# МІНІСТЕРСТВО ОХОРОНИ ЗДОРОВ'Я УКРАЇНИ

# ДЗ «ДНІПРОПЕТРОВСЬКА МЕДИЧНА АКАДЕМІЯ МОЗ УКРАЇНИ»

# КАФЕДРА МОВНОЇ ПІДГОТОВКИ



# АКТУАЛЬНІ ПРОБЛЕМИ НАВЧАННЯ ІНОЗЕМНИХ СТУДЕНТІВ

Матеріали XXII Всеукраїнської науково-практичної конференції

Дніпро

2020

Редакційна колегія:

д. філол. н., проф. Т. В. Філат (відп. ред.);

к. філол. н., ст. викладач Н. В. Кузнецова;

к. філол. н., ст. викладач К. Ю. Перинець.

**Актуальні проблеми навчання іноземних студентів.** Матеріали XXII

Всеукраїнської науково-практичної конференції. – Дніпро, 2020. – 199 с.

Збірник містить матеріали науково-практичної конференції. Розглядаються актуальні проблеми навчання іноземних студентів, а також питання методики викладання української, російської, латинської та іноземних мов у вищій школі.

Для спеціалістів-філологів, викладачів вищих навчальних закладів, аспірантів, студентів-філологів.

Усі матеріали друкуються в авторській редакції.

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## КАФЕДРА МОВНОЇ ПІДГОТОВКИ

V Міжвузівська науково-практична студентська конференція з латинської мови

## «PER ASPERA AD ASTRA»

знаходити потрібну інформацію. Усе це, безперечно, розширює можливості вивчення давньої латинської мови за допомогою сучасних технічних засобів. За їх допомогою саме навчання і безпосередньо вивчення латинської мови в аудиторіях сучасних вищих навчальних закладів стає цікавим та продуктивним.

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#### THE HISTORY AND ORIGIN OF LATIN LANGUAGE

The influence of the Roman Empire throughout the world is indubitable. Music, poetry, art and architecture exceptionally benefited from ingenuity of civilization that at one time spammed from northern Africa to the water of the British Isles. However, culture does not spread without communication, that necessary link to human exchange of knowledge called language. Latin's life stretches beyond prehistory, its origin forever lost. What is still known about Latin survives to use in a sporadic collection of writings that only hint at the language rich history. Throughout the early part of the first millennium B.C., the Italian peninsula was subjected to wars and conflicts where numerous cultures battled for supremacy. The ebb and tide of some factions' strength made lasting impressions on the peninsula and influenced the beginning of roman history to the extent that Latin would have almost perished had certain powers not won over their rivals.

#### Classification of times

Although Latin scholars disagree on the beginning and ending dates for different periods in the language's history, it can be broken down into seven periods with approximate dates given below:

- ➤ Old Latin (origin 75 B.C.)
- ➤ Classical Latin (75 B.C. 200 A.D.)
- $\triangleright$  Vulgar Latin (200 900)
- ➤ Medieval Latin (900 1300)

- ➤ Renaissance Latin (1300 1500)
- New Latin (1500 present)
- Contemporary Latin (1900- present)

#### **OLD LATIN**

Old Latin (sometimes called ancient, archaic, or early Latin) is generally considered to have existed before 75 B.C. Latin was the only spoken dialect on the Italian peninsula, competing with Umbrian and Oscan. Eventually, Latin won over the language as a result of being the language of the victors of the many wars and battles fought on the peninsula during the early part of first millennium B.C.

Old Latin exist for scholars to study the beginning of the language, those example that did survive provide invaluable insight into the evolution of the language. Pronunciation is quite a problem, however, because the language went through many cultural changes throughout the period on the Italian peninsula. Some of the understanding of old Latin has relied on histories written about the language after it ceased to exist.

#### CLASSICAL LATIN

The classical Latin period is that which spans most of the first century B.C. through the second century A.D. this time period saw the assassination of Julius Caesar, the great fire of Rome and the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. Classical Latin is often the taught Latin in schools today, with much translation exercises coming from the author of time.

Classical Latin can be divided into two main ages. The golden age which ran from approximately 75B.C. to the first or second decade of the first century A.D. roman poetry in this period reached an all time high in both beauty and sophistication, with such authors as Lucretius writing de rerum natura( on the nature of things), which attempt to explain epicurean philosophy to the roman reader. Julius Caesar's commentaries on the Gallic wars illustrate a militaristic style of roman writing which is familiar to modern Latin students. These commentaries often form the basis for intermediate translation exercises in Latin pedagogy.

The silver age is generally considered inferior to the golden age, although this slur has been challenged. The silver age saw authors such as Seneca, writing about stoic philosophy, and the naturalist Pliny the elder writing naturalish historia (natural history). During the latter part of the silver age, some roman writing became frightening tales of violence, witchcraft, and vices which continue to prove enigmatic to literary scholars. By the end of this age, writing returned to more peaceful themes under the leadership of the roman emperors such as Trajan.

Better than inconsistencies of old Latin, the classical Latin period laid down a standard which is evident in many surviving texts of some of the greatest writers in history.

