happen
fleo, -ere - weep
foris, foris, f. - door
formido, -inis, f. - fear, terror
frumentarius, -a, -um - of corn
tesserae frumentariae - tokens for corn
frustra - in vain
frustum, -i, n. - piece, lump
fuga, -ae, f. - escape
funus, -eris, n. - funeral

G

Galba, -ae, m. - Servius Sulpicius Galba (general who became emperor for 7 months after Nero's death)
galerus, -i, m. - wig
gemma, -ae, f. - jewel
genus, -eris, n. - type, sort
gladiatorius, -a, -um - gladiatorial, to do with gladiators
gravidus, -a, -um - pregnant

H

habeo, -ere - keep
habeo, -ere - have, keep
maximos honores habuit - he paid the greatest honours
hic, haec, hoc - this
hinc - from this point
honor, -oris, m. - honour, reward
horror, -oris, m. - horror, fear
hortus, -i, m. - garden
hospitium, -i, n. - lodging

I

iam - by now, already
Icelus, -o, m. - Icelus, a freedman of Galba
ictus, -ūs, m. - kick
idem, eadem, idem - same, the same
identidem - repeatedly

ille, illa, illud - *that*
 imperium, -ii, n. - *reign, power*
 impero, -are, -avi, -atus - *order, command, rule*
 improbo, -are - *disapprove*
 impudens, -entis - *shameless*
 in + abl - *in*
 in + acc. - *into, until, (in order) to*
 incedo, -ere, incessi - *enter, come in*
 Incendium, -ii, n. - *The Fire (a play)*
 index, -icis, m. - *evidence*
 indoles, -is, f. - *nature, character*
 induco, -ere, -duxi, -ductus - *put on stage*
 ineo, -ire - *enter, visit*
 infans, -tis, m. - *baby, young child*
 inimicus, -i, m. - *enemy*
 inquit - *he/she said*
 inscribo, -ere - *entitle*
 insula, -ae, f. - *tenement building, block of flats*
 interim - *meanwhile*
 invenio, -ire - *find*
 ipse, ipsa, ipsum - *himself, herself, itself*
 irrumpo, -ere - *burst in*
 is, ea, id - *he, she, it, this*
 iugulum, -i, n. - *throat*
 iumentum, -i, n. - *pack animal*
 Iuvenales, -ium - *Youth Games*
 iuvenilis, -e - *youthful*
 iuvo, -are - *help*

L

laudo, -are, -avi - *praise*
 lectica, -ae, f. - *litter, sedan chair*
 lectus, -i, m. - *bed*
 libellus, -i, m. - *little book, pamphlet*
 a libellis - *secretary*
 liberalitas, -atis, f. - *generosity*
 libertus, -i, m. - *freedman*
 libido, -inis, f. - *desire, pleasure*
 licitatio, -ionis, f. - *bidding (as at an auction)*
 lignum, -i, n. - *firewood*
 littera, -ae, f. - *letter*
 locum, -i, n. - *seat, place to sit*
 Locusta, -ae, f. - *Locusta (a well-known poisoner)*
 ludibundus, -a, -um - *in playful mood*
 ludicer, -cra, -crum - *on-stage*
 ludus, -i, m. - *show, play, game, entertainment*
 lusus, -us, m. - *game, amusement*
 luxuria, -ae, f. - *extravagance*

M

magis - *more*
 mancipium, -i, n. - *slave*
 mansuetus, -a, -um - *tame*
 manus, -ūs, f. - *hand*
 margarita, -ae, f. - *pearl*
 marmor, -oris, n. - *marble*

mater, -tris, f. - *mother*
 matrimonium, -ii, n. - *marriage*
 matrona, -ae, f. - *married woman*
 maximus, -a, -um - *greatest*
 meditor, -ari, meditatus sum - *consider*
 medius, -a, -um - *middle*
 memoria, -ae, f. - *memory*
 Messalina, -ae, f. - *Statilia Messalina (Nero's third wife)*
 miles, -itis, m. - *soldier*
 mille, n. milia pl. - *thousand*
 miser, -a, -um - *wretched*
 missile, -is, n. - *missile*
 mitto, -ere, misi - *send for*
 modus, i, m. - *way, means*
 quoquo modo - *by whatever means*
 modulus, -i, m. - *size,*
 morior, mori - *die*
 mox - *soon*
 multi, -ae, -a - *very many*
 multiplex, -icis - *numerous*
 multo - *much*
 munus, -eris, n. - *show, entertainment*
 murmillo, -onis, m. - *(type of) gladiator*

N

nata, -ae, f. - *daughter*
 natura, -ae, f. - *character*
 navis, -is, f. - *ship*
 -ne - *indicates a question*
 ne + subjunctive - *not*
 ne ... quidem - *not even*
 nec - *nor, not*
 nec ... nec ... - *neither ... neither ...*
 nemo, neminis, m/f. - *no one*
 neque ... neque - *neither ... nor*
 nihil - *nothing*
 non - *not*
 notus, -a, -um - *well-known*
 novissime - *finally*
 nox, noctis, f. - *night*
 nubo, -ere, nupsi, nuptus - *marry*
 nullus, -a, -um - *no one*
 nuntio, -are, -avi, nuntiat - *announce, bring word*

