

# Latin Games

## Latin Alliteration Exercise

*(for second year students)*

Write your own alliterative sentences using the glossary at the back of your Latin text. Read them aloud. See examples below.

**Amicus agnum audit.**

**Canis circum casa clam currit.**

**Viri veniunt et vinum vident.**

## Memoria Game with vocabulary cards

**Easy version**--The student takes about ten vocabulary cards all with the Latin side face up. The teacher calls out in random order three Latin words contained in the set of ten cards. When the teacher is finished, the student finds the right cards and places them in the order given by the teacher. Continue calling out words until all have been used at least twice. If this seems too easy, call out four or five words. When the student can correctly find and arrange four or five cards easily, try the hard version. If the student makes a mistake, correct it immediately by calling out the words again and arranging the cards in the right order.

**Hard version**--The student begins with about ten vocabulary cards all with the English (or Latin) side face up. The teacher calls out three words in Latin (or in English if the student is looking at the Latin words) in random order. The student then places the three cards in the correct order without looking at the translation. For instance, if the student has the following cards face up--today, tomorrow, yesterday, because, who, what, where, why, but, and nothing--the teacher might call out *cur*, *quis*, *cras*. The student should put down *why*, *who*, and *tomorrow* in that order for a correct answer. When three cards are not enough of a challenge, call out four or five cards. If the student makes a mistake, call out the words again slowly, giving him time to flip the cards over to check the translation.

(This game is great for a quick review if you have been making vocabulary cards for each lesson. It is an adaptation of a Syracuse Language Systems TriplePlayPlus! computer game that used pictures and words to teach a foreign language.)

## Turn Over with vocabulary cards

*(for second year students)*

The teacher places a set of vocabulary cards with the Latin side face up on the table. Choose cards from a previous lesson, or mix two lessons together, using about ten cards in all. The teacher then reads either a vocabulary list or several sentences from previous translation exercises. The students listen carefully and turn over any cards they hear the teacher say. Students have to think and act quickly because the words could be conjugated or declined. They should listen for any form of the word. Repeat the sentences again if necessary.

**Example:** A student may have an arrangement of cards like the following:

**vir peccatum janua dormio finio venio sentio scio**

A translation lesson has the following sentences:

**Viri ad portam dormiunt. Pueri et viri fabulas audiunt. Puella januam aperit. Discipulus tabellam finit. Romani in Galliam veniunt.**  
(from p. 39 Exercise in Latina Christiana Book II by Cheryl Lowe)

The student should turn over *vir*, *dormio*, *janua*, *finio* and *venio*, but none of the other cards. Students who learn best by hearing will enjoy the vocabulary games. If a student is having trouble hearing the words, then allow him to see the sentences and turn over the cards.

**Our thanks to Mrs. Sandra Garant for sharing these games!**