(from ancient to 'modern')

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1. Vowels & diphthongs *
     (ĭ) /i/ [ɪ], CiV /CiV/ [CɪV], ViV /VjV/ [VɪjV], ^{\#}iV /^{\#}jV/ [^{\#}iV] ^{2}
     (\bar{\imath}) / i : / [i i (C/V), _{\circ} i]^{-1}
     (\breve{e}) / e / [\varepsilon, E]
     (\bar{e}) / ex / [ee(C/V), _{e}]^{-1}
     (ă) /a/ [e]
     (\bar{a}) /a! / [aa(C/V), a]^{-1}
   (\breve{o})/o/[5, \sigma]
     (\bar{o}) / ox / [oo(C/V), o]^{-1}
   (ŭ) /u/ [ʊ], /CʊV/ [CʊV] CuV <sup>3</sup>
     (\bar{u}) / u : / [u u (C/V), u]^{-1}
    (\breve{y})/y/[Y]^4
     (\bar{y})/y!/[yy(C/V), y]^{-1}, 4
   /ei/ [εɪ, ¸εɪ] <sup>5</sup>
ei (eī) /ei:/ [εi, εi]
eu /eu/ [ευ, ¸ευ] <sup>5</sup>
ae (x) /ae/ [ve] <sup>5</sup>
au /au/ [ev] 5
oe (œ) /oe/ [oe] <sup>5</sup>
ou /ou/ [ɔʊ, ⴰσʊ] <sup>5</sup>
ui /ui/ [vɪ] 5
* Examples for the main Latin vocalic elements:
vīdĭt /wi:dit/ ['wiidɪt] 'he/she saw' & vĭdĕt /widit/ ['wɪdɛt] 'he/she sees'
vēnĭt /we:nit/ ['weenɪt] 'he/she came' & vĕnĭt /wenit/ ['wɛnɪt] 'he/she comes'
mālum /maːlum/ 'maaluegi 'apple' & malum /malum/ ['meluegi 'bad'
pōpŭlŭm /po:pulum/ [poopulŭ] 'poplar' & pŏpŭlŭm /populum/ ['populŭ] 'people'
fūror /furor/ ['fuuror] 'I steal' & fŭror /furor/ ['furor] 'rage'.
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Further useful examples:

līber /li:ber/ ['liiber] 'free' & lĭber /liber/ ['lɪber] 'book'

lēgēm /le:qem/ ['leeqee] 'law' & legīt /leqit/ ['leqit] 'he/she reads'

vēlŭm /weelum/ ['we:lo] 'veil' – pilum /pilum/ ['pɪlo] 'hair' – vīnum /wi:num/ ['wiino] 'wine' – vittam /wittam/ ['wɪtte] 'peak' – sectam /sektam/ ['sɛkte]

fig 1. Classical Latin vowels.

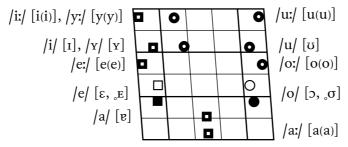


fig 2.1. Classical Latin diphthongs.

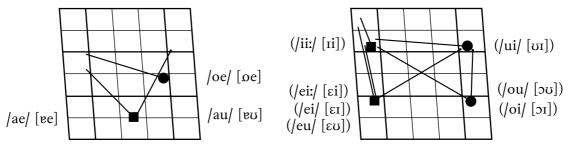


fig 2.2. Classical Latin diphthongs: colloquial variants.

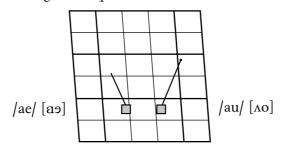
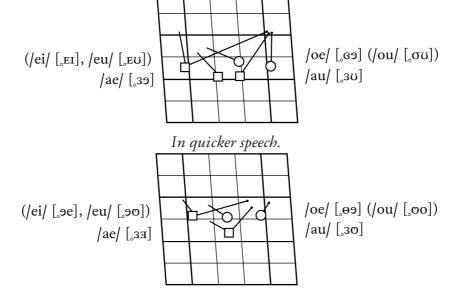


fig 2.3. Classical Latin diphthongs in unstressed syllables (including quicker speech variants).



'sect' – sōlĕm /soːlem/ [ˈsoolɛ̃] 'sun' – nŭcĕm /nukem/ [ˈnʊkɛ̃] 'nut' – lūcĕm /luːkem/ [ˈluukɛ̃] '(a) light' – rŭptŭm /ruptum/ [ˈrʊptʊ̃] 'broken' – cŏctŭm

/koktum/ [ˈkɔktʊ̃] 'cooked' – cŭrsŭm /kursum/ [ˈkʊrsʊ̃] 'course' – cŏrsŭm /korsum/ [ˈkɔrsʊ̃] 'Corsican'.

And: praedăm/prædăm /praedam/ ['preedee] 'prey' – coenăm/cœnăm /koenam/ ['koenee] 'supper' - aurum /aurum/ ['euroe] 'gold'.

fig 3. Classical Latin nasalized vowels.

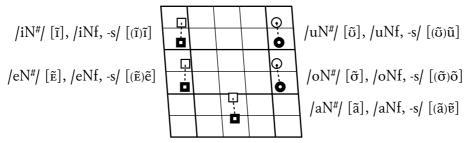
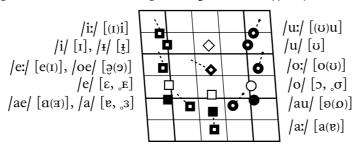


fig 4. Rural/popular Latin vowels & diphthongs (with no /y:, y/, but with /₺/ [₺]).



