Summer 2018: **Instructions and Assignment for Latin 4H**

Salvēte Omnēs,

Happy Summer! I hope you're all having an excellent summer. During the summer months it's often tempting to think that there's nothing to do, and that you're totally grateful for that fact. After about two days of doing nothing, however, we get bored. We yearn to be doing something meaningful, because we actually have the extra time and it's a good mental exercise to do some actual work, be it physical or mental.

Our minds are always active, and always craving for something to learn. The nice thing about being a student at La Salle is that our courses are always surprising, and there's always something to do. Summer is an ideal time for doing two things for Latin class. The first is to study vocabulary. One of the most important things you can do for a language class is review vocabulary. We really can't learn a new chapter without knowing the vocabulary from previous chapters. The second is to read and complete the next chapter in the book after we stopped.

To help remedy that vocabulary deficiency, we need to look over and study the words that we've already been quizzed on. For incoming Latin 4H students, that means reviewing the words from Chapters 22-27. I've included two "Vocabulary for Review" units. The first covers Chapters 22-24, and the second chapters 25-27. Upon our return from the summer, specifically on the Friday of the first full week of class, we'll take a test on those words, 50 questions, multiple choice.

It's been my experience that the best way to study vocabulary is to take it in small chunks over time. You should have been quizzed on all the words I'm asking you to look over. Therefore, you have studied them once. I'm asking you to look them over again, refamiliarize yourself with them.

If you really want to know them, rely on your memory for most of them and make yourself a secondary list of the ones you absolutely don't remember. Print out the lists provided with the assignment, look over the words, then put a mark next to the ones you absolutely don't remember. That will knock down the amount of words on the lists, and perhaps make it easier to study them.

The second part of the summer assignment is to read through and do Chapter 34, up to page 68. We did up to Chapter 33 this year, so there's a lot of new stuff in Chapter 34, "The Comissatio." (the Drinking Party). Read through the chapter, including the translation and the material in English on page 61, and add those terms to the vocabulary of the chapter. Try to pick up the new grammar, the **degrees of an adjective.** (Hint – English tall, taller, tallest).

So the positive degree is the first degree, such as altus, for tall. That's a type 1 adjective. Then to make it comparative we add an –ior, (masc./fem.) –ius (neut.) ending, such as altior, altius (taller). For superlative, we add an –issimus, -a, -um, (tallest). altissimus, -a, -um. Do all the exercises for these adjectives, including 34b, c, d, e, f, g, and h. You'll stop on page 68, after reading through "Reflections after Dinner."

Write them down on a separate sheet of paper and translate them, then explain their grammar. Note, this will very likely be collected, or at least discussed, on our first full day of classes.

So that's it for the summer assignment. We'll begin our classes with the Chapter 34 review, then begin to move on. Please don't forget the vocabulary test on the words from chapters 22-27 on the Friday of the first full week of class.

I hope your summer is as fun and challenging as you want it to be. Please keep Latin in your wheelhouse, and try to do a little of the homework at a time over the whole summer. One last bit of advice – please don't wait until August to begin doing your homework. Take a week off at the beginning of the summer if you need to decompress that much. But for all of you, I would say a few days is all you'll need before you start feeling restless.

There is nothing like a little summer work to fight off that restless feeling.

Vale,

Magister Geiger