



Latin A Level

Entry Requirement: Grade 7 in Latin

Awarding Body: OCR

Course Outline

Latin A Level builds on the skills and linguistic knowledge acquired at GCSE. Students are examined on their ability to translate from Latin into English and their understanding and appreciation of selected works of literature read in the original language. Popular authors studied include Cicero, Caesar, Livy, Ovid, and Virgil. Reading is designed to develop linguistic understanding, a knowledge of myth, history and culture and an appreciation of literary style. There is an option of translation from English into Latin.

Assessment

Candidates sit the four units of the course at the end of Year 13. Assessment is by written examination. The language papers examine linguistic ability through unseen translation (Language 01 – 100 marks) and comprehension or prose composition (Language 02 – 50 marks). The literature papers tests critical thinking and essay writing skills. One 2 hr paper focuses on prose literature (03 – 75 marks) and the other on verse literature (04 – 75 marks).

Literature

Students study between two and four authors in the original Latin, studying both verse and prose texts, either continuing with the same texts in both Year 12 and Year 13 or changing to new texts. Prose texts usually feature a selection from a work of oratory or history such as:

- Cicero's *Pro Cluentio*, a fiery speech given in defence of Cluentius who was accused of the murder of his step-father.
- Tacitus' *Annals*, a monumental work of history covering the period from the death of Augustus to the end of the Julio-Claudian Dynasty.

Verse literature is usually an extract taken from:

- Virgil's *Aeneid*, the story of Aeneas' journey from Troy to Italy and the wars fought to establish the people from whom Rome would eventually evolve.
- a poet such as Catullus, Ovid or Juvenal, providing social and political commentary on life in Rome at the height of its power.

Who should I contact for more information?

Mr Treble, Head of Classics

npt@kes.net