



INVIA EST IN MEDICINA VIA SINE LINGUA LATINA

(THERE IS NO MEDICINE WITHOUT LATIN)

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PRAEFATIO

(INTRODUCTION)

- Studying Latin, a highly organized and logical language, much like studying math, sharpens the mind, cultivates mental alertness, creates keener attention to detail, develops critical thinking, and enhances problem solving abilities.
- Since about two thirds of English words are derived from Latin, studying Latin provides invaluable insights into English vocabulary, the structure and meaning of English words, especially of longer and more complicated ones.

- Studying Latin, the quintessential language of oratory, affects positively the way we create discourse in English and helps us to express ourselves with more effectiveness and confidence. Learning Latin is also particularly beneficial for people who intend to study law, given the numerous Latin terms and phrases in legal discourse.
- Studying Latin, with its highly organized grammar, makes us coordinate ideas, reflect on the various ways to say the same thing, and thus to write and speak better in English.

DE LINGUA OCCIDENTALIS CIVILISATION

LANGUAGE OF WESTERN CIVILISATION:

- Latin provides a key to the Romance languages, Spanish, French, Italian, Portuguese etc. Latin is the universal language of western civilization. Actually, Latin provides the blueprint for any language we may be learning later in life: German, Russian, Chinese, or any other one.
- Since medical terminology, mostly derived directly from Latin, is essential for everything in the medical field, learning Latin is extremely valuable for those who intend to become doctors and other health professionals.

- Latin is the language in which the most sophisticated thoughts of the western world were expressed, and studying it allows learners to get a better grasp of their own present and thus gain a more profound understanding of manifold aspects of our lives and culture.
- Furthermore, Latin is all around us. Look at your dollar bill. Think of a president's veto. Consider how often we use the expressions AM and PM. Bachelor, Master, Dean – all these come from Latin. Expressions like Et tu Brute also cannot be understood without their Latin context.
- Studying Latin leads to an increase in scores on standardized tests, such as the GRE.

Dicta de Medicina

(Sayings about Medicine)

- **Abbati, medico, patrono que intima pande.**
English equivalent: Conceal not the truth from thy physician and lawyer.
- **Bene diagnoscitur, bene curatur.**
English equivalent: A disease known is half cured.
- **Cui caput dolet, omnia membra languent.**
English equivalent: When the head is sick, the whole body is sick.

- Extremis malis extrema remedia.

English equivalent: Desperate diseases must have desperate remedies.

- Malo nodo malus quaerendus cuneus.

English equivalent: Desperate diseases must have desperate remedies.

- Medicus curat, natura sanat

English equivalent: Doctor cures, nature saves

LATIN IN MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY

- Greek medicine migrated to Rome at an early date, and many Latin terms crept into its terminology. Latin was the language of science up to the beginning of the 18th century, so all medical texts were written in Latin.
- Under the influence of the great anatomical work of Andreas Vesalius, *De humari corporis fabrica* (1543), the terminology of anatomy is almost exclusively Latin.
- The Latin student does not have to wonder why the plural of fungus is fungi or the plural of bacterium is bacteria. These are just the masculine and neuter endings of Latin nouns. He won't have to struggle with biology terms. Trees that keep their leaves all winter are evergreen, an easy enough English word; but trees that lose their leaves are deciduous, a not so easy word—unless you know Latin.
- The whole classification system of all living things, plants and animals, is based on Latin and Greek. Here are two examples: *Acer saccharum* and *Quercus alba*. *Saccharum*, from which we get saccharin and saccharine, is sugar in Latin; *alba*, from which we derive albino, is white in Latin. And *Quercus* was the Roman name for oak

ANATOMICAL TERMINOLOGY:

- The primary rank is occupied by anatomical nomenclature whose international version remains Latin in the full extent.
- All of the anatomical nomenclatures produced so far have used Latin as their base.
- The first official Latin anatomical nomenclature was introduced at a congress of the Anatomische Gesellschaft in Basle in 1895, the last edition, called Terminologia Anatomica, was introduced by the International Anatomical Nomenclature Committee and published in 1998.
- Latin as a dead language does not develop and does not belong to any country or nation. It has a number of advantages that classical languages offer, its constancy, international character and neutrality.

PHARMACEUTICAL TERMINOLOGY:

- In pharmaceutical terminology Latin has, for the time being, remained a functioning means of international communication, guaranteed by the European Pharmacopoeia (1996) and by the corpus of International Non-proprietary Names (1992, 1996), even though in the future an ever stronger competition of national languages should be taken into account.
- But even though national languages have been favored in prescriptions in some countries, in many countries Latin has continued to be preferred and the standard international nomenclature of drugs is based on the Latin version.
- The Latin version of the pharmacopoeia has been used in Germany, Switzerland, Japan, China, etc.



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(It is never too late to learn)

THANKYOU