





LATIN PHRASES  
FOR THE  
UNREPENTANT

Emma M. Lion Edition



## BRIEF GUIDE TO PRONUNCIATION

Latin pronunciation is close to English, however, the largest difficulty is when to use long or short vowels. There are not simple clues, it simply has to be memorized. Some helpful dictionaries (such as this one) will put a line over the vowel to denote the long sound, but these are not written in classical texts.

Long vowels and are pronounced as follows:

ā - "ah" as in "father"

ē - "ay" as in "prey"

ī - "ee" as in machine

ō - "oh" as in "holy"

ū - "oo" as in "moot"

Short vowels are pronounced this way:

a - "uh" like "about"

e - "eh" like "pet"

i - "i" like "pit"

o - "o" like "off"

u - short "u" like "put"

Consonants are pronounced the same as English with these exceptions:

c- is always hard like the c in "come"

g - is always hard like the g in "go"

v - is always like w in "wow" (so vīdī sounds like weedee)

s - is always soft like the s in "sit" (never "z" like "rose")

ch - has the k sound of "chorus"

r - is trilled "rrrr" and always sounded.

i - when used as a consonant is like the y in "yes" (so that iam is pronounced "yam")

Where double consonants occur as in "sitting", both are pronounced.

#### Diphthongs

ae - as in "high"

au - as in "how"

ei - as in "eight"

eu - "e-u"

oe - as in "boy"

ui - as in the French "oui"

prophet or poet. (Latin Phrases For the  
Unrepentant sources Dr. Johnson's 1755  
dictionary, and warns to take it with some  
tongue in cheek. Well!)" (book 4 pg 18)  
**Verbicide** - distorting the correct sense of a  
word

Number of syllables, and stress in Latin:

1. Except in obvious diphthongs ("ae",  
"au", "oe", often "eu"), every single  
vowel belongs to a syllable, as in the  
English word "recipe" (three syllables).  
Thus in Latin dēsine is three syllables  
and diem is two.
2. The stress falls on the first syllable of a  
two syllable word.
3. The stress of words with more than two  
syllables falls on the penultimate syllable  
if it is "heavy" (i.e. has a long vowel or a  
vowel before two consonants), e.g.  
festīna on the "ī" or agenda on the "e"). It  
falls on the third from last when the  
penultimate has a "light" (short) vowel.

## PHRASES

**Ācta deōs numquam mortālia fallunt** -

Moral actions never deceive the gods.

(book 4 pg 113)

**Actore non probante rēus absolvitur** - "A

defendant is exonerated by the failure of the prosecution to prove it's case" or in simpler terms, the burden of bringing proof lies with the person making the claim.

Islington's cushion phrase. (book 5 pg 216)

**Argūmentum ā contrāriō** - "argument from the contrary" or "argument by way of

opposition." Also know as appeal from the contrary. In logic, it denotes any proposition that is argued to be correct because it is not disproven by a certain case. (book 7 pg 71)

**Āstra inclinant, sed non obligant** - "The stars incline us, they do not bind us" or "circumstances and dispositions do not determine our actions or destinies."

Hawkes' cushion phrase. (book 5 pg 217)

**Fungicide** - anything that kills fungi

**Genocide** - systematic killing of a racial or cultural group

**Germicide** - an agent (such as heat, radiation, or a chemical) that destroys microorganisms

**Herbicide** - a chemical that kills plants

**Insecticide** - an agent or preparation for destroying insects

**Mariticide** - the killing of a husband, or one who does so (book 2 pg 135)

**Parricide** - the killing of a close relative, as in "Parricide is the killing of a close relative. Would that do?"(book 4 pg 18)

**Regicide** - the killing of a king (book 4 pg 17)

**Sororicide** - the murder of one's sister. Also, one who murders or kills one's own sister

**Uxoricide** - the killing of a wife, or the one who does so

**Vaticide** - the killing of a prophet or poet.

"One rather charming interesting word was vaticide, which is either the killing of a



## **-CIDES**

The ending -cide is used to form words referring to the killing of a particular type of person. From the Latin caedere: to chop, to hew, to cut down, to slaughter.

"At the back of my Latin Phrases for the Unrepentant are lists of helpful words, such as the cides. Meaning, all the words to describe exactly how one has or wishes to kill another." (book 4 pg 17)

**Arboricide** - the killing of trees

**Avicide** - the killing of birds

**Avunculicide** - the killing of one's uncle, as in "What I wondered was the word for the eliminating of one's aunt? I could not find it. Apparently avunculicide—the killing of one's uncle is as close as one gets." (book 4 pg 17)

**Fratricide** - the act of killing one's own brother

**Caveat emptōr** - "let the buyer beware."  
(book 8 pg 3)

**Crēdō quīa absūrdum** - "I believe because it is absurd." (book 4 pg 4)

**Dabit deus hīs quoque finem** - "God will also give an end to these things" meaning that even the most difficult hardships will end, with divine intervention playing a role. (book 6 pg 129)

