

Henle Latin I

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Class Materials

Henle Latin, *1st Year*, Loyola Press (required)
Henle Latin Grammar, Loyola Press (required)
Mars Hill Henle Latin Course Materials (required) \$10 purchased from instructor
Quiz/Test Materials (provided)
Blank 3x5 index cards (required)
Latin/English dictionary (suggested)
English Grammar for Students of Latin, Norma Goldman, The Olivia and Hill Press, Inc. (suggested)

Helpful resource:

William Whittaker's Words: website to look up vocabulary words. **Be careful though.**

You should only use words that you have learned.

<http://www.archives.nd.edu/cgi-bin/words.exe>

Quizlet: this is a source that many of my students have used for studying vocabulary and grammar, and have said is very helpful. www.quizlet.com

Course Overview

In this class, students will be introduced to the basics of Latin grammar, including nouns, verbs, adjectives, prepositions and other grammatical constructions. We will be covering the first five units of the Henle Latin text; Henle Latin II covers units 6-14.

Latin is a relatively structured language and this course will focus heavily on grammar and translation. We will also spend a little time working on correct pronunciation.

Parents and students alike find Latin daunting. However, I have found through *disciplined memorization* of forms, vocabulary words, and definitions, most students do not have any trouble with the course.

A typical week will consist of the following work:

- 10-20 vocabulary words (drill pages)
- Grammar forms (declensions and conjugations) (drill pages)
- Grammar rules and definitions
- 2-5 exercises from the Henle text
- Supplemental handouts (occasional)
- Quiz, completed closed book, closed notes, with parent signature

Henle Latin I

In addition, I have incorporated four tests about every that will take place at the end of each quarter.

Grading

Homework: (25%)

Weekly homework assignments represent 25% of a student's total class grade. This includes Henle exercises and any supplemental class work that has been assigned. There is no reason for any student to score poorly on homework. They have all the resources in front of them and they should take time to look up unfamiliar words, forms, etc. If they have questions on a particular problem or are generally confused about what is required, they should bring these questions to myself or another student *before* the homework is due; I am able to take one or two questions in class but cannot spend the class period answering questions. Homework may be corrected and handed back in for full credit one week after it is returned; corrected work must be handed in together with the original assignment for credit.

Quizzes: (25%)

The material I include on my quizzes is directly derived from the material students have been studying throughout the week. Each quiz typically includes all the vocabulary words assigned, grammar forms assigned, any definitions outlined in their lesson handouts or given in class, and a sample of the sentences they translated from their homework. These should be completed closed note, closed book, and require a parent signature. Quizzes may be corrected and handed back in for 50% credit, one week after the assignment is returned; similar to the homework, these must be handed in with the original quiz for credit. Students may use their notes, etc. to correct quiz papers.

Tests: (35%)

Tests will reflect, much like the quizzes material that was articulated in class, appeared on quizzes and in homework exercises. There should never be any surprises as to the material on tests. I will on occasion offer students an option to retake any particular test. The retake option will take place outside of class at my convenience, generally the following Thursday. The repeat option test will consist of different information from the 1st test, but will replace the student's prior test attempt. Tests are never given as a take-home exam, except for extreme circumstances.

Participation: (15%)

This percentage has three components: 5% drill pages, 5% flashcards, 5% class involvement. Students will be completing weekly drill pages, which I will check for accuracy and completeness. Students will also be required to make weekly flashcards for their vocabulary words to be reviewed in class. Drill pages and flashcards are graded on a pass/fail basis; they must be completed as assigned and turned in on the date due for full credit. Failure to do so will result in a "0" for that week's cards/drills.

The final component is an encouragement for student to try and answer questions, ask questions and general contribute to the class. If they are making an active effort to be involved, they will receive these points.

Henle Latin I

Policies and Procedures

Mars Hill Grading Scale:

100-90:	A
89-80:	B
79-70:	C
69-60:	D
59-below:	F

Students are required to achieve at least a 80% average in Latin I to go on to Latin II. Some students are encouraged to repeat Latin I or complete a remedial summer course to ensure their maximum success in future Latin classes. These evaluations will be made in the third quarter.

Homework & Quiz Grading:

- 6: Outstanding; a student who achieves a six on a homework paper or quiz demonstrates a perfect or near perfect understand and performance of the concepts in both the current lesson and previous lessons. While these numbers are intended to not correspond with any numeric grade, this would be considered an A+ performance.
- 5: Exemplary: a student who achieves fives on his work demonstrates a strong understanding of all concepts covered to date, and would be considered in a solid A range.
- 4: Acceptable: a student who achieves fours on his work demonstrates a good knowledge and understanding of concepts covered. Generally at a level 4, students show problem areas in which they can grow. However, at a 4, students demonstrate enough understanding to move on to the next lesson/level. This grade can range from a B to A- depending on the student.
- 3: Weak: students with three on their work need to go back and identify what they don't understand, preferably with the aid of a strong student or instructor. Work should be corrected, and student should give extra study time to identified problem areas. This grade usually demonstrates C work.
- 2/1: Unacceptable: students with twos or ones on their work absolutely need to repeat all work in the prior lesson. They should consult the instructor as to what they did/did not understand and should give attention to those areas. Problems can range from poor study habits to true not understanding of concepts. This represents D/F work and should be attended to immediately.