O

obdormio, -ire, -ivi - *fall asleep*
 occasio, occasionis, f. - *opportunity*
 occido, -ere, occidi - *kill, execute*
 occulte - *in secret, secretly*
 Octavia, -ae, f. - *Octavia (the daughter of Claudius)*
 oculus, -i, m. - *eye*
 omitto, -ere, -misi, -missus - *let go, miss*
 omnis, -e - *all, every*
 optimus, -a, -um - *best*
 opus, operis, n. - *project*
 ordior, -iri, orsus sum - *begin*

ordo, -inis, m. - order, rank
ornamentum, -i, n. - trappings, ornaments
ostendo, -ere - display
ostentatio, -ionis, f. - display

P

paedagogus, -i, m. - pedagogue
paenula, -ae, f. - cloak
parco, -ere - hold back, refrain from
pario, -ere, peperit, partus - lot (as in an auction)
pars, partis, f. - role
partim ... partim - some ... others
pater, -tris, m. - father
pauci, -ae, -a - few
penus, -us m/f. - food parcel, provisions
per + acc. - through, throughout, by means of, on
percussor, -oris, m. - murderer
pereo, -ire - perish, die
permitto, -ere, -misi, -missus - permit, allow, entrust
pernego, -are - strongly deny
pernicies, -ei, f. - mischief
petulantia, -ae, f. - petulance
pictus, -a, -um - painted
pietas, -atis, f. - duty
pilleum, -i, n. - hat
plerique, pleraeque, pleraque - most, very many
popina, -ae, f. - tavern
Poppaea, -ae, f. - Poppaea Sabina (Nero's second wife)
populus, -i, m. - crowd, the people, multitude
portus, -us, m. - harbour
post + acc. - after
postea - after
posterus, -a, -um - following
potestas, -atis, f. - chance
potior, potiri + abl - acquire, take possession of
praecipito, -are, -avi, praecipitatus - throw headlong
praeda, -ae, f. - plunder, spoils
praescriptum, -i, n. - principle, precept
praeter + acc. - besides
praetorius, -i, m. - praetorian guard
praetorius, -a, -um - praetorian, of the praetorian guard
prandeo, -ere - eat breakfast
pretium, -ii, n. - proceeds
primipilaris, -is, m. - senior centurion
primo - at first
primus, -a, -um - first
prius - beforehand
privatus, -a, -um - private
pro + abl. - for the sake of
proclamo, -are - declare
procurro, -ere - rush forward
profiteor, profiteri, professus sum - declare publicly
prosilio, -ire, -ui - jump, leap
publicum, -i, n. - public space
publicus, -a, -um - public
pyxis, -idis, f. - little box (used for medicine)

Q

quadriga, -ae, f. - a type of chariot drawn by four horses
quaestio, -ionis, f. - interrogation, torture
quaestorius, -ii, m. - a former quaestor (Roman magistrate)
qualis, -e - what kind of
quam - than
quasi - as if
-que - and
qui, quae, quod - who, which, this
quia - because
quidem - at least
ne ... quidem - not even
quilibet, quaelibet, quodlibet - some, any
quintana, -ae, f. - street market
quisquam, quaequam, quodquam - anyone, anything
quisque, quaeque, quodque - whatever
quod - because
quoque - as well as, also, even
quoquo modo - by whatever means

R

recedo, -ere, -cessi - withdraw, retire
recipio, -ere, -cepi - receive, welcome to an event
reddo, -ere, -idi, redditus - deliver
redeo, -ire, -ire - return
relego, -are, -avi - exile
renuntio, -are - report back
reperio, -ire, reperi, repertus - find
repugno, -are - fight back
requiro, -ere, -sii - search for
res, rei, f. - affair, business matter, sort, type
respondeo, -ere, -i - answer, reply
revertor, -i, reversus sum - return
rigeo, -ere - glaze, be lifeless
Romanus, -a, -um - Roman

S

Sabina, -ae, f. - Poppaea Sabina (Nero's second wife)
saepe - often, several times
scaenicus, -a, -um - for the stage
scaenicus, -i, m. - actor
scrobis, -is, m. - grave, ditch
se, sui - himself, herself, themselves, he, she, them
secretum, -i, n. - separate, apart from
sed - but
semianimis, -e - half alive
senex, senis, m. - old man
sensim - gradually
sero - late
Servilianus, -a, -um - belonging to Servilius
sexus, -us, m. - sex (male or female)
si qua - if any
sic - in this way, so
signum, -i, n. - password, sign
simul - at the same time, together, immediately

