

Exercises and activities for pupils studying Minimus

# Barbara Bell & Helen Forte

published by Minimus Et Cetera, 2015 www.minimus.com

Minimus series © Cambridge University Press, by Barbara Bell & Helen Forte Brand and character re-used by kind permission of CUP

Printed by Whitehall Printers, Bristol

Flavia \_\_\_\_\_ est.

How did you do?

## Chapterl

1 a. Fill in the missing Latin word in each sentence (see Minimus p 2 & 3) and translate into English.

e.g. Candidus ServuS est.

Candidus is the slave.

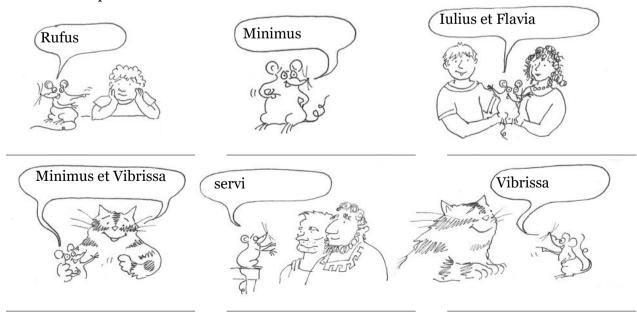
Minimus \_\_\_\_\_ est.

Flavius est.	Iulius est.
Rufus est.	Vibrissa est.
Lepidina est.	Corinthus est.

1 b. This is the verb 'esse', to be, written out fully.

SUM	Iam	Sumus	we are
<b>CS</b>	you are (s)	estîs	you are (pl)
est	he/she/it is	Sunt	they are

Pick the right Latin word for each of the speech bubbles in this comic strip. Each part of 'esse' fits into one space. Translate the sentences.

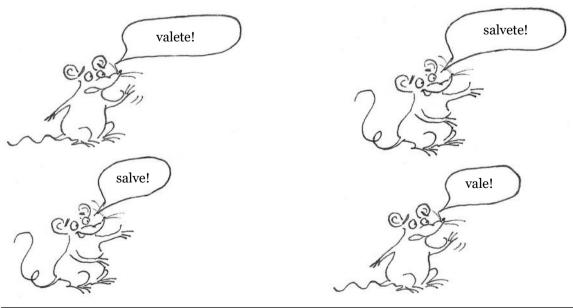


1 c. In this wordsearch, find the names of the nine family members and the Latin word for their role. There are 17 words, reading up, down, backwards, forwards and diagonally.

Y	Z	M	Y	P	Q	M	S	R	Н	S	Е	L	Е	F
T	N	U	О	K	Z	F	F	L	A	V	I	A	W	P
Y	N	S	F	J	M	I	N	I	M	U	S	V	A	Q
A	M	U	V	I	Q	K	S	В	Н	Е	G	I	О	Т
W	F	V	Н	S	L	S	U	I	V	A	L	F	S	G
T	R	R	P	S	U	I	M	Q	Z	I	О	R	Z	J
В	P	Е	A	N	U	Н	U	Z	F	В	О	G	K	Е
Z	V	S	Т	A	I	Т	Т	S	U	S	U	F	U	R
N	Т	W	Е	F	M	C	A	N	D	I	D	U	S	Е
S	I	W	R	N	V	I	В	R	I	S	S	A	О	T
F	J	A	N	I	D	I	P	Е	L	R	W	K	D	A
U	W	Е	D	О	J	D	V	K	Y	Н	О	C	Y	M
D	С	M	U	Т	Z	J	О	N	N	Z	M	C	Z	W
A	Е	S	J	G	I	U	L	I	U	S	Z	Y	R	I
Т	R	P	U	F	Е	U	V	G	K	M	V	С	J	Y

1 d. In Chapter 1 we met the greetings **salve!** (hello, to one person) and **salvete!** (hello, to more than one person). Now you can add vale! (goodbye, to one person) and valete! (goodbye, to more than one person).

Try to learn these greetings. Help yourself to remember with this little exercise. Check the greeting in the speech bubble and draw either one mouse or several mice for Minimus to greet.





How did you do?

