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# **The Elements of Latin Grammar**

**Hiley Richard**

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**Title: The Elements of Latin Grammar**

**Author: Hiley Richard**

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THE  
ELEMENTS  
OF  
LATIN GRAMMAR,  
FOR THE  
USE OF SCHOOLS.

BY RICHARD HILEY,

AUTHOR OF "AN ENGLISH GRAMMAR,"  
ETC. ETC.

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THIRD EDITION, CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED.

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LONDON:  
PRINTED FOR  
LONGMAN, BROWN, GREEN, AND LONGMANS,  
PATERNOSTER-ROW.  
1849.

The late Rev. JAMES TATE, Canon Residentiary of St. Paul's, London, in a letter to the Author at the commencement of his labours, states, "I consider the common *Eton Latin Grammar* (notwithstanding some recent improvements) *a disgrace to our National Literature*. Hence, the necessity of another written *de novo*."

The present Grammar, which is written in English, embraces all that is really valuable in the *Eton*, with a selection from Zumpt, Kühner, Krebs, Scheller, Crombie, Ruddiman, and Adam, of the most important rules and observations which may be required by advanced students. These have been condensed, illustrated, and arranged in such a manner, as materially to assist the memory in the acquisition and permanent retention of them.

The late learned Dr. SAMUEL BUTLER, formerly Head Master of Shrewsbury Grammar School, and afterwards Lord Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, — to whom the first edition of this Grammar was, by permission, dedicated, — was pleased to honour the work by the following opinion: —

"I think your book, wherever I have examined it, done with *care* and *ability*; it is short, clear, and well selected, and likely to be *very* useful."

Dr. ALEXANDER CROMBIE, the eminent author of the "*Gymnasium*," passes an equally flattering opinion: —

"I have read your volume," says the Doctor, "and shall have no hesitation in recommending it as an excellent compendium of the principles of Latin Grammar. It contains much useful matter, well arranged, and comprised in a small compass. It does equal credit to your industry and your judgment."

The *Head Master* of the *Camberwell Collegiate School, London*, expresses himself to the same effect: —

"It is only recently that I have become acquainted with your Latin Grammar; and after a careful comparison of its contents and system of arrangement with those of other Latin Grammars, and particularly of that which had hitherto been used in this institution, I am fully convinced of its superiority as a Manual for Boys, and have accordingly introduced it into this school. I have deemed it right to give you this information as a slight tribute due to your intelligence and industry, as well as to the very considerable service which you have thereby rendered to the profession: I have likewise adopted your English Grammar and Exercises for my classes."



LONDON:  
SPOTTISWOODE and SHAW,  
New-street-Square.

ADVERTISEMENT  
TO  
THE THIRD EDITION.

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IN this Third Edition the Author has carefully revised the whole, and introduced such additional remarks and illustrations as experience suggested would be advantageous to the Classical Student in the advanced stages of his scholastic career.

*Leeds, November, 1848.*

## PREFACE

TO

THE SECOND EDITION.

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THE present edition has undergone a most careful revision; several portions, in which the Rules and Definitions appeared to admit either a more natural arrangement, or a greater compactness and perspicuity of expression, have been entirely rewritten. Much additional matter has likewise been incorporated, and the few typographical errors existing in the former edition have been rectified. The work has now assumed its *permanent* form, and may, with propriety, be said to possess the following characteristics.

1. *Comprehensiveness of Plan.*—Numerous Rules, essentially necessary for understanding and correctly rendering even the easier Classics, are entirely omitted in the common Latin Grammars. Such, for instance, are the proper use of Moods and Tenses, the proper Connexion of Tenses, Arrangement of Words, &c. A knowledge of these, if acquired at all, is acquired under great disadvantages. The faithful Tutor, therefore, will be most judiciously consulting the real and solid improvement of his pupils, by using a comprehensive digest of the leading principles of Latin composition.

2. *A lucid and natural Arrangement.*—In the adjustment of the different portions of the work, great attention has been paid to what appeared the *natural* development of each subject, so that the general principle should form the prominent parent of all its branches. It is scarcely possible to overrate the advantages arising from a felicitous arrangement, as the mind, by this means, is materially assisted in the acquisition and application of knowledge. Nor are these advantages confined to mere boyhood; but, in maturer age, the additional Rules which may be suggested in the course of reading, need not be evanescent, nor allowed to bewilder by their multiplicity, but may be classified according to their specific nature, and amalgamate with preceding stores, ready to be applied as occasion may require.

3. *Perspicuity combined with conciseness of Expression.*—In the enunciation of Grammatical Definitions, some instructors either misapply or lay too much stress on the well-known sentiment of Horace :

“ Quidquid praecipies, esto brevis ; ut cito dicta  
Percipiant animi dociles, teneantque fideles.”

