

55 YEARS YOUNG

Wheelock's Latin really needs no introduction. Originally authored by the late Frederic Wheelock for American veterans returning from WWII to obtain their their college education on the GI Bill, this textbook continues to be the best-selling single-volume introduction to the Latin language, and it is now in its seventh edition under the editorial expertise of Richard A. LaFleur, Franklin Professor of Classics at the University of Georgia! Independent learners will especially appreciate the friendly professorial tone employed throughout the book. LaFleur offers amiable and adept advice in every chapter, providing hints and tips on how to memorize vocabulary words and develop fluent reading and translating skills. I admit to being particularly fond of the always enlightening and occasionally irreverent *LATINA EST GAVDIUM-ET VTILIS* sections!

The first change long-time users of the textbook will notice is that the text has been completely reformatted, now incorporating typographical changes which emphasize significant new grammatical explanations that have been fully systematized. Section heads and chapter titles are now given in Latin and the text is peppered throughout with useful words and phrases to promote the use of spoken Latin in the classroom. The vocabulary lists have dispensed with abbreviations which generally baffle new students anyway and the footnotes (which students generally ignore, for better or worse) have been eliminated. Best of all, some new authentic passages have been added—notably the *Scripta in Parietibus* (or "Writings on Walls")—Pompeiiian graffiti which provide students with an opportunity to read the actual words of ordinary Roman men and women from all walks of life. In fact, considering the *Lectiones et Translationes*, the *Sententiae Antiquae*, and the *Scripta in Parietibus*, there is a real embarrassment of riches when it comes to the reading material in this book. Dr. LaFleur actually cautions instructors not to assign students every single passage. There is just not enough time! But he does recommend that students pay attention to and attempt to answer the *Quaestiones*, new reading comprehension and discussion questions (in English) which help students develop an appreciation for the subject matter in its context and the style employed by the writer.

Wheelock's Latin, Seventh Edition, by Frederic M. Wheelock and revised by Richard A. LaFleur is published by Collins Reference, an imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers and is the centerpiece of the Wheelock's Latin Series. Ancillaries to the series include Paul Comeau's *Workbook for Wheelock's Latin* (ISBN 0060956429) and the graded anthologies *Scribblers, Scvlptors, and Scribes* (TMRC: B709) and *Wheelock's Latin Reader: Selections from Latin Literature* (ISBN 0060935065). Descriptions for an extensive selection of additional resources, some free and online, others available for purchase, including audio CDs and flashcards, can be found on the Official Wheelock's Latin Series website at <http://www.wheelockslatin.com>. *Wheelock's Latin*, Seventh Edition can be obtained in a wide variety of formats, including hardcover textbook, trade paperback, or electronically (Sony eReader, Kindle, Apple iPad, etc.). To contact the publisher directly, visit <http://www.harpercollins.com/> or write to HarperCollins Publishers, 10 East 53rd Street, New York NY 10022, Tel. (212) 207-7000.

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