## Chapter 2

2 a Here is a list of adjectives, each with its masculine and then feminine form.

benignus/benigna	kind	improbus/improba	naughty	parvus/parva	small
bonus/bona	good	ineptus/inepta	clumsy	pulcher/pulchra	pretty
callidus/callida	clever	magnus/magna	big	ridiculus/ridicula	funny
fessus/fessa	tired	maximus/maxima	very big	sordidus/sordida	dirty
formosus/formosa	handsome	minimus/minima	very small	squalidus/squalida	messy
garrulus/garrula	talkative	obesus/obesa	fat	strenuus/strenua	energetic
ignavus/ignava	lazy	optimus/optima	very good	tacitus/tacita	quiet

2 b. Pick an adjective to describe Iulius or Flavia in the little pictures. Make sure you check the ending! Then translate the sentence into English.

Flavia <u>tacita</u> est.		Flavia is <u>q.uiet</u>
Iulius	est.	Iulius is
Flavia	est.	Flavia is
Iulius	est.	Iulius is
Flavia	est.	Flavia is
Iulius	est.	Iulius is
Flavia	est.	Flavia is
Iulius	est.	Iulius is

2 c. Here is a list of four masculine nouns and four feminine nouns.

feminine		masculine	
rana	frog	delphinus	dolphin
vacca	cow	Minimus	Minimus the mouse
vespa	wasp	porcus	pig
Vibrissa	Vibrissa the cat	sciurus	squirrel

2 d. Choose the correct form of the adjective to match the noun and write it in the space. Then draw the animal you have described.

ranaest	delphinus est
maximus/maxima	benignus/benigna
vespa est	vacca est
improbus/improba	sordidus/sordida
sciurus est	Vibrissa est
parvus/parva	callidus/callida
porcusest	Minimusest
ignavus/ignava	strenuus/strenua

3 a. Colour in the verb endings and meanings to help you remember them.

	-MUS	We
you (s)	-11S	you (pl)
he, she, it		they

3 b. Sort out these verbs: write each one in the correct box below.

verrit intrant	scribo ridetis	laboras coquit	spectamus sedetis	purgo legis	
I	you singular	he/she/it	we	you plural	they

3 c. Match the Latin verb with the English translation (draw lines to join them up)

laboramus	I sweep
verro	they write
purgat	he cooks
spectamus	you (pl.) smile
ridetis	we watch
sedes	you (s) sit
scribunt	we work
coquit	she cleans







3 d. Here are eight Latin animal noises, to go with the eight animals from Chapter 2

	GRUNT pig porcus	CROAK frog rana	SQUEAK Minimus the mouse Minimus	CHATTER squirrel sciurus
I you (s) he/she/it we you (pl) they	grunnio	coaxo	strideo	garrio
	grunnis	coaxas	strides	garris
	grunnit	coaxat	stridet	garrit
	grunnimus	coaxamus	stridemus	garrimus
	grunnitis	coaxatis	stridetis	garritis
	grunniunt	coaxant	strident	garriunt
	PURR	MOO	BUZZ	WHISTLE
	Vibrissa the cat	cow	wasp	dolphin
	<b>Vibrissa</b>	vacca	<b>vespa</b>	delphinus
I you (s) he/she/it we you (pl) they	murmuras murmurat murmuramus murmuratis murmurant	mugio mugis mugit mugimus mugitis mugiunt	bombito bombitas bombitat bombitamus bombitatis bombitant	sibilo sibilas sibilat sibilamus sibilatis sibilant

3 e. Write the English translation of these Latin verbs. Remember to check the verb ending to see who is making the noise; I, we etc. Put (s) or (pl) with 'you' answers.

Latin	English	Latin	English
bombitat	he buzzes	garritis	
mugimus		grunnit	
sibilo		sibilas	
stridetis		strident	
garris		grunnimus	
coaxant		bombito	
grunnio		murmuras	
murmurat		mugio	
mugiunt		coaxamus	
coaxamus		strideo	

low did you do?	202
ow ara you ao:	1(SF D)

4 a Each of these English sentences contains one noun, one verb and one adjective, in bold type. Write N above the noun, V above the verb and A above the adjective.

The angry wasp is buzzing.

The friendly dolphin smiles.

We like delicious dinners.

The lazy slaves are sleeping.

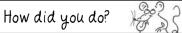
You watch the beautiful birds.



