

When and Why to Study Foreign Languages: 4th Through 12th Grades

Every day we all use lots of Latin as we speak and write. Our vocabulary and grammar find roots largely in the vast acreage belonging to our Latin fathers. In order to achieve the valuable goal of a classical education, we must include this language as an essential study.

Cheryl Lowe, of Memoria Press, says that "Latin must be approached as a basic subject, like arithmetic." She adds that "no one thinks of dropping arithmetic because the kids don't like it or because it is too hard or boring or not needed anymore because of computers." Cheryl is absolutely right! Latin should be the centerpiece of our language program.

Happily, the new Latin courses from Canon Press are fun, interesting and well laid out. A successful study can be maintained along with our other regular subjects even when we, as parents, haven't taken Latin or think we have forgotten our favorite conjugations. Readily affordable DVDs are available, as well as other helpful add-ons.

We recommend that, ideally, 4th grade be the starting point for Latin I in Covenant Home Curriculum, and that all the levels be completed before or during 8th grade. This is in order that a second foreign language may be taken during the high school years. Leading colleges are frequently requiring three years of a modern foreign language in order to waive their foreign language requirement. Not only will an early Latin program enrich your child's vocabulary and provide a better understanding of English grammar, studies show that it will enable greater cognitive development in mental flexibility, creativity, and high-order thinking skills. Children who have studied a foreign language in elementary school also achieve higher scores on standardized tests than those who have not and have better results learning other foreign languages in high school and college.*

Go to the head of your class. Be careful to include Latin as a basic course in your child's curriculum and enable him to begin well ahead of the starting line in college. In addition, money can be saved by waiving a few courses at the college level.

* taken from Lipton, Gladys. *Practical Handbook to Elementary Foreign Language Programs*. Lincolnwood, IL. National Textbook Co., 1998, p. 11.

CANON PRESS LATIN

Covenant Home's *Day-by-Day Scheduling Guides* team up with these offerings from Canon Press to make the task of teaching Latin much less formidable. The Latin series can be begun as early as 3rd grade.

LATIN PRIMER: Books I, II & III by D. Wilson

This series begins with a focus on vocabulary, case endings, verb endings (chants!) and simple translation, with books II and III moving into basic grammar. [Additional student text available, see price list page 25.]

The Primer series is currently being revised and improved by the publisher. Primers I and II are available now with Primer III to come, summer of 2011. The revised modules include:

- Student text with perforated pages and additional exercises
- Expanded teacher's edition with weekly quizzes and new lesson notes
- CD Audio Guide
- CHC *Day-by-Day Scheduling Guide* for the module

LATIN PRIMER: I, 3rd ed. Module \$67

LATIN PRIMER: II, 4th ed. Module \$67

Earlier edition Primer III module includes:

- Student text and teacher's edition with blueprint
- Teacher's Packet – instructions, quizzes, tests and answer keys
- Pronunciation Aid
- CHC *Day-by-Day Scheduling Guide* for the module

LATIN PRIMER: III, 2nd ed. Module \$39*

* Special reduced price



Latin flashcard sets available:

- Latin Primer I, II & III

LATIN Flash card sets see website

Earlier edition DVD packages include:

- Student text and teacher's edition
- DVDs – to teach the complete course
- Teacher's Packet – instructions, quizzes, tests and answer keys
- CD Pronunciation Aid
- Flashcards
- CHC *Day-by-Day Scheduling Guide* for the package

LATIN PRIMER: II, 3rd ed. Package (DVD) \$75**

LATIN PRIMER: III, 2nd ed. Package (DVD) \$100**

** While supplies last

LATIN GRAMMAR: Books I & II by Wilson/Craig

Designed to follow the Latin Primer path, these texts include a solid review of all grammar. [Additional student text available, see price list page 25.]

LATIN GRAMMAR: I Module \$35

LATIN GRAMMAR: II Module \$53

[Note: High school students should have Latin Primers I and II in a single grade level for a first year high school Latin credit; Book III and Grammar I for a second year high school Latin credit.]



Foreign Languages and Supplemental

CANON PRESS LATIN

(A full description of Canon Press Latin is on page 27. Additional student texts are available; see price list page 25.)

