

# Knowledge Organiser Latin: The Best Days of Your Life

## Grammar Recap

In Latin nouns which end in –a are feminine nouns  
Nouns which end in –us are called masculine nouns

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Some feminine nouns:<br>villa (house)<br>tunica (dress)<br>vespa (wasp) | Some masculine nouns:<br>hortus (garden)<br>porcus (pig)<br>equus (horse) |
|---|---|

|   |  |
|---|--|
| villa sordida est – the house is dirty  | hortus squalidus est – the garden is messy |
| vespa improba est – the wasp is naughty | porcus maximus est – the pig is very big   |

*In Latin adjectives and nouns endings match depending if they are masculine or feminine*



Remember! Action words are called **verbs**.  
Naming words are called **nouns**.  
Words used to describe nouns are called **adjectives**.

magista Urmston intrat. magista Holloway intrat.



magista Holloway scribit. magista Urmston non scribit.



princeps Graham non laetus est. princeps Graham iratus est.



magista Urmston, cur non scribis?



In Latin the ending of the word is crucial to tell you the pronoun.

| If the Latin word ends in: | Then the person doing it is: |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>o</b>                   | I                            |
| <b>s</b>                   | you (singular)               |
| <b>t</b>                   | he/she or it                 |
| <b>mus</b>                 | we                           |
| <b>tis</b>                 | you all (plural)             |
| <b>nt</b>                  | they                         |

## laboare, to work

|           |                     |
|-----------|---------------------|
| laboro    | I work              |
| laboras   | You work            |
| laborat   | He, she or it works |
| laboramus | We work             |
| laboratis | You all work        |
| laborant  | They work           |



## Key Vocab

### Adjectives

|                     |              |
|---------------------|--------------|
| docet               | teaches      |
| laetus/ laeta       | happy        |
| iratus/ irata       | angry        |
| fatigata/ fatigatus | bored        |
| fessi               | Tired        |
| noli tangere!       | Don't touch! |
| cur?                | Why?         |
| dormio              | I sleep      |
| lacrimo             | I cry        |
| laboro              | I work       |
| scribo              | I write      |
| lego                | I read       |
| sedeo               | I sit        |
| rideo               | I smile      |
| intro               | I enter      |

The verb endings change to show who is doing the action of the verb.



## Writing

To write, Romans scratched on wax-covered tablets, using a special stick called a stylus.



## Rufus, don't touch!

Rufus is too young for lessons, so he has been playing a game outside the room. Here is a gaming board and counters.



## Roman Education

Roman children usually began school at about the age of seven. Children of rich families were often taught at home. Corinthus teaches Flavia and Iulius.

Children born to wealthy families in Rome or near the heart of the Empire would have had a comfortable life, with their own tutor, or pedagogue, to instruct them. Parents who could afford it would send their boys to school, but girls were expected to work or help their parents at home. Most poor children had no education and had to work. Other children were sold as slaves as soon as they were born.



## ROMAN REPORT

Corinthus tries to make lessons more interesting for Flavia and Iulius by teaching them some Latin poetry. They are studying a long poem by the poet Virgil, which tells of the early history of Rome. First of all they read aloud lines of the poem. Then Corinthus tells them to copy out some lines. To write, Flavia and Iulius scratch on wax-covered tablets, using a special stick called a stylus. The stylus is pointed at the writing end but flat at the other end, so they can rub out mistakes. Sometimes they use

a pen dipped in ink. The photo above shows Iulius's writing. Corinthus is not very pleased with it. If you look carefully, you can see the word **SEG.** which is short for **segniter**. This means "sloppy work"!



Flavia is obviously still bored. In the photograph on the left, you can see that she has smudged her work, and she has been doodling. She drew a horse and cart.

A Roman writer might practise with a stylus and wax tablet first, to make a draft. Then he would copy his work neatly with a pen. In Britain, people also wrote on very thin pieces of wood. Here are some Roman writing tablets and dip pens.