8

4 b Here are the words for colours in Latin. They are adjectives, so there is a masculine and a feminine form. Colour them in using the appropriate colours.

Masculine	Feminine	English
TUSSUS	TUSSOL	red
flavus	flava	yellow
viridus	virida	green
caeruleus	caerulea	blue
albus	alba	white
roseus	rosea	pink
purpureus	purpurea	purple
ater	aira	black
fulvus	fulva	brown



4 c Now try drawing one of the animals, describing it with the correct colour adjective, and colouring it in, for example **rana alba**, *a white frog* or **porcus viridus**, *a green pig*. The first two are ready for you to colour.

porcus purpureus	Vibrissa

4 d In Latin, verbs are divided into 4 groups called conjugations. We have seen how three of them are set out, on page 6.

**coaxo**, **murmuro**, **bombito** and **sibilo** are in the first group (1st conjugation); **strideo** is in the second (2nd conjugation); **grunnio**, **garrio** and **mugio** are in the fourth group (4th conjugation). Set out below is **scribo**, a verb in the third group (3rd conjugation). Study the ending pattern and complete the table for two more 3rd conjugation verbs.

scribo	I write	verro	I sweep	tango	I touch
scribis	you (s) write				
scribit	he/she/it writes				
scribimus	we write				
scribitis	you (pl) write				
scribunt	they write				

#### Chapter 5

5 a Sort out the English adjectives and adverbs that are mixed up in the top box.

If it fits after "I work", it's an adverb!

careful	quickly	sweet	soon	good	fierce	badly
often	bad	fiercely	quick	well	angry	always
	Adjective	s			Adverbs	

5 b Pick out the adjective and adverb in each of these English sentences. Circle the adjective and underline the adverb.

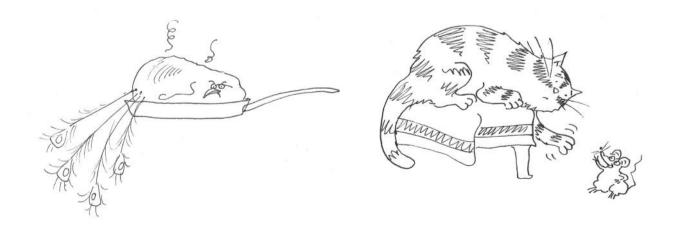
Candidus cooks the beautiful peacock skilfully.

Flavius orders the brave soldiers to fight fiercely.

Lazy Vibrissa tries unsuccessfully to catch Minimus.

Clever Pandora always arranges Lepidina's hair.

Iulius writes his letters well, so Corinthus is happy.



				<b>-</b> . •	
5 C	Here	are	SIX	Latin	adverbs:
., .	TICIC	ui c	0121	Luuii	au verbb.

celeriter	quickly	diligenter	carefully	ferociter	fiercely
suaviter	sweetly	segniter	lazily	dementer	madly

Look at the six sentences in the boxes. Choose an adverb to go with each verb, and write it in the space. Write in the English as well. Draw a picture to illustrate your sentence. e.g. segniter curro, *I run lazily* 

curro	laboro
I run	I work
salto	pugno
I dance	I fight
canto	coquo
I sing	I cook

#### Chapter 6

In this chapter we met plural nouns (more than one) and learned how their endings change.

Feminine noun endings change from a to ae, and masculine nouns change from us to i.

6 a. Sort these mixed singular and plural Latin nouns into the correct boxes.

tunicae	amicus	pilulae	porcus	vespa	delphini
stili	ludi	cerae	sciuri	vaccae	servus
singular nouns				plural nouns	

6 b. This list of verbs is given in the singular (he/she/it) form and the plural (they) form.

Singular	•	Plural	
cantat	sings	cantant	sing
volat	flies	volant	fly
scribit	writes	scribunt	write
dormit	sleeps	dormiunt	sleep
sedet	sits	edent	sit
lacrimat	cries	lacrimant	cry