- ¹ There is a phonetic difference in length between stressed ([¹]) and unstressed long vowels ([。]): ārā (abl.) /aɪraː/ [ˈaara], cf āră (nom.) /aɪre/ [ˈaare].
- ² Audio, peius (pejus), etiam, iam (jam) /audio:, pejjus, etiam, jem/ ['eυdio, 'pεijus, 'εtiē, 'jēē]. For metrical reasons, certain dictionaries and grammars, unfortunately, mark as 'long' the *short vowels* that precede *iV*, which –in reality– are /VjjV/ ['VijV], eg 'pēĭūs'.
- ³ Puer, puella / ['pυεr, pυ'εłlɐ]. But quV, nguV are /kw, ngw/ [k, ηĝ, k, -ĝ] (fig 6).
- ⁴ Rounded, generally used in Greek loans, and appear in the vocogram boxes just to the right of those of /iː, i/ [ii, 1].
- ⁵ There occur various vowel sequences, which are true phonetic diphthongs, even if phonemically we prefer to consider them simply as sequences, just like consonant sequences.

The two more frequent sequences (in lexemes) are: au/au/[vv] and ae(x)/ae/[ve] (which is derived from archaic ai/ae/[ae]; quite frequent as desinential grammeme); oe(x)/oe/[oe] is rare; while ei/ei/[si], eu/eu/[sv], ui/ui/[vi] are decidedly rarer; even more so are $e\bar{\imath}/eii/[si]$, yi/yi/[yi], and ou/ou/[ov], which only occurs lexically in the conjunction prout, although in phono-texts we also find veverapsize overapsize overap

In cases like aes, aeris we have /aes, aeris/ ['ves, 'vers] (æs, æris, short diphthongs), while aer, aeris (often indicated as aër, aëris), are, instead, /axer, axeris/ ['aaer, 'aaers]

(long diphthongs), from Greek ἀήρ. Also: poena /poena/ ['poenɐ] (short diphthongs), but poema, poematis (or poëma, poëmatis) /poeːma, poeːmatis/ [poˈeːmɐ, poˈeːmɐtɪs] (hiatuses) from Greek ποίημα. We also have cases like aunculus /aunkulus/ [ɐˈuŋkulus] (from avunculus /ɐwunkulus/ [ɐˈwuŋkulus]).

fig 4 includes the possible alternative $/\frac{1}{2}$ / phoneme, which could occur, before /m, p, b, f/ or after /w/, in words like optimus, manipulus, libet, pontifex, virtus.

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2. Consonants (here shown in alphabetical order, but see fig 5)
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b
       /b/ [b] <sup>6</sup>
c, k /k/ [k] <sup>7</sup>
ch /kh/ [kh] <sup>7</sup>
d
       /d/ [d] <sup>6</sup>
       /f/ [f]
       /q/[q, q], /qN/[\eta N, \eta N] gn, gm^8, and ngu+V/nqw/[\eta \hat{q}, \eta \hat{q}]^{13}
       /h/ [h/fi] <sup>9</sup>
h
       /l/ [l], /lV/ [lV] IV, /l#/ [l#] I#, /lC/ [lC] IC, /ll/ [ll] II 10, 18
1
       /m/[m], /Vm^{\#}/[i\tilde{V}\tilde{V}, \tilde{V}] - Vm(\#, V-), /N(\#)C/[N\equiv C]m(\#)C^{-11}
m
       /n/[n], /VnC/[VN\equiv C] VnC, but /Vnf, -s/[VVf], Vf, -s Vnf, Vns^{12}
       /p/ [p] <sup>7</sup>
p
ph /ph/ [ph] <sup>7</sup>
qu /kw/ [\hat{\mathbf{k}}, \hat{\mathbf{k}}], and ngu+V/gw/ [\hat{\mathbf{\eta}}\hat{\mathbf{g}}, \hat{\mathbf{\eta}}\hat{\mathbf{g}}] 13
       /r/[r], rh/r(h) \sim (h)r/^{14}, 18
       |s| [s], [z] + |b|, d, g/; b, d, g, but not before |m|, n; r; |l| |m|, n, r, |l| 15, 16
       /t/ [t], tiV /tiV/ [t<sub>1</sub>V] <sup>7</sup>
t
       /th/ [th] <sup>7</sup>
       /w/ [w]
ν
       /ks/ [ks] 17
Х
       |z| [z]^{18, 19}
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6 /b, d/ become /p, t/ [p, t] when followed by voiceless consonants: urbs, obtusus, adpatruus /'urps, op'tu:sus, at'patruus/ ['urps, σp'tu:sus, εt'petruus], except for insistence. Of course, we have x /ks/ [ks], ie 'cs', as in rex /reks/ ['rɛks]. In senten-

fig 5. Classical Latin consonants, with taxophones, & popular/rural variants between ().

	bilabial	labiodental	dental	dentovelar	alveolar	alveovelar	prepalatal	palatal	postpalatal	prevelar	velar	prevelolabia	velolabial	laryngael
Nasal Stop Constrictive Approximant Tap Lateral	т р b (ф ß)	[ŋ] f	[n] t d s [z]-(ð)) [{ - {]	n (z) r 1	[ɫ]-(ォ)	[ţ]	[ɲ]	(f) (c f) (b)	[ŋ] [k g] (ɣ)	[ŋ] k g (ɣ)	[t̞ ĝ]	[kg] w	[?] h[h]

ces, ab, sub, ad assimilate to following consonants, according to usual word formation rules (nowadays, crystalized in the current spelling of Latin texts).

This produces geminates, in fluente speech, with the possibility to keep their place of articulation before other stops or nasals. However, voicing is lost before voiceless consonants: ad portas /apporta:s, atp-/ [ep'portas], ad quem /akkwem, atkwem/ [ek'kee], sub monte /summonte, subm-/ [sum'monte], sub die /suddie:, subdie:/ [sud'die], sub fine morbi /suffi:ne morbi:/ [suf'fiine 'morbi].