simulo, -are - pretend
sine + abl. - without
singulus, -a, -um - each, single, one
siquidem - if
societas, -atis, f. - fellowship, i.e. together
spargo, -ere, sparsi, sparsus - scatter
spectaculum, -i, n. - show, spectacle
Spiculus, -i, m. - Spiculus (a famous gladiator favoured by Nero)
Statilia, -ae, f. - Statilia Messalina (Nero's third wife)
statim - immediately
statio, -ionis, f. - bodyguard
sterilis, -e - barren, unable to have children
stragulum, -i, n. - bed-linen
strangulo, -are - strangle
stupro, -are, -avi, stupratus - have an affair
sub + abl. - under, subject to
sub crimine adulteriorum - on a charge of adultery
subicio, -ere, -ieci - bribe
sufficio, -ere - be enough,
sum, esse, fui - be
summa, -ae, f. - the whole, (the) management
sumo, -ere, -psi, sumptus - obtain
sumptuosus, -a, -um - expensive
supellex, supellectilis, f. - furniture
supersideo, -ere - riding, sitting on
suscipio, -ere, -cepi, susceptus - undertake
sustineo, -ere, -ui - take on
suus, -a, -um. - his, hers, its (own)

T

taberna, -ae, f. - shop
tabula, -ae, f. - panel
tamen - however
tandem - at last
Taurus, -i, m. - Taurus (Statilia Messalina's ancestor)
tempto, -are, -avi - urge
tergiversor, -ari - decline, refuse, evade giving negative answer
tessera, -ae, f. - token
tesserae frumentariae - tokens for corn
Tiberis, -is, m. - river Tiber, the river running through Rome
togata, -ae, f. - Roman drama (a drama which told Roman stories).
totus, -a, -um - whole
transeo, -ire, -ii - go across
translatio, -ionis, f. - transfer
tribunus, -i, m. - tribune (military officer)
tribuo, -ere, -ui - assign, allot
triumphalis, -e - having triumphal status (an honour awarded to a highly successful general)
trucido, -are, -avi - murder
tumultus, -us, m. - revolt, uprising
tunc - then

U

ubi - where, in which place, when
ullus, -a, -um - any
unde - from where
unice - a great deal
unus, -a, -um - one
usque - up to this point, at this point
ut + indicative - when, as
ut + subjunctive - in order to, to, so that, that
uterque, utraque, utrumque - both
uxor, -oris, f. - wife
uxorius, -a, -um - of a wife

V

vagor, -ari - wander
varius, -a, -um - different
varie agitavit - he was greatly agitated
veho, -ere, vexi, vectus - carry
vel - or
velut - as if
venenum, -i, n. - poison
venio, -ire, -i - come
verbero, -are - attack
vero - in truth
verum - however
vestis, -is, f. - clothing
veteranus, -a, -um - veteran, experienced former soldier
vicus, -i, m. - street
video, -ere, vidi, visus - see
vinculum, -i, n. - chain, in plural = prison
vir, viri, m. - husband
vitium, -ii, n. - fault
volo, velle, volui - want
vox, vocis, f. - voice
vulnero, -are - stab, wound
vulnus, -eris, n. - wound

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Eduqas Latin GCSE

Prescribed text for Component 3A: Latin Literature (Narratives)

Section B

Ovid, *The Adventures of Perseus*

N.B. The passages in italics are summaries of events to support understanding of the narrative. They are not part of the prescription.

This is the official examination text
for the Eduqas Latin GCSE (2024–2025)

The Adventures of Perseus.
Ovid, *Metamorphoses* 4 615–758, 765–803.

In his Metamorphoses, Ovid fitted together into a continuous poem of around 12,000 lines an enormous range of myths and folk-tales beginning with the creation of the world and ending in Ovid's own day. Almost all the stories it contains (including this one) involve a change of shape (in Greek, a 'metamorphosis') of one sort of another – humans, for example, being transformed into animals, trees, and even mountains!

The story begins when Perseus was returning home with Medusa's head. He was the son of Jupiter and the mortal woman, Danae, whose father, Acrisius, had imprisoned her in a tower because of a prophecy which foretold that any child of hers would bring him death. Jupiter visited Danae in a shower of gold, and she conceived a son. Many years later, Perseus was sent on a mission by king Polydectes to bring back the head of the Gorgon, Medusa. The king hoped that Perseus would be killed and therefore he would be able to marry Danae, a marriage to which Perseus was opposed.

A

[Perseus]

viperei referens spolium memorabile monstri aera carpebat tenerum stridentibus alis. cumque super Libycas victor penderet harenas, Gorgonei capitis guttae cecidere cruentae, quas humus exceptas varios animavit in angues;	5
unde frequens illa est infestaque terra colubris. inde per immensum ventis discordibus actus nunc huc, nunc illuc exemplo nubis aquosae fertur et ex alto seductas aethere longe despectat terras totumque supervolat orbem.	10
ter gelidas Arctos, ter Cancri bracchia vidit, saepe sub occasus, saepe est ablati in ortus. iamque cadente die, veritus se credere nocti, constitit Hesperio, regnis Atlantis, in orbe, exiguamque petit requiem, dum Lucifer ignes	15
evocet Aurorae, currus Aurora diurnos.	