- LATIN PRIMER: I, 3rd ed. Module \$67
- LATIN PRIMER: II, 4th ed. Module \$67
- LATIN PRIMER: III, 2nd ed. Module \$39
- LATIN PRIMER: I, II & III Flashcards ... see website
- LATIN PRIMER: II, 3rd ed. Package (DVD) \$75
- LATIN PRIMER: III, 2nd ed. Package (DVD) \$100
- LATIN GRAMMAR: I Module \$35
- LATIN GRAMMAR: II Module \$53

[Note: High school students should have Latin Primers I and II in a single grade level for a first year high school Latin credit; Book III and Grammar I for a second year high school Latin credit.]



TELL ME MORE[®] powered by Auralog Homeschool

TELL ME MORE[®] is the only language software for homeschoolers that truly covers all the skills to learn a language: not only reading and writing, listening and speaking, but also grammar, vocabulary and cultural content. It is also the most extensive offer for homeschoolers, with up to 950 hours of learning representing 4 years or more of language learning.

- Learn reading and writing, listening and speaking, grammar, culture, vocabulary...
- Create accounts for the whole family
- More than 4 years of language learning per package
- Unique features for homeschoolers: activity guide, student tracking
- Access to the content of TELL ME MORE[®] with and without the solutions, so parents can create their own workbooks...
- Advanced speech recognition technology to help improve pronunciation of your homeschool student

Available Languages:

- Spanish **\$319.99**
- Chinese **\$309.99**
- French **\$319.99**
- Japanese **\$309.99**
- Italian **\$319.99**
- Dutch **\$309.99**
- German **\$319.99**

Mathematics: Is God Silent?, by J. Nickel



How many Christian parents, students and educators are there who can articulate a biblical approach to mathematics, let alone affirm that there is such a view? As a result of much research and teaching, the author has come to the conviction that there is a distinctive, biblical approach to mathematics; an approach that will not only convert any skeptic but will also provide a potent motivation to anyone involved in Christian education.

Mathematics: Is God Silent? \$22

Big Truths for Little Kids, by Susan & Richie Hunt

Young children are a blessing from God, a gift that brings an abundance of joy and the privilege of teaching them God's ways. Because faith and action go hand in hand, the lessons little ones learn from you now will shape their lives forever. This wonderful book will help you teach the basic truths of the Christian faith to your children.



Big Truths for Little Kids \$16



Heirs of the Covenant, by Susan Hunt

This idea book explains God's Covenant of Grace, tracing its history of revelation from the Older Testament to the New, and showing its application in the Christian home.

Heirs of the Covenant \$14

Catechism for Young Children or First Catechism

Catechizing - systematic instruction using questions and answers - is a tried and effective tool for religious training. In the Reformed tradition, this has been a common method of expressing and memorizing the key elements of the Bible and Christian doctrine. Wonderful pocket reference primers of the Christian faith, these booklets are great for children as young as age two or three! (*Catechism For Young Children* - Traditional wording; *First Catechism* - Contemporary wording)



Catechism for Young Children \$2

First Catechism \$2

Two-year Westminster Shorter Catechism Module

The *Westminster Confession of Faith and Shorter Catechism* are unrivaled as faithful and concise expressions of God's revelation in Scripture.

A concise survey of *The Westminster Shorter Catechism* was developed in the context of a six-year study in which participants were given a triple exposure to the document. Ample time was taken for thoroughness, the primary point being to make practical application of doctrine.

A unique classroom setting involving a wide range of age levels was used so as to correspond to the family setting. While work was accomplished in class, individuals and families studied in their homes and in various configurations in preparation for each meeting.

A comprehensive study of *The Westminster Shorter Catechism*, this module seeks to make practical application of doctrine.

[Note: Please call for exact pricing if this study is to replace the Bible program in a full curriculum.]



Two-year Shorter Catechism Module includes:

The Concise Survey of the Westminster Shorter Catechism (CHC study guide with key)

- *The Shorter Catechism for Study Classes*, textbook
- CHC quarterly tests with answer keys for Parts 1 & 2
- *The Shorter Catechism with Scripture Proofs* booklet
- *Day-by-Day Scheduling Guides* for the two-year study

Complete Shorter Catechism Module - Parts 1 & 2 ... \$89