

**HINTS TO BEGINNERS  
IN LATIN  
COMPOSITONS**

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Hints to beginners in latin compositons by Alexander Roberts

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**ALEXANDER ROBERTS**

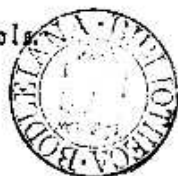
**HINTS TO BEGINNERS  
IN LATIN  
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HINTS TO BEGINNERS  
IN  
LATIN COMPOSITION.

BY  
PROFESSOR ROBERTS,  
ST ANDREWS.

For the Use of Schools



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## NOTE.

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THE following "Hints" are of the most elementary character. They are intended to guard against errors which are almost certain to occur in first attempts at writing Latin. Teachers may find them useful in preventing a repetition of some very common and very irritating mistakes. Accuracy being thus secured, the way will be paved for elegant and idiomatic composition.

A. R.

ST ANDREWS, *March* 1873.





## HINTS TO BEGINNERS

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## LATIN COMPOSITION.



### I.

LEARN the grammar thoroughly. No pleasure or satisfaction can otherwise be had in the study of Latin. The first, second, and third requisite is *a perfectly accurate knowledge of the grammar*. Therefore begin at the beginning, and master every rule. Specially attend to the *exceptions* in declension, gender, conjugation, and syntax. Let the irregular *verbs* in particular be thoroughly mastered. If Latin rules for gender, declension, and conjugation have been committed to memory, a great advantage has been secured. Let these rules often be revised, till they have been so impressed upon the memory as never to be forgotten. If no such rules have been learned, all the more need that the following "Hints" should be carefully studied.

## II.

Beware of making any of the following words feminine; they are all *masculine* :—

Ordo, fascis, lapis, ensis,  
 Ignis, ordo, collis, mensis,  
 Amnis, sanguis, pes, et pons,  
 Grex, fons, calix, dens, et mons.

## III.

Beware of making any of the following words masculine; they are all *feminine* :—

Domus, tribus, manus, dos,  
 Tellus, humus, arbor, cos.

## IV.

Beware of making any of the following words masculine or feminine; they are all *neuter* :—

Agmen, carmen, flumen, fel,  
 Cor, os, iter, calcar, mel.

## V.

Beware of such genitives as *illi* for *illius*, *ipsi* for *ipsius*, *alteri* for *alterius*, *toti* for *totius*, *alii* for *alius*, *uni* for *unius*, *neutri* for *neutrius*, *nulli* for *nullius*.

“The house of that man was burnt,”—*not*

*Domus illi hominis incensa est*—but

*Domus illius hominis incensa est.*

"The death of one soldier happened,"—*not*

*Mors uni militis accidit*—but

*Mors unius militis accidit.*

## VI.

Beware of such datives as *illo* for *illi*, *ipso* for *ipsi*,  
*altero* for *alteri*, *toto* for *toti*, *ullo* for *ulli*, *solo* for *soli*.

"The king favoured that man,"—*not*

*Rex illo homini favit*—but

*Rex illi homini favit.*

"He envied no honour,"—*not*

*Invidebat nullo honori*—but

*Invidebat nulli honori.*

## VII.

Beware of using *illum* for *illud*, *istum* for *istud*, *ipsud*  
for *ipsum*, *hæc* for *hæ*.

"Cæsar stormed that town,"—*not*

*Cæsar illum oppidum expugnavit*—but

*Cæsar illud oppidum expugnavit.*

"Cæsar stormed the town itself,"—*not*

*Cæsar ipsud oppidum expugnavit*—but

*Cæsar ipsum oppidum expugnavit.*

"These things are pleasant,"—*not*

*Hæc res sunt jucundæ*—but

*Hæ res sunt jucundæ.*