B

Atlas was the son of Iapetus and was far bigger and stronger than any mortal man. He ruled the furthest part of the world and the sea which divides its waters for the panting horses of the Sun and receives the weary wheels of his chariot. A thousand flocks of sheep and as many herds of cattle wandered through Atlas' remote fields. He also had a tree, the leaves of which were glistening with shimmering gold, and these leaves covered the branches and the apples on the tree with gold. 'Friend,' said Perseus to Atlas, 'if the glory of a noble family impresses you, my father is Jupiter; or if you are an admirer of glorious deeds, you will admire mine. I ask you for hospitality and somewhere to rest.' Atlas, however, recalled an ancient prophecy which Themis had once spoken on Mt Parnassus: 'Atlas, the time will come when your tree will be stripped of its gold, and a son of Jupiter will have the glory for this plunder.'

5

10

C

id metuens solidis pomaria cluserat Atlas
 moenibus et vasto dederat servanda draconi
 arcebatque suis externos finibus omnes.
 huic quoque 'vade procul, ne longe gloria rerum,
 quam mentiris' ait, 'longe tibi Iuppiter absit!' 5
 vimque minis addit manibusque expellere temptat
 cunctantem et placidis miscentem fortia dictis.
 viribus inferior (quis enim par esset Atlantis
 viribus?) 'at quoniam parvi tibi gratia nostra est,
 accipe munus!' ait, laevaue a parte Medusae 10
 ipse retro versus squalentia protulit ora.
 quantus erat, mons factus Atlas; nam barba comaeque
 in silvas abeunt, iuga sunt umerique manusque,
 quod caput ante fuit, summo est in monte cacumen,
 ossa lapis fiunt. tum partes auctus in omnes 15
 crevit in immensum (sic, di, statuistis) et omne
 cum tot sideribus caelum requievit in illo.

D

Aeolus had now shut the winds in their everlasting prison, and Lucifer, the daystar, warning men to be up and about their work, had risen very brightly high in the sky. Perseus took up his wings again and strapped them to either foot; he fastened on his curved sword and cut a path through the liquid air with a flick of his winged sandals. After leaving innumerable tribes below and around him, he caught sight of the Ethiopian peoples and the lands of Cepheus. There Jupiter Ammon had unjustly ordered that the innocent Andromeda should pay the penalty for her mother's foolish claims about her own beauty. 5

E

quam simul ad duras religatam bracchia cautes
vidit Abantiades (nisi quod levis aura capillos
moverat et tepido manabant lumina fletu,
marmoreum ratus esset opus), trahit inscius ignes
et stupet et visae correptus imagine formae 5
paene suas quater est oblitus in aere pennas.
ut stetit, 'o' dixit 'non istis digna catenis,
sed quibus inter se cupidi iunguntur amantes,
pande requirenti nomen terraeque tuumque,
et cur vincla geras.' primo silet illa, nec audet 10
appellare virum virgo, manibusque modestos
celasset vultus, si non religata fuisset;
lumina, quod potuit, lacrimis implevit obortis.
saepius instanti, sua ne delicta fateri
nolle videretur, nomen terraeque suumque, 15
quantaque maternae fuerit fiducia formae
indicat; et nondum memoratis omnibus unda
insonuit, veniensque immenso belua ponto
imminet et latum sub pectore possidet aequor.

F

The girl cried out; her sorrowful father and her mother were both close by, both wretched, though her mother had more cause to be so. They could bring no help to her except to weep and wail, as you might expect, and they clung to her chained body. Then the stranger spoke thus: 'There will be plenty of time left for weeping but the time for bringing help is short. If I, Perseus, were to ask for this girl's hand in marriage – I, Perseus, son of Jupiter and the woman who, though shut away in a tower, was made pregnant by Jupiter's fertile gold: I, who overcame the snake-haired Gorgon, and dared to move through the airy breezes on beating wings – I would certainly make the best son-in-law you could possibly have. Besides such benefits as these, I hope to perform a valuable service (may the gods favour me): if she is saved by my bravery, I propose she may be mine.' Her parents accepted the offer (who would have hesitated?), and begged him for help, promising in addition their kingdom as a wedding gift. 5

And look, just as a swift ship with a sharp prow cuts the waters driven by the sweating muscles of the crew, so the beast cut through the waters with the force of its breast. It was as far from the rocks as a Balearic sling is able to send a lead shot twisting through the air, when suddenly Perseus launched himself from the earth with a leap, he flew up high into the clouds. When the man's shadow appeared on the surface of the sea, the monster saw the shadow and furiously attacked it. 10 15 20

G

utque Iovis praepes, vacuo cum vidit in arvo
 praebentem Phoebos liventia terga draconem,
 occupat aversum, neu saeva retorqueat ora,
 squamigeris avidos figit cervicibus ungues,
 sic celeri missus praiceps per inane volatu 5
 terga ferae pressit dextroque frementis in armo
 Inachides ferrum curvo tenus abdidit hamo.
 vulnere laesa gravi modo se sublimis in auras
 attollit, modo subdit aquis, modo more ferocis
 versat apri, quem turba canum circumsona terret; 10
 ille avidos morsus velocibus effugit alis,
 quaque patet, nunc terga cavis super obsita conchis,
 nunc laterum costas, nunc qua tenuissima cauda
 desinit in pisces, falcato vulnerat ense.
 belua puniceo mixtos cum sanguine fluctus 15
 ore vomit; maduere graves adspergine pennae.
 nec bibulis ultra Perseus talaribus ausus
 credere conspexit scopulum, qui vertice summo
 stantibus exstat aquis, operitur ab aequore moto;
 nixus eo rupisque tenens iuga prima sinistra 20
 ter quater exegit repetita per ilia ferrum.
 litora cum plausu clamor superasque deorum
 implevere domos; gaudent generumque salutant
 auxiliumque domus servatoremque fatentur
 Cassiope Cepheusque pater. 25

