

Unit 6 - Numbers and Word Comparisons

Lesson 1 - Roman Numerals, Singular and Plural

Day 1

Activity

Introduce the plural forms of nouns in Latin by pointing at various students individually and in groups and saying one of the following words:

discipulus = masculine singular student

discipuli = masculine plural students

discipula = feminine singular student

discipulae = feminine plural students

Repeat until they figure out the differences.

Refer to yourself as **magistra** or **magister**.

Discuss

- Write the new words and different endings on the board.
- Help them figure out the pronunciation. Note that it is different in English i.e. alumni / alumnae.
- Add these words to the vocabulary section.
- Talk about the difference between a definition and a translation.
- We usually use definition to mean the meaning or explanation of a word in the same language and translation for what a word is in another language, although the translation of a word could also be considered its definition.

Activity

Choose a student to be the magister to teach Roman numerals to the class. (Students usually know Roman numerals by this age from math class, but check with the math teacher.) The student-magister can call on a discipula or discipulus to answer questions and write numbers on the board.

Now ask the student-magister to hold up a single finger. Put that finger over the Roman numeral I on the board. Do the same with II and III. Now ask the student to hold up five fingers (four fingers together and thumb spread apart to form a V) and put this hand symbol over the Roman numeral V on the board. Hold the other hand of five upside down beneath the first five to make the Roman numeral X.

Activity

Make flash cards with Roman numerals. Choose a student to stand in front of you. As you flash a card, the student says the Latin number. Give a few students a turn.

Discuss

- The Latin word for finger is **digitus manus**, hence the English word *digit* for finger.
- Some Roman numerals were made from finger symbols, hence the mathematical term *digit* for numeral.

Homework

pages 32-33

Terms

singular

Plural

Vocabulary

discipulus

discipula

rana

Day 2

Review homework pages

Play

You could spend a day in the computer lab playing Roman numeral games from the website links or project them in class.

Homework

Play Roman numeral games