

Key Stage 3 Latin: Curriculum Outline

The curriculum is specifically for state sector students with no prior Latin, designed to be both accessible to and challenging for everyone. It is a **grammar-translation** course founded on the principle that the best experience of Latin occurs when **cultural interest** is combined with **grammatical and linguistic precision**. It upholds the central tenets of the grammar-translation method: grammar and vocabulary are taught discretely prior to translation; passages are to be **translated** (no gap-fill, no comprehension). However, it differs from other grammar-translation courses in **four** ways:

- i. **Story:** The course has a story and characters. At the end of the emperor Commodus' reign (December AD 192), nine animals, trapped in the *vivarium* (zoo or holding pen) at Rome, await the mad, gladiator-emperor's imminent show at the Colosseum. Will they escape? If they do return to their homelands, what will await them? The course focuses on animals not only as an way to engage with young people, but, more importantly, explores the Greco-Roman metaphorical and allegorical use of animals when thinking about 'Otherness', e.g. enslaved people in Aesop's fables, women in the *Odyssey*, nationality and imperialism in visual media (the Egyptian crocodile, the Mesopotamian lion, the African and Indian elephant).
- ii. **Progression model: Exposition** is delivered in very small and easily retrievable chunks; a third of curriculum time is devoted to **consolidation**. This ensures that all students build knowledge and make progress.
- iii. **Cultural literacy:** Many stories are based on original Classical texts; adaptation is as close as possible so that students experience the unique literary style of Classical authors.
- iv. Functional literacy: Explicit links are made to English grammar for the sake of improving functional literacy.

Book	Theme	Chapter/Short-term 1	Chapter/Short-term 2	Chapter/Short-term 3	Chapter/Short-term 4	Chapter/Short-term 5	Chapter/Short-term 6
1	Roman everyday life (and its dark	Nouns (1 st -3 rd declension, without neuters); nominative and accusative; adjectives	Regular verb person endings; the infinitive; the imperative	Prepositions with the accusative case; plurals	Perfect and imperfect tenses	Prepositions with the ablative case	Irregular verbs sum, eram, possum, poteram
	sides)	Gladiators and the Amphitheatre	Roman Education	Fables and Slavery	Roman Theatre	Roman Dinner Parties	Cleopatra and Augustus
2	Home(coming) and identity	Revision of Book 1; neuter nouns; comparison of adjectives and adverbs	1 st -2 nd person pronouns; the vocative; possessive adjectives; reflexive pronoun	3 rd person pronouns (is, ea, id; ille, illa, illud)	Irregular comparison of adjectives; relative pronouns	Future and pluperfect tenses	Demonstratives (<i>hic</i> and <i>ille</i>)
		Ulysses' Wanderings (Italy)	Dido and Aeneas (Carthage)	Roman Urbanisation (Leptis Magna)	Roman Egypt	Rome Beyond Egypt	Ulysses' Homecoming
2	War: imperialism and revolt	Revision of Book 2; irregular verbs <i>volo</i> , <i>nolo</i> and <i>eo</i> ; compound verbs	Genitive, dative and ablative 1 (nouns)	ut clauses: purpose, result and indirect command	Genitive, dative, ablative 2 (pronouns)	Indirect question and cum clauses	Consolidation
3		The Jewish Revolt	The Iliad	The Roman Military (Parthia)	Alexander the Great 1 (Persia)	Alexander the Great 2 (Hyrcania, Bactria and Scythia)	Rome and India; the Death of Alexander

Chapter Structure

The course is designed for a timetable of **two lessons or one lesson per week**. At the start of a sequence, students are **pre-taught** upcoming vocabulary and Roman civilisation content. For the next four to eight lessons, lessons alternate between **grammar** and **translation**. In their weekly grammar lesson, students learn either a discrete grammar point or a sub-section of a grammar point. In their next lesson, students translate a passage: The pre-teaching of vocabulary, civilisation and grammar reduces the cognitive load when translating, meaning students of all levels of prior attainment are able not only to access the passages but think about and enjoy them. Over this sequence, the grammar points learnt cumulate cohesively. There are then **two lessons** of adapted **consolidation** for grammar and Roman civilisation learning.

Roman Civilisation: Inter-leaving and Accumulation

Civilisation topics are ordered according to **geographical location**. Book 1 is set entirely in Rome. From Book 2, the characters travel eastwards across the Mediterranean and beyond. Topics are categorised according to **four threads** which can be revisited every time a new topic on that thread is introduced.