H

resoluta catenis
 incedit virgo, pretiumque et causa laboris.
 ipse manus hausta victrices abluit unda,
 anguiferumque caput dura ne laedat harena,
 mollit humum foliis natasque sub aequore virgas 5
 sternit et imponit Phorcynidos ora Medusae.
 virga recens bibulaque etiamnum viva medulla
 vim rapuit monstri tactuque induruit huius
 percepitque novum ramis et fronde rigorem.
 at pelagi nymphae factum mirabile temptant 10
 pluribus in virgis et idem contingere gaudent
 seminaque ex illis iterant iactata per undas.
 nunc quoque coraliis eadem natura remansit,
 duritiam tacto capiant ut ab aere, quodque
 vimen in aequore erat fiat super aequora saxum. 15

I

To celebrate his victory, Perseus set up altars to Mercury, Minerva and Jupiter, and sacrificed to them. Perseus and Andromeda were married and there was much rejoicing at the wedding feast. When the feast was over and they had all had plenty of wine, which is the generous gift of Bacchus, Perseus asked about the country and the people who lived there, and their customs and character. 5

The king, Cepheus explained to him and then said, 'Now, my very brave fellow, tell us, I beg you, with what bravery and skill, you stole away that head which was covered with snakes rather than hair. 'Perseus, the descendant of Agenor, told them about a place lying beneath the cold slopes of Mount Atlas, protected by a mass of solid stone; in the entrance of which lived twin sisters, daughters 10

of Phorcys, who shared the use of a single eye, this, by cunning and skill, he managed to get hold of as it was being passed from one to the other; and then through hidden and trackless pathways, rocky country bristling with overgrown woods, he reached the home of the Gorgons. Everywhere, through all the fields and roads he saw statues of men and wild beasts who, having seen Medusa, 15

were turned into stone; he himself however looked at Medusa reflected in the bronze of his polished shield which he carried in his left hand. While deep sleep held the snakes and Medusa herself, he snatched away her head from her neck. Pegasus, swift on his wings, and his brother, Chrysaor, were born from their mother's blood. 20

J

Perseus also told them about the unbelievable perils he had encountered on his journeys, which seas and which lands he had seen from high in the sky and which stars he had touched on his beating wings. He had finished, but they wanted more; one of the princes there asked him to explain why one alone of the Gorgon sisters had snakes intertwined in her hair. Perseus replied, 'You 5

are asking to hear a story that is well worth telling, now listen to the explanation. That woman once was very beautiful and aroused jealous hope in many prospective suitors, and there was no part of her more remarkable than her hair. I once met someone who said he had seen her. It is said that the ruler of the sea, Neptune, assaulted this girl in the temple of Minerva; the daughter of 10

Jupiter looked away and covered her virtuous face with her aegis. So that this deed might not go unpunished, the goddess changed the Gorgon's hair into foul snakes. Now too, so that she might terrify her enemies and stun them with fear, she carries the snakes, which she created, on her breastplate.

List of abbreviations used

abl.	ablative
acc.	accusative
dat.	dative
f.	feminine
gen.	genitive
m.	masculine
n.	neuter
pl.	plural

A

a/ab + abl. - *by, from, by means of*
Abantiades, -ae, m. - *descendant of Abas, Perseus*
abdo, -ere, abdidi - *hide*
abeo, -ire - *change*
abluo, -ere - *wash, cleanse*
absum, esse - *be absent*
accipio, -ere - *receive, accept*
ad + acc. - *to*
addo, -ere, -idi - *add*
aequor, -oris, n. - *sea, water, surface (of the sea)*
aer, aeris, m. (acc. aera) - *air*
aether, -eris, m. - *air*
ago, -ere, egi, actus - *drive*
ait (third person only) - *he says*
ala, -ae, f. - *wing*
altus, -a, -um - *high*
amo, -are - *love*
anguifer, -era, -erum - *snake-bearing*
anguis, -is, m. - *snake*
animo, -are, -avi - *bring alive, animate*
ante - *previously*
aper, apri, m. - *boar*
appello, -are - *address, reply to*
aqua, -ae, f. - *water*
aquosus, -a, -um - *rainy, full of water*
arceo, -ere - *prevent*
Arctos, -i, f. - *Arctic, north (Great Bear constellation)*
armus, -i, m. - *shoulder*
arvum, -i, n. - *field*
aspergo, -inis, f. - *spray*
at - *but*
Atlas, -antis, m. - *Atlas (a Titan and king of Mauretania)*
attollo, -ere - *raise, lift*
audeo, -ere, ausus sum - *dare*
aufero, auferre, abstuli, ablatus - *carry*
augeo, -ere, auxi, auctus - *increase*
aura, -ae, f. - *air, breeze*
Aurora, -ae, f. - *Aurora (goddess of dawn)*
auxilium, -ii, n. - *help*
averto, -ere, -i, aversus - *turn over*
aversum - *turned over i.e. basking*
avidus, -a, -um - *greedy*

