



# Why Imperium?

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## Why Imperium?

Imperium was six years in the making and was thoroughly tested and adapted in this time. Students who have followed the course have reached top grades in the European Latin Diploma and the European Latin Baccalaureate. Imperium has been seen to motivate students and help increase class sizes.

*But...*

... what you need to know is, **would it work for you?** So here goes, with some quick-fire questions and answers. Let's hope they'll help.

*Are you a bit bored and looking for something different, to add some spice to your teaching?*

- Imperium is an all-new Latin course for the twenty-first century.
- It breaks previous unwritten rules, about when and how to teach what.
- Its approach puts iPads, MP3 players and other technologies such as Google Docs at the heart of the process.
- It is funny, fast-paced and clearly targeted.

*Do you sometimes wonder if there might be a better way to use your interactive whiteboard or data projector in class?*

- 100% of the Imperium course was designed and written to be delivered using these systems.
- The teacher notes in the Scheme of Work make a set of suggestions about how to teach the course using available technologies.

*Have you ever felt under pressure because you don't have enough lessons to teach to the final examination? Or have you ever had to cut things out from your teaching because there simply isn't time to include them?*

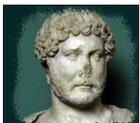
- I thought so.

*How can Imperium address the problem?*

- Learning targets are always clear.
- All exercises are kept to a one-page limit.
- A constant focus is maintained on speed of learning as well as accuracy.
- You will need around 180 lessons in total to teach the whole course in comfort. If you have more lessons available to you, you can easily expand into them. Compare that to what you need now.

*Are you under financial pressure?*

- The Site Support Pack should make everything easier for you.
- The whole of the Imperium course can be bought by an institution for £50.
- That's about 60 Euros, or 75 US Dollars.
- There is no restriction on how many pdf files you are allowed to print, or how many computers you are allowed to install software on, provided this is done within your own school and not made available publicly.
- If money is not such a big issue, you can use the printed books from Amazon, not pdf files.



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## *Are you worried about teaching English to Latin?*

- Imperium embraces traditional teaching methods within a completely modern approach. So it includes English into Latin exercises in every chapter.
- There are pdf files available with correct answers to all of these exercises.
- There are MP3 files for every exercise, explaining how to arrive at those answers. These may help students and their teachers.

## *Is the Imperium course material entertaining or interesting enough?*

- Each chapter features a section on background, where topics such as marriage and education are covered, along with the actual events of the period.
- The story of Hadrian's life supports an exploration of the Roman Empire at its height, at a time when many of Rome's recognisable landmarks were constructed.
- Jokes abound to sweeten the pill of hard-nosed grammar learning.
- A collection of 50 Martial poems has been made for Book 3, to keep the humour levels up in the Latin language.

## *Is the course really as radical as all that?*

- Yes.
- Imperium combines the old and the new in forceful ways. Teaching with technology is not a bolt-on afterthought to the course: it is the entire basis of it.
- There are three course books and one Grammar and Syntax Guide. The course is rigorous and this looks like a traditional model.
- The Imperium Word Tools App is the most advanced system of its kind today, running on Pac, Mac, iOS and Android systems. This doesn't seem quite so old-fashioned.
- Using tablets and Google Docs is hardly Mr Chips, is it?

## *How logical is the new approach to Latin learning?*

- The progression of language learning has been strongly influenced by talking to modern foreign language teachers and other colleagues from across Europe.
- Books 1 and 2 require knowledge of the present tense system only; the most complex Latin clauses and constructions have deliberately been held back until towards the end of Book 3.
- Too many of our students give up Latin because ablative absolutes, participles and indirect statement are introduced too early and are just too hard for them to understand. They are held back in Imperium until we know that the students are safe in our classes.

## *How historically accurate or engaging is the material?*

- The course should appeal to a keen student of the Roman world, because it stays so close to historical reality.
- Hadrian travelled very widely and made many fascinating contributions to Roman architecture, which are described in the course.
- Hadrian defined the limits of the Roman Empire at its height, after it had grown under Domitian and Trajan. Many details are given of the events as they happened.
- Hadrian was a complex personality, with an extraordinary personal life. His close and shifting family relationships should strike a chord with many growing up in today's world.



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## *How comical is it, really?*

- Imperium makes use of humour in every chapter. A modern Latin course should motivate students and having a bit of fun is essential.
- No other Latin course in the world features close-up pictures of a slug eating a radish.
- Books 1 and 2 are peppered with jokes. Some of them are even funny.
- Book 3 uses a collection of 50 Martial poems to continue the theme in original Latin.

## *How much help is given for teachers new to the materials?*

- There is a course overview document, which will show you exactly what is in each chapter, including story content, grammar and syntax, and material on Roman Civilisation.
- There are extensive notes on how to approach teaching the course.
- There is a full, specimen Scheme of Work.
- There is a file with a full set of correct answers to every exercise in the course.
- There is a separate MP3 file for every exercise in the course.
- All of this should make it possible for an interested MFL teacher to manage the teaching of the course, if no specialist Latin teacher is available.
- It should also help home-schoolers, or those teaching themselves.

## *Are there any resources to help with testing or assessment?*

- There is a set of 9 unseen, graded to various chapters of the books, all with marking schemes.
- There are tests of all of the *sine qua non* sections on a chapter-by-chapter basis.
- There are practice tests of all of the *sine qua non* sections on a chapter-by-chapter basis.
- There is a set of three graded tests, one for each book, along with certificates to be printed and awarded to your students.

## *Where and how do I get all of the digital resources?*

- Visit [www.imperiumlatin.com](http://www.imperiumlatin.com)
- Every part of the course is available now.
- Books 1, 2 and 3 are available as free-of-charge downloads on TES Resources.
- A Student Area of the website offers useful resources, some free and some paid.
- The Teacher Area of the website offers a whole set of resources in a bundle, called the Site Support Pack. This can be bought for only £50 and will allow you to equip your classroom with every resource you will need. (*Conditions apply – see ReadMe file.*)
- Printed versions of books 1-3, the Imperium Latin Grammar and Syntax Guide and the Imperium Latin Puzzles book can be bought from Amazon.
- Versions of Latin Vocab Drill and Latin Flash Drill are available to support the course: please ask for details.

## *If I spend fifty quid, do I really get everything in the Imperium course? Can I work like this?*

- Yes, unless you feel the need to work with real books and tablets. Then you'll have to spend a bit more. It's your call.
- It's worth mentioning that there were no books until recently and the course has worked extremely well during the trialling period by being used 100% from pdf files.

## *How often will you update things and how will I know?*

- It depends on what the users report back. When things need to be improved, they will be, and contributors' names will be added to the Acknowledgements.
- The Twitter feed will keep users updated. @ImperiumLatin