- o Roman everyday life: gladiators, slavery, education, theatre, dinner parties, urban life (forum, baths, politics), military
- Roman interaction with neighbouring civilisations: Roman Africa (Leptis Magna), Egypt, ancient Aethiopia, Judaea, Parthia, Bactria, Scythia, India
- Ancient History: Cleopatra, Caesar, Mark Antony and Augustus; Commodus and Septimius Severus; the Jewish Revolt; Alexander the Great, the Persian Empire; ancient Indian history
- o Myth, epic and stories from ancient literature: Orpheus and Eurydice, Homer, Virgil, fables (Greco-Roman and Indian)

The four threads are not unconnected as many topics overlap. Mythical and socio-historical content are not taught in discrete strands, as such a division may preclude interesting enquires, e.g. the links between the Carthaginian attitude to Rome in Virgil and primary sources from ancient Africa; the relationship between the attitudes to warfare of Homeric heroes, Alexander the Great and Septimius Severus.

Key Stage 4 Classics: Curriculum Outline



YEAR 10 Grammar (1 st -3 st Person Pronouns); Revision: Grammar (Relative Clause); The Genitive Case; The Dative Case; The Ablative Case Revisited; Purpose Clauses Genitive and Dative (1 st -2 nd person pronouns); Genitive and Dative (3 rd person pronouns) Four Local	n Clauses; Indirect estions	Multi-clause Sentences 2; Genitive and Dative (relative pronoun); Irregular Comparison of Adjectives; Houses, Insulae	Indirect Statements Present Participles; Passives; PPPs; Perfect Passives;	Indirect Statements; Language review; Translation
Four Local				Translation
Fire Area	andation Myths; ation and Growth ne City; The Great of AD 64; Different as of the City; Port of Ostia;	and the Domus Aurea; Houses, Food and Water Supply; The Inhabitants' Experience; Arches, Aqueducts and the Cloaca Maxima;	The Pantheon and the Circus Maximus; The Fora;	
YEAR 11 Verbs revision; Irregular comps.; Multi-clause sentences 2; Numbers and time Cuius; Present parts Passives; Ind. Statements; Martial 1.62;	s and 5ths	Literature and Language Revision	Literature and Language Revision	Exams

Key Stage 4 Classics: Curriculum Outline



	Pictures; Lit intro; Epitaph to Claudia; Pliny 6.24; Pliny 4.19	Catullus 5; Seneca; Catullus 8	Horace; <i>fero;</i> Ovid; Cicero; Martial and Catullus;		

YEAR		Component 2	Component 3
10	Latin Language		Roman Civilisation: The City of Rome
	Students begin Year 10 having covered most of the		Students are introduced to the theme of
	core grammar content required for their GCSE. Over		The City of Rome early on in Year 10. They
	the course of Year 10, students will learn all		gain knowledge of this aspect of Roman
	remaining prescribed grammar and vocabulary. They		civilisation through detailed study of the following areas: The Beginnings of the City,
	begin with irregular verbs, allowing for revision of the basics of sentence structure. Students are then		A City of Contrasts, Life in the City of Rome,
	introduced to the genitive, dative and ablative cases,		Buildings and Monuments, The Fora.
	at which point they also review pronouns. From		Students are taught to analyse and respond
	Term 3 onwards, students are introduced to the		to ancient source material and to evaluate
	more complicated features of Latin grammar,		evidence from across the whole theme to
	including participles, passive verbs and subordinate		respond to extended evaluative questions.
	clauses. Throughout the course of the year, students		Students will continue to revisit the themes
	are given the opportunity to consolidate their		and topics of this paper across the course of
	knowledge through regular long-form translation		the year in order to consolidate their
	practice.		knowledge and skills.
11	Year 11 cohort will have covered most of the	Latin Literature and Sources: Love and Marriage	Roman Civilisation: The City of Rome
	grammar and vocabulary required for their GCSE.	Students are introduced to the study of Latin	Students in Year 11 will continue to revisit
	Y11 will learn how to recognise and translate the	literature at the start of Year 11. Students this	regularly the topics taught in Year 10. There
	Deponent verbs, 4ths and 5ths, fero. From Term 2	year are studying a selection of extracts from	

Key Stage 4 Classics: Curriculum Outline



onwards, students will focus on revision of both	Roman authors with a focus on the topic of love	will be a particular focus on development of
vocabulary and grammar through regular quizzing	and marriage. They will translate and analyse	the essay-writing skills needed for the GCSE.
and translation tasks.	extracts from the authors Pliny, Martial, Catullus,	
	Seneca, Horace, Ovid, Cicero. They will learn to	
	conduct close literary analysis of these texts,	
	while also engaging with the theme more broadly	
	to consider Roman attitudes towards love and	
	marriage. Once familiar with all texts, students	
	will begin to look at the anthology as a whole,	
	making links between texts, in order to present	
	robust, convincing arguments on what these	
	texts can reveal about love and marriage.	