B

barba, -ae, f. - *beard*
belua, -ae, f. - *monster*
bibulus, -a, -um - *soaking (wet), absorbent*
bracchium, -ii, n. - *arm, claw*

C

cacumen, -inis, n. - *peak*
cado, -ere - *fall, end, set (for setting sun)*
caelum, -i, n. - *sky*
Cancer, -ri, m. - *Crab (sign of the zodiac)*
canis, -is, m. - *dog*

capillus, -i, m. - *hair*
capio, -ere - *take, seize*
caput, -itis, n. - *head*
carpo, carpere - *seize, make use of*
aera carpebat - *was passing through the air*
Cassiope, -es, f. - *Cassiope (mother of Andromeda)*
catena, -ae, f. - *chain*
cauda, -ae, f. - *tail*
causa, -ae, f. - *cause, reason*
cautes, -is, f. - *rock*
cavus, -a, -um - *hollow*
celer, -is, -e - *swift*
celo, -are, -avi - *hide*
celasset = celavisset
Cepheus, -i, m. - *Cepheus (father of Andromeda)*
cervix, -icis, f. - *neck*
circumsonus, -a, -um - *baying, barking*
clamor, -oris, m. - *shout*
claudo, -ere, clausi - *close, shut off*
colūbra, -ae, f. - *snake*
coma, -ae, f. - *hair*
concha, -ae, f. - *shell*
consisto, -ere, constiti - *stop*
conspicio, -ere, conspexi - *catch sight of*
contingo, -ere - *happen*
coralium, -ii, n. - *red coral*
corripio, -ere, -ripui, correptus - *carry away,*
costa, -ae, f. - *rib*
credo, -ere (+ dat.) - *trust, entrust*
cresco, -ere, crevi - *grow*
cruentus, -a, -um - *bloody*
cum + abl. - *with*
cum + indicative - *when*
cum + subjunctive - *while*
cunctor, -ari - *delay*
cupidus, -a, -um - *passionate*
cur - *why*
currus, -us, m. - *chariot*
curvus, -a, -um - *curved*

D

delictum, -i, m. - *crime*
desino, -ere - *stop, taper (i.e. become narrower)*
despecto, -are - *look down*
deus, -i, m. - *god*
dexter, dextra, dextrum - *right*
dico, -ere, dixi, dictus - *say, speak*
dies, -ei, m. and f. - *day*
dignus, -a, -um (+ abl.) - *deserving, worthy*
discors, discordis - *opposing, warring*
diurnus, -a, -um - *daytime*
do, dare, dedi - *given*
domus, -us, f. - *house*
draco, -onis, m. - *snake, serpent*
dum - *until*
duritia, -ae, f. - *hardness*
durus, -a, -um - *hard, cruel*

E

effugio, -ere - flee, escape
enim - for
ensis, -is, m. - sword
eo - on this
et - and
 et ... et ... - both ... and ...
etiamnum - even now, still
evoco, -are - call forth, summon
ex + abl. - from
excipio, -ere, -cepi, exceptus - catch, take
exemplum, -i, n. - example
exigo, -ere, exigi - drive, thrust
exiguus, -a, -um - little, small
expello, -ere - throw out, expel
exsto, -are - stand out
externus, -a, -um - foreign, strange

F

facio, -ere, feci, factus - do, make
falcatus, -a, -um - curved, shaped like a scythe
fateor, fateri - admit, confess
fera, -ae, f. - beast, creature
fero, ferre - carry
ferox, -ocis - fierce
ferrum, -i, n. - sword
fiducia, -ae, f. - trust, confidence
figo, -ere - fasten, fix
finis, -is, m. f. - land, territory
fio, fieri, factus sum - become
fletus, -us, m. - tear, weeping
fluctus, -us, m. - sea water
folium, -ii, n. - leaf
forma, -ae, f. - beauty
fortis, e - brave
fremo, -ere - bellow, roar
frequens, entis - full, crowded
frons, -dis, f. - foliage

G

gaudeo, -ere - rejoice, be thrilled
gelidus, -a, -um - frozen
gener, -eri, m. - son-in-law
gero, -ere - wear
gloria, -ae, f. - glory, renown
Gorgoneus, -a, -um - belonging to the Gorgon
gratia, -ae, f. - gratitude, goodwill
gravis, -e - heavy, deep, serious
gutta, -ae, f. - drop, speck

