

Simple past tense Latin verbs

Just like in English, Latin uses the simple past tense to show actions that happened in the past and which are finished. In Latin simple past verbs, you'll quite often see a 'v' in the middle, followed by these endings to show who is doing the action of the verb:

i	isti	it	imus	istis	erunt
I	you	he she it	we	y'all	they

Exercise 1

Can you sort these Latin verbs into the correct tense box? The first two have been done for you.

~~cantavi~~ ~~amo~~ habitavisti
pugnamus visitatis amat rogamus
numeravit
habitas laboraverunt finit
servo ambulavistis servavi
pugnavi vexant salutavimus

simple past

cantavi

present

amo

Simple past tense Latin verbs

i	isti	it	imus	istis	erunt
I	you	he she it	we	y'all	they

Exercise 2

Can you match up the correct English translation to the Latin simple past tense verb? The first one has been done to show you how

vexavimus	→	they cried
celavi		they watched
pugnavistis		we annoyed
ambulavistis		you carried
delevit		y'all saved
lacrimaverunt		we sang
salutavi		I hid
spectaverunt		he/she/it destroyed
portavisti		y'all fought
numeravit		I greeted
servavistis		he/she/it counted
cantavimus		y'all walked

Exercise 3

Translate these Latin sentences containing a simple past tense verb into English. The first one has been done for you.

1. rex urbem delevit.

The king destroyed the city.

2. infantes fabulam audiverunt.

3. gladium portavi.

4. pater matrem salutavit.

5. villam reginae visitavimus.
