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amīcus



1 Caecilius est in ātriō.



2 amīcus Caecilium salūtat.



3 Metella est in ātriō.



4 amīcus Metellam salūtat.



5 Lūcia est in ātriō.



6 amīcus Lūciam salūtat.



7 servus est in ātriō.



8 amīcus servum salūtat.



9 canis est in ātriō.



10 amīcus canem salūtat.

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**Metella****15** cibus est parātus.**16** Metella cibum gustat.**11** coquus est in culīnā.**12** Metella culīnam intrat.**17** Grumiō est anxius.**18** Metella Grumiōnem laudat.**13** Grumiō labōrat.**14** Metella Grumiōnem spectat.**19** amīcus est in hortō.**20** Metella amīcum vocat.[Prev Page](#)

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mercātor

amīcus Caecilium vīstat. amīcus est mercātor. mercātor vīllam intrat. Clēmēns est in ātriō. Clēmēns mercātōrem salūtat.

Caecilius est in tablīnō. Caecilius pecūniam numerat. Caecilius est argentārius. amīcus tablīnum intrat. Caecilius surgit.

“salvē!” Caecilius mercātōrem salūtat.

“salvē!” mercātor respondet.

Caecilius triclinium intrat. amīcus quoque intrat. amīcus in lectō recumbit. argentārius in lectō recumbit.

Grumiō in culinā cantat. Grumiō pāvōnem coquit. coquus est laetus. Caecilius coquum audit. Caecilius nōn est laetus.

Caecilius cēnam exspectat. amīcus cēnam exspectat. Caecilius Grumiōnem vituperat.

mercātor *merchant*

amīcus *friend*

vīstat *is visiting*

vīllam *house*

salūtat *greet*

pecūniam numerat

is counting money

argentārius *banker*

salvē! *hello!*

respondet *replies*

quoque *also*

in lectō recumbit

reclines on a couch

cantat *is singing*

pāvōnem *peacock*

coquit *is cooking*

laetus *happy*

audit *hears, listens to*

nōn est *is not*

cēnam *dinner*

exspectat *is waiting for*

vituperat *tells off, curses*

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in tricliniō

Grumiō triclinium intrat. Grumiō pāvōnem portat. Clēmēns triclinium intrat. Clēmēns vīnum portat. Caecilius pāvōnem gustat.

“pāvō est optimus!” Caecilius clāmat.

mercātor quoque pāvōnem gustat. mercātor cēnam laudat. dominus coquum laudat. Grumiō exit.

ancilla intrat. ancilla suāviter cantat. ancilla dominum dēlectat. ancilla mercātōrem dēlectat. mox dominus dormit. amīcus quoque dormit.

Grumiō triclinium intrat et circumspectat. coquus cibum in mēnsā videt. Grumiō cibum cōnsūmit et vīnum bibit! Caecilius Grumiōnem nōn videt. coquus in tricliniō magnificē cēnat.

coquus ancillam spectat. ancilla Grumiōnem dēlectat.

Grumiō ancillam dēlectat. Grumiō est laetissimus.

portat *is carrying*

vīnum *wine*

gustat *tastes*

optimus *very good, excellent*

laudat *praises*

dominus *master*

ancilla *slave girl*

suāviter *sweetly*

dēlectat *pleases*

mox *soon*

et *and*

videt *sees*

cibum cōnsūmit *eats the food*

magnificē *magnificently,*

in style

cēnat *eats dinner, dines*

spectat *looks at*

laetissimus *very happy*

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About the language

1 Words like **Metella**, **Caecilius**, and **mercātor** are known as **nouns**. They often indicate people or animals (e.g. **ancilla** and **canis**), places (e.g. **vīlla**, **hortus**), and things (e.g. **cēna**, **cibus**).

2 You have now met two forms of the same noun:

Metella – Metellam

Caecilius – Caecilium

mercātor – mercātōrem

3 The different forms are known as the **nominative case** and the **accusative case**.

nominative Metella Caecilius mercātor

accusative Metellam Caecilium mercātōrem

4 If Metella does something, such as praising Grumio, the nominative **Metella** is used:

Metella Grumiōnem laudat.