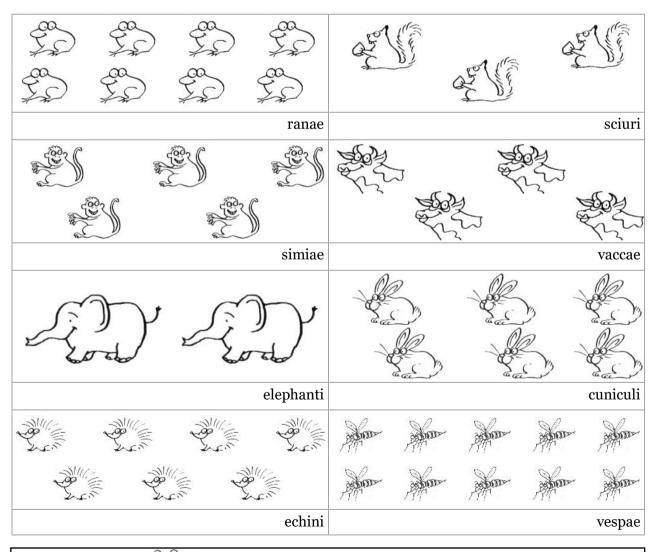
Translate these sentences into English. Check both noun and verb to see if they are singular or plural. If there is time, draw one or two of your sentence ideas in the space.

porcus cantat.	The	
delphini dormiunt.	The	
sciuri volant.	The	
vacca scribit.	The	
vespae lacrimant.	The	
ranae sedent.	The	

#### 6 c. Here are the Latin numbers up to 10, with their Roman numerals. Can you learn them?

UINUS	1	I	SCX	6	VI
duo	2	II	septem	7	VII
tres	3	III	octo	8	VIII
quattuor	4	IV	novem	9	IX
quinque	5	V	decem	10	X

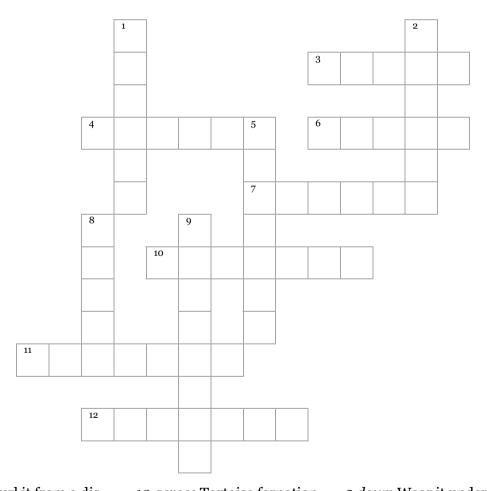
6 d. Count the animals and then fill in the Latin number next to the animal noun. There are three new ones for your collection!



7 a. These orders are a mix of singular (given to one person) and plural (given to more than one person). Sort them into the correct box. See *Minimus* p41 for help with the endings.

relinque!	audite!	sistite!	sumite!	audi!	cave!		
redi!	veni!	demitte!	procede!	venite!	portate!		
	singular order		plural order				

7 b. Complete the military vocabulary crossword. Most of the words are in Chapter 7 of *Minimus*. There are a few unfamiliar words: **testudo**, **caligae**, **centurio** and **fascia**. Can you work out what they mean? Write the Latin words in the spaces.



<i>across</i> Hurl it from a distance	10 across Tortoise fornation	2 down Wear it under your armour
	<i>a1 across</i> Stab or slash the enemy	5 down Lots of these in the army
6 across Stab with it, or cut	12 across Stop your feet slip-	8 down Protects your head
How did you do?	ping	
How did you do?  7 across Protects your chest  1	<i>down</i> Wear it round your	<i>9 down</i> He gives the orders

7 c. Here is a list of orders, in both singular and plural form. Look at the pictures below. Write one order in each speech bubble, making sure you have correctly chosen either singular or plural. The last two boxes are left blank for your own drawings!

abi/abite!	go away!	dormi/dormite!	sleep!	sede/sedete!	sit!
audi/audite!	listen!	intra/intrate!	come in!	surge/surgite!	get up!
cave/cavete!	be careful!	siste/sisite!	stop!	tace/tacete!	be quiet!



