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**Level 5** – 2nd August, 2021

## More U.K. schools to teach Latin

**FREE** online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210802-latin-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210802-latin-5.html>

The UK has announced a \$5.5 million programme to teach Latin at 40 of its schools. The Latin Excellence Programme aims to "level up" opportunities for students in some government-run schools. Latin was spoken in the area around Rome 2,000 years ago. It is taught in 49% of the UK's "elite" private schools but only 2.7% of state schools. The UK's education secretary said: "Latin has a reputation as an elitist subject, which is reserved for the privileged few, but the subject can bring so many benefits to young people." He added: "Latin can help pupils with learning modern foreign languages."

The programme has sparked a heated debate. Many people have ridiculed it as being a "poorly-funded gimmick". A politician wrote: "Latin is elite because only people who are guaranteed successful careers, thanks to family connections, can afford to waste time on...understanding...the dialogue in [ancient] books." An author said she only uses Latin to "occasionally translate things on tombs". A teacher said money would be better spent on living languages like Chinese that would enable children "to get ahead in the world," or on computer coding.

Sources: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/thousands-more-students-to-learn-ancient-and-modern-languages>  
<https://www.rt.com/uk/530785-uk-debates-usefulness-latin/>  
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9846015/Latin-taught-state-schools-bid-make-language-elitist.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210802-latin-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                             |                           |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. level                    | a. reputation             |
| 2. Latin was spoken in the  | b. many benefits          |
| 3. only 2.7%                | c. area around Rome       |
| 4. Latin has a              | d. pupils                 |
| 5. an elitist               | e. up opportunities       |
| 6. reserved                 | f. subject                |
| 7. the subject can bring so | g. for the privileged few |
| 8. Latin can help           | h. of state schools       |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                     |                        |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. The programme has sparked        | a. tombs               |
| 2. Many people have                 | b. ahead in the world  |
| 3. a poorly-funded                  | c. ancient books       |
| 4. family                           | d. ridiculed it        |
| 5. the dialogue in                  | e. on living languages |
| 6. occasionally translate things on | f. gimmick             |
| 7. money would be better spent      | g. connections         |
| 8. enable children to get           | h. a heated debate     |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210802-latin-5.html>

The UK (1) \_\_\_\_\_ \$5.5 million programme to teach Latin at 40 of its schools. The Latin Excellence Programme aims to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ for students in some government-run schools. Latin was spoken in the area around Rome 2,000 years ago. It is taught in 49% of the UK's (3) \_\_\_\_\_ but only 2.7% of state schools. The UK's education secretary said: "Latin has (4) \_\_\_\_\_ an elitist subject, which (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the privileged few, but the subject can bring so many benefits to young people." He added: "Latin can (6) \_\_\_\_\_ learning modern foreign languages."

The programme has (7) \_\_\_\_\_ debate. Many people have ridiculed it as being a "(8) \_\_\_\_\_". A politician wrote: "Latin is elite because only people who are guaranteed successful careers, thanks (9) \_\_\_\_\_, can afford to waste time on...understanding...the (10) \_\_\_\_\_ books." An author said she only uses Latin to "occasionally (11) \_\_\_\_\_ tombs". A teacher said money would be better spent on living languages like Chinese that would enable children "to (12) \_\_\_\_\_ the world," or on computer coding.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210802-latin-5.html>

The UK has announced a \$5.5 million programme to teach Latin at 40 of its schools. The Latin Excellence Programme aims to "level up" opportunities for students in some government-run schools. Latin was spoken in the area around Rome 2,000 years ago. It is taught in 49% of the UK's "elite" private schools but only 2.7% of state schools. The UK's education secretary said: "Latin has a reputation as an elitist subject, which is reserved for the privileged few, but the subject can bring so many benefits to young people." He added: "Latin can help pupils with learning modern foreign languages." The programme has sparked a heated debate. Many people have ridiculed it as being a "poorly-funded gimmick". A politician wrote: "Latin is elite because only people who are guaranteed successful careers, thanks to family connections, can afford to waste time on... understanding... the dialogue in [ancient] books." An author said she only uses Latin to "occasionally translate things on tombs". A teacher said money would be better spent on living languages like Chinese that would enable children "to get a head in the world," or on computer coding.

# LATIN SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210802-latin-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Latin in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

