

Useful Phrases for Spoken Latin

(Collaboration by Ellie Arnold and the Teaching Latin for Acquisition Group)

Link to editable Google Doc:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1RtnMHmgaJywifK4yR1kZjZl9CAv1S2XaNwgXxR9kKE/edit?pref=2&pli=1#>

Useful All the Time

LATIN	ENGLISH	NOTES
rēapsē rē vēra	really, actually	<i>rēapsē</i> is Ciceronian
sī vēra dīcam ut vēra dīcam	really, actually	better attested in texts
fieri potest	it can be done, it's possible	
meā interest	it's interesting to me	Idiomatic phrase
teneō	I get (it)	
(aliquem) certiōrem facere	to let someone know to tell someone to confirm with someone	
omnīnō	completely, totally, altogether	fun to pair with <i>nōlō</i> , <i>nesciō</i>
magnī momentī est magnī momentī nōn est	it's important it's not important	<i>maximī momentī est</i> is a stronger version of this
itaque	anyway, and so	
utique	anyway, in any case	
rē vērā	in fact	Classical usage
ut dictūrus (dictūra) eram	as I was saying	
soleō (+ infinitive)	I usually..., I typically...	
quidquid	whatever	Good "eject button" option when you can't figure how to end a sentence
et ita porrō	and so on, and so forth	Another way to "eject" oneself
In proximum!	See you soon/later!	
In crastinum!	See you tomorrow!	
prōferō dēferō	to put off, to procrastinate	

Qualifiers

LATIN	ENGLISH	NOTES
tantum per iocum	Just kidding!	
ut opīnor ut mihi vidētur meā sententiā	as I suppose as it seems to me in my opinion	To express an opinion but didn't expect to be in indirect statement. Use with indicative!
quae cum ita sint	since it's like that, and so	
ut ita dīcam	so to speak	Good for when using a modernism ("Verbal scare quotes")

praeteribō X	I won't even mention X not to mention X I'm not going to even talk about X	Classical usage (Cicero, Nepos, Livy, Pliny)
quod maius est	what's more, beyond that, on top of that	Classical usage
nisi fallor nī fallor	unless I'm mistaken	if I'm right, if I recall correctly, as far as I know
saltem	at least	
ferē	approximately, pretty much	
plūs minusve	more or less	Classical usage
nihil est, nīl est	no problem	
dumtaxat	no more than, exactly	
quidem	yes, indeed	concessive, mid-sentence
equidem	at least, anyway	<i>ego equidem, mē equidem</i> (I at least, for me anyway)
vērisimile est (+ ind. statement)	it's likely, probable that	
ut vērisimile est	which is likely, as is likely	
quod superest	as for the rest, furthermore	
quod ad X attinet	as far as X is concerned as far as X goes	
Adde quod (+ indicative)	plus the fact that... there's also the fact that...	
Accēdit quod	add to this (the fact) that... there's also the fact that...	
Accēdit ut (+ indicative)	It so happens that..., besides...	

Agreement/Disagreement/Opinions

LATIN	ENGLISH	NOTES
Certē Ita Sic Etiam	yes	These are more modern uses. Classical Latin would answer with a verb. "Ēsūrīs?" "Ēsūriō."
Etiam ego Ego quoque	Me too	<i>Quoque</i> is postpositive!
Neque ego	Me neither	
Tēcum stō. (Tēcum) cōnsentiō.	I agree (with you).	
Assentiō tibi.	I'm inclined to agree with you. I tend to agree with you.	
Dissentiō ā tē (tēcum, tibi).	I disagree with you.	
Haud meā refert. Nōn meā refert.	It doesn't matter to me.	Idiomatic phrase.

Nihil (nīl) morātur.		
Floccī nōn faciō.	I don't care at all. I don't give a _____.	
Quidnī?	Why not? Sure!	Classical usage (Plautus, Terence, Seneca, etc.)
Quidquid.	Whatever.	
Magnī momentī (nōn) est.	It's (not) important.	
Fiat. Estō. Licet. Placet.	Okay.	

Feelings & Opinions

LATIN	ENGLISH	NOTES
ut opīnor ut mihi vidētur meā sententiā	as I suppose as it seems to me in my opinion	To express an opinion but didn't expect to be in indirect statement. Use with indicative!
(mihi, eī) (nōn, haud) placet	(I, he/she) (don't/doesn't) like it.	
(mihi, eī) displicet	(I, he/she) dislike(s) it.	
(mē) eius taedet	(I'm) sick and tired of it.	
(mē) eius pudet	(I'm) ashamed of it. (I'm) really embarrassed about it.	
quidquid	whatever	
Quidnī?	Why not? Sure!	Classical usage (Plautus, Terence, Seneca, etc.)
magnī momentī (nōn) est	it's (not) important	
nihil moror	I really don't care.	
(aliquid) studium meum excitat	X fires up my "nerd engines" X interests me	
(alicuius agendī) studiō flagrō	I'm really into doing X. I'm really obsessed with X.	
hoc mihi iūcundum est	I enjoy it It's something I do for fun	

When You Need Help

LATIN	ENGLISH	NOTES
Quid?	What?	Great all-purpose word for when you're confused.
iterum	again	
lentius	slower	
nōn intellegō nōn patet	I don't understand	
rogandum mihi est	I have a question	DO NOT USE " <i>Habeō rogātiōnem (quaestiōnem)!</i> "