⁷ 'Aspirated' voiceless stop, actually the sequence /kh/ [kh], mainly in Greek loans, as a phonostyleme (for φ , ϑ , χ). Of two adjoining 'aspirated' stops, the first one loses its 'aspiration': phthisis /phthisis / [p'thisis].

* In clear and precise pronunciation, /gN/ (ie /g/ + nasal) can be [gN]. The highly controversial matter about [ŋn] and [gn], for gn, is simply a tiny realization difference for /gn/. In fact, even in word-initial position in a phrase, we have [ŋn]: tibi gnarigabo /tibignaːrigaːboː, tibiː-/ [ˌtɪbɪŋnarɪˈgaabo, ˌtɪbi-]. In addition, any form with gn- are mainly archaic: nosco /noːskoː/ [ˈnoosko] (- gnosco) –including the name Gnaeus /gnaeus/ [gˈnɐeʊs] – or, in any case, with variants in n-: (g)naritas /(g)naːritaːs/ [(g)ˈnaarɪtas], thus also [ˌtɪbɪnarɪˈgaabo, ˌtɪbi-]. We equally have tegmen /tegmen/ [ˈtɛŋmen], or [ˈtɛgmen] for insistence (more systematically so in rural and popular speech). For ngu see g and qu.

⁹ Rather weak, even in preclassical age, and not rarely voiced; between vowels, by then = /0/: nihil /niil, niil/ ['niil, 'nɪfiɪl], mihi /mii, mii, mii/ ['mɪi, 'mɪɪ, 'mii].

Thus, velarized alveolar lateral, /l/ [ł], before a pause or a consonant. But /ll/ [łl] and /liː, lɪ, lj/ [l̞i(i), l̞ɪ, l̞j]: famulus /famulus/ [femulus], simulare /simulare/ [ˌsɪ-muˈlaare] (vs familia /familia/ [feˈmɪl̞ɪɐ], similis /similis/ [ˈsɪmɪl̞ɪs]) where, by assimilation, the vowels which preceded [ł] had become back ones. Up to the end of the preclassical age, [ł] also occurred before non-front vowels (including /a, aː/).

Word-finally, either before a pause or a vowel beginning a following word, m simply nasalizes the vowels, $[\tilde{\imath}, \tilde{\epsilon}, \tilde{\mathfrak{v}}, \tilde{\mathfrak{o}}, \tilde{\mathfrak{v}}]$, by lengthening them into narrow closing diphthongs if stressed, $[\tilde{\imath}\tilde{\imath}, '\tilde{\mathtt{E}}\tilde{\mathfrak{e}}, '\tilde{\mathtt{v}}\tilde{\mathfrak{o}}, '\tilde{\mathtt{v}}\tilde{\mathfrak{u}}]$. Let observe: pulchrum est /pulkrum(e)st/ ['pułkhr $\tilde{\mathtt{v}}$ st], pulchra es /pulkra(e)s/ ['pułkhr $\tilde{\mathtt{v}}$ st].

When final before a consonant, m behaves as /n(f)C/: [m] + /p, b, m/; [n] + /t, d, n/; [n] + /k, g; kw, gw/ ($[k, \hat{g}; k, \hat{g}]$). But, m is dropped, while nasalizing a preceding vowel, when followed by /j, w, h/ (even [a]) by emphasis). When followed by /f, s/, before /r, 1/, it is either dropped nasalizing the vowel, or completely assimilated. Let us just consider a couple of exaples: $cum\ grano\ salis$, $cum\ libro\ /kungrano\ salis$; $kul\theta$ libro; $kum\theta$ libro; $kum\theta$ libro; $kum\theta$ libro; $kum\theta$ libro, $kum\theta$ libro.

Word-internal m is kept, becoming homorganic to a following consonant: quam-quam /kwenkwem/ ['keŋkɐ̃], omnis /'ɔnnɪs/ ['ɔnnɪs]. In our phonemic transcriptions, we simplify a bit, using /Vm/ for nasal(ized) vowels, [\tilde{V}]. The same is done for /kw, gw/ [k, k; k; k; k; k.

¹² Alveolar before a vowel, but homorganic to a following consonant, except for *nf* and *ns*, where nasalization (as in the preceding case) and lengthening occur, in stressed syllables: *confero*, *constans*, *constantis*, *mens*, *mentis* /konferoː, konstans, konstantis, 'mens, 'mentis/ ['kõõfero, 'kõõstes, kõs'tentis, 'mees, 'mentis].

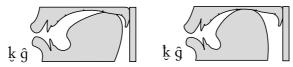
(Traditionally, for metrical reasons –by forcing things, given the very limited written possibilities– this fact is shown as '/V:/', but also keeping n: *confero, *constant, *constant, *mens, ments. This lets people think we may have *['koomfero:, 'koonstaans, koons'tentis, 'meens, 'ments], where excessively long vowels, in unstressed syllables, are clearly surprising, at least in everyday language.

In word-final position, in phrases with *in*, *non*, we find that n/n/ assimilates not only to stops and nasals, but also to /j, w/ [pj, nw] (including /ni(:), nɪ, nj/ [pi(i), pɪ, nj], word-internally, in popular and rural speech). However, it does not assimilate before /r, l/, as —on the contrary—it does in word-internal position. Anyway, in popular and rural speech, such assimilations were frequent, if not normal, even before word-internal /r, l/.

Before a vowel, n remains /n/[n], although it is not resyllabified with it, when stress is present: in agrum /in()agrum/[in()a

¹³ Labio-(pre)velar stops (cf 6): voiceless, *qui* /kwi:/ ['kii], or voiced, *languor* /langwor/ [lenĝσι]; /gw/ [ĝ] occurs only between /n/ and vowels different from /u/. However, in rural and popular speech, /kw, gw/ [k, k; g, ĝ] were practically replaced by /k, g/ [k, g] (including [k, g], and even [c, μ], before front vowels, in addition to /gm/ [gm, gm]).

fig 6. Velolabial & prevelolabial stops [k, g; k, g] /kw, gw/.