H

hamus, -i, m. - hook, here: hilt
harena, -ae, f. - sand
haurio, -ire, hausit, haustus - draw up, gather
Hesperius, -a, -um - western

hic, haec, hoc - this
huc - to this place
humus, -i, f. - ground, soil

I

iacto, -are, -avi, iactatus - scatter
iamque - now
idem, eadem, idem - same
ignis, -is, m. - star, fire (of love)
ilia, -ium, n. - belly
ille, illa, illud - that, those, he, she, it, they
illuc - to that place
imago, -inis, f. - image
immensum, -i, n. - immense size, vast distance
immensus, -a, -um - vast
immineo, -ere - threaten
impleo, -ere, -evi - fill
impono, -ere - place on
in + abl. - in, on
in + acc. - into, towards
Inachides, -ae, m. - descendant of Inachus, Perseus
inanis, -e - empty
incedo, -ere - step forward
inde - from there
indico, -are - tell, explain
induresco, -ere, -rui - become hard
inferior, inferioris - lesser
infestus, -a, -um - dangerous
inscius, -a, -um - unknowing, unaware
insono, -ere, insonui - roar, ring out
insto, -are - press someone for an answer, be insistent
inter + acc. - to each other
ipse, ipsa, ipsum - himself, herself, itself
is, ea, id - he/she/it
iste, ista, istud - that, those
itero, -are - repeat
iugum, -i, n. - ridge
iungo, -ere - join
Iuppiter, Iovis, m. - Jupiter (King of the gods and Perseus' father)

L

labor, -oris, m. - task, undertaking
lacrima, -ae, f. - tear
laedo, -ere, laesi, laesus - hurt, wound, injure
laevus, -a, -um - left (opposite of right)
lapis, -idis, m. - stone, rock
latus, -a, -um - broad, wide
latus, -eris, n. - side, flank
levis, e - gentle
Libycus, -a, -um - Libyan, of Libya
litus, -oris, n. - shore
livens, liventis - lead-coloured, bluish-black
longe - far off, faraway
Lucifer, -eri, m. - Lucifer, the Morning Star
lumen, -inis, n. - light (in plural = eyes)

M

madeo, -ere, -ui - *be wet*
 mano, -are - *stream*
 manus, -us, f. - *hand*
 marmoreus, -a, -um - *of marble*
 maternus, -a, -um - *of a mother*
 medulla, -ae, f. - *core*
 Medusa, -ae, f. - *Medusa, the Gorgon whose head
 Perseus has cut off*
 memorabilis, -e - *famous, well-known*
 memoro, -are, -avi, memoratus - *recount, speak of*
 mentior, -iri - *lie, tell an untruth*
 metuo, -ere - *fear, be afraid*
 minae, -arum, f. pl. - *threat*
 mirabilis, -e - *strange, amazing*
 misceo, -ere, -ui, mixtus - *mix*
 mitto, -ere, misi, missus - *send*
 modestus, -a, -um - *modest*
 modo ... modo ... modo ... - *now ... now ... now ...*
 moenia, -ium, n. pl. - *ramparts, city-walls*
 mollio, -ire - *soften*
 mons, montis, m. - *mountain*
 monstrum, -i, n. - *monster*
 morsus, -us, m. - *bite, jaw*
 mos, moris, m. - *manner, here: in the manner of*
 moveo, -ere, movi, motus - *move*
 munus, -eris, n. - *gift*

N

nam - *for*
 nascor, nasci, natus sum - *originate, grow*
 natura, -ae, f. - *nature*
 ne + subjunctive - *so that not, in order to not*
 nec - *nor, not*
 neu - *in case*
 nisi - *except*
 nitor, niti, nisus sum - *lean on*
 nolo, nolle - *not want*
 nomen, -inis, n. - *name*
 non - *not*
 nondum - *not yet*
 noster, -ra, -rum - *our*
 gratia nostra - *my thanks (nostra: plural for
 singular)*
 novus, -a, -um - *new*
 nox, noctis, f. - *night*
 nubes, -is, f. - *cloud*
 nunc - *now*
 nunc ... nunc ... - *now ... now...*
 nympha, -ae, f. - *nymph*

O

o - *oh!*
 obliviscor, -i, oblitus sum - *forget*
 oborior, -iri, obortus sum - *well up, appear*
 obsero, -ere, -evi, obsitus - *covered with, studded with*

occasus, -us, m. - *setting (of the sun)*
 occupo, -are - *seize*
 omnis, -e - *whole, all*
 operio, -ire - *cover*
 opus, operis, n. - *work*
 orbis, -is, m. - *world*
 ortus, -us, m. - *sunrise, the East*
 os, oris, n. - *mouth, face, head*
 os, ossis, n. - *bone*