Quid sibi X vult? Quid significat X?	What does X mean?	
Quō verbō X dīcitur?	How do you say X?	<i>Quōmodo dīcitur</i> is technically a modernism.
Subaudīvī.	I misheard.	
quidquid	whatever	
necesse est mihi necesse habeō	I need	in a really desperate or indispensable way
opus est mihi (+ abl. or infinitive)	I need... I could use a...	In a “non-life-threatening context”
careō (+ abl.)	I need/want I go without, I abstain from	not an urgent need descriptive and objective
egeō (+ abl.)	I need/want	emotional and subjective need

Basic Manners

LATIN	ENGLISH	NOTES
quaesō rogō amābō tē sī mē amās	Please.	
NOTE: When you need to ask someone to do something, you can use the <i>Imperative</i>, but <i>Hortatory/Jussive Subjunctives</i> or an <i>Indirect Command</i> would be more polite.		
Sīs = sī vīs	if you would, please	
ignosce mihi	Excuse me, pardon me I'm sorry	(sorry for an offense)
mē paenitet	I'm sorry	(for a regret of an event or sympathy)
ale salvēte	hello, bless you (after a sneeze)	
avē (havē) avēte	hello, good afternoon, good morning	More formal way to greet.
ale valēte	goodbye	
bonum mātūtīnum	good morning	(more of a modernism)
Ut valēs? Quōmodo tē habēs? Quid agis?	How are you?	
Bene valeō. Bene mē habeō. Bene agō.	I'm fine. I'm good.	
Male mē habeō. Male agō.	I'm not well. I'm lousy.	
Susque dēque.	So-so.	
Sat bene valeō. Bene mē habeō.	I'm okay.	

Bene agō.		
Grātiās tibi agō.	Thank you!	Add <i>maximās, plūrimās, sescentās</i> to intensify.
Libenter.	You're welcome.	
Benignē.	No, thank you.	

Time-Related Stuff

LATIN	ENGLISH	NOTES
modo	just, right now	<i>Modo pēnsum perfēcī.</i> - I just finished my homework.
semper	always	
numquam	never	
nōnnumquam	sometimes	
aliquandō	sometimes	
saepe	often	<i>saepius</i> - more often <i>saepissimus</i> - usually, frequently
rārē	rarely	
cōtīdiē	every day	
paene semper paene numquam	almost always almost never	
veniēns, -ntis proximus, -a, -um	next, upcoming	e.g. <i>annō proximō</i> (next year)
praeteritus, -a, -um peractus, -a, -um	past, last	e.g. <i>annō peractō</i> (last year)
hebdomas, -adis (f.)	week	
hodiernus, -a, -um	today's	<i>hodiernā nocte</i> - tonight <i>hodiē māne/hodiē nocte</i>
crastinus, -a, -um	tomorrow's	<i>crastinā nocte</i> - tomorrow night
hesternus, -a, -um	yesterday's	<i>hesternā nocte</i> - last night
nudius tertius	the day before yesterday	" <i>nunc diēs est tertius</i> "
perendiē	the day after tomorrow	
diēs quārtus post	day after the day after tomorrow	Romans count inclusively!
annō ineunte	the next year, in the coming year	
(in) hīs X diēbus	in X days from now	Use with future tense!
post X diēbus X post diēbus	after X days X days after	Use with past tense!
abhinc (+ acc.)	ago, from now	
adhūc	still, even now	

NOTE: something that's been going on for a while and is still going on should be in the present tense in Latin, even though it's perfect in English e.g. I have been waiting for six hours = *nunc sex horās exspectō*.

Exclamations and Mild Oaths

LATIN	ENGLISH	NOTES
Ecastor! Edepol!	Jeez! Boy!	<i>Ecastor</i> is often used by females, but <i>edepol</i> is often a male word
Dī magnī! Dī bonī! Dī immortalēs!	Gosh! Lord! OMG!	
Dī ita X (acc.) ament!	Bless X's heart!	
Mehercule! Mehercle!	I swear! So help me!	"by Hercules!"
Babae! Papae!	Wow!	
Heus!	Hey! Yoo-hoo!	
Malum!	Darn! Bother!	
Prō dolor! Proh dolor!	That's a shame! What a pity!	
Fufae!	Yuck! Ugh! Eww!	
Ain'?	Really?	" <i>Aisne?</i> " - Did you just say what I think you just said?

Directions

MOVEMENT:			
dextrōrsum	to the right	rursus	backward
sinistrōrsum	to the left	sursum	up
prōrsus	forward	deōrsum	down
POSITION: (NOTE: Ubi stat X? - Where is X? Where does X stand?)			
ad dextram	to the right	ante	in front, ahead, before
ad sinistram	to the left	post	behind, in back, after

Addendum

versor, versārī, versātus sum	to be (located in) to spend time in	Some speakers use <i>versor</i> rather than <i>sum</i> or <i>habitō</i> for expressing one's location in a place over some period of time. e.g., I've lived (<i>versor</i>) in this town for ten years, or I spent (<i>versor</i>) two weeks in California this summer. It has a sense of spending time and moving around in a space. It is used in Caesar.
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