

BEAUTIFUL LATIN

Week 2 – March 25, 2024

<https://translucentwords.com/beautiful-latin/>

Recitation Together:

In principio erat Verbum, et Verbum erat apud Deum, et Deus erat Verbum. (John 1:1)

Review Conversation:

1: Salve! 2: Salve!

1: Ut vales? 2: Bene valeo. Ut vales? 1: Bene valeo.

1: Vale! 2: Vale!

New Conversation:

1: Mihi (non) placet cafea – I (don't) like coffee.

2: Vere? Tibi (non) placet cafea? – Really? You (don't) like coffee?

Also substitute "thea" (tea) for "cafea."

We are learning a useful idiom for liking something. Whereas in English we say "I like –," in Latin we say "– pleases me." Mihi means "to me," Tibi means "to you." The thing we like is the grammatical subject of the sentence.

Homework Report:

How did it go this week? What were successes? Frustrations? Are there any ways we could help each other?

Adjectives match their Nouns:

In Latin, an adjective must match the noun it is modifying in number and gender. So, in English we say 'a big boy' or 'two big boys,' and the ending of 'big' does not change, but in Latin it would have to.

Latin has 3 grammatical genders: masculine, feminine, and neuter. Nouns have a designated gender; adjectives change to match the noun they are with.

There are families of nouns, called "Declensions"

These families each use a particular set of endings to make things plural or put them in other cases.

"Cases" mark different uses in the sentence.

For instance, the "genitive" case marks possession (like English "–'s" or "of –").

The "nominative" case is the basic form of the word, which marks the subject of the sentence.

All the nouns we are learning in the first few chapters follow this pattern for the plural nominative:

masculine (2nd declension)

neuter (2nd declension)

feminine (1st declension)

fluvius → fluvii

opidum → oppida

insula → insulae

Talking About Our Families

quot? – how many?

liberi – children

filius – son (plural: filii)

filia – daughter (plural: filiae)

familia – family

magnus – big (masculine)

magna – big (feminine)

parvus – little (masculine)

parva – little (feminine)

___ mihi sunt – I have ___

I – unus, una

II – duo, duae

III – tres

IV – quattuor

V – quinque

VI – sex

VII – septem

duae filiae mihi sunt – I have two daughters (literally 2 daughters are to me)

quot liberi tibi sunt – how many children do you have?

Homework:

Write your homework goals below.

Mix and match these elements for homework:

- read part II of chapter I; reread as often as necessary.
 - Listen to an audio version of the section. (Options are linked on the website.)
 - try to “narrate” or tell back some of the sentences you read, or alter them “Atascadero in California est. . . “
 - Spend ___ minutes a day watching the fun/funny/beautiful videos linked on the website (with subtitles allowed!)
 - Read the memory verse aloud every day.
 - Read the little Narnia booklet (and illustrate, if you like!)
 - You could do the first sentences of the “Pensa” exercises at the end of the chapter.
 - Propose your own creative homework!
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The opening words of Augustine's Confessions:

**Magnus es, domine, et laudabilis valde: magna virtus tua, et
sapientiae tuae non est numerus.**
you are, O Lord praise-able very strength/virtue your
(of) wisdom number

1. what effect does it create for the first words of the book to be "magnus es?"
2. based on the adjective used, what gender is God? "virtus"?
3. notice the word virtus can mean both strength and virtue
4. notice the compactness of "es" and "domine" – two words of English for one of Latin
5. notice once again a somewhat chiastic structure (ABBA)
6. what does the following translation capture and what does it miss?

Great art Thou, O Lord, and greatly to be praised; great is Thy power, and Thy wisdom infinite.
(E. B. Pusey)