As a language, Latin must be not only judged on the component parts (vocabulary, grammar, rules) but also a student's general understanding of how those fit together and their interpretation of the language as a whole. As such, this can make a linear grading scale quite challenging. The purpose of this grading scale is to identify students' challenges in studying, understanding particular concepts or making general connections as opposed to focusing on errors. Students are encouraged to strive to understand the material well enough to achieve 4s or higher. To do so, they much have a strong grasp of the concepts covered, as well as a high retention of memorized vocabulary and grammar forms. The hope is that students will push to understand better, as opposed to focusing on a score.

Henle Latin I

Late Work: Students must hand in all assignments on the date they are due, according to the syllabus or as indicated in class. Any late submission will be penalized 10% of the achieved grade. *If there are extenuating circumstances that contribute to tardiness, please notify me **in advance** via email, as soon as physically possible, and submit a parent signed note with the late assignment.*

If an assignment is not in my hand by the time I leave class on Monday, it will be considered late.

Absences: If you will be absent from class, planned or unplanned, please let me know via email as soon as possible, so arrangements can be made for assignments and class work. An excused absence note is required for any test.

Format: Students will be required to submit homework, etc. in a particular format. This is ease the grading process and help the timely return of assignments. Any failure to adhere to the prescribed format will induce *a 2 pt. penalty per infraction.*

- Homework: Cover Sheet, filled out correctly
Exercises, typed in order (1, 2, 3, 4, etc.), Double Spaced
Stapled
- Drill Pages: Four total, using either provided template or notebook paper
Hand written, Name at the top
Stapled
- Quiz: Quiz must be stapled, with student name at top, and parent signature.
Quizzes without a parent signature *will not be graded*, or recorded for a grade; these quizzes are not eligible to be corrected either. Students will receive a "0" for unsigned quizzes.
- Corrections: Corrections may be handwritten, but must be stapled to the original assignment. Students may use notes and materials to complete any and all corrections.
- Vocabulary Cards: Cards, or, if using quizlet, please keep them in printed pages

Student will hand a folder each week with set of drill pages, stapled, homework stapled, and a quiz, stapled.

Mailed/Hand Delivered Assignments: All mailed assignments must be postmarked by the *date due* in order to be considered on time. Hand delivered assignments must be received by *10:30pm* on the date due at my house. Please don't give me assignments at church or another function.

Progress Reports: Parents who are interested in their students' progress should email me directly and I can let you know where they are. If I notice a student having particular challenges, I will try to let you know as soon as possible to discuss possible ways to improve.

Henle Latin I

Recommendations

1. **Ask for help.** If you don't know, look it up. Let me say that again. If you don't know, or are just not sure, LOOK IT UP. If you can't find it, ask (call/email) a fellow student or a student in an upper level Latin class. If you still can't find it, email me. If you are struggling, take advantage of help sessions. Do these things early, quickly and often.
2. **DO NOT wait till the last minute.** Mastery of any language cannot be crammed in to the end of a week. You must give a little time to your Latin every day of every week to do well. To this end, I have included a suggested weekly schedule. I have *never* (I am saying never!) met any student who could produce *sustained* results waiting until the last minute to prepare.
3. **Memorize, memorize, memorize!!** Be consistent, disciplined in your memory work and you will go far. It is imperative for students to stay on top of their memory work in order to do well. More than anything else, consistent drills will help students master memory work with minimal frustration. To this end, I require you to make flashcards and do at least one drill page each day. However, you have to learn how much study will allow you to succeed. The minimum required work may not be enough for you to flourish.
4. **Don't get behind.** This course is cumulative. If you don't memorize the work in week one, you will not do as well in week two. As time progresses, this problem will compound almost exponentially. We will review the same concepts, often times, for several weeks in a row but please, for your own sake, stay on top of your work.
5. **Don't freak out. (Especially at the beginning.)** People think because it is Latin, it is somehow more complicated than other subjects. It's not. *At least 40%* of what we are learning is *English grammar*, the other 60% can be mastered through consistent and methodic memorization.

Henle Latin I

Sample Weekly Schedule

Day	To Do
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attend class• Organize class notes• Prepare vocabulary cards
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If you have not already done so, prepare vocabulary cards.• Complete a Morning Drill:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Review vocabulary flashcards, both silently and orally.2. Recite your grammar forms orally.3. Complete a written drill page.4. Write out any important definitions from your class handout or class notes.• Review class handout and notes. Try explaining/telling the important points to a parent or sibling.• Complete one-two exercises.• Evening Drill:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Review vocabulary flashcards, both silently and aloud.2. Recite your grammar forms aloud.
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete a Morning Drill• Review class handout and notes. Try explaining/telling the important points to a parent or sibling.• Complete one-two exercises.• Evening Drill
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete a Morning Drill• Review class handout and notes. Have a parent or sibling quiz you on the important points from the classroom handout.• Complete one-two exercises.• Evening Drill
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Morning Drill• Complete a final review of classroom handout.• Take weekly quiz under parental supervision. Have parent sign quiz upon completion.• Complete any unfinished work.• Gather drill pages and flash cards to present in class on Monday.• Gather exercises, handouts, and any other homework.• Make sure that all papers are in the proper format. Put in your binder/folder/backpack for Monday.
Saturday/Sunday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Double check that all work to be handed in is with your school work and in the proper format.• Double check that your weekly quiz is with your school work to be handed in, with a parent signature on top.