#### **VULGAR LATIN**

Sermo Vulgaris or folk speech is the name given to Latin following the silver age of the classical Latin period. Sometimes called Vulgar Latin, this period in the language's history dates from 200 to 900 A.D. Vulgar Latin refers to various dialects of the Latin language which later gave rise to romance languages such as Italian, French, and Spanish.

Generally, Vulgar Latin is not associated with the Latin of literature. As a spoken language, it is difficult to trace its origins and, consequently, the origins of the romance languages. Some describe this period as a theoretical language which shifted greatly to accommodate the local variety of Latin in conjunction with other dialects and native tongues of various regions across Europe prior to the middle ages.

#### MEDIEVAL LATIN

Medieval Latin refers to the language that was spoken throughout Europe during the period between about 900 and 1300 A.D. liturgically, it was the official language of the roman catholic church, and was as well the language of scholarship and science. As a scholarly language, it allowed for the exchange of scientific, philosophic, and technological ideas in a common language across the political and physical boundaries of the fragmented European landscape.

Medieval Latin is often confused as with ecclesiastical Latin, but there are some differences. Ecclesiastical Latin, sometimes called church Latin, was the language used by the Roman Catholic Church for liturgical purpose. It is not considered a language of its own; rather, it is a dialect used to serve the purposes of its users as a universal voice of the beliefs of the Catholic Church. Pronunciation often differed from other Latin dialects and its vocabulary was smaller to accommodate its single purpose.

Some of the grammatical changes characterized by medieval Latin include the dropping of the diphthong (ae) to just (e), for example, feminae may be written as simply as feminine. In Greek loan words, I and y are used interchangeably and the letter h was often dropped altogether. Often, single consonants were doubled and double consonants became single. Examples found in older English texts attest to this change as in Affrica for Africa found on maps of the second millennium A.D.

Medieval Latin marks a period in the language's history where many political changes were pulling the language in too many directions to allow for a consistent evolution. The romance languages were taking shape in this period and Latin was beginning to be relegated to somewhat antiquated tool of church and science rather than as a living language. Nevertheless, the Medieval Latin period produced many examples of great literary works such as scientific treatises, poetry, histories, hymns and sermons.

**RENAISSANCE LATIN**: was basically about the fall of Rome.

#### THE NEW LATIN

The New Latin period (1500 - 1900 A.D.) changed Latin from the universal language of education and theology to an anachronism of the times. The fall of the Roman Empire centuries earlier should have wiped the influence of Latin in modern culture. However, movements in previous periods kept Latin alive for much longer than the demise of its homeland.

New Latin (or Neo-Latin) is the name generally given to the language that survived the Renaissance period a few centuries earlier. New technologies, such as the printing press, invented during this period gave rise to the spread of new ideas and education that sparked one of the largest cultural revolutions in European history. However, these changes also brought about movements to switch communication from the archaic Latin language to vernaculars which by now had developed from Latin into their own distinct languages. French, Spanish, Italian and the other Romance languages now enjoyed their own grammar, lexicon, and pronunciation that set them apart from their ancient mother.

Throughout the early part of the new Latin period, Latin endured as the language of choice for law, education and religion. It also continued to serve as the medium through which diplomacy and negotiation were enabled. Whereas French and English were popular languages of the learned, only Latin remained as the true standard through which all communication could flow on most of the continent. Latin continued to be a school subject as kin to the necessity of mathematics, reading, and writing.

Evidence that English overtook Latin exists in the following poignant example. The works of Sir Isaac Newton are perhaps the most important scientific writings ever written. When Newton published the first edition of Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica (Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy) in 1687, the books were available only in Latin. In 1704, Newton's Opticks was published in English. In such a short time, English had overtaken Latin such that Newton began his publishing career in Latin and ended it in English.

By the late nineteenth century, Latin was used only by a few branches of science and even then only to coincide with the tradition of scientific nomenclature (e.g. anatomy). For traditional reasons also, the Roman Catholic Church continued to celebrate mass in Latin even though the congregation was largely unable to understand the language. By this time, it seemed that Latin had finally expired as a useful language to learn for communication purposes.

#### **MODERN LATIN**

Modern Latin has existed from about the early part of the twentieth century to the present. The previous Latin period saw the language reduced to an anachronism useful only for traditional conventions and as a tool for learning about the Romans. The Latin taught in schools today has been funneled down to the Classical period with little attention given to the teaching of earlier or later Latin forms. Still Latin persists as a symbol of scholarship, science and theology.

Some initiatives such as the Living Latin movements have attempted to bring Latin back as both a spoken language and a language with modern application. For example, the <u>Societas Circulorum Latinorum</u> is an international organization for the preservation of Latin as a spoken language. In addition, some popular books have been translated into Latin. Alexander Lenard's translation of Winnie ille Pu (Winnie the Pooh) and Peter Needham's translation of Harrius Potter et Philosophi Lapis (Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone) have inspired students of Latin to see the language as alive rather than as a relic of the past.

In no other time in history has Latin seen so few speakers than in Modern Latin. Some who see the value of the language hold on for traditional reasons, but also as homage to a part of European culture that shaped the continent and beyond. The future of Latin is uncertain. Some believe that the learning of language skills should revolve around more practical languages that have marketable applications. Latin certainly does not fit the bill as practical save for a few professions such as anthropology and archaeology. Nevertheless, movements underway in the Modern Latin period may be the only link between the ancient language and future generations.