Metella praises Grumio.

5 But if somebody else does something to Metella, the accusative **Metellam** is used:

amīcus **Metellam** salūtat.

The friend greets Metella.

6 Notice again the difference in word order between Latin and English:

coquus culinā intrat.

The cook enters the kitchen.

Clēmēns vīnum portat.

Clemens carries the wine.

Peacocks often figured on Pompeian wall paintings as well as on their dinner tables.



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Practicing the language

- 1 Write out each Latin sentence, completing it with a suitable word or phrase from the box. Then translate the sentence. Use each phrase only once.

For example: canis stat. scribit in culinā
 canis **in viā** stat. servus amicus
 The dog is standing in the street. sedet in viā

- a Grumiō coquit. d Cerberus dormit.
 b in cubiculō labōrat. e Metella in ātriō
 c mercātor in tablinō f in tricliniō cēnat.

- 2 Write out each Latin sentence, completing it with the correct word from the parentheses. Then translate the sentence.

For example: amicus Caecilium (sedet, vīstat)
 amicus Caecilium **vīstat**.
 A friend visits Caecilium.

- a Caecilium pecūniam (numerat, dormit)
 b Clēmēns vīnum (labōrat, portat)
 c ancilla hortum (intrat, gustat)
 d Metella mercātorem (salūtāt, cantat)
 e Quīntus cibum (vīstat, cōnsūmit)
 f Lūcia villam (dormit, intrat, portat)
 g amicus Grumiōnem (spectat, stat, recumbit)
 h māter filium (bibit, dormit, vituperat)
 i mercātor canem (sedet, cōnsūmit, audit)
 j dominus ancillam (scribit, laudat, numerat)

- 3 Translate this story:

amicus

amicus Grumiōnem vīstat. amicus est servus. servus villam intrat. Clēmēns est in ātriō. servus Clēmēntem videt. Clēmēns servum salūtāt. servus culinam intrat. servus culinam circumspectat.

Grumiō nōn est in culinā. servus cibum videt. cibus 5
 est parātus! servus cibum gustat. cibus est optimus. parātus ready

Grumiō culinam intrat. Grumiō amicum videt.

amicus cibum cōnsūmit! coquus est irātus.

“pestis! furcifer!” coquus clāmat. coquus amicum vituperat. 10

Daily life

The day began early for Caecilius and the members of his household. He would usually get up at dawn. His slaves were up even earlier, sweeping, dusting, and polishing.

It did not take Caecilius long to dress. The first garment that he put on was his tunic, similar to a short-sleeved shirt, then his **toga**, a very large piece of woolen cloth arranged in folds, and finally his shoes, which were rather like modern sandals. A quick wash of the hands and face with cold water was enough at that time of the morning. Later he would visit a barber and be shaved, and in the afternoon he would enjoy a leisurely visit to the public baths.

His wife, Metella, also got up early. She would put on a **stola**, a full-length tunic. If she was going out, she would also wear a large rectangular shawl. With the help of a skilled slave woman, she did her hair in the latest style, put on her make-up, including powder, rouge, and mascara, and arranged her jewelry, of which she would have had a large and varied collection.

Breakfast was only a light snack, often just a cup of water and a piece of bread. The first duty of the day for Caecilius was to receive the respectful greetings of a number of poorer people and freedmen who had previously been his slaves. He would receive these visitors in the atrium and hand out small sums of money to them. If they were in any kind of trouble, he gave them as much help and protection as he could. In return, they helped Caecilius in several ways. For example, they accompanied him as a group of supporters on public occasions, and they might also be employed by him in business affairs. They were known as his **clientēs**, and he was their **patrōnus**. After seeing these visitors, if he had no further business to conduct at home, Caecilius set out for the **forum** (marketplace), where he spent the rest of the morning trading and banking.

Lunch was eaten at about midday, and it was also a light meal. It usually consisted of some meat or fish followed by fruit. Business ended soon after lunch. Caecilius would then have a short siesta before going to the baths.

