

Teaching notes on Useful to Know: MFL

Slide 1

Learning objective: To explore the connection of modern European languages to Latin

After saying 'salve' to *lucundus*, mouse-clicks on this slide will make a doctor pop up and say, "eheu! *lucundus aeger est! quid sibi dolent...auris aut oculus?*" ("Oh no! *lucundus* is poorly! What's hurting him... his ear or his eye?"). After looking at the picture of the poorly *lucundus*, students can reply, "*oculus sibi dolet!*" ("His eye is hurting him!").

Slide 2

Straight into the learning in this lesson, as we explore the connections between modern foreign languages and Latin. As we touched on way back in Unit 1, Latin evolved into French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese and Romanian, the so-called 'Romance' languages (i.e. arising from the language of the Romans). On mouse-click, a Latin word will appear and following mouse-clicks will show the same word in these five Romance languages. It's clear to see how all five languages come from the same common ancestor, Latin.

Slide 3



Having seen the evolution of some Latin words into French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese and Romanian, we now go on to have a go at decoding some modern French and Spanish words by using Latin root clues. Mouse-click will reveal the answer for each word:

- *femme* – woman (from *femina*)
- *noche* – night (from *nox*)
- *ami* – friend (from *amicus*)
- *reír* – to laugh (from *ridere*)



The students are then prompted to tackle their worksheet, which gets them to deduce the meaning of modern Romance language words by using their knowledge of Latin. There are four exercises in this worksheet.

Slide 4

The plenary slide:

Question 1 Which Latin root word connects the French word *père* and the Spanish word *padre*? ['*pater*' – 'father']

Question 2 Your Spanish friend asks for *agua*. What should you bring her? [water, like 'aqua' in Latin]

Question 3 An Italian friend says his favourite animal is a *cane* – what kind of animal do you think this is? [dog, like 'canis' in Latin]