However applicable this advice may be to Poetry, it requires considerable modification in a didactic treatise ; for no individual can accurately comprehend what is inadequately expressed. A Definition, to be correct, must be comprehensive ; a Rule, to be useful, must be complete ; otherwise, by labouring to be brief, we may become obscure, — “ Brevis esse laboro, obscurus fio.” In the construction, therefore, of the Rules and Definitions throughout this work, whatever conciseness perspicuity would admit, has been carefully observed. Such portions as required peculiar care in the construction of the sentences were read to several sensible youths, in order that the perspicuity of the sentences might be fully tested.

4. *Accuracy as to the Knowledge communicated.* — In adopting any Rule, the authority on which it rests has been carefully weighed. In determining in cases of difficulty, the author was not entirely guided by the opinions of even the most distinguished Philologists, but sedulously consulted the original writers themselves, and deduced such conclusions as a careful comparison seemed to suggest. This process frequently entailed a wearisome toil ; but, as truth and utility were his object, he felt bound to persevere. Instances of this careful scrutiny will appear in the portion on the Perfects and Supines. Our common Grammars, without the slightest comment, frequently assign to Verbs, Perfects and Supines which either do not exist, or are used on very doubtful authority.

5. *The work is printed on beautiful paper, and in two different types,*—the larger intended to be faithfully committed to memory, and the smaller to be carefully read, and rendered familiar to the mind. The illustrations and additional facts given in the smaller type, instead of being thrown, as is too commonly the case, to the foot of the page, are here placed under their appropriate heads, that their intimate connexion may be obvious, and the information more easily acquired and retained.

Leeds, July, 1842.



## PREFACE

TO

### THE FIRST EDITION.

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THE object which the Author has had in view, in publishing the present manual, is to furnish the classical student, at a trifling expense, with a good First and Second Latin Grammar.

Instead of considering Grammar, as is too commonly the case, as a mere *necessary evil*—a something to be endured for an ulterior advantage—he has, on the contrary, regarded it as a *positive good*,—the basis of all sound scholarship. In this light it is held by the Germans; and perhaps, to this circumstance alone, is to be attributed their superiority over us in Classical Literature.

True it is, that in several of the most respectable Schools and Academies, the introductory compendium is succeeded by the perusal of some larger work on the subject; but as there seldom exists any connexion between the two, the different Rules are not easily retained and, consequently, time is wasted, and little advantage derived. But with respect to the vast majority of Schools, no other work than the common Grammar is adopted or even known. In such instances, the pupil, in preparing his lessons, has to encounter so many idioms and peculiarities of construction unexplained in his Grammar, that he is rarely enabled, after years of toil, to translate with even tolerable certainty, much less with facility. By an attentive application, however, of the information contained in the present treatise, he will be materially assisted both in translation and composition, as most of the peculiarities of construction occurring in the Authors usually read in Schools are here explained under appropriate heads.

The greatest attention has been paid throughout, both to the Definitions and to the Classification of the different Rules. In the former, brevity has been studiously combined with perspicuity; and in the latter, an arrangement has been adopted which appeared most conducive to facilitate the retention and ready application of the whole.

In closing these remarks, the Author most cheerfully acknowledges great obligations to the works of Kenrick's Zumpt, Walker's Scheller, Crombie, Grant, Valpy, Ruddiman, and Adam.

Leeds, February, 12. 1836.

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# L A T I N   G R A M M A R .

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1. *a.* L A T I N G R A M M A R is a methodical collection of those rules of inflection, construction, and pronunciation of the words in the Latin Language, which were observed by the best Latin authors.

*b.* It is divided into four Parts ; namely, Orthography, Etymology, Syntax, and Prosody.

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## I. ORTHOGRAPHY.

2. *Orthography* treats of letters, syllables, and the just method of spelling words.

3. *a.* *Letters* are *marks* or *characters* used to represent the elementary sounds of a language.

*b.* The letters of the Latin language, called the Latin *Alphabet*, are *twenty-five* in number ; namely, A, a ; B, b ; C, c ; D, d ; E, e ; F, f ; G, g ; H, h ; I, i ; J, j ; K, k ; L, l ; M, m ; N, n ; O, o ; P, p ; Q, q ; R, r ; S, s ; T, t ; U, u ; V, v ; X, x ; Y, y ; Z, z.

*c.* In Latin there is no *W*. The smaller *y* occurs only in words derived from the Greek.

*J* and *v* were written by the Latins with the same letters as the vowels *i* and *u*, namely *I* and *V*, but were distinguished in pronunciation.

4. *a.* Letters are divided into *vowels* and *consonants*.

*b.* A *vowel* is a letter that forms a perfect sound when uttered alone ; as, *a, e, o*.

*c.* A *consonant* makes only an *imperfect* sound of itself ; as, *b, c, d*, which cannot be distinctly articulated unless joined to a vowel.