



# Latin by the Natural Method (Volume 1)

*Fr. William Most*

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From the Preface:

Most Americans who have studied Latin, with our priests and seminarians included, have employed this method, which they thought was 'traditional'. But as something fully developed, this tradition scarcely goes farther back than 1880; and even in its beginnings it hardly antedates the seventeenth century.

In contrast to this method of grammatical analysis, Father Most's textbooks reproduce much of the "natural method" by which children learn their native language. Hence, the significance of Father Most's books is manifestly great for the Latin classes in any Catholic high schools or colleges. So much of our Catholic doctrine and culture have been deposited in Latin that we want many of our educated Catholics to be able to use Latin with ease. But the special significance of Father Most's texts is for the Latin classes in our seminaries. Here the students still have much the same cogent motives to master the art of using Latin with ease as the pupils of the thirteenth or sixteenth century. They need it as an indispensable means of communicating thought in their higher studies, and afterwards throughout life. The objectives (knowledge about Latin and training of mind) and corresponding methods (grammatical analysis and translation) "traditional" since 1880 have taken over in our seminaries; and there too the students have been experiencing an ever growing inability to use Latin. Father Most's textbooks can contribute much towards revolutionizing the teaching of Latin by bringing back, as the chief objective, the art of reading, writing, and (when desired) speaking Latin with ease."

Fr. Most's textbooks can be classed in categories of similar texts, such as Hans Ørberg's *Lingua Latina*, as well as *Ecce Romani* which is a simplification of Ørberg or others which aim to teach Latin not even so much as a modern language, as to teach it by a method more natural to the philosophy of learning Languages. Fr. Most's text, however, is tailored to a Christian perspective. The work begins with readings in Roman History bringing in simple sentences and gradually building up the student with additions of vocabulary to reading accounts of Scripture, Ancient Egypt, Gilgamesh as well as amusing tales with a parrot.

This is an excellent text applying the "natural method" with English language instruction to help the student read and understand Latin natively, with numerous vehicles for simplifying the necessary memorization as well as aiding in truly understanding Latin without constant need to look in a dictionary for rudimentary sentences.

This is the second edition, correcting certain errors in the original. The reprint is from the 1960 edition, and follows the presentation of the text found in that edition.

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Latin by the Natural Method (Volume 1) can be one of your basic books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary which could increase your knowledge in words, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nevertheless delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to put every word into pleasure arrangement in writing Latin by the Natural Method (Volume 1) although doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest in addition to based confirm resource info that maybe you can be one among it. This great information may drawn you into brand new stage of crucial contemplating.

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