

Teaching notes on 13.04 The simple past v. the past continuous in Latin

Slide 1

Learning objective: To identify the two past tenses we now know and to look at the differences in translating them into English.

After saying 'salve' to Lucundus, mouse-clicks on this slide will make Lucundus ask, 'quid heri fecisti? lusisti? legisti? natavisti? cantavisti? pinxisti?' ('What did you do yesterday? Did you play some games? Read? Go swimming? Sing? Do some painting?') to which the pupil can reply 'lusi' [I played some games], legi [I read], natavi [I went swimming], cantavi [I sang] pinxi [I did some painting] or 'aliter feci!' ('I did something else.'). As in previous conversations in intro slides in this unit, the simple past tense is being used here. This lesson will go on to recap the two past tenses that we now know, alongside the present tense.

Slide 2



A game of Word Roots Challenge recapping some of the unit's new Latin vocabulary and introducing some ambitious English derivative words. Displayed around the screen are some new Latin words, without their English meanings.

On mouse-click, an English derivative (and its definition) of one of these Latin words will appear on the screen. Pupils have to work out from which one the English word is derived. On second mouse-click, the English word will make its way to its root word. As an extension, pupils can explain the connection between the root word and its English derivative, or even think of more English words deriving from the Latin ones. Pupils can also identify to which word class these new words belong.

Slides 3–8



Quick Fire Sentences including vocabulary previously unencountered. The oral verb rehearsals no longer feature, but a reminder of the simple past tense endings will stay in the right hand corner of the screen, as this is new learning. On mouse-click on each slide, a new word will appear in the New Words box. The sentences here feature only simple past tense verbs (with the new, glossed words underlined) are:

Slide 3: ducem clam salutavi [I greeted the leader in secret.]

Slide 4: per vias caute ambulavimus [We walked through the streets carefully.]

Slide 5: undae magnae navem veterem celaverunt [The big waves hid the old boat.]

Slide 6: saccos ad villam portavisti [You carried the bags to the house.]

Slide 7: infans lacrimavit quod frater picturam delevit [The child cried because the brother destroyed the picture.]

Slide 8: quid heri cantavistis? [What did y'all sing yesterday?]

Slide 9

...recaps the three Latin tenses we've now met on this course: the present (which can be translated into English as present continuous or simple present); simple past; past continuous.

Slide 10

...then sets out the endings for these three tenses, then on mouse-click puts the first bit of 'amare' (to love) before them. Either run through what these verbs mean one by one, or ask your students to do so.

Slide 11



Using one verb ('pugnare' – to fight), the class will then (on mouse-click) be presented with a series of verbs of different tenses. Using whiteboards and markers, they can translate the verbs (a bit like quick fire verbs) and name their tense. To make things a little easier, the tense endings appear at the bottom of the screen as a helpful reference. The verbs are:

- pugno – I fight/I am fighting (P)
- pugnaverunt – they fought (SP)
- pugnabas – you were fighting (PC)
- pugnat – he/she/it fights *or* is fighting (P)
- pugnabatis – y'all were fighting (PC)
- pugnavimus – they fought (SP)



The class is then cued onto this lesson's written exercise, a mixture of sorting, matching and translating Latin verbs in the three tenses.

Slide 12

The plenary slide:

Question 1 What English words can you think of that come from the Latin 'iuvenis' meaning 'young man'? [juvenile, rejuvenate]

Question 2 Which three tenses have you now met in Latin? [present, simple past, past continuous]

Question 3 quid Latine est ? [unda]