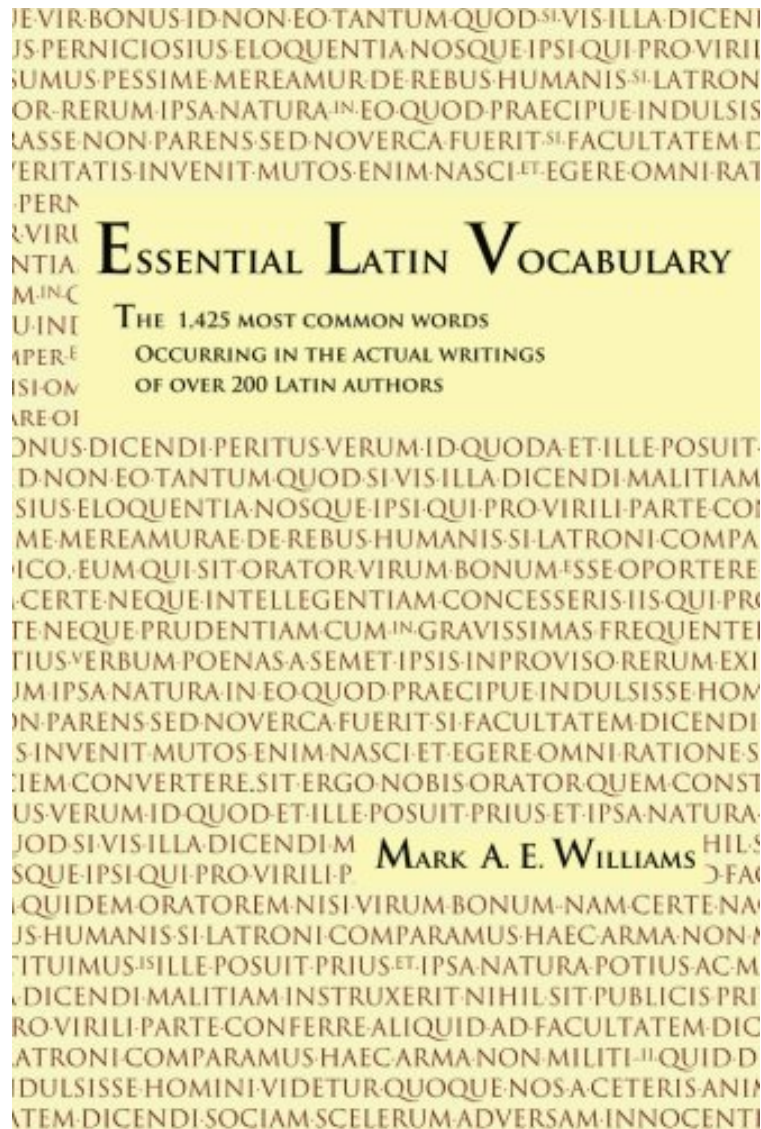


[Mobile library] Essential Latin Vocabulary: The 1,425 Most Common Words Occurring in the Actual Writings of over 200 Latin Authors

Essential Latin Vocabulary: The 1,425 Most Common Words Occurring in the Actual Writings of over 200 Latin Authors

Mark A. E. Williams

DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#247908 in Books Sophron 2013-02-28 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.21 x .48 x 6.14l, .67 #File Name: 0615702503212 pages | File size: 59.Mb

Mark A. E. Williams : Essential Latin Vocabulary: The 1,425 Most Common Words Occurring in the Actual Writings of over 200 Latin Authors before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Essential Latin Vocabulary: The 1,425 Most Common Words Occurring in the Actual Writings of over 200 Latin Authors:

50 of 50 people found the following review helpful. A language is words, dear reader. By F. O'Neill Languages consist of words. Even if you have a fair scheme of the grammar (certainly imperative in Latin) if you do not know the words, you may as well have had your tongue cut out. There is a secret here. The core vocabulary even of great languages is not all that big (which is why teenagers can exist). Consider English: 'haruspicate,' 'newel post,' and 'pastern' are perfectly good English words, present in dictionaries. If you are not a vet. or a house-carpenter how often do you use them? Once in five years? Never? Now consider 'revere,' 'invest.' This book has discovered--one would think by computers, but the foundation work was done in 1939--that 85% of the vocabulary of 200 classic Roman writers consists of 1325 words (another hundred or so are added separately for Medieval writers--whom this book quite rightly takes seriously). This can easily be learned by any studious person. It gets better. Many of these words have English descendants and are very easily learned. Many others are compounds of other words and so have identical grammar (this book, quite rightly, makes you learn the declensions of nouns and adjectives and the conjugations of verbs). It is very well organized. The words are first presented by class (noun, verb, adverb) then, again, by context (war, religion and the gods, law and society, etc.). There is a section in which words are presented precisely by frequency of use (the most common word in Latin is 'qui (quae, quod)'). There is also a back section of digest grammar and grammatical paradigms. If you start to study Latin you will find your living room littered with these, for most books supply them. But these are beautifully clear and admirably set forth. These alone are worth most of the price of the book. I agree with another reviewer that the prepositions are a nightmare--but that's the Romans, I think, not this book. The book is extremely generous in second and alternate meanings of words. This, as you advance in Latin, is essential. The full vocabulary of Latin, as of Italian, is not vast; like Italian it solves this by attaching a great many meanings to many words. This, most especially in poetry, is a waiting trap. The word that supplies our "petition" is "peto--ere" often "ask for" or "seek." So, a sentence, "Germanun petivit, et corpus in silvam proiecit." "He asked the German, and threw the body in wood." What? Well, no. It turns out the first meaning of "peto"--nothing to do with "petition"--is "to fall upon, attack." If you thoroughly read "Essential Vocabulary" you would know this. Tricky it is, very tricky. If you are learning Latin in or out of class, get this book! It's that simple. It will make every exposure to Latin text vastly more secure, hugely more enjoyable. This book is a treasure. It is incredibly worth the price. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great review of vocabulary By Albe This is a well organized review of essential vocabulary and I especially like the way the categories are set up. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Abellan-Giral, Concepcion An excellent book to know what is the vocabulary one should insist on being memorized by students.

This book is designed to help beginning and intermediate students master the vocabulary necessary to read real Latin with fluency and comprehension. It also serves as a resource for instructors and tutors. The text presents 1,425 words that allow a student to comprehend about 95 percent of all the vocabulary they will ever see in an actual Latin text. The terms found in the present book have been culled from statistical analyses of the works of more than two hundred authors in order to identify the core vocabulary. Were students to start out by learning the 25 most common words on this list, an astonishing 29 percent of all the vocabulary ever needed would be at their command. If a student masters the 300 most frequent words in this list, well over half of all the vocabulary necessary for fluent reading will be theirs. The goal of the book is to provide the student with the most efficient way to learn vocabulary. Chapters 1 and 2, in particular, are designed for drill, review, and study. The first chapter draws together all words that share the same grammatical classification. For example, all third declension neuter nouns are brought together in one place, with their definitions. By listing the vocabulary in grammatical groups, all the words that share a set of endings are assembled for the student: vocabulary and endings thus reinforce each other. Furthermore, each list of terms is broken down into groups of five words for ease in drawing up vocabulary lists to work with. Within the grammatical lists, each part of speech is preceded by an account of how the terms within are distributed. A student thus quickly learns that while there are 413 verbs that need to be mastered, well over one-third of these (157) are found in the third conjugation, while only about one per-cent (21) will be found in the fourth conjugation. With such information, independent students or instructors can prioritize their study and assignments more appropriately. In the second chapter, large parts of the vocabulary, with their attendant definitions, are regrouped by topics. A student who wishes, therefore, to focus on nature, human emotions, or military issues, will find such vocabulary conveniently grouped together. Chapter three lists the vocabulary terms from the most frequently occurring words to the least frequent. Students or instructors who wish to lean more heavily on the most (or least!) frequently occurring terms within their drills and studies can thus consult this frequency list. After the frequency list, the fourth chapter presents an alphabetical index of the terms. Two final chapters close the text. The first is a list of endings and paradigms for nouns, adjectives and verbs. Complete paradigms and endings are given for review. The final chapter provides the student with an additional one hundred words that are uniquely common in the Latin of the Middle Ages. These one hundred words, if added to the mix, would give the student a Mediaeval vocabulary that would match the efficiency of the Classical vocabulary that is the main focus of the book. For the effort of learning an additional one hundred words, another 1,000 years of Latin texts open up before the student. As a whole, then, this book offers the vocabulary that forms the core of one thousand

seven hundred years of Latin literature. If the goal is to learn to read Latin with joy and ease, then the vocabulary terms in this book are one of the major keys to success. By learning these terms, a student's vocabulary should be ready to tackle the Latin of any era from the Classical period to the Renaissance.

About the Author Mark A. E. Williams is an associate professor of rhetoric in the Communication Studies Department at California State University, Sacramento