P

paene - *almost*
 pando, -ere - *reveal, open up*
 par, paris - *equal*
 pars, partis, f. - *part, direction, side*
 parvus, -a, -um - *little, small*
 pateo, -ere - *lie open, be accessible*
 patet - *there is an opportunity*
 pater, -tris, m. - *father*
 pectus, -oris, n. - *breast*
 pelagus, -i, n. - *sea*
 pendeo, -ere - *hang*
 penna, -ae, f. - *wing*
 per + acc. - *through, across*
 percipio, -ere, percepi - *feel*
 Perseus, Persei, m. - *Perseus (Son of Jupiter and
 Danae)*
 peto, -ere - *seek, ask for*
 Phoebus, -i, m. - *Phoebus Apollo (sun-god)*
 Phorcynis, Phorcynidos, f. - *daughter of Phorcus*
 piscis, -is, m. - *fish*
 placidus, -a, -um - *soothing*
 plausus, -us, m. - *applause*
 plures, plurium - *more*
 pomarium, -ii, n. - *orchard*
 pontus, -i, m. - *sea, ocean*
 possideo, -ere - *occupy, take possession of*
 possum, posse, potui - *be able*
 praebeo, -ere - *expose, present*
 praeceps - *headlong*
 praepes, -etis, f. - *(swift-flying) bird, eagle*
 premo, -ere, pressi - *bear down on*
 pretium, -ii, n. - *prize*
 primo - *at first*
 primus, -a, -um - *first, topmost*
 procul - *far away*
 profero, proferre, protuli - *bring forth*
 puniceus, -a, -um - *red*

Q

qua - *wherever*
 quam - *as ...*
 quam simul - *as soon as*
 quantus, -a, -um - *how great*
 quaque - *wherever*
 quater - *four times*

quatio, -ere - here: to flap (as of wings)
-que - and
qui, quae, quod - who, which, what
quis, quis, quid - who?
quod - because
quoniam - since
quoque - also, too

R

ramus, -i, m. - branch
rapio, -ere, -ui - draw in, seize
recens, -entis - fresh
refero, referre - bring back
regnum, -i, n. - kingdom
religo, -are, -avi, religatus - tie
remaneo, -ere, remansi - retain
reor, reri, ratus sum - think, suppose
repetitus, -a, -um - repeatedly attacked
requies, -etis, f. - rest
requiesco, -ere, requievi - rest, settle on
requiro, -ere - ask, beg
res, rei, f. - deed
resolvo, -ere, resolvi, resolutus - release, loosen
retorqueo, -ere - twist back
retro - backwards
rigor, -oris, m. - rigidity
rupes, -is, f. - cliff

S

saepe - often
saevus, -a, -um - cruel
saluto, -are - greet
sanguis, -inis, m. - blood
saxum, -i, n. - rock
scopulus, -i, m. - rock, cliff
se, sui - himself, herself, itself
sed - but
seduco, -ere, -uxi, seductus - remote
semen, -inis, n. - seed
servator, -oris, m. - saviour
servo, -are - protect
si - if
sic - thus, so, in this way
sidus, -eris, n. - star
sileo, -ere - be silent, not speak
silva, -ae, f. - forest, wood
simul - same time as
quam simul - as soon as
sinistra, -ae, f. - left hand
solidus, -a, -um - solid, strong
spolium, -i, n. - plunder
squalens, -tis - filthy, vile
squamiger, -era, -erum - scaly
statuo, -ere, statui - decree
sterno, -ere - spread
sto, -are, steti - stand, stand still
stantibus ... aquis - when the waters were calm

strido, -ere - whirr, make a whirring sound
stupeo, -ere - be astounded, amazed
sub + abl. - beneath, below
subdo, -ere - dive
sublimis, -e - high
sum, esse, fui - be
summus, -a, -um - top, highest (point)
super + acc - above, on top
superus, -a, -um - lofty, high up
supervolo, -are - fly above
suus, -a, -um - his/hers/its

T

tactus, -us, m. - touch
talaria, -ium, n. pl. - winged sandals
tango, -ere, tetigi, tactus - touch
tempto, -are - test
teneo, -ere - grasping, holding
tener, -era, -erum - delicate
tenuissimus, -a, um - thin
tenus + abl. - right up to
tepidus, -a, -um - warm
ter - three times
tergum, -i, n. - back
terra, -ae, f. - land, country
terreo, -ere - terrify
tot - so many
totus, -a, -um - whole
traho, -ere - drag
tu, tui - you (sg)
tum - then
turba, -ae, f. - crowd, here: pack
tuus, -a, -um - your

U

ultra - further, anymore
umerus, -i, m. - shoulder
unda, -ae, f. - sea, wave, sea water
unde - from which
unguis, -is, m. - talon
ut + indicative - as, just as, when

V

vacuus, -a, -um - empty, deserted
vado, -ere - go, travel
varius, -a, -um - different, various
vastus, -a, -um - huge, monstrous
velox, -ocis - swift
venio, -ire - come, approach
ventus, -i, m. - wind
vereor, -eri, ueritus sum - fear, be afraid
verso, -are - twist, turn
vertex, -icis, f. - peak
verto, -ere, -ti, versus - turn
victor, -oris, m. - victor, winner

victrix, -icis, f. - female conqueror
video, -ere, vidi, visus - see (in passive form = seem)
vimen, -inis, n. - twig
vinclum, -i, n. - chain, fetter
vipereus, -a, -um - snakey, snake-like
vir, viri, m. - man
virga, -ae, f. - twig, seaweed
virgo, -inis, f. - girl, maiden, young woman
vis, vis, f. - strength, violence
vivus, -a, -um - living, alive
volatus, -us, m. - flight
vomo, -ere - spew out, vomit
vulnero, -are - wound, injure
vulnus, -eris, n. - wound
vultus, vultūs, m. - face

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