

Development Committee for AP Latin NEWS

Dear Latin Teachers, over the past year, the Development Committee for AP Latin has had many discussions of ways to make our exam more inclusive while following the requirement to stay within the parameters of the current Course and Exam Description and syllabus readings. We want to make sure that students' scores are an accurate reflection of how much Latin they know. To that end, we will be making some changes to the exam and scoring, as detailed below. None of these modifications should change the way you teach the texts or prepare students for the exam. The exam will remain the same, as will the tasks on it.

On the sight-reading portion of the multiple-choice half of the exam, we will identify Latin authors who are underrepresented in the canon. This will mean that some of the authors will be from later periods and not confined to the classical age. We will, of course, choose authors that we believe to be accessible to students who have read Caesar and Vergil, as we do now. When we have identified a list of suitable authors, we will communicate these to you. This change is not likely to happen until the 2024 exam at the earliest.

We will accept the now standard "they" as a proper translation of third person singular verbs or pronouns.

In scoring translations, we will be very inclusive about what we accept as a correct translation, and be very cognizant of the natural phrasing of English (e.g. there are times when Latin uses a singular where English would normally use a plural).

Each translation will have one scoring segment that contains a single word, usually a noun, on which we will score only the vocabulary (i.e. if the word's case is not correct, students will still get that point). We think this is important as vocabulary is an integral element of translation.

When adding glosses to a translation passage, we will use the simplest English equivalent (e.g. "killed" rather than "slew") so that the glosses are as helpful as possible for a student's understanding of the passage.

Within the parameters of the Course and Exam Description, we will maximize the number of questions that assess reading comprehension.

When we set the scoring guidelines, my policy will continue to be that an answer is correct unless someone can explain why it is wrong.