

HELP! I NEED A TRANSLATOR!



Did you know that the Romans spoke Latin and Greek? I've also discovered that many of our English words actually began as Latin words. For example, the Romans used the word *circus* to mean *circle*; do you see the similarity between the two words? Translating is great fun! To share what I've learned, I came up with a Latin-English Word Key. Use my key to help you translate the Latin words and phrases in questions 1–7. (Note: some endings have been simplified.)

- 1) *a.m.* — Today we use this when telling time. It is short for *ante meridiem*. What does it mean?

- 2) We also use *p.m.* It is short for *post meridiem*. What does this mean?

- 3) The famous Roman Julius Caesar once said, “*veni, vidi, vici.*” What was he saying?

- 4) Another famous Latin phrase is *cogito ergo sum*. What does this mean?

- 5) If a schoolmaster said “*tace*” to a student, what would he mean?

- 6) If he wrote “*bonus*” on your work, would your work be good or bad?

- 7) If a Roman told you “*Marcus est in hortus,*” where could you find Marcus?

MAGNUS! NOW THAT YOU'VE HAD SOME PRACTICE, SEE IF YOU CAN TRANSLATE THE LATIN SENTENCES IN 8–11.

- 8) *Sum sanus* – _____
- 9) *Sum solus* – _____



10) *Vidi aquam in hortus* – _____.

11) *Vidi Marcum in urbs* – _____.

NOW THAT YOU'RE A PRO, TRY
YOUR HAND AT WRITING IN
LATIN FOR NUMBERS 12-15.

12) What is the Latin name for *circle*?

_____.

13) What is the Latin name for *sea*?

_____.

14) Write the Latin names for two different animals.

_____.

15) Write the following sentences in Latin:

I am great – _____.

I conquered the world – _____.

NOW CHECK TO SEE IF YOU
TRANSLATED CORRECTLY BY LOOKING
AT THE ANSWERS BELOW.

ANSWER KEY FOR LATIN TRANSLATION ACTIVITY

- 1) *a.m.* – Today we use this when telling time. It is short for *ante meridiem*. What does it mean? **BEFORE NOON**
- 2) We also use *p.m.* It is short for *post meridiem*. What does this mean? **AFTER NOON**
- 3) The famous Roman Julius Caesar once said, "*veni, vidi, vici.*" What was he saying? **"I CAME, I SAW, I CONQUERED."**
- 4) Another famous Latin phrase is *cogito ergo sum*. What does this mean? **I THINK, THEREFORE, I AM.**
- 5) If a schoolmaster said "*tace*" to a student, what would he mean? **BE SILENT.**
- 6) If he wrote "*bonus*" on your work, would your work be good or bad? **GOOD**
- 7) If a Roman told you "*Marcus est in hortus,*" where could you find Marcus? **IN THE GARDEN**
- 12) *Sum sanus* – **I AM HEALTHY.**
- 13) *Sum solus* – **I AM ALONE.**
- 14) *Vidi aquam in hortus* – **I SAW WATER IN THE GARDEN.**
- 15) *Vidi Marcum in urbs* – **I SAW MARCUS IN THE CITY.**
- 12) What is the Latin name for *circle*? You should remember this one! **CIRCUS**
- 13) What is the Latin name for *sea*? **MARE**
- 14) Write the Latin names for two different animals. **DOG=CANIS, HORSE=EQUUS**
- 15) Write the following sentences in Latin:

I am great. **SUM MAGNUS!**

I conquered the world. **VICI MUNDUS!**