**Diēs Sāctus** - "holy day" or "sacred day." it is often used in the context of religious holidays or celebrations, as in "Islington's Thursdays are dias sanctus." (book 7 pg 233)

**Fāta viam invenient** - "the Fates will find a way" or "if you persevere, fortune will favor you," quoted in Virgil's Aeneid. (book 3 pg 161)

**Fāta volentem docunt, nolentem trahunt** - "The fates lead the willing, and drag those who are unwilling." (book 8 pg 3)

**Flectere sī nequeō superōs, acheronta movēbō** - "If I cannot bend the will of Heaven, I shall move Hell." A quote from

Virgil's Aeneid, it conveys a sense of defiance and suggests that if conventional means do not work, they will resort to extreme measures. Pierce's cushion phrase. (book 5, pg 216)

**Flōs familiae** - "The flower of the family" It is often used as a term of endearment or affection for a child, signifying their importance and beauty to the family. Apparently a term of high praise amongst horticulturalists. (book 7 pg 200)

**Gladiātor in arēnā consilium capit** - "the gladiator plans in the arena" or "the gladiator is formulating his plan in the arena", essentially meaning that someone is only thinking about how to deal with a situation when it's already too late. Quoted in Seneca. (book 7 pg 255)

**Igne nātūra renovātur integra** - "through fire, nature is reborn whole." Emma decides this is her own Latin phrase. (book 5 pg 237)

**Inceptō nē dēsistam** - "I will not shrink from my purpose!" It expresses a strong

**Buccō! Buccōnēs!** - you big-mouth! / big mouths!

**Cucurbitā!** - you pumpkin! (Rusticated Latin)

**Dormīs!** - dream on! or you're dreaming!

**Fatue!** - fool!

**Fungī!** - you mushrooms! (for group insults)

**Impudīcē! impudēns!** - shameless! (singular and plural)

**Luteus!** - filthy! (muddy)

**Mihī molēstus nē sīs!** - don't bother me!

**Nūgās garrīs!** - you're talking nonsense!

**Nūgae! Gerrae! Fabulae!** - nonsense! poppycock! fiddlesticks!

**Oraputidē!** - bad breath! (mouth-stinker)

**Quis est haec simia?** - Who is this monkey?

**Ructuōsē!** - belcher! (full of burps, as "ructus" is burp)

**Stercoreus!** - stinky! (manure-smell)

**Vappa!** - scum! (sour wine)

## INSULTS

Latin insults were a basic part of Roman life, and they are also a great way to practice Latin grammar. Given that insulting language is usually directed at another person, it gives you practice with the vocative and different noun forms. For example, "stulte!" ("you idiot!") The superlative also comes in handy: "stultissime!" ("you total idiot!") You can also make group insults, using plurals instead of singulars: "stultissimi!" ("you total idiots!")

These insults are not explicitly stated in The Unselected Journals of Emma M Lion, however she does make reference to studying "Latin insults." These likely would have been among those she studied.

resolve to continue a course of action despite challenges. (book 8 pg 185)

**Imperterritus** - undaunted, fearless, or resolute. (book 1)

**Modus operandi** - "method of operating" (book 5 pg 122)

**Pati** - suffering or endurance, as in, "I know your aunt has demanded I hold my passions at bay, but I do feel them... Passion comes from the Latin pati, which means suffering of endurance. I endure suffering for you, Miss Lion." (book 4 pg 88)

**Pati necesse est multa mortalibus māla** - "It is necessary for mortals to suffer many evils." (book 8 pg 24)

**Pāx potior bellō** - "peace is more desirable than war." (book 8 pg 32)

**Post hoc** - "after this" or "after the event." (book 6 pg 130, book 8 pg 24)

**Primum nōn nocēre** - "first do no harm" a core principle of medical ethics, emphasizing the importance of avoiding harm to patients. This principle is often

associated with the Hippocratic Oath,  
although it's not an exact wording in the  
oath itself. (book 8 pg 22)

**Prō bonō** - "for the public good" often  
meaning work free of charge, especially  
legal work (book 5 pg 36)

**Prō patriā morī** - "to die for one's country."  
A common phrase used to express  
patriotism and the willingness to sacrifice  
one's life for the sake of their nation.  
"Espionage is for the patriots, dear. My  
concerns are not so pro patria mori." -Jack  
(book 4 pg 34)

**Quod id est id est** - "What it is, it is." (book  
4 pg 139)

**Sic semper tyrannīs** - "Thus always to  
tyrants" meaning tyrants will always meet  
a similar fate. It's attributed to Brutus when  
he killed Julius Caesar, though this is  
debated by historians. John Wilkes Booth  
shouted it after killing Abraham Lincoln,  
cementing it's association with  
assassinations. (book 5 pg 32)

**Statim** - "with all haste" (book 6 pg 130)

**Vēritās** - "True" (book 4 pg 4)

**Virtūs apprimē** - "bravery first and  
foremost." (book 7 pg 286)