- ¹⁴ Generally, alveolar tap, [r], both in stressed and unstressed syllables, with the possibility of either 'aspiration' [rh], or 'preaspiration' [hr], for rh, $\dot{\rho}$, in Greek loans, as a phonostyleme.
- ¹⁵ Disgregatio, Lesbos /disgregatio, lesbos/ [dizgregatio, lezbos]; but disiungo (disju-), asma /disjungo, asma/ [disjungo, asma/ [disjungo, asma].
- ¹⁶ Obviously, *sc* is always /sk/ [sk, sk]: *scio* /skio:/ ['skio]. In rural speech, /s/ before any /C/ tended to become [ş, z; ş, z] (prepalatal or laminal alveolar).
- ¹⁷ The change from /ks/ to /gz/ for exV- / ϵ ksV-/ [ϵ ksV-] decidedly belongs to periods after the classical age, while the change of (initial) x- /ks \rightarrow s/ happened even later than in classical age, thus, it is equally a non-neutral peculiarity.
- ¹⁸ It generally occurs in Greek loans, as a phonostyleme (for ζ). Since, in addition to [z], it also had further possible variants, [zz] and [dz] (not [dz], stopstrictive), it is hardly surprising that in verse it could 'lengthen syllables'.
- ¹⁹ In addition to what already indicated above, in *popular* and *rural* speech, any voiceless simple consonants, between any voiced phones (either vocoids, or contoids), tended to become lenis, [C], or half-voiced, [C]. Furthermore, again popular and rural speech, between vowels, often had the continuous contoids shown between () in the table of consonants, includig [z] for /r/ and [‡] for /l/ [‡].

Let us observe that /ph, th, kh/ [ph, th, kh, kh/ are phono-stylemes for Greek loans with original φ , ϑ , χ /ph, th, kh/ [ph, th, kh/. In popular or rural speech

they were replaced by plain /p, t, k/ [p, t, k, c].

Furthermore, [?] could freely occur before vowels in word-initial position, after pause or in stressed syllable, especially for emphasis. Let us add that words like *sua-vis*, *suesco* and *Suetonius* were generally treated differently in current language and in verse. In fact, /*swV-/ [swV-] were often changed into [svV-] for metrical reasons.

3. Length & stress

Length is phonemic both for the vowels, as already seen, and for the consonants, also if combined together, especially for the vowels with different timbres: venit /wenit/ ['wenit] 'he/she/it comes' vs venit /wenit/ ['weenit] 'he/she/it came', populum /populum/ ['populo] 'people' vs populum /pospulum/ ['poopulo] 'poplar', malum /malum/ ['melo] 'bad' vs malum /maslum/ ['maalo] 'apple'; male /male/ ['melo] 'badly' vs malle /malle/ ['melo] 'to prefer', sumus /sumus/ ['sumus] 'we are' vs summus /summus/ ['summus] 'supreme'.

The short vowels, either stressed or not, are as shown in the vocogram (let us notice a tiny timbre change for $['\epsilon, '\circ] \rightarrow [_{\circ}E, _{\circ}\sigma]$). In stressed syllables, either open (or 'free') or closed (or 'checked'), the long vowels are phonetically narrow monotimbric diphthongs, /V:/[VV] [VVC]: stella /ste:lla:/ [s'teella] (even if directly followed by vowels: $a\ddot{e}r$ /a:e:r/ ['aaer]).

However, in everyday spoken language, unstressed /v:/ (either in open or closed syllables) are realized as short vocoids, [v] (as just seen): stella /ste:lla:/ [v] (but, let us notice very carefully that they keep their original timbres, [v], which are different from those of the short vowels: [v]; v].

In classical Latin, *stress* depends on the length of the *penultimate phonic vowel element* of a word of more than two phono-syllables. Naturally, since this is a phonic matter, it must not be hastily (and incompetently) confused with any trivial spelling matter!

So, we can have either /V/ (any short vowel) or /V:, VV/ (respectively, a long vowel, or a diphthong). Thus, for instance, ae or au, /VV/, counts exactly as /V:/, ie as a unitary entity, certainly not as two separate /V/'s.

Therefore, if the vowel is *short* (or *light*) and in a free (or *open*) syllable (thus corresponding to a single *mora*), the stress is shifted to the preceding (either short or long) vowel or (phonemic) diphthong, belonging to the antepenultimate (or third last, or last but two) syllable of that (polysyllabic) word.

Thus, for instance, we have: animae /animae / ['enimee], because /ee/ [ee] is a diphthong, which functions as a 'long (tautosyllabic) vowel', [VV], not as two syllables.

The same goes for anima (abl.) /anima:/ ['enima] (although /V:/ it is realized phonetically as a short vowel, in spite of being a phonemic monotimbric diphthong [VV]). However, it is different from anima (nom.) /anima/ ['enime], although there is no difference for stress.

Let us, now, consider an interesting (semingly ambiguous) example like adaestuo /adaestuo:/ [ɐˈdɐestuo]. Of course, it has three syllables (certainly not four, or even five), since both ae /ae/ [ɐe] and uo /uoː/ [ʊo] are just one syllable each. For this reason, the penultimate vowel, in -tuo /-tuoː/ [-tuo], is /u/ [ʊ], and the stressed syllable is -daes-/-'daes-/ [-dɐes-]. Of course, this last one is nothing like */-da'es-/ [-dɐ'ɛs-], because ae /ae/ [ɐe] —as just said— is a diphthong, ie the indivisible nucleus of its syllable.