# Chapter 8

8 a. Here is a list of Latin phrases suitable for a patient to say to a doctor.

venter mihi dolet	my tummy hurts	digiti mihi dolent	my fingers hurt
caput mihi dolet	my head hurts	oculi mihi dolent	my eyes hurt
dorsum mihi dolet	my back hurts	dentes mihi dolent	my teeth hurt
maculas habeo	I have spots	pedes mihi dolent	my feet hurt
prurio	I am itchy	tussio	I am coughing
nauseo	I feel sick	sternuo	I am sneezing

#### 8 b. quid tibi dolet? What hurts?

In each box, draw a little patient with the matching problem. Draw a red X on the affected bit if you can't draw detailed injuries.

venter mihi dolet!	pedes mihi dolent!	oculi mihi dolent!	sternuo!
prurio!	maculas habeo!	dentes mihi dolent!	dorsum mihi dolet!
nauseo!	digiti mihi dolent!	caput mihi dolet!	tussio!

8 c. Here is a list of Latin words connected with the baths. If you are trying to learn them, there are flashcards and a test on the *Minimus* website.

apodyterium	changing room	fascinum	amulet (anti-evil eye bead)
caldarium	hot room	fornax	furnace
frigidarium	cold room	oleum	oil (instead of soap)
latrina	toilet	sculponeae	wooden clogs
palaestra	gym	spongia	sponge-stick (Roman toilet paper)
piscina	swimming pool	strigil	scraper
tepidarium	warm room	sudarium	towel
thermae	public baths		
8 d. Minimus a	t the baths.		
Practise the bath	vocabulary by filling in t	he gaps with the	Latin words. Use each word once.
I've just arrived	at the 1	I am glad to see	the soldiers throwing logs into the
, so	it will be lovely and wa	arm today. The	snack stall is open and the soldiers
are queueing up	o for sausages. I hope s	omeone drops	a bit! Before I go in, I will do my
exercises. I will	run right round the _		_ and then lift a few heavy pebbles.
Now I am ready	for the different room	s. First I'm in t	he, where
people leave the	eir clothes in little cubb	y holes. Then I	'll go into the
so I can get use	d to the heat. Ooh, the	floor is hot! My	feet would burn if I wasn't wearing
my	I think I am	ready for the _	Here I can clean
myself properly	before I go into the wa	ater. I have bro	ught my flask of , which I
will rub into my	fur . Then I can scrape	e the dirt off wi	th my $_{\_\_\_\_}$ . Then it's time
to cool down in	the	The pool i	s small for the soldiers, but for me
it's like a	, so I have a lo	vely swim. The	n I dry myself with my little
	. I have had a little sna	ack—one of the	soldiers did drop a bite of sausage!
Now I need to p	oop into the	It's a good	job that I remembered to bring my
!	I am nervous of the evi	l spirits that ev	reryone says are hiding in there, so
I'm wearing my	It wo	ould be a shame	e to spoil a perfect visit to the baths!

9 a. Here are four prepositions to add to the list on p57 of *Minimus*:

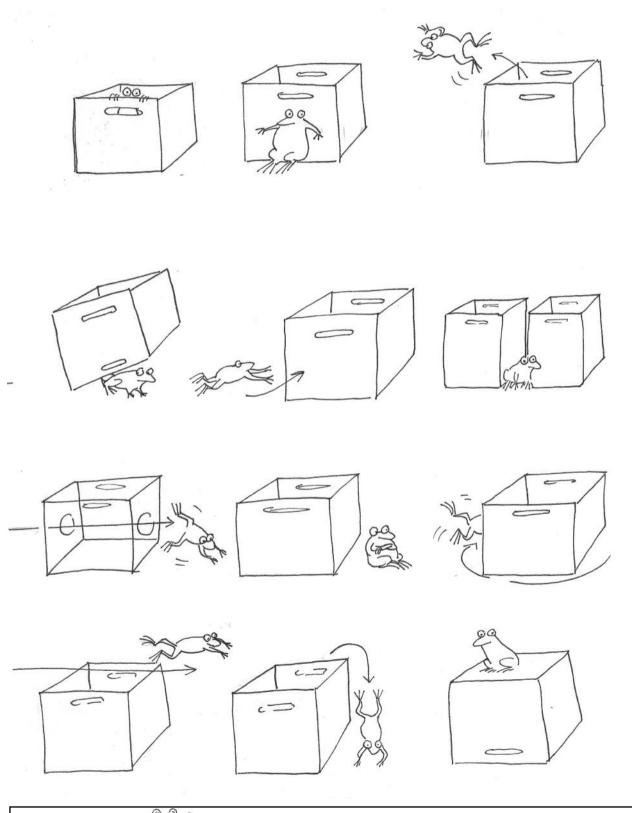
de: down from

inter: between

per: through

trans: across

Label these drawings with the correct Latin preposition.



