

Prima Latina



2ND EDITION

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Practical Latin

Salve!
Salvete!

– Hello! (to one person)
– Hello! (to more than one person)

Lesson – The Alphabet

The building blocks of any language are the letters used to make words.

The English Alphabet

There are *26 letters* in the English alphabet.

The **alphabet** is made up of two types of letters:

vowels and

consonants

A, E, I, O, U

BCD FGH JKLMN PQRST VWXYZ
(all letters that are not vowels)

The Latin Alphabet

The Latin alphabet looks like the English alphabet EXCEPT:

There are only *25 letters* in the Latin alphabet.

The Latin alphabet has no **W**.

Latin has the same vowels as English, **A, E, I, O, U**, but they sound a little different. Here are the Latin vowel sounds.

Vowel	Latin Sound
A	<i>ah</i> , as in <i>father</i>
E	<i>ay</i> , as in <i>way</i>
I	<i>ee</i> , as in <i>see</i>
O	<i>oh</i> , as in <i>no</i>
U	<i>oo</i> , as in <i>boo</i>

** Remember

Latin **E** sounds like an English long **A**.

Latin **I** sounds like an English long **E**.



Vocabulary

Practice saying the Latin **vowels** in each word.

1. ambulo	I walk
2. via	road
3. Deus	God
4. toga	toga
5. luna	moon

Latin Prayers

Oremus

Say this before each prayer.

Let us pray

Derivatives

<i>ambulance</i>	a vehicle to carry those who cannot walk to the hospital (n.)
<i>viaduct</i>	a roadway or bridge on piers (n.)
<i>deity</i>	a god (n.)
<i>lunar</i>	having to do with the moon (adj.)



EXERCISES for Lesson I

Review Questions

1. How many letters are in the English alphabet? 26
 2. How many letters are in the Latin alphabet? 25
 3. What letter is missing from the Latin alphabet? W
 4. What are the two kinds of letters in the English alphabet? vowels & consonants
-

Translation

1. toga toga
2. Deus God
3. ambulo I walk
4. luna moon
5. via road

Speaking Latin

 Listen to the Lesson 1 track on your Prima Latina CD.

- Practice saying the Latin vowel sounds in order: *ah, ay, ee, oh, oo*
Can you say them five times in a row?
How fast can you correctly say them?
- Practice saying “Salve” or “Salvete” to your parents, brothers and sisters, or friends this week.
- Begin the prayer before each meal with “Oremus.”
- Say each vocabulary word and its meaning five times.



Write and Learn

1. Write out the English alphabet.

Circle the vowels and underline the consonants.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

2. Write out the Latin alphabet for practice. Make sure to leave out or cross out the **W**!

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U ~~W~~ X Y Z

3. Write each vocabulary word and its meaning twice.

- | | | |
|----|---------------|---------------|
| 1. | <u>ambulo</u> | <u>I walk</u> |
| | <u>ambulo</u> | <u>I walk</u> |
| 2. | <u>via</u> | <u>road</u> |
| | <u>via</u> | <u>road</u> |
| 3. | <u>Deus</u> | <u>God</u> |
| | <u>Deus</u> | <u>God</u> |
| 4. | <u>toga</u> | <u>toga</u> |
| | <u>toga</u> | <u>toga</u> |
| 5. | <u>luna</u> | <u>moon</u> |
| | <u>luna</u> | <u>moon</u> |

Fun Practice: Draw a line to match the letter with its Latin sound.

A	_____	ah
I	_____	ee
U	_____	ay
E	_____	oh
O	_____	oo

Note: In the original image, lines connect A to ee, I to oo, U to ay, E to oh, and O to oo.