

LATIN PROSE COMPOSITION

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Latin prose composition by Henry Carr Pearson

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HENRY CARR PEARSON

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COMPOSITION**

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PROSE COMPOSITION

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PREFACE

THIS book has been prepared in response to the numerous requests I have received from those teachers who are using my Greek Prose Composition. It is an attempt (1) to combine a thorough and systematic study of the essentials of Latin syntax with abundant practice in translating English into Latin; and (2) to afford constant practice in writing Latin at sight.

Part I contains, in graded lessons, the principal points of Latin syntax, the unusual and non-essential being purposely omitted. These lessons are designed for use at the beginning of the second year's study of Latin, thereby serving as a partial review of the first year's work and as an introduction to the composition work in connection with the prose authors read subsequently.

Part II contains short, simple English sentences based on Books I-IV of Caesar's Gallic War. In Books I and II short, model sentences and phrases are selected from the Latin text, so as to direct the student's attention more forcibly to the actual Latin usages.

Part III presents disconnected English sentences based upon Cicero's Catiline, I, and connected English based upon Cicero's Catiline, II-IV, Pompey's Military Command, Archias, Marcellus, and Ligarius. There are also carefully graded exercises for general review preparatory to college entrance examinations.

At intervals in Parts I and II review lessons are introduced, containing each a list of the important words and an enumeration of the principal constructions used in the preceding sections. The instructor is urged to form original sentences for his class to translate at sight into Latin based upon these words and constructions. While, strictly speaking, this is not sight work, yet it enables the student to make definite preparation for this kind of work, and gives him valuable practice in the offhand use of words and principles of grammar.

The sentences at the beginning of Part III are comparatively easy, so that Part II may be omitted, if the instructor has not time enough to complete the entire book. The best results, however, will be obtained from a completion of all the work here given.

I take this occasion to thank Albert I. Oliver, Instructor in Latin, Kent's Hill Seminary, Maine, and W. S. Burrage, Ph.D., of Cambridge, Massachusetts, for reading the manuscript of Part I. I am especially indebted to Miss Emeline B. Bartlett, Instructor in Latin and Greek in this school, for the valuable criticism and assistance that she has given me throughout the preparation of this book.

HENRY CARR PEARSON.

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PART I

LESSON I

AGREEMENT OF NOUNS, ADJECTIVES, VERBS

1. **Apposition.** — A noun in apposition with another noun agrees with it in *case*, and, when it is possible, in *gender* and *number*.

Servius rēx, *Servius the king*.

quattuor hic primum ōmen equōs vidī, *here I saw four horses, the first omen*.

2. A noun in apposition with a possessive pronoun or adjective may be in the *genitive*, because the possessive implies a genitive.

nōmen meum absentis, *my name in my absence* (i.e. *the name of me absent*).

3. A noun in apposition is often expressed in English by a clause of time, cause, etc.:

litterās Graecās senex didici, *I learned Greek when an old man*.

4. A predicate noun is one connected with the subject by some form of the verb **sum** or a similar verb (i.e. **fiō**, *become*; **videor**, *seem*; **maneō**, *remain*; **creor**, *be elected*; **appellor**, *be called*; **habeor**, *be held, regarded*):