

Studying Latin

Latin is a subject which offers a challenge to the brightest pupils and retains its currency with universities and employers as a subject of intellectual rigour. The course helps pupils to develop their knowledge and thus appreciation of the logic and beauty of the language. The course builds and expands on the pupils' knowledge of grammar and vocabulary from the Second and Third Year, leading up to the opportunity to read and analyse the works of Latin authors in the Fifth Year.

Latin is difficult and can be, at times, a frustrating language but, as a result, the intense satisfaction felt at the translation of a difficult passage is hard to replicate elsewhere on the curriculum. As a Roman might say, "si potes, debes".

The Course Content

The pupils will be helped to read and then analyse 2000 year old literature. This literature may include poetry by authors such as Virgil, Ovid and Catullus and prose by Pliny, Cicero and others. The nature of the Latin language is such that it is able to express complex ideas and emotions succinctly and yet with power. To be able to access directly written material produced by one of the most fascinating and lively cultures ever to have inhabited the planet is a genuine privilege.

Assessment of the Course

The department follows the OCR Latin specification. The examinations are taken at the end of the Fifth Year. There is no Non Examination Assessment.

- **Paper 1** - 1 hour 30 minutes (50%)
Comprehension and translation (from Latin to English). There will also be some short sentences to be translated from English into Latin.
- **Paper 2** - 1 hour (25%)
Translation and analysis of prepared passages of Latin prose.
- **Paper 3** - 1 hour (25%)
Translation and analysis of prepared passages of Latin poetry.

Written Examination

100%

NEA/Coursework

No

Further Information

Mr Thorley is happy to answer any further questions.

Further information is available on the examination board website:

www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-latin-j282-from-2016/

