

Medieval Latin Club, meeting 4a (1 hour):

I. Vocabulary (10 minutes)

- A. Introduce vocabulary from the chapter; read aloud
- B. Hangman: www.quia.com/hm/1897.html

II. Etymology (10 minutes)

PREFIXES:

ad	con	ultra
bi/bis	de	super / supra

1) **ad**: TO, TOWARDS, NEAR

- a. address (speak **to**)
- b. advance (move **towards**)
- c. admit (give allowance **to**)

2) **bi / bis**: TWICE, DOUBLE

- a. biweekly, biannual (**twice** a week, **twice** a year)
- b. bifocal (having lenses with **two** parts)
- c. bisect (divide into **two** parts)
- d. warn students against imposters i.e. bison, biography

3) **con**: WITH, TOGETHER WITH

- a. converse (speak **with**)
- b. congregate (come **together**, meet **with**)
- c. converge (come **together**)

4) **de**: DOWN, FROM, AWAY FROM

- a. depart (move **away**, leave **from**)
- b. descend (move **down**)
- c. detract (take **away from**)

5) **ultra:** BEYOND

- a. ultraviolet (**beyond** violet on the wavelength scale)
- b. ultrasonic (**beyond** the limit of human hearing)

6) **super / supra:** ABOVE, UPPER

- a. superior

supremacy (the state of being superior to all others in rank, power, etc.)

II. Grammar (20 minutes)

- A. Introduce “At the Fountain”
- B. Exercises at the back of the book. 4.2 & 4.3
- C. Plural nouns exercise: OLC4gr1

III. Medieval World: (15 minutes) The relationship of Elephants with Dragons

Between elephants and dragons there is a constant struggle, for the dragon binds the feet of the elephant, and the elephant strikes down the dragon with his feet and trunk. The dragon, in turn, ties up the feet of the elephant in the knot of his tail and makes him fall, but this does not go unpunished, because while he kills the elephant, he is also killed by the falling elephant. An elephant, seeing a dragon on top of a tree, tries to break the tree in order to hurt the dragon, but the dragon jumps onto the elephant, and tries to bite him between the nostrils, and aims for the elephant's eyes. Sometimes he blinds him, and sometimes he jumps up onto his back, bites him, and sucks his blood, and finally after the long struggle the elephant is weakened by loss of blood, so much that he falls on the dragon and, dying, destroys his killer. The reason that the dragon wants the elephant's blood is the chilliness of the elephant's blood, which the dragon hopes to cool off with.

Following Galen, medievals believed that the heart was hot, so that the lungs functioned to cool the blood. The heat of the heart attracts air that streams through the lungs to cool the blood and thereby introduce the ‘vital spirit’. We have to breathe in air to cool off blood and change its chemical composition, so that the body can receive vital blood. (Reference: D. Metilzki, *The Matter of Araby in Medieval England*, New Haven, CT, 1977, p. 69.) Others believed that the air from the lungs was heated and “inspirited” by the heart and then distributed to the body through the arteries. (Faith Wallace, “Medicine Theoretical,” *Medieval Science, Technology, and Medicine, An Encyclopedia*, pp. 337-338.)

Recently a mildly similar hypothesis has been tested, namely that blood is cooled in the arteries. Seems that just like dragons, we have to find a way to cool our blood, but not quite in the way medievals imagined. See <http://www.invasivecardiology.com/article/3043>

How is the moral of this story different from a tale about good guys and bad guys in which the good guys win and the bad guys are defeated?

IV. Conclusion (5 minutes)

Etymology: As the ultra eager congregation advanced for their biweekly meeting, he departed.

Now nice it is to have the plural.

How weird is this medicine?

FN: LatN04a.doc, OCL04gr1.doc