

- A. Translate the following passage into English. Consult the vocabulary below. (33 points, 3 points per clause/sentence.)

(The poet Ovid begins his poem, the Metamorphoses [“Transformations”], by announcing his theme and asking the gods for inspiration. He begins with the origins of the universe.)

in nova corpora mūtātās fōrmās dīcere optō. dī (vōs enim mūtātis eās), adspirāte meō carminī

přīmāque ab orīgine mundī ad mea tempora carmen dūcite! ante pontum et terrās et caelum,

ūnus erat tōtō nātūrae vultus in orbe. virī eum dīcunt “chaos.” erat et terra et pontus et

caelum, sed erant īnstabilēs et eōrum fōrma nōn manēbat.

VOCABULARY

adspīro, -āre (+ dat.).....help, favor
 ante (+ acc.).....before
 carmen, carminis *n.*song, poem
 fōrma, -ae *f.*shape, form
 īnstabilēs, adj. (nom. pl. masc.)unstable
 mundus, -ī *m.*..... world, universe
 mūtātus, -a, -umchanged

mūtō, -āre..... change
 orbis, orbis *m.* earth, world
 orīgō, orīginis *f.* origin, beginning
 tempus, temporis *n.* (period of) time
 tōtus, -a, -um..... (the) whole
 ūnus, -a, -um..... one, a single
 vultus (nom. sing.) *m.* face, appearance

B. Reading Aloud. Due Friday, 10.09.20, noon (EST). (25 points.)

Practice reading our Latin translation passage aloud with the help of Shelmerdine's pronunciation guides (pp. 1–3) as well as our video on the Latin alphabet. When you're satisfied with your preparation, call my voicemail (518-580-5463) and read to me over the phone.

I'll note your total with comments on the above rubric, which is the same rubric as on our exams.

Restrictions (all subject to the Honor Code):

- Practice reading on your own and make your call in private.
- You may read to me from this handout, with or without annotations.
- Your reading must be a continuous call (no hanging up, calling back, and carrying on) and must be "live." If you get stuck and need to hang up, call back and start from the top.
- Remember to identify yourself by name, so I can award you the points.
- Late readings will not be accepted under any circumstances.
- If you cannot call me over the phone, you may email me a sound file of your reading, as long as the file follows the above guidelines.

Hints and tips:

- The number of vowels or diphthongs in a Latin word equals the number of syllables.
- You will be evaluated on three areas: accentuation (proper placement of the stress accent in each word); overall pronunciation (how Latin vowels and consonants sound, as well as your sense of Latin as a foreign language); and the flow of your reading (how much it sounds like a story — as opposed to a bunch of words read in succession).
- Mark up the provided text as you would a script. Note that I've given you all of the macrons to aid in your pronunciation and to help you determine where to put the stress.
- Avoid reading in a plain (American) dialect, as if the text were English with funny letters. This is a foreign language. Ideally, your Latin should sound like older, rougher Italian.
- Read with expression. You're telling a story, after all. Observe the punctuation and read clause by clause, not word by word.
- Practice reading out loud. If your practice consists of reading silently, you're doing it wrong.
- Practice as often as necessary to perfect your reading, over several hours or even days. The more you prepare, the better your reading will be. The corollary: If you leave your preparation for the waning hours of Saturday night, or if you decide to wing it, it will show, and painfully so.

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carminī prīmāque ab orīgine mundī ad mea

tempora carmen dūcite! ante pontum et terrās

5 et caelum, ūnus erat tōtō nātūrae vultus in

orbe. virī eum dīcunt “chaos.” erat et terra et

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Your score: _____ / 25 points

Instructor's comments:

1. Accentuation: _____ / 9 points.

2. Pronunciation: _____ / 8 points.

a. Authenticity of vowels and consonants: _____ / 4 points.

b. Sense of Latin as a foreign language: _____ / 4 points.

3. Flow: _____ / 8 points.