

# Common Latin Words and Phrases

<b>i.e.</b>	= id est	<i>that is to say</i>
<b>etc.</b>	= et cetera	<i>and so on</i>
<b>e.g.</b>	= exempli gratia	<i>for example</i>
<b>NB!</b>	= nota bene	<i>observe carefully!</i>
<b>am</b>	= ante meridiem	<i>before midday</i>
<b>pm</b>	= post meridiem	<i>after midday</i>
<b>ad</b>	= anno domini	<i>of our era</i>
<b>bc</b>	= before Christ	<i>before our era</i>
<b>vice versa</b>		<i>the other way around</i>

## Task. Now use the phrases to change the words in bold type:

*Please pay attention to this! African elephants are the largest land animals. Female elephants and young elephants live in herds - **in other words** groups. Teenage elephants form gangs and behave badly – **for example** eat rotten fruit **and so on**. African elephants are larger than Asian elephants and **contrariwise**.*

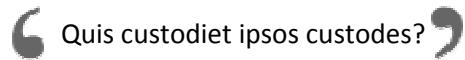
## Famous Latin Proverbs (match)

1. <b>amor vincit omnia</b>	a) Never despair
2. <b>per aspera ad astra!</b>	b) To err is human
3. <b>nil desperandum</b>	c) I think, therefore I exist
4. <b>dum spiro, spero</b>	d) Through difficulties to the stars!
5. <b>errare humanum est</b>	e) Love conquers all
6. <b>facta non verba</b>	f) A sound mind in a sound body
7. <b>mens sana in corpore sano</b>	g) While I breathe, I hope (a motto of South Carolina)
8. <b>nosce te ipsum</b>	h) I came, I saw, I conquered
9. <b>cogito, ergo sum</b>	i) Know thyself
10. <b>veni, vidi, vici (Caesar)</b>	j) Deeds, not words (Actions speak louder than words)

## Famous Latin Proverbs (match)

10. <b>amor vincit omnia</b>	Love conquers all --- E
11. <b>per aspera ad astra!</b>	Through difficulties to the stars! --- D
12. <b>nil desperandum</b>	Never despair --- A
13. <b>dum spiro, spero</b>	While I breathe, I hope (a motto of South Carolina) --- G
14. <b>errare humanum est</b>	To err is human - B
15. <b>facta non verba</b>	Deeds, not words (Actions speak louder than words) --- J
16. <b>mens sana in corpore sano</b>	A sound mind in a sound body -- F
17. <b>nosce te ipsum</b>	Know thyself -- I
18. <b>cogito, ergo sum</b>	I think, therefore I exist --- C
10. <b>veni, vidi, vici (Caesar)</b>	I came, I saw, I conquered -- H

# Latin Phrases Used in English



There are quite a few Latin words and phrases that appear in English, usually in written English but sometimes in spoken English too. Some of them are used more in certain areas such as law, medicine, business etc. Generally, you do not need to learn and use many Latin phrases, but it could help you to recognize them when you see them. Here are some of the most common. (Note that many Latin phrases are used in other - mainly European - languages. So if you speak one of those languages you may be familiar with many if not all of the Latin phrases on this page.)

Latin	meaning	example or comment
<b>ad hoc</b>	formed or done for a particular purpose only	An ad hoc committee was set up to oversee the matter.
<b>ad nauseam</b>	repeating or continuing to the point of boredom	The apparent risks of secondary smoking have been debated ad nauseam.
<b>bona fide</b>	genuine; real	Only bona fide members of the club may use the clubhouse.
<b>caveat emptor</b>	let the buyer beware	The principle that the buyer is responsible for checking the quality and suitability of goods before a purchase is made.
<b>circa; c.</b>	around; approximately	The house was built circa 1870.
<b>coitus interruptus</b>	interrupted congress; aborting sexual intercourse prior to ejaculation	Coitus interruptus is the only form of birth control that some religions allow.
<b>compos mentis</b>	in control of the mind (often used ironically)	Please call me back later when I'm compos mentis.
<b>de facto</b>	in fact; in reality	Although the Emperor was the head of state, the de facto ruler of Japan was the Shogun.
<b>ergo</b>	therefore	cogito ergo sum
<b>erratum</b>	error; mistake	Lists of errors from a previous publication are often marked "errata" (the plural, meaning errors).
<b>et cetera; etc</b>	and the rest; and so on; and more	We urgently need to buy medical equipment, drugs et cetera.
<b>ex gratia</b>	from kindness or grace (without recognizing any liability or legal obligation)	They received an undisclosed ex gratia payment.
<b>ex libris</b>	from the books; from the library	In the front of a book: Ex Libris John Brown
<b>habeas corpus</b>	a court order instructing that a person under arrest be brought before a judge [lit. we have a body]	The right of habeas corpus has long been regarded as an important safeguard of individual liberty.

<b>in loco parentis</b>	in the place of a parent	Teachers sometimes have to act in loco parentis.
<b>in situ</b>	in its original place	The paintings have been taken to the museum but the statues have been left in situ.
<b>in vitro</b>	(in biology) taking place outside a living organism (for example in a test tube)	in vitro fertilization
<b>inter alia</b>	among other things	The report covers, inter alia, computers, telecommunications and air travel.
<b>per</b>	for each	This petrol station charges \$5.00 per gallon.
<b>per annum; p.a.</b>	for each year	The population is increasing by about 2% per annum.
<b>per capita</b>	for each person	The country's annual income is \$5000 per capita.
<b>per se</b>	in itself/themselves; intrinsically	These facts per se are not important.
<b>post-mortem</b>	examination of a body after death; autopsy	The post-mortem revealed that she had been murdered.
<b>pro rata</b>	proportional; proportionally	The car rental charge is \$50 per day and then pro rata for part of a day.
<b>quid pro quo</b>	favour or advantage given or expected in return for something	Similar to "tit for tat", "give and take" and "You scratch my back and I'll scratch yours."
<b>re</b>	about; concerning; regarding	Re: Unpaid Invoice  I spoke to the manager re your salary increase.
<b>sine qua non</b>	essential condition; thing that is absolutely necessary; "without which not"	Words are a sine qua non of spoken language.
<b>status quo</b>	existing state of affairs	Monarchies naturally wish to maintain the status quo.
<b>terra firma</b>	dry land; the ground as opposed to the air or sea	Shackleton and his men set foot on terra firma after three weeks at sea.
<b>verbatim</b>	in exactly the same words	I had to memorize the text verbatim.
<b>versus; vs.; v.</b>	against	What are the benefits of organic versus inorganic foods?  In the case of Bush versus Gore, the judges decided...
<b>vice versa</b>	the other way round	My telephone serves me, and not vice versa.
<b>persona non grata</b>	unacceptable or unwelcome person	From now on, you may consider yourself persona non grata in this house.