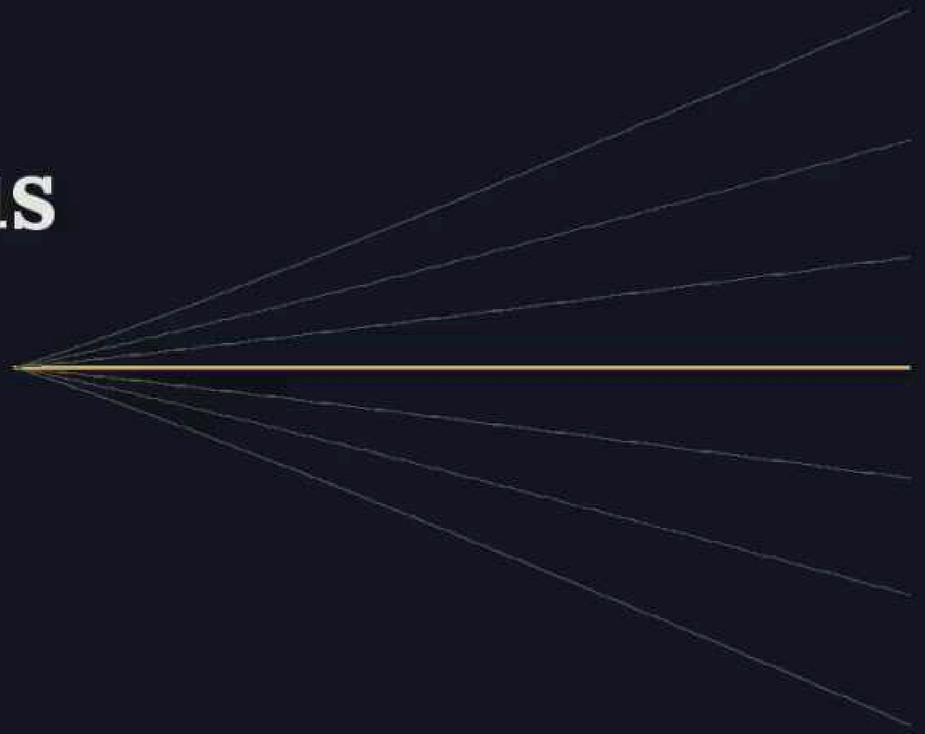
ANDERSON ACADEMY

LATN 102 B · Elementary Latin II (Brief course)

Lecture 6 · about 7 min

Reading Caesar and Catullus



A library of university-level courses

Three questions

- How do we read long sentences?
- What does real Latin look like?
- Where do we go next?

¶ 6.1

What do real Roman authors look like when we read them with the grammar of this course?

Reading method

Read aloud in Latin

Find verb and subject

Group words into phrases

Translate, then rearrange

¶ 6.2

a relative clause with its verb.

Dative of possession

Latin	Meaning
Est mihi liber	There is a book to me: I have a book
Sunt nobis multi amici	There are many friends to us: we have many friends

¶ 6.3

Sunt nobis multi amici means we have many friends.

Caesar's first sentence

Gallia: Gaul

Est omnis: is, as a whole

Divisa: divided

In partes tres: into three parts

¶ 6.4

Read it in order: Gallia, Gaul, nominative; est, is; omnis, all, agreeing with Gallia; divisa, divided; in partes tres,

The grammar at work

- Partes: accusative plural, third declension
- In with accusative: into
- Tres: agrees with partes
- Omnis agrees with Gallia

¶ 6.5

Omnis is also third declension, agreeing with the first-declension noun Gallia, a good example of agreement without matching endings.

Caesar continues

- The Belgae
- The Aquitani
- The Celts, called Gauls by Romans
- The Belgae were the bravest

¶ 6.6

because they lived furthest from the comforts of the Roman province.

Catullus begins

Odi: I hate

Et: and

Amo: I love

I hate and I love

¶ 6.7

It is a perfect form, but it is used with a present meaning.

The rest of the poem

- Why do I do it, you ask
- I do not know
- I feel it happen
- Excrucior: I am tortured

¶ 6.8

In just fourteen words the poem holds two opposite feelings in perfect balance,

Prose and verse

Prose

- Verb usually at the end
- Adjective near its noun
- Read for clarity

Verse

- Words placed for sound
- Adjective often separated
- Rhythm of long and short syllables

¶ 6.9

Roman poetry was also built on patterns of long and short syllables rather than on rhyme.

Common mistakes

- Assuming the first noun is the subject
- Confusing future and present e
- Matching endings, not agreement
- Translating before finding the verb

¶ 6.10

Do not match adjectives by their endings instead of their gender, number, and case.

Mottoes you can now read

- Senatus Populusque Romanus: SPQR
- Que attached means and
- E pluribus unum: out of many, one
- Fiat lux: let there be light

¶ 6.11

E pluribus unum, out of many, one, uses the ablative plural of a third-declension adjective after the preposition e.

Where to go next

- Passive, subjunctive, participles
- Wheelock's Latin
- Orberg's Lingua Latina
- Cambridge Latin Course

¶ 6.12

Lingua Latina per se Illustrata by Hans Orberg teaches through a continuous story,

Daily practice

- A few lines every day
- Say them aloud
- Keep a word notebook
- Reread until it reads as Latin

¶ 6.13

Reread passages you have already translated until you can understand them directly in Latin, without English in between.

Three big ideas, revisited

- Stems carry the meaning
- Tenses mark time and completion
- Read in Latin order

¶ 6.14

Time: Latin divides its six tenses into ongoing and completed actions, each with a past, present, and future.

Exercise

- Five sentences in five tenses
- A third-declension noun
- A relative clause
- Reread Caesar aloud

¶ 6.15

Thank you for studying Latin 102 B with Anderson Academy.

Questions or feedback: garyanderson@mail.grokbot.com · @garyanderson

Pay it forward

- Be of service to humanity
- Tell us how you did it
- Email or a post on X
- Full compensation

¶ 6.16

by email to garyanderson@mail.grokbot or in a post on X to @garyanderson. That is full compensation.