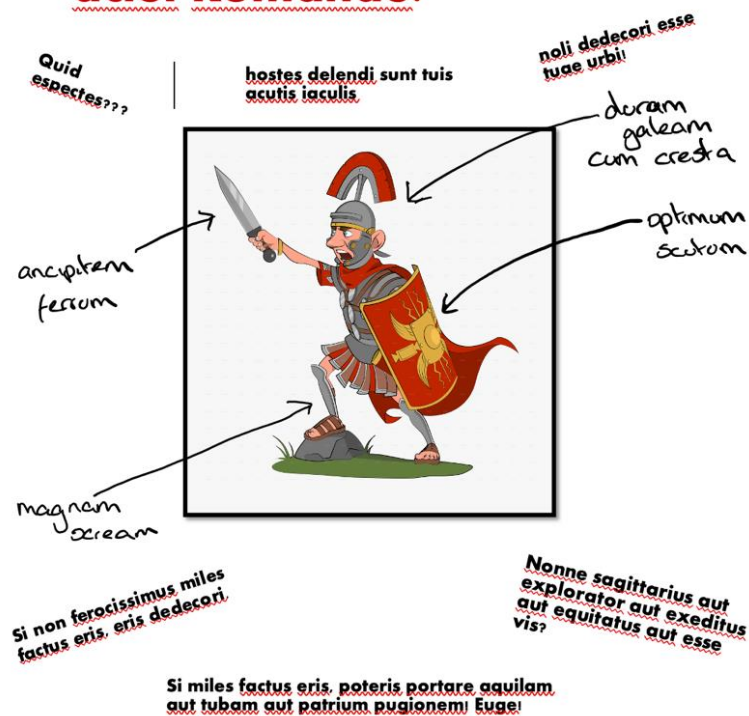


Join the Roman army today!

Ensis tuus habendus est aciei Romanae!



How often do you think about the Roman Empire? Probably not enough, in my opinion. Here in the Classics department it is a perpetual occupier of our brain space. One Sixth Form pupil even suggested that I probably think about it twenty out of twenty-four hours each day; either I must be sleep-deprived or even dreaming about it!

When asked, those who do think about the greatest civilisation ever often recall the famous legions, their battles, soldiers and commanders. Since these are so memorable, they make the ideal subject material for a host of activities. Most recently, this arrived in the form of Roman propaganda (itself a Latin gerundive). We had two goals: reinforce the more advanced vocabulary needed for the examinations, and put some tricky sentence structures into use.

Normally, the words 'prose composition' possess a certain foreboding, it being the hardest skill in Latin. But when given the right spin and a bit more scope for creative directions, it can be fun and more centred around the thing we wish to practice. No more waiting for that conditional clause to turn up; write a load of your own and you can have all the practice you need.

Check out the poster produced by Tilly Rose. We have in there slogans deliberately constructed using recent grammar points, such as the predicative dative and the gerundive of

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obligation (fancy stuff). Plus, it is packed full of military vocabulary. She has even made the effort to select rarer vocabulary as an excuse to use it a bit more. We hope it will make them a touch more memorable.

Mr Joshua Crosby