

There are many reasons why we should suppose Latin—for English speaking persons at least—to be an easy language to learn ; such as the fact that a large number of Latin words resemble closely the English words derived from them, and are therefore easily remembered ; (2) that Latin, unlike most modern languages, is very free from idioms ; and that the principles of Latin grammar are simple and reasonable. Altogether, there does not seem to be anything about the language to cause a student any serious difficulty.

But let us examine the method by which the language is taught.

As every one knows, the system of teaching languages in our Schools and Colleges, until quite recently, has been to grind into the student all the grammar possible before allowing him to hear or see anything of the languages themselves, save a few fragments illustrating principles of grammar. This system, though still largely in vogue, is being superseded in some Schools by conversational

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(2) Take, for instance, the names of a few parts of the body : CAPUT, *the head* (likeness to *capital*) ; OCULUS, *the eye* (oculist) ; DENS, *tooth* (dentist) ; LINGUA, *tongue* (language) ; NASUS, *nose* (nasal) ; AURIS, *ear* (aural) ; COLLUM, *the neck* (collar) ; PECTUS, *the breast* (pectoral) ; COR, *the heart* (core) ; MANUS, *the hand* (manual) ; PES, *foot* (pedal), etc. Anyone with an ordinary English education and the least faculty of observation, after reading these words over, would not fail to know their meaning on meeting them again. So too he might guess the meaning of words like JUSTITIA, GLORIA, ELOQUENTIA, CAUSA, AVARITIA, NATURA, SCIENTIA, IMPRUDENTIA, FAMILIA, and a host of other Latin words which, almost unmodified, have found their way into the English language.