9 b. Compound verbs are formed from a verb and a prefix, often a preposition. Look up these English compound verbs in a dictionary, and write the definition on the line. Each English word is derived from a Latin verb and a Latin preposition.

circumference	
interrupt	
transparent	
perforated	
superhuman	
dejected	
ejected	
advent	
c. <b>Minimus is after the chees</b> e  In the little story that follows, whenever an En preposition in the little box.	glish preposition is used, write the matching Latin
Minimus is very hungry. He can hear Candidu	s preparing dinner. Minimus tiptoes carefully
away from his hole in	the kitchen wall. He squeezes <b>between</b>
two tall water jars and hides <b>under</b>	a basket of eggs. When he is sure that Candidus
isn't watching, he climbs <b>on top of</b>	the log pile and leaps <b>across</b> the gap
to the kitchen table. Candidus is	stand- ing in front of
the table, arranging cheese on a plate. Minimu	ly and cautiously creeps <b>to-</b>
wards the plate. He crouches	
next to the plate and stealthily stre	etches out a paw. Minimus suddenly grabs a piece
of cheese, jumps <b>down from</b> the t	rable and dashes <b>around</b> Candidus'
feet. Candidus yells and tries to catch his flying	g tail, but Minimus slips <b>away from</b>
his fingers and is soon safely back home, nibbl	ing his cheese.

#### Chapter 10

Here are three more conjunctions to add to those on p60 of *Minimus*.

**igitur**: therefore **itaque**: and so **tamen**: however

10 a Translate these Latin sentences and circle the conjunction.

Claudia laeta est, quod Lepidina visitat.

Iulius in hortum intrat et ludit.

Candidus diligenter laborat, sed Corinthus segniter dormit.

quamquam Rufus fessus est, non dormit.

anulus aureus est; itaque pretiosus est.

Minimus parvus est; elephantus tamen maximus est.

Vibrissa obesa est; celeriter igitur non currit.

b. Complete the wordsearch, with words from Chapter 10. Words read forwards and backwards.

ANULUS
GEMMAE
AUREUS
UNGUENTUM
CAPILLI
CAPILLAMENTUM
DONUM
PRETIOSUS
AMATORIUS
CUBICULUM
CONTENTA
IMPROBUS

Ι	N	N	U	S	U	E	R	U	A	C	Q	D
M	N	A	M	A	Т	О	R	Ι	U	S	C	Y
R	M	U	N	О	D	Ι	L	L	Ι	P	A	C
U	С	U	В	I	C	U	L	U	M	C	G	Н
В	Z	Q	О	S	U	L	U	N	A	L	Y	I
V	V	X	S	U	S	О	Ι	Т	E	R	P	S
G	U	R	K	Y	W	G	Е	M	M	A	Е	X
M	U	Т	N	Е	M	A	L	L	I	P	A	C
D	Z	M	U	Т	N	E	U	G	N	U	Q	J
Ι	M	P	R	О	В	U	S	Н	I	V	D	О
S	N	В	T	S	A	Т	N	E	Т	N	0	C
F	M	N	В	Т	W	G	G	D	E	L	D	Q
W	F	G	В	U	X	X	K	L	E	K	D	I

11 a. Identify the subjects and objects in these English sentences.

Remember that the **subject** does the action. The **object** is the victim of the action.

Write S above the subject, O above the object and V above the verb. Be careful—there may be more than one of each!

- i. Pandora looks after Flavia, Iulius and Rufus.
- ii. Flavia cooks the dinner and Rufus watches Flavia.
- iii. Iulius tastes the dinner and throws it away.
- iv. Flavia scolds Iulius; meanwhile Rufus eats his dinner.
- v. Pandora praises Flavia and comforts Iulius.



11 b. Translate these sentences into Latin. Remember that the Latin object has an 'm' added at the end. The verb is the same in all of the sentences.

e.g. Minimus sees Vibrissa. Minimus Vibrissam videt.

e.g. Vibrissa sees Minimus. Vibrissa Minimum videt.

i. Candidus sees Pandora.

ii. Corinthus sees Candidus.

iii. Minimus sees Rufus.

iv. Vibrissa sees Corinthus.

v. Lepidina sees Flavia.

vi. Rufus sees Lepidina.

vii. Pandora sees Flavius.