Let us also consider: sententiae /sen'tentiae/ [sen'tentire], with three phono-syllables, the last one being -tiae /-tiae/ [-tire], with a triphthong. Again, we must be very careful not to consider -a- /-a-/ [-v-] as if it were a 'penultimate (short) vowel', which would bring to an erroneous *[senten'tire].

It is also interesting to consider these other examples: aerius /a:erius/ [a'erius], where ae is not a (phonemic, nor a phonetic) diphthong. Also Aëllo /aello:/ [e'ello] has no diphthong, while Aelius /aelius/ ['eelius] certainly has it. In addition, we find tenuitas /tenuitas/ [te'noɪtas], with a real phono-diphthong (although rather rare) ui /ui/ [vi].

Further possible phono-diphthongs (in addition to the two very frequent ones, ae /ae/ [ve], au /au/ [vv]), that we can certainly find, are: oe /oe/ [oe], and ei /ei/ [sɪ], eu /eu/ [sv], ui /ui/ [vɪ], oi /oi/ [ɔɪ], ou /ɔu/ [ɔv], &c, also /Viː/). Some examples: hei! /hei/ [ˈhɛɪ], heu! /heu/ [ˈhɛv], mei /meiː/ [ˈmɛi], meus /meus/ [ˈmɛvs], tui /tuiː/ [ˈtvi], metuo /metuoː/ [ˈmɛtvo], metuere /metuere/ [meˈtvere], tuitus /tvitus/ [ˈtvitus], cf gratuitus /gratuitus/ [ˈgratuitus]. Also some triphthongs: tueor /tueor/ [ˈtveor].

So, when the penultimate *syllable* is long (thus corresponding to two *morae*, or *moras*), it carries (intensive) stress (not a pitch one any longer, as it possibly was in archaic Latin). Examples: *cupido* /kupi:do:/ [kuˈpiido], where the vowel is long 'by nature' (due to /V:/ [ˈpiː]), while in *viginti* /wiːginti:/ [wiˈgɪnti] the syllable is long 'by position', ie 'by convention', due to /VC/ [ˈqɪn]).

However, below, we will see both double possibilities for stress, and exceptions with stress on the last, or ultimate, syllable, because certain words lost a previous final vowel or syllable. Let us add, here, that, in polysyllabic classical Latin words, the stress cannot fall on any syllable before the antepenultimate syllable (*not vowel* – whether short or long, or a diphthong): superstites /superstites/ [suˈpɛɾstɪtes], audiamini /audia:mini:/ [ˌeudrˈaamɪni].

Here is an example of a minimal pair for stress: cupido 'wishful' (dat./abl.) /kupido:/ [ˈkupɪdo], and cupido 'desire' (nom.) /kupiːdo:/ [kuˈpiido]. Further useful examples: democratia (nom.) 'democracy' (Greek δημοκρατία) /deːmokratia/ [ˌdemoˈkrɐtɪɐ], and viginti '20' /wiːgintiː/ [wiˈgɪnti].

Let us also compare: vidimus /widimus/ ['widimus], videmus /wi:de:mus/ [wi'deemus], discere /diskere/ ['diskere], audire /au'dire/ [vu'diire]. Let us also consider: mater /maxter/ ['maater], pater /pater/ ['preter], propator /propator/ ['propetor], propatior /pro:patior/ [pro'proro] (& proinde /pro@inde/ [pro'inde, 'proinde], proin /pro@in/ ['proin, pro'in], for which we will see more below).

Of course, the artistic metrical reading, accompanied by string music, is quite another thing in comparison with *true* language. In fact, it is artificially done in its rather unnatural way, which has its 'deserving' counterpart in the unnaturalness of singing, especially opera singing.

Here are some special cases of seeming 'irregular' stress patterns. So we have the dropping of a final vowel: educ(e) /e:du:k/ [e'duuk], illic(e) /illi:k/ [ɪtˈliik], addic(e) /addi:k/ [ed'diik], adhuc(e) /adhu:k/ [ed'huuk, ed'h-].

We can also find the *contraction* of some phonemes into just one, through different ways: Aemil(i)i /aemilii:/ [veˈmɪli, -lɪi] (voc. Aemili /aemili:/ [ˈvemɪli, -lʒi]), Mercur(i)i /merkurii:/ [merˈkuri, -rɪi] (different from the vocative Mercuri /merkuri:/ [ˈmɛrkuri, -rʒi]), Valer(i)i /walerii:/ [weˈlɛri, -rɪi] (voc. Valeri /waleri:/ [ˈweleri, -rʒi]), Vergil(i)i /wergilii:/ [werˈgɪli, -lɪi] (voc. Vergili /wergili:/ [ˈwergɪli, -lʒi]), also: imper(i)i /imperii:/ [ɪmˈpɛri, -rɪi], consil(i)i /konsilii:/ [kõˈsɪli, -lɪi], and plebe(i)i /pleːbeːii:/ [pleˈbeei, -eeɪi, -eeji], and Pompe(i)i /pompeːii:/ [pomˈpeei, -eeɪi, -eeji] (even for the place). Let us also notice: Gaius /gajus/ [ˈɡɐɪjus] and Gai /gaiː, gaji:/ [ˈɡɐi, ˈɡɐɪji].

Also (notice that, here, // means that the string after it has to be considered as a kind of an independent word for stress assignment: munit (from muni(v)it) /munit/ [mu'niit], different from munit (present) /munit/ ['muunɪt], irritat (from irritat(v)it]) /irritat/ [irritat], different from irritat (present) /irritat/ [irritat], disturbat (from disturba(v)it) /distur-bat/ [idistur-bat], different from disturbat (present) /disturbat/ [disturbat].

