

Medieval Latin Club, meeting 3b (1 hour)

I. Vocab/Etymology (15 minutes):

A. Latin root: tradit “hand over, hand down”

- tradition, traditional, extradite, extradition, tradent, traitor,
- Ask students to brainstorm derivatives.

B. Affixes in English words:

i. Review the definitions of prefix, suffix, and root as needed.

ii. Prefixes: ad-, ab-

a) ad-: to, towards, near

- Give students the following examples:

a) address – to speak to

b) advance – to move towards

c) admit – give allowance to

- Prompt students with the following questions:

a) To join to? (adjoin)

b) To give advice to? (advise)

c) If aptus is Latin for fit, what word means to make fit to?

(adapt)

d) If haero is Latin for to stick, what word means to stick to

(Hint: ae was changed to e as English evolved)?

(adhere)

e) If jacere is Latin for to lie, what word means to lie next to, or be near? (adjacent)

f) If miror is Latin for to wonder, what word means to marvel at someone? (admire)

b) ab- : away from

- Give students the following examples:

a) abandon – to leave behind, walk away from

b) abjure – solemnly renounce a belief, cause, or claim

- c) abject – cast off, rejected (literally ‘thrown away’)
- d) abstain – restrain oneself from doing something (literally ‘hold back from’)

- Prompt students with the following questions:

- a) To step down from a position of authority? (abdicate)
- b) Far from being normal? (abnormal)

- c) If scondet is Latin for to stow, to hide, what word means ‘to hide away’? (abscond)
- d) If sunt is Latin for to be, what word means ‘to be away, to not be present’? (absent)
- e) If ducit is Latin for to lead, what word means ‘to lead away, kidnap’? (abduct)
- f) If rasit is Latin for to scrape, what word means ‘scraped away’? (abrasion)
- g) If solvit is Latin for to loosen, to set free, what word means ‘to set free from blame’? (absolve)

iii. Ask students to come up with their own examples of words with the given affixes. Ask them to explain how the affix affects the meaning of the word.

C. Vocab review:

- i. Offer obvious derivatives of this chapter’s vocab.
- ii. Check out the hangman game again: <http://www.quia.com/hm/1896.html>

II. Grammar (20 minutes):

A. Review grammar concepts from previous lesson:

- i. Replicate the noun paradigm, including both first and second declension endings.
- ii. Remind students of the different declensions that they have encountered, at ask them to identify the declension of the nouns in the vocab list.

iii. Remind students that transitive verbs in Latin take direct objects in the accusative case. Give an example of a transitive verb in Latin and ask students to supply the proper direct object.

B. Exercise from the back of the book: 3.1, 3.2. Review the grammar notes relevant to the exercises.

i. Quiz students by changing the cases of various nouns in the sample sentences and asking students to retranslate.

C. New grammar concepts:

i. Point out to students the different verb endings we have encountered (-at, -et, -it). Explain the different verb conjugations. Explain the concept of thematic vowels in verb forms.

III. Medieval World (20 minutes): Bestiaries: Elephant

A. Pictures: elephant family <http://bestiary.ca/manuscripts/manu1017.htm> , Elephants in the military <http://bestiary.ca/beasts/beat77.htm>

B. Text: Bartholomew on the Elephant: Solinus also talks about elephants. He says, “Elephants observe the teaching of the stars, and when the moon is waxing they seek rivers. Sprinkled with water, they greet the rising of the sun with whatever motions they can, and then return to their forests. The young can be recognized by the whiteness of their teeth, one of which is always in use and the other spared, so they are not blunted by endless knocks. But when they are threatened by hunters, they strike both at once and break them, so that they will not be pursued any further once their ivory has been damaged and disfigured, for they know that this is the cause of the danger to themselves.

They come together rarely, and then wash themselves in running water, and do not return to the herd before this washing. They never fight for the females, for they know nothing of adultery. When they struggle for any reason, they do not much care about a moderate wound, for they receive the tired and wounded in their midst, and protect and defend them more than themselves.

Pliny says that it is a sign of their good intellect and ability to learn that they

recognize a king. As though they were instructed and compelled to adore him, they bend their knees on account of their reverence.

And when they are tamed, they are the best animals for war, for they carry wooden towers, and they flatten the enemy lines and turn armed men to retreat. But what is amazing is that they, who do not fear lines of armed men, run away in fear from the smallest squeak of a pig.

IV. Conclusion (5 minutes):