# Subject and object sentences

11 c. Make up sentences with a subject noun (doer), an object noun (victim) and a verb. Then translate them into English. Pick one word from each set.

<b>Subject nouns</b>	Object nouns		Verbs	
rana	ranam	frog	amat	likes or loves
vacca	vaccam	cow	basiat	kisses
vespa	vespam	wasp	devorat	eats
Vibrissa	Vibrissam	Vibrissa the cat	portat	carries
delphinus	delphinum	dolphin	pulsat	hits
Minimus	Minimum	Minimus the mouse	spectat	watches
porcus	porcum	pig	vexat	annoys
sciurus	sciurum	squirrel	vitat	avoids

We have added 'the' to the English translation as there isn't a Latin word for 'the'.

e.g	vacca	Sciurum	vexat	The Cow	annoys	the Squirrel
				The		the
				The		the
				The		the
				The		the
				The		the
				The		the

Illustrate one or more of your sentences here!

#### Chapter 12

12 a. On the left is a list of the main Roman gods and goddesses, with their Latin spelling. These names are the answers in this crossword; the clues are the Greek equivalent names. Look at the list on p74 of *Minimus* for help.

Apollo	Iuppiter	Plu	to	I I	ACR	OSS			DO	OWN
					3	Athena			1	Ares
Bacchus	Mars	Ven	nus	8	3	Aphrodite			2	Demeter
Ceres	Mercuri	ıs Vııl	canus		9	Apollo			4	Hera
CCICS	Mercuri	4 W W W	carras	1	10	Hades			5	Zeus
Diana	Minerva			1	11	Artemis			6	Hephaestus
T	Nontro	-			12	Poseidon			7	Dionysus
Iuno	Neptunu	is		1	13	Hermes				
										1
	2							3	4	
			6			7		3	4	
8	2 5		6			7		3	4	
8			6			7 9		3	4	
8		10	6					3	4	
8	5	10	6					3	4	
8		10	6					3	4	

12 b. In this exercise, circle the correct endings to the Latin nouns, which are either the subject or object in the sentence. Most of the nouns are proper nouns (names), and all the sentences are connected to the myths at the end of each chapter.

Perseus kills Medusa (Perseus/Perseum) Medusam necat. Daedalus (Icarus/Icarum) monet Daedalus warns Icarus (Pandora/Pandoram) (cista/cistam) aperit. Pandora opens the box. Echo (Narcissus/Narcissum) spectat. Echo watches Narcissus. Narcissus loves Narcissus. (Narcissus/Narcissum) Narcissum amat. Actaeon (Diana/Dianam) videt. Actaeon sees Diana. Graeci (equus/equum) faciunt. The Greeks make a horse. Cyclops unum (oculus/oculum) habet. The Cyclops has one eye.

How did you do?

1



#### 12 c. The children have a discussion.

Translate this dialogue into English. It's quite challenging, and revisits vocab and grammar from the whole book. Write your translation on the right hand side of the page.

•	Iulius et Flavia sedent. servi	
Ü	er laborant. Rufus et Iulius et	
Flavia s	pectant.	
Rufus	ecce Candidus!	
Flavia	Candidum amo, quod benignus est.	
Rufus	Candidum quoque amo, quod gladium splendidum facit!	
Iulius	Candidus cenam optimam coquit!	
omnes	euge! Candidum amamus!	
Rufus	ecce Corinthus!	
Flavia	Corinthum non amo.	
Iulius	cur Corinthum non amas?	
Flavia	quod Corinthus semper litteras docet!	
Iulius	Flavia! quam ignava es!	
D (		
Rufus	Corinthum amo, quod semper fabulam narrat.	
Iulius	ecce Pandora! quam pulchra est!	
_		
Rufus	Flavia! cur lacrimas? tu quoque pulchra es!	
F1	titibi Barfa	
Flavia	gratias tibi ago, Rufe.	
Rufus	ecce Vibrissa! salve, Vibrissa!	
Flavia	veni huc, Vibrissa!	
Iulius	audite, omnes! Vibrissa	
	murmurat.	
How did	you do? 🚜 🖁 🖁	