CICERO'S *IN CATILINAM I*: A Guided Reading

Procedures for Study and Lesson Submission

http://www.wheelockslatin.com/tutorials/home.html

Unlike my Wheelock, Ovid, Vergil, and Juvenal tutorials (which are the usual prerequisites for this course), this tutorial on Cicero's First Catilinarian Oration, like those on Catullus and Cicero's *De Senectute,* is what I term a "guided reading." There is no formal course manual, per se, and you will proceed somewhat more independently—which, as a veteran of my Wheelock-through-Juvenal curricula, you will be well capable of doing.

The speech is conventionally divided into 33 sections, and we shall ordinarily proceed one section at a time. Your submitted work will consist of translation to English and brief discussions of both the content/argumentation and rhetorical and other stylistics.

Following are the steps I strongly suggest following for each poem:

- **READ THE ASSIGNED SECTION ALOUD FIRST**, reading both for comprehension and for appreciating rhetorical and stylistic effects; YouTube readings on the website will be helpful in this regard and, based on your prior experience, you'll have a good sense of which of those are more successful than others—the overarching goal, as with reading aloud in your own native language, is to read expressively with careful attention to meaning. Steadman's edition provides macrons in text and notes, one reason I recommend his book.
- **TRANSLATIONS** should be, as I always recommend, "as literal as possible within the limits of natural English idiom," i.e., exact but not awkwardly so—this is so I can continue to assist with your mastery of syntax and comprehending the author's intended meaning as exactly as possible. If you'd like to practice doing a "literary" version or two, after our back-and-forth exchange on your more literal rendering, just let me know.
- **NOTES** in the textbooks should ALWAYS be consulted, as you prepare and type out your translation; ONLY after drafting your own translation to the best of your ability, however, should you consult the Loeb (or any other) translation—and remember that the Loeb (and other published) versions are "literary" not "literal," often somewhat inexact and/or overly interpretive, and thus will not always precisely reflect Cicero's language.
- Any **QUESTIONS** you may have should be submitted along with your emailed assignment; in rare instances, you may have questions you need help with BEFORE emailing your work, but do try to proceed as independently as possible, using the notes in the recommended textbooks, the Loeb edition (only after working out your own translation as accurately as possible), and other resources you will find on the tutorial's website.
- **EMAIL** to lafleur922@hotmail.com each completed assignment as an attached WORD document; I will acknowledge receipt (if I fail to, please feel FREE to remind me the next day!), and I will do my best to get you detailed responses as soon as possible, usually within a few days of receipt. Because it will be helpful to us both, I believe, I ask that you set up

the translation portion of each assignment in your WORD document sentence-by-sentence, with each Latin sentence followed by your English translation of the sentence in a different font/color, something like this:

Quam diū etiam furor iste tuus nōs ēlūdet?
How long will that madness of yours mock us?

For this purpose, the Latin text, including macrons, can be easily copy-pasted into WORD from Steadman's PDF (as I did in the above example) or from the LATIN LIBRARY or PERSEUS sites linked on the webpages for this tutorial (note that the PERSEUS texts provide more-or-less useful vocabulary aids by clicking each word):

https://geoffreysteadman.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Cicero.Cat1_.17Aug26.pdf

https://www.thelatinlibrary.com/cicero/cat1.shtml

https://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3atext%3a1999.02.0010%3atext%3dCatil.

- **NEW ASSIGNMENTS:** When I send responses to one assigned section, I'll include any specific requirements for the next section, so be sure to watch for those.
- **TUITION:** My usual $60/hour rate is payable in advance, preferably 2-3 hours at a time; I keep careful track of time and report "minutes remaining" when I return assignments with my comments. Email me at lafleur922@hotmail.com for my ZELLE or VENMO payment info; if you prefer PayPal, which charges a fee you will need to cover, use this link http://www.wheelockslatin.com/tutorials/payment.html and add $3 for each $60 payment.



Cicero Denounces Catiline in the Roman Senate, fresco by Cesare Maccari, 1889, Palazzo Madama, Rome