Metella would have spent her time directing and supervising the household's many slaves. For example, she might organize a meal and entertainment for her husband and his business friends, as in this Stage.



An important Roman dressed in his toga. This hot and unwieldy garment was valued because only citizens could wear it.



Bankers in the forum.

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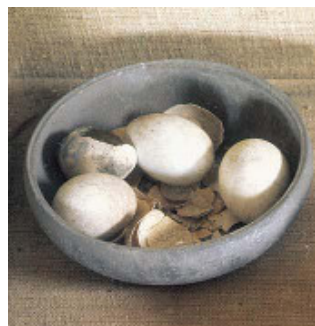
Some women also spent time educating their children, especially their daughters, who were less likely than sons to be educated outside the home. In the course of a day, Metella might have enjoyed spending time at home in such activities as reading; but she is just as likely to have gone out to shop or visit friends. She might also have gone to worship at a temple, or visited the baths. On days when a play or a show was put on, she could have attended the theater or amphitheater. Unlike women in Greece or the Near East, Roman women did not have to spend all or most of their time shut away in the home, seldom venturing outside.

Toward the end of the afternoon, the main meal of the day began. This was called *cēna*. During the winter, the family used the inner dining room near the atrium. In the summer, they would generally have preferred the dining room at the back of the house, which looked straight out onto the garden. Three couches were arranged around a circular table which, though small, was very elegantly carved and decorated. Each couch had places for three people. The diners reclined on the couches, leaning on their left elbow and taking food from the table with their right hand. The food was cut up by a slave before being served, and diners ate it with their fingers or a spoon. Forks were not used by the Romans. Not all Romans reclined when eating dinner, but it was usual among rich or upper-class families. Less wealthy people, slaves, children, and sometimes women would eat sitting up.

The meal was not hurried, for this was an occasion for men and women to talk and relax over good food. If guests were invited, some form of entertainment was often provided.

A Roman dinner

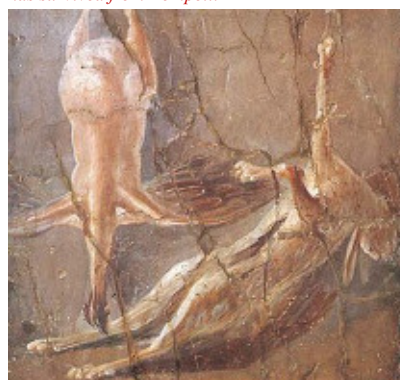
The meal began with a first course of light dishes to whet the appetite. Eggs, fish, and cooked and raw vegetables were often served. Then came the main course in which a variety of meat dishes with different sauces and vegetables would be offered. Beef, pork, mutton, and poultry were all popular, and in preparing them the cook would do his best to show off his skill and imagination. Finally, the dessert was brought in, consisting of fruit, nuts, cheese, and sweet dishes. Wine produced locally from the vineyards on Vesuvius was drunk during the meal.



Roman dinners were said to run "from eggs to apples"; this bowl of eggs has survived from Pompeii.



Fish and other seafood were much enjoyed.



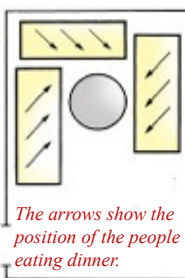
Main course ingredients – a rabbit and a chicken – hanging in a larder.



Above and below: To round off the meal: the fruit bowl and the basket of figs.



This drawing shows how the couches were arranged in a Roman dining room. The Latin name triclinium means a room with three couches.



The arrows show the position of the people eating dinner.



Many loaves of bread have been found in the ruins of Pompeii.

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Vocabulary checklist 2

amicus	<i>friend</i>
ancilla	<i>slave girl</i>
cēna	<i>dinner</i>
cibus	<i>food</i>
dominus	<i>master</i>
dormit	<i>sleeps</i>
intrat	<i>enters</i>
laetus	<i>happy</i>
laudat	<i>praises</i>
mercātor	<i>merchant</i>
quoque	<i>also</i>
salūtat	<i>greet</i>



Grumio did most of his cooking with pans and grills over charcoal, like a barbecue.

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