

CAMBRIDGE IGCSE

Latin 0480

Syllabus Overview

Examinations 2026, 2027 and 2028

Understanding the whole syllabus

Latin combines understanding the language with interpreting literature. Vocabulary, endings and syntax allow you to establish what a passage says. Close attention to the prescribed texts then develops an explanation of how an author creates meaning and effect.

For Latin 0480, the content map below follows the approved subject briefing and the official syllabus. Labels group related areas for orientation; the detailed syllabus remains the authority for individual learning requirements.

Content map

Syllabus area or component	What the area covers
Language and literature strands	The syllabus gives equal emphasis to Latin language and Latin literature.
Language: Vocabulary, morphology and syntax	For the language component, you will build a strong working vocabulary and study Latin morphology and syntax. This includes noun declensions, adjectives, pronouns, regular and irregular verbs, participles, infinitives and a broad range of sentence structures. The aim is not simply to identify grammatical forms, but to understand how they work together and translate Latin into clear, natural English.
Literature: Prescribed verse and prose	For literature, you will study prescribed selections from both verse and prose. These texts allow you to examine character, action, themes, literary techniques and the social and historical setting of Roman writing. You will also learn to construct thoughtful interpretations supported by evidence from the text.

These areas should be read as a connected course. Begin with the foundational knowledge identified in the first part of the map, then build towards the applications and explanations that depend on it. Develop vocabulary and grammatical recognition regularly while revisiting the prescribed literature. Keep translation difficulties separate from literary-analysis difficulties so each can receive the right attention. Where a row describes a choice of topics or components, study the selection required by your agreed route rather than treating all alternatives as compulsory.

Qualification and component choices

All candidates follow the component structure shown in the Assessment Overview. There is no separate Core/Extended route in this syllabus.

The assessed skills

Assessment objectives describe the abilities Cambridge looks for across the qualification. The following explanations paraphrase the syllabus objectives; they are not additional topics or separate orientation tasks.

Assessment objective	Meaning for the learner
AO1 Linguistic knowledge with understanding	Use Latin vocabulary, forms and syntax to establish meaning and produce an accurate translation.
AO2 Literary knowledge with understanding	Show secure understanding of the prescribed literature, its content and context.
AO3 Literary criticism with personal response	Explain an author's choices and their effects, supporting a personal response with precise textual evidence.

These abilities work together in an answer. Accurate knowledge supports application, while a clear explanation shows how the evidence or method leads to a conclusion. The balance varies by component, so the next lesson connects these abilities with the actual assessment formats.

Key pointers: Follow the stated examination-year syllabus, cover the required areas for your route and develop skills alongside knowledge. **Next:** Open **Assessment Overview**.