We also find cases of *oscillation*, depending on whether composition or dropping is more or less evident (including the very origin of certain names) as in: *satin* /sa@tin/[swtin, 'swtin] (from *satisne* /satisne/[swtisne]), *sicin* /si:@kin/[sitkin, 'siikin] (from *sicine* /si:@kine/[sitkine, 'siikine]), *viden* /wi@de(:)n/[wr'den, -een, 'wrden, -en] (from *videsne* /wide(:)sne/[wr'desne, -ees-]), *tanton* /tan-to:n/[twr'toon, 'tenton] (from *tantone* /tanto:ne/[twr'toone]), *nostra(ti)s* /nos@tra:s/[nos'traas, 'nostras], deinde /de@inde/['deinde, de'inde], *proinde* /pro@inde/['proinde, pro'inde] (and dein /de@in/['dein, de'in], *proin* /pro@in/['proin, pro'in] — also with [-V'in], based on the principle of a dropped final syllable).

Names: Camillus /ka@millus/ [kemillus, 'kemillus], Cethegus /ke@the:gus/ [ketheegus, 'kethegus], Maecenas (from Maecena(ti)s] /maeke:@na:s/ [meekeenas, meekenas], &c.

Also Greek words and names oscillate, because they can maintain their original forms: satrapen /sa@trape:n/ ['setrepen, se'trepen], Acarnan /akar@na:n/ [e'kernan, eker'naan], Cleopatra /kleo@patra/ [kle'ppetre, kleo'petre]. Notice that the 'normal' syllabication for clusters of a consonant followed by /rC, lC/, is /#CC/, while with /mC, nC/, we have /C#C/. However, for metrical reasons, things could be forced to also produce [C#r, C#l], in order to 'provide' heavy syllables for stress assignment, ['VC#rV, 'VC#lV].

Furthermore, we have to consider the effect of the enclitics -ce, -ne, -ve, -que, -dem, -met, -nam, -te, -cum (and quidem), which attract stress to the preceding syllable (with possible oscillations): musaque /mu:()sakwe/ ['muuseke, mu'seke], which is not at all confused with musaque (abl.) /mu:sa:kwe/ [mu'saake], not even when stress coincides.

In addition, utraque /uː()trakwe/ ['uutrɐk̞e, u'trɐk̞e], equally different from utraque /uːtraːkwe/ [u'traak̞e], illene /il()lene/ ['ɪɫlene, ɪɫˈlɛne], loquive tacereve /lo()kwiwe takeː()rewe/ ['lɔk̞iˌwe tɐˈkeerewe, loˈk̞iiwe ˌtɐkeˈrɛwe], egomet /e()gomet/ ['egomet, eˈgɔmet], tu quidem /tuː ()kwidem/ ['tuu ˈk̞ɪdɛ̃, 'tuuˌk̞ɪdɛ̃].

The following words are felt to be unitary words (thus, with [(\$)'\$\$\$]): alicubi, sicubi, necubi, equidem, identidem, utinam, utiquem, undique, itaque 'therefore'.

But we have: itaque 'and so' (ie et ita) /i()takwe/ [I'teke, 'Iteke], and pone 'behind' /po:()ne/ ['poone, po'ne] (but pone! –imperative – /po:ne/ ['poone]).

Also compound verbs with -do, -fit have two stress possibilities (although the 'regular' one is less favored): circumdo /kirkum()do()/ [ˌkɪrkun'doo, -'dɔ; kɪr'kundo, -do], satisdo /satisdo()/ [ˌsetiz'doo, -'dɔ; se'tizdo, -do] (also satis do), pessumdo /pessumdo()/ [ˌpessun'doo, -'dɔ; pes'sundo, -do] (also written as pessundo, or pessum do), arefit /are()fit/ [ˌare'fit, 'aarefit], madefit /made()fit/ [ˌmede'fit, 'medefit].

Concerning verbs with-facit, we only have are facit / are-fakit / [rerefekit], madefacit / made-fakit / [medefekit]. In fact, their 'normalized' forms would have been: *are ficit / are fikit / [are fikit], and *made ficit / made fikit / [me'de fikit].

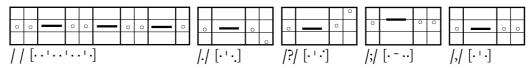
There are further possible oscillations, in sentences, in cases like: apud me /apud me:, apudme:/ ['ppud 'mee, ppudme, 'ppum 'mee, ppumme], pater mi /pater mi:/ ['ppumi, ppumi, morem gerit /morem() gerit/ ['mooren 'gerit, mo'rengerit], operam dare /operam() dare/ ['pperen 'dere, ope'rendere].

For unicuique suum 'may all get their due', instead of the correct form /u:nikui-kwe suum/ [,unr'kuɪke 'suʊ], at school, often */u:niku()ikwe suum/ is 'taught'. Let us also add an observation about *exiguitas*, which has to be pronounced /eksiguitas/ [,eksi'guitas], not */eksigwitas/ [,eksi'gitas]; in fact, /gw/ [\$\tilde{g}\$] only occurs after /n/ [\$\tilde{g}\$].

4. Intonation

The following intonation patterns are based on reliable deductions, going backwards, from Romance results to the original language, and favoring nearby territorial realities. Let us complete this concise outline of Classical Latin pronunciation, by also providing possible intonation patterns. They can safely be accepted as plausible and utilizable, with no real problems, nor strained interpretations.

fig 7. Classical Latin intonation patterns.



5. Text

Here is the Aesopian fable, in Latin. Let us pay particular attention to: *circumdabat* /kirkundabat/ [kɪrˈkundɐbet].

Olim inter se Aquilo et Sol uter fortior esset certabant, cum viatorem quendam paenula amictum procedentem conspexerunt; atque ipsorum fortiorem existimandum esse consenserunt, qui efficeret ut viator ille paenulam deponeret.

Aquilo autem vehementissime furere coepit; sed, quo fortiores flatus emittebat, eo artius viator se circumdabat paenula; tandem, viribus destitutus, propositum suum omisit. Tum Sol caelum clarissima luce illustravit; mox vero viator, calore victus, paenulam exuit. Itaque Aquilo, quamvis invite, confessus est solem esse fortiorem.

Tibi placuit fabula? Libetne eam repetere?

Academic Italian pronunciation

'inter'se: | 'a:kwilo et'səl: | 'u:ter' fər:tsjor | 'es:set | tfer'ta:bant | kumvia'tər-inil: | 'at:kwe | in-inil: | 'at:kwe | '-mat: | 'at:kwe | in-inil: | 'at:kwe | inil: | 'at:kwe | 'at:kwe | inil: | 'at:kwe | inil: | 'at:kwe | inil: | 'at:kwe | 'at:kwe

'a:kwilo· l'arutem·]; 'veemen'tis:sime· 'fu:rere·. l'tʃɛ:pit·.] 'sɛd:· kwofor'tsjɔ:res· 'fla:tus· lea:kwilo· l'arutem·]; 'veemen'tis:sime· 'fu:rere·. l'tʃɛ:pit·.] 'sɛd:· kwofor'tsjɔ:res· 'fla:tus· lea:tirta:bat·· | sed:ritsjus· vi'a:tor· setʃirkum:dabat· 'pɛ:nula·.] 'tacban- l'usuritus· l'aruteri l'aruter

¿ˈti·bi ˈplaːkwit· ¿ˈfaːbula·| ¿liˈbɛtne ¡Eamreˈpɛːtere·||].

Classical pronunciation

| oolî· | ter'see· | 'stilo· et'sool' | oter 'fortior | 'esset· | ker'taabent: | ki vi a'tooreŋ | 'boolî | 'looren | oorei | ki a'i | ki ki a'i abenula benula benu

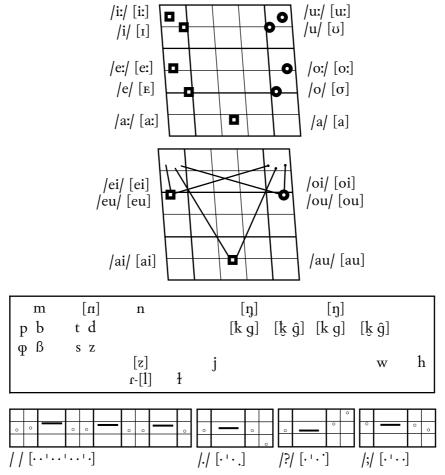
jetulo- l'set- l'acti, 'weemen'tissime- 'forere- l'koepit- l'set- kolforti'oores- 'flaatus- le- l'acti- l'acti

¿tıbı'plekuıt: ¿'faabule: | ¿lı'betne | Eĕre'petere: ||].

6. Old Latin, or Archaic Latin (Italic, IE), had five vowels, both short and long, which were phonetically nasalized before /NC, $N^{\#}$ /, their timbres remaining unaffected and the nasal being preserved, even before constrictives, with [$n \equiv C$]. It also had six diphthongs and length opposition for the consonants.

There were no Greek phonostylemes yet, but there was z /VzV/ [VzV], which later became r /r/ [r, z], or Vs# /Vh/ [Vh], eg flozis [' ϕ fozih] (later floris); also, gn /gn/ [gn]. The phoneme /l/ was [l] before pauses, or consonants (including heterosyllabic /j/, /C*j/), or before back V (including /a, a:/), but [l] before tautosyllabic /j/, /l*C/l*D/, or before front V; in addition, /lxw, gxw/ [lx, g, g, g].

fig 8. Old/Archaic Latin.

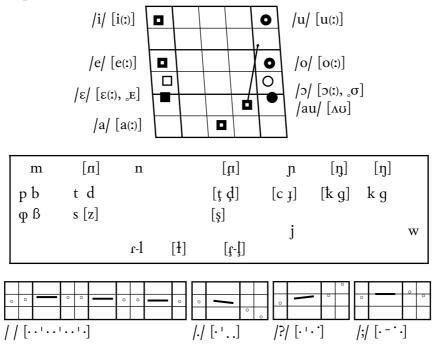


7. Vulgar Latin, or Empire Latin (Italic, IE), in its neutral form stemming from the central area of Italy, had seven short vowels and only one traditional diphthong, /au/ [AU]; all vowels were phonemically short, being phonetically lengthened in stressed free syllables. Consonant gemination was distinctive.

Many words had different stress-patterns from those they had in Classical Latin, eg filiolum /fi'liolum/ \rightarrow /fi'ljɔlum/ (and unstressed e, u/o followed by a vowel became /j, w/, as well), integrum /'integrum/ \rightarrow /in'tɛgrum/, decadit /'de:kadit/ \rightarrow /de:'kadit/. It had /VnC/ [\tilde{V} n \equiv C]), but /VN/ [\tilde{V}] + /f, s/, and /V[#]/ [V] (for vowel + final -m, where vowel timbres were unaffected); h had gone to 'zero' by this stage, even

in ch, th, rh (while ph had become /f/).

fig 9. Vulgar/Emperial Latin.



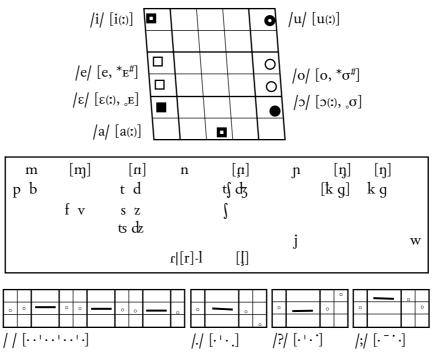
8. Italian Academic Latin (Italic, IE) came to have only five vowels in stressed position, /i, ε , a, σ , u/, eg even habēre /aˈbeɪre/ or Rōma /ˈroɪma/ became /aˈbeɪre, ˈroɪma/ [aˈbeɪre, ˈroɪma] (in spite of Italian avere [aˈveɪre], Roma [ˈroɪma]). Similarly to Italian, in unstressed syllables only /e, o/ [e, o] occurred, with intermediate timbres, [e, σ], as a result of vowel adjustments of either half-opening (for final unstressed /e|, o|/) or half-closing (for de-stressed / ε , σ /), which is typical of neutral Italian pronunciation.

Length and the various vowel sequences also correspond to those found in neutral Italian, although with ae, oe /'e, e, e/. It preserves CC, [n = C], but /mC/ [mC]; it rigorously has VsV /VzV/; z is /dz/, and tiV (with unstressed i) is /tsjV/, eg $\bar{o}tium$ [' $tis:tsjum_*$] (the example shows both self-gemination, shared by /dz/, / $tis:tsjum_*$], and / $tis:tsjum_*$], and / $tis:tsjum_*$], and audible release, even for / $tis:tsjum_*$], as can be seen). For $tis:tsjum_*$, before front vowels, we have / $tis:tsjum_*$], different from $tis:tsjum_*$].

Let us observe that the transcription given in § 5, accurately and clearly follows what we have just said, in spite of cases like *habēre* and *Rōma* seen above. Unfortunately, however, Italian speakers, even university Latin teachers, too often, pronounce Latin not exactly as it should be, according to what we have just said. In fact, they mortify its pronunciation with regional habits, both for the phonemes and intonation (including, often, stress and intonation patterns).

On the other hand, instead of (or in addition to) regional 'deviations', too many Italian speakers also introduce, more or less frequently, even 'neutral Italian deviations', which are clearly contrary to the cryterion accurately established above. Of course, it might be surprising to actually say [aˈbɛːre, ˈrɔːma], but Italian Academic Latin *is* another language, clearly different from both Classical Latin (cf § 1-5) and its most direct 'offspring', *ie* the current Italian language.

fig 10. Italian Academic Latin.



9. Church Latin or International Latin (Italic, IE), is similar to Italian Academic Latin, and in fact it should be pronounced exactly like it. However, in Vatican City, it is used by both Italian and foreign clergy. So, it undergoes several different interferences, not only by regional Italian accents, but also by different languages and their several regional accents, also including many different habits in speaking more or less different Academic Latins for each foreign language. Thus, the ideally expected 'pure' pronunciation is very rarely heard, as for Italian Academic Latin, too, as just seen.

fig 11 shows a more 'international' version of the vowel situation, especially as far as the e, o vowels are concerned, with less different timbres. Of course, the consonants should be realized as shown, for Italian Academic Latin, given in fig 10, but, in reality, more or less systematically, the following (and other) 'deviations' certainly occur, unfortunately.

As for the *vowels*, of course, the exact timbres for *i*, *e* (including *ae*, *oe*), *a*, *o*, *u*, correspond to those used in the different languages, with more or less different results. Thus, Romance and Slavic languages usually have (excepting greater and even worse differences): |i| [i, i], $|\varepsilon|$ [E, ε , e], |a| [a, ε , A], |a| [σ , σ , o], |a| [σ , σ]. G(erm.)

generally has /i/ [i(x), 1], / ϵ / [E(x), ϵ (x), e(x)], /a/ [a(x), A(x), d(x)] (even d(x)]), / ϵ / [σ (x), σ (x), o(x)], / σ (y) (adding oe [σ x, σ x] G.).

Not surprinsingly, English can have the strangest possible realizations: /i/ [ii, ii, ii, ii, ae, de, ee], /e/ [e, e, e, ei; ii, ii], /a/ [a(x), d(x), e, Λ ; æ, ei], /e/ [σ (x), σ (x),

As for the *consonants*, let start with c before front vowels (including ae, oe): [tʃ, tʃ] I., R(oum.), [s, s] F., P., C(atal.), also [θ] S(pan)., [ts] G. & Sl., [s] E.; ch: [k], including E., but [x] G. & Slav; g: before front vowels (including ae, oe): [dʒ, dʒ] I., R. (& E.), [ʒ, ʒ, ʒ, dʒ, dʒ] F., P., C., [x, χ , h] S., [g, g] G., Slav; gn: [n(n)] I., [n] C., [gn, n] P., F. [gn] R., E., [χ n] S., [gn] Slav, [gn, η n] G.; h: [\emptyset] 'zero' I., R., S., P., F., C., [x, h] Slav, [h] G., [h, \emptyset] E.; j/i: [j] I., R., Slav, G., [ʒ, ʒ, ʒ] F., P., [dʒ] E., [j, j] Slav, G., [x, χ] S.; qu: [kw] I., E., [kw, k] P., S., [k] C., [kw, kv] R., [k, kw, cu] F., [kv] Slav, G.; sc before front vowels (including ae, oe): [ʃ(\int)] I., [stʃ] R., [s, \int] P., [s] F., E., [s, s, s θ] S., [sts] Slav, G.; ti + unstressed vowel: [tsj] I., [tsj, sj] R., [sj] P., F., C., [sj, θ j] S., [tsi] G., [\int i] E.; v: [v] I., R., P., F., [β , b] S., C., Slav, G., [v, w] E.; x: [kstʃ, kstʃ] I., R., [ks] C., E., [ksts] Slav, G., [gz, ks] F., [s, s θ] S., [s, \int , \int] P.

Of course, also intonation patterns vary a lot, as even stress patterns, although trying to follow 'known' instructions.

fig 11. Church/International Latin.

