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Henle Latin First Year

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**Synopsis**

Thorough mastery of forms, basic syntax, and simple vocabulary are primary objectives of Henle Latin First Year that enable students to handle simple readings and translations. