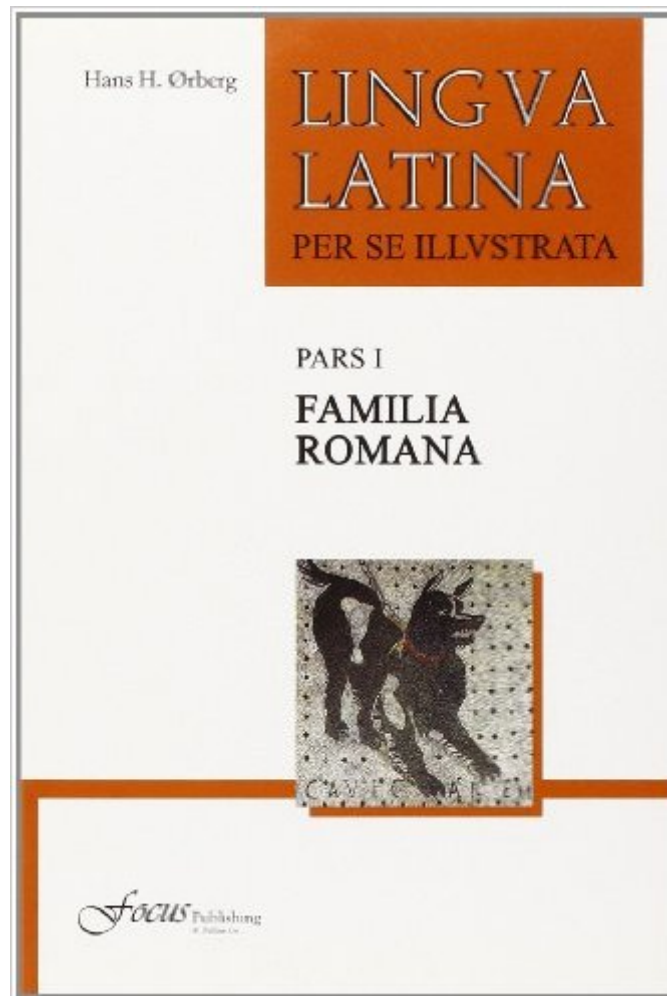




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Lingua Latina Per Se Illustrata, Pars I: Familia Romana



Synopsis

Hans Oerberg's *Lingua Latina per se Illustrata* is the world's premiere series for learning Latin via the Natural Method. Students first learn grammar and vocabulary intuitively through extended contextual reading and an innovative system of marginal notes. It is the only textbook currently available that gives students the opportunity to learn Latin without resorting to translation, but allows them to think in the language. It is also the most popular text for teachers, at both the secondary and collegiate levels, who wish to incorporate conversational skills into their classroom practice. *Familia Romana* (Pars I of the *Lingua Latina* series) contains thirty-five chapters and describes the life of a Roman family in the 2nd century A.D., and culminate in readings from classical poets and Donatus's *Ars Grammatica*, the standard Latin school text for a millennium. Each chapter is divided into two or three *lectiones* (lessons) of a couple pages each followed by a grammar section, *Grammatica Latina*, and three exercises or *Pensa*. Hans Oerberg's impeccable Latinity, humorous stories, and the Peer Lauritzen illustrations make this work a classic. The book includes a table of inflections, a Roman calendar, and a word index, *index vocabulorum*. The *Lingua Latina* series incorporates the following features: The most comprehensive treatment of Latin grammar available in an elementary textbook. A vocabulary of almost 1,800 words, reinforced by constant and creatively phrased repetition, vastly expands the potential for later sight reading. A complete line of ancillary volumes, exercises, and readers both in print and online.

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Customer Reviews

Sporting full-color illustrations, this edition of Familia Romana adds vividness to Hans Orberg's already premiere textbook for learning Latin through the natural method. As part of the Lingua Latina: per se illustrata series, Familia Romana presents grammar and vocabulary through context, illustrations, and a well-developed system of notes. By not having to constantly translate, students come to understand the Latin through itself and are prepared for thinking in the language. Although the text is accessible to students as young as 9, the text is advanced enough for college-aged learners, and beyond. Since it is written entirely in Latin, Orberg's series can communicate to students regardless of their native tongue. Thus, no list of vocabulary and translations is provided in this volume. FOCUS Publishing does, however, provide free vocabulary lists with translations at <http://focusbookstore.com/LLdownloads.aspx>. In my own experience as a Latin student, it was not until I used the Lingua Latina series that I really came to understand Latin grammar. Even though it also strengthened my ability to both write and speak in Latin, it was my ability to understand texts and to sight read that was most improved. I enjoyed the edition without illustrations and found it most useful, but this edition proved an upgrade. The more vivid illustrations gave me stronger mental images for the vocabulary I was learning. I recommend this version of Familia Romana most warmly. - <http://www.bookwormsblog.com/>, 09/01/2011

Hans Orberg's Lingua Latina per se Illustrata is the world's premiere textbook for Learning Latin via the Natural Method. Students first learn grammar and vocabulary intuitively through extended contextual reading and an innovative system of marginal notes. It is the only textbook currently available that gives students the opportunity to learn Latin without resorting to translation, but allows them to "think" in the language. It is also the most popular text for teachers, at both the secondary and collegiate levels, who wish to incorporate conversational skills into their classroom practice. Lingua Latina incorporates the following features: The most comprehensive treatment of Latin grammar available in an elementary textbook A vocabulary of almost 1,800 words, reinforced by constant and creatively phrased repetition, vastly expands the potential for later sight reading A complete line of ancillary volumes, exercises, and readers both in print and online Seasoned secondary and college teachers often find their own reading facility enhanced by using Lingua Latina.

This is a list of important resources for self-learners, through Pars I-Familia Romana; followed by critical remarks concerning the later chapters of the book, and the passage into Pars II-Roma

Aeterna: (Since reviewers are prohibited from giving more than 10 product links per review, I shall note only the ISBN numbers for some of the volumes mentioned; all are available on .) 1. This has been mentioned in other reviews--the exercise book for Vol I: ISBN1585102121. Numerous 'fill-in-the-blank'-type exercises, that have been very well designed; they really help consolidate the material introduced in each chapter. 2. The answer key to all the end-of-chapter drills (the Pensa), and exercise books, for *both* Vol.1 Familia Romana, and Vol.2 Roma Aeterna: ISBN1585100749. Indispensable for self-learners. 3. Audiobook/CD-ROMs: Ætæ Ærberg himself has recorded the first 31 chapters of Pars I (There are 35 in total), which recordings have been released by Focus Publishing in two different formats: The first ten chapters are available as an audio cd (Lingua Latina: Latine Audio (Audio CD ONLY) Chapters 1-10 only from "Familia Romana" (Latin Edition) (Pt. 1)); which I believe is enough to get a sense of what the language is supposed to sound like. The remaining 21 chapters are available, as mp3 files, only in cd-rom editions of the series, of which there are several releases. The release for Mac OS X, (Lingua Latina: (MAC OS X) CD-Rom of Familia Romana, Roma Aeterna, Excertia Latina I & II & Grammatica Latina (Latin Edition)) contains all recordings, exercise books for both parts of the text, and both parts of the text itself. In the PC edition, the same material has been spread out to 4 CD-ROMS (the editions are priced accordingly; each PC volume is 1/4 the price of the complete set for Mac). For the text of Pars I, the interactive Pensa, and the sound recordings, see: Ætæ Ærberg Lingua Latina: (PC/CD-ROM) Pars I: Familia Romana-Interactive CD Rom (Latin Edition). Exercise book for Pars I: Ætæ Ærberg Lingua Latina CD: Exercitia Latina I (Latin Edition). For Roma Aeterna: Ætæ Ærberg Lingua Latina: Interactive Latin Course, Pars II: Roma Aeterna (PC) (Lingua Latina) (Latin Edition); and Ætæ Ærberg Lingua Latina: Exercitia Latina II (PC/CD-ROM) (Latin Edition) (No. 2). It is *essential* to the study of Latin, to have a correct sense of how the language is pronounced. While this may sound like a truism, what is at stake in pronouncing Latin correctly is more than just elegance; often the proper declension of a word is conveyed through the duration of vowels--and in a completely inflected language like Latin, word order is of *no* help in determining the meaning of an unintelligibly declined word. Besides, Latin verse is meant to be read aloud; so having some understanding of correct pronunciation really is a prerequisite to enjoying a huge portion the literature. Thus, the audio component of Lingua Latina is very highly recommended. (Having said that, I should add the following: The accents of Latin are not at all as difficult as those of Greek: There are no 'tonic' accents, no 'rough and smooth breathings', and the like; there are, as in English, stressed and unstressed syllables, but there are also long and short vowels--the long vowels in *all* cases, are indicated by Ætæ Ærberg, via 'macrons'. For the *beginning student*, these are of fundamental importance; without the appropriate macrons, it is

all too easy to conflate conjugations. Academic editions, on the other hand, such as the OCT, as well as the Loeb Library, do not go through the trouble of notating macrons for their Latin publications (while Greek enjoys that privilege to the full)--that omission might be tolerable for advanced students, but again, for the beginner, macrons and pronunciation are **vital**. One may also note that *Œrberg's* pronunciation does not **fully** confirm to the guidelines set by the standard work on the subject, Sidney Allen's *Vox Latina* (ISBN9780521379366); most notably, he ignores the nasalized 'final m'. I cannot help but think, however, that this was entirely intentional, and that *Œrberg* wanted to eliminate a fine, but to the beginner's ear, unessential and potentially confusing feature in the interests of simplicity. A more recent work on Latin as a spoken language is Clive Brooks's "Reading Latin Poetry Aloud" (ISBN9780521874496); this book comes with two audio CDs, containing slightly more than 2 hours of Latin poetry--'classic' as well as medieval. The list price is too high ['hardcover academic title with 2 cds' is always a good excuse, apparently, to charge for 'an arm and a leg']; but look for used/like-new offers from Marketplace sellers; it's possible to get a practically new copy for one sixth the list price.)

4. Additional Reading Material: *Œrberg* has edited several readers for the benefit of students who have finished *Familia Romana* (links provided below); as an accompaniment to chapters 1-24 of this first part, however, he has also written a short reader, the *Colloquia Personarum* (*Lingua Latina: Colloquia Personarum*). Focus has also published a successor volume to the *Colloquia Personarum*, the 'Fabulae Syrae' by Luigi Miraglia (ISBN: 9781585104284). Not only is the text beautifully written in '*Œrbergian*' style, but also the edition has all the standard features of the series: Fully notated macrons, rich marginal notes, etc. It's indispensable extra-reading material, while working through the last few chapters of *Familia Romana*. A similar publication by Focus is "Epitome Historiae Sacrae

My review does not reflect the contents of the book, but the Kindle version of the book. I purchased this kindle book for a Latin class that I am taking, but I was taken back by the worst experience I've ever had with a Kindle book. Slow load times, pages with text that would occasionally appear, locking up my new Kindle Paperwhite, removing the book from my device and redownloading it, restarting my Kindle several times (which does not have problems with other books), and the embarrassing fact that I was expected to have a functioning copy of this book for class by a particular date. I don't know why this version of the book is even permitted to be sold for Kindle devices, and I'm upset that would permit such a horrible format on one of their devices. Due to the fact that this book was unusable for my Kindle, I had to overnight a paper textbook to use-----I lost

money for no good reason because I trusted to deliver on this book. Horrid.

As a fourth year Latin student I thought that this book was excellent for a review of the basics. Having learned the language from an academic perspective, I really enjoyed the immersion style and felt like the vocabulary was slowly incorporated in a way that would be easy for a new learner to grasp. The Roman Life content of the book made reading more enjoyable than a traditional historic text but definitely helped build the skills necessary for complex reading and translation. I do think that it is helpful to have the partner books in this series such as the workbook and vocab book but ultimately a good Latin dictionary would suffice. I strongly recommend this book for beginning learners and experienced learners who want a good review and reminder of vocabulary outside of the Gallic Wars.

First off, this book was the missing link for me to understanding Latin. I tried a few other books and just became lost in the declensions and verb forms when it came time to apply the knowledge to actual Latin paragraphs. This book is far different. Some people mention a lack of a Latin-English dictionary. This book does NOT come with a Latin-English vocabulary...however the context of the sentence will help you figure the word out as it starts very simply such as "Roma in Italia est." (Rome is in Italy) then will slowly build in a new vocabulary word such as "sunt" Roma et Gallia in Europa sunt" (Rome and Gaul are both in Europe). If you ever tried the Rosetta stone, this is based off a similar learning principal. This book helped me really start to understand Latin. I tried wheelocks and memorized the declensions and some verb forms but I couldn't figure anything out....I also tried Learn to read Latin by Keller and Russell. While these books work for many..they did not work for me. I would recommend this book for those that just want to learn to read and translate Latin and not necessarily teach it....though I suppose after going through this book, you could use this as a stepping stone to more advanced Latin study. In addition, a Latin-English dictionary and something on Latin grammar would be beneficial to have close by in case you have questions. I bought a Latin Grammar card from that has the declensions, verb forms and other things on 1 paper for reference. Enjoy!

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Great book for beginners. It's easier than Wheelock's. But it will serve as an effective companion book for the latter as it reinforces the vocabulary and grammar through repetition. Both the stories and colorful illustrations are fun to read. Also, the paper quality is quite good. Highly recommend!

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