

How to Use this Commentary

Research shows that, as we learn how to read in a second language, a combination of reading and direct vocabulary instruction is statistically superior to reading alone. One of the purposes of this book is to encourage active acquisition of vocabulary.

1. Master the core vocabulary list as soon as possible.

Develop a daily regimen for memorizing vocabulary and forms before you begin reading. Start with an intensive review of the running core list on the next page. Although a substantial number of core vocabulary words come within the first few lessons of the commentary, readers have encountered most of these words in first-year Latin and should be able to master the list quickly. Once readers have reviewed these words, I recommend that they consult and memorize slightly less frequent words in *Fabulae Faciles* as they encounter them.

2. Read actively.

Read in Latin word order. Initially, readers have a tendency both (a) to scan through the entire Latin sentence quickly to order to attain a sense of the constructions and (b) to treat the sentence as a puzzle and jump around the passage from subject to verb to object and so on. As you acquire more vocabulary and your comfort with the Latin increases, make reading in Latin word order your primary method. It is a lot of fun and with persistence very satisfying as well.

Develop the habit of making educated guesses as you read. The purpose of the graded reader to provide you with an opportunity to encounter difficult constructions, particularly subjunctive clauses and indirect discourse, so frequently that you cannot help but to develop proficiency identifying and translating them. Make educated guesses as you read. If you guess correctly, the commentary will reaffirm your knowledge of the Latin. If you answer incorrectly, you will become more aware of your weaknesses and therefore more capable of correcting them.

3. Reread a passage immediately after you have completed it.

Repeated readings not only help you commit Latin to memory but also increase your ability to read the Latin as Latin. Always read the words out loud (or at least whisper them to yourself). While you may be inclined to translate the text into English as you reread, develop the habit of reading Latin as Latin.

4. Reread the most recent passage immediately before you begin a new one.

This additional repetition will strengthen your ability to recognize vocabulary, forms, and syntax quickly, bolster your confidence, and most importantly provide you with much-needed context as you begin the next selection in the text.

Running Core Vocabulary (Words 15 or More Times)

The following four pages include all words that occur fifteen or more times in the myths in a running core vocabulary list. These words are not found within the vocabulary lists facing each page of Latin. The number in the left column is the page number where the core vocabulary word first occurs. Flashcards for this list are available online. For a single alphabetized list of these core words, consult the glossary.

Page

2	ā, ab, abs: (away) from, out of, 72
2	accipiō: to receive, get, accept, 26
2	ad: to, toward; near, 188
2	annus, -ī m.: year, 18
2	at: but; mind you; but, you say, 27
2	atque: and, and also, and even, 21
2	autem: however, moreover, 81
2	brevis, -e: short, brief, 15
2	coniciō, -ere, -iēcī: throw together, throw, take oneself, 13
2	cōnsilium, -iī n.: plan, advice; council, assembly, 23
2	constituō, -ere, -uī, -ūtus: decide, establish, resolve, 36
2	cum: with (+ abl.); when, since, although, 196
2	dē: down from, from, about, concerning (+ abl.), 29
2	deus, -ī m.: god, divinity, deity, 19
2	dīcō, -ere, dīxī, dictus: say, speak, tell, call, name, 17
2	dō, dare, dedī, datum: give, put, make; grant, allow, 42
2	enim: for, indeed, in truth, 77
2	et: and, also, even, 287
2	faciō, -ere, fēcī, factum: make, do, 89
2	habitō (1): to inhabit, live, 18
2	hic, haec, hoc: this, that; he, she, it, 222
2	ibi: there, in that place, 21
2	igitur: therefore, then, accordingly, 71
2	ille, illa, illud: that (famous); he, she, it, 84
2	in: in (+ abl.) , into (+ acc.), 272
2	insula, -ae f.: island, 20
2	ipse, ipsa, ipsum: -self; the very, 50
2	is, ea, id: this, that; he, she, it, 230
2	lītus, lītoris n.: shore, beach, 19
2	māgnopere: greatly, very much, 15
2	magnus, -a, -um: great, large, tall; mighty, important, 79
2	mare, maris n.: sea, 15
2	multus, -a, -um: much, many, abundant, 36
2	omnis, omne: every, all, 96
2	Perseus, -ī m.: Perseus, 26
2	post: after, behind (+ acc.); afterward, next, 32
2	postquam: after, when, 58

- 2 **puer, puerī, m.:** boy, 17
 2 **quīdam, quaedam, quiddam:** certain, a certain, 50
 2 **rēx, rēgis m.:** king; *adj.* ruling, royal, 44
 2 **sē:** himself, herself, itself, themselves, 115
 2 **sum, esse, fuī, futūrum:** to be, 422
 2 **suus, -a, -um:** his, her, its, their (own), 84
 2 **tamen:** nevertheless, however, 99
 2 **tantus, -a, -um:** so great, so much, so large, 55
 2 **tempestās, -tātis f.:** weather; storm, 17
 2 **tempus, -poris n.:** time, 31
 2 **tum:** then, at that time, 73
 2 **videō, vidēre, vīdī, vīsum:** to see, 50
 2 **volō, velle, voluī:** will, wish, be willing, 22
- 4 **audiō, audīre, audīvī, audītum:** to hear, listen to, 22
 4 **capīō, capere, cēpī, captum:** to take, capture, seize, 14
 4 **caput, capītis, n.:** head; life, 20
 4 **causa, -ae f.:** reason, cause; case, 31
 4 **dum:** while, as long as, until, 35
 4 **ē, ex:** out from, from, out of (+ abl.), 108
 4 **etiam:** besides, also, even, 17
 4 **homō, -inis m./f.:** man, mortal, human, 21
 4 **iam:** now, already, soon, 29
 4 **locus, -ī m.:** place, region, situation; opportunity, 51
 4 **manus, -ūs f.:** hand, 16
 4 **modus, -ī m.:** way, manner; **modo** (adv.) only 38
 4 **monstrum, -ī n.:** monster, 26
 4 **per:** through, over, across, 23
 4 **pervenīō, -īre, -vēnī, -ventum:** to come through, arrive 19
 4 **prīmus -a -um:** first, 16
 4 **quaerō, -ere, quaesivī, quaesītum:** to seek, ask, inquire, 21
 4 **quī, quae, quod (quis? quid?):** who, which, that, 307
 4 **referō, -ferre, -tulī, -lātum:** report, bring back, 18
 4 **rēs, reī, f.:** thing, matter, affair, business, 83
 4 **saxum, saxī n.:** rock, 15
 4 **species, -eī f.:** sight, look, appearance, aspect, 15
 4 **statim:** immediately, on the spot, at once, 28
 4 **tandem:** finally, at last, at length, in the end, 28
 4 **ubi:** where, when, 56
 4 **ūnus, -a, -um:** one, 14
 4 **veniō, -īre, vēnī, ventus:** come, go, 72
- 6 **animus, -ī m.:** soul, spirit, breath, courage, pride, 18
 6 **diēs, -eī m./f.:** day, time, season, 46
 6 **dolor, -ōris m.:** pain, grief, anger, passion, 17
 6 **exspectō (1):** look out for, wait for, await, 15
 6 **filia, -iae f.:** daughter, 20

- 6 **gerō, -ere, gessī, gestus:** carry (on), wage, 18
 6 **gravis, -e:** heavy, serious, severe; venerable, 16
 6 **iubeō, iubēre, iussī, iussum:** to order, command, 17
 6 **mittō, -ere, -mīsī, missum:** to send, let go, 18
 6 **parō (1):** prepare, make (ready), 21
 6 **perīculum, -ī n.:** risk, danger, peril, 31
 6 **subitō:** immediately, straightaway, 19
 6 **tīmor, -oris m.:** fear, dread, anxiety, 15
 6 **trādō, -dere, -didī, -ditum:** to give over, hand down, 20
- 8 **conferō, -ferre:** bring together, collect, carry, 18
 8 **corpus, corporis, n.:** body, 19
 8 **mox:** soon, 19
 8 **nāvis, nāvis, f.:** ship, boat, 63
 8 **neque:** and not (neque...neque = neither...nor), 27
 8 **paucī, -ae, -a:** little, few, scanty, 22
 8 **regiō, -ōnis f.:** region, district, 18
 8 **regnum, -ī n.:** (royal) power, kingdom, realm, 19
 8 **salūs, -ūtis f.:** safety, security, health, 15
 8 **sed:** but, moreover, however, 31
 8 **sentīō, sentīre, sēnsī, sēsum:** to feel, perceive, 16
 8 **sine:** without (*abl.*), 19
 8 **solvō, -ere, solvī, solūtum:** to loosen, release, 20
- 10 **cognōscō, -ere, -nōvī, -nitum:** to learn, *perf.* know, 22
 10 **dimittō, -ere, -mīsī, -missus:** send away, let go, 8
 10 **Hercules, -is m.:** Hercules 121
 10 **pars, partis, f.:** part, share, 23
 10 **redeō, -īre, -īvī:** go back, return, come back, 19
 10 **urbs, urbis, f.:** city, 19
- 12 **habēō, -ēre, habuī, -itus:** have, hold; consider, 34
 12 **interficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectum:** kill, slay, destroy, 15
 12 **iter, itineris n.:** way, road, journey, 19
 12 **nōn:** not, by no means, not at all, 40
 12 **paulus, -a, -um:** little, small, 16
 12 **vīs, (vīs), f.:** force, power, violence; *pl.* vīrēs, strength, 23
 12 **vir, virī m.:** man, male, 23
- 14 **bōs, bovis m. f.:** cow, ox, bull (bobus-dat. abl.), 18
 14 **proficīscor, -ī, -fectus:** set out, depart, 19
- 16 **Eurystheus, -ī m.:** Eurystheus, 23
 16 **possum, posse, potuī:** be able, can, avail, 46
- 18 **conficiō, -ere:** to exhaust, finish, accomplish, 16
 18 **labor, -ōris m.:** labor, hardship, task, 22
 18 **nūllus, -a, -um:** none, no, no one, 24
- 20 **auxilium, -ī n.:** help, aid, assistance, 19

- 20 coepī, coepisse, coeptum:** begin, 16
20 ingēns (ingentis): huge, immense, vast, huge, 21
20 ita: so, thus, 25
22 progredior, -gredī, progressus sum: advance, 17
22 reliquus, -a, um: remaining, left (over), 15
22 sī: if (only), whether, in case that, 20
22 spelunca, -ae f.: cave, 30
22 summus, -a, -um: highest, greatest, top of, 29
22 vinum, vinī n.: wine, 16
24 idem, eadem, idem: the same, 15
24 ēgredior, -ī, -gressus: go out, disembark, 18
26 flūmen, -inis n.: river, stream, 15
26 ut: as, just as, when (+ ind.); (so) that, in order that, 112
28 terra, -ae f.: land, earth, 22
34 socius, -ī m.: ally, companion, comrade, 33
36 intellegō, -ere, -lēxī, -lēctum: to realize, understand, 24
40 nē: lest, that not, no, not, 22
58 Iāson, -onis m.: Jason, 45
62 Argonautae, -ārum m.: Argonauts, 18
70 Mēdēa, -ae f.: Medea, 27
88 Ulixēs, -is m.: Ulysses, 43
92 Polyphēmus, -ī m.: Polyphemus, 19
104 Circē, -ēs f.: Circe, 15

Abbreviations

abs.	absolute	impf.	imperfect	pl.	plural
acc.	accusative	imper.	impersonal	plpf.	pluperfect
act.	active	indic.	indicative	pred.	predicate
adj.	adjective	i.o.	indirect object	prep.	preposition
adv.	adverb	ind.	indirect	pres.	present
app.	appositive	inf.	infinitive	pron.	pronoun
comp.	comparative	inter.	interrogative	quest.	question
dat.	dative	m.	masculine	reflex.	reflexive
dep.	deponent	n.	neuter	rel.	relative
d.o.	direct object	nom.	nominative	seq.	sequence
f.	feminine	obj.	object	sg.	singular
fut.	future	pple.	participle	subj.	subject
gen.	genitive	pass.	passive	superl.	superlative
imp.	imperative	pf.	perfect	voc.	vocative