

Project – Write a Firsthand Account of the Eruption of Mt. Vesuvius
(top stories to be entered into ‘SCRIBO: International Latin Composition Contest’)

Overview

Imagine that you are living the day that Mt. Vesuvius erupted in 79AD. For this assignment, each member of the class will create a short, electronic illustrated comic (series of panels) in clear, straightforward Latin. The comic will be a firsthand account of what happened on that fateful day.

Objectives

- ✓ To review and practice common grammar structures that we have encountered this year.
- ✓ To review what we know about life in Pompeii and the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius.
- ✓ To join the wider community of Latin student-scholars by participating in an international Latin composition contest: prizes may be awarded, and your story may be published!

Procedures

- ✓ Brainstorm plot, characters, and setting; produce a typed overview of your comic. Your comic must be original: it can be inspired by other sources but it must consist of your own ideas; no translations of other people’s English are allowed.
- ✓ Using a computer program, compose your comic using clear, short, straightforward Latin sentences and clear illustrations.
 - Which program you use is your choice. Some suggestions are: Word, Pages, PowerPoint, Keynote, ComicLife.
 - Your Latin sentences should incorporate the grammar listed below.
 - Illustrations can be electronically drawn by you or patched together using backgrounds and clipart from schools.clipart.com (username is *clipart* and password is *images*).
- ✓ Have your classmates check the Latin of your draft. Due to the rules of the contest, classmates can only give guidance by indicating that an error is present and indicating what type of error exists. Classmates cannot tell you the correct forms, and you are responsible for making any suggested changes.
- ✓ Once you have made corrections and your comic is complete, save it, then print it as a PDF file (on a PC, download the free program at www.cutepdf.com; on a Mac, this is a built-in feature) and send it to Mr. Webb: magister@magisterwebb.com

Requirements

The book must:

- ✓ be as grammatically and syntactically accurate as possible, show excellent choice of vocabulary, be quality work, and have audience appeal (these are the categories in which your book will be judged in the contest)
- ✓ be no longer than 15 panels (max of 10 pages)
- ✓ be no longer than 1,000 words
- ✓ be composed of pages no larger than 8 ½ x 11” (standard size)
- ✓ be illustrated on each panel

- ✓ use correctly at least one example of EIGHT of the following grammatical constructions (place an X by each one that you use)

X	grammatical construction	example
	adjective	porcus <i>laetus</i> in silvā ambulat.
	nominative singular	<i>porcus</i> laetus in silvā ambulat.
	nominative plural	<i>puellae</i> in culinā labōrant.
	accusative singular	dominus <i>servum</i> in hortō spectat.
	accusative plural	ego <i>leōnēs</i> in silvā videō.
	ablative case	ego <i>leōnēs</i> in <i>agrīs</i> video.
	prepositional phrase with accusative case	servus <i>ad villam</i> ambulat.
	prepositional phrase with ablative case	servus <i>ē villā</i> ambulat.
	infinitive	Grumiō cibum <i>coquere</i> vult.
	1 st person action verb	ego <i>leōnēs</i> in agrīs <i>videō</i> .
	2 nd person action verb	cūr in aquā <i>ambulātis</i> ?
	form of <i>sum</i> other than <i>est</i>	laetus <i>sum</i> quod dormiō.

Groups

This is an individual assignment, though peers may help with the editing process.

Timeline of the Assignment

Your completion of the assignment will be structured as follows:

- ✓ Typed overview due _____
- ✓ Draft due _____
- ✓ Final copy due _____
- ✓ Shortly thereafter, Mr. Webb will select some of the most interesting and grammatically correct stories to submit to the SCRIBO contest

Grading

Your comic will be graded by Mr. Webb using the scoring rubric of the SCRIBO contest (attached). The score that Mr. Webb awards your comic might not be the same as the score that the actual SCRIBO judges will award if your comic is entered into the contest.

This project, combined with your Pompeii Photojournal Project, makes a comprehensive Pompeii & Vesuvius Project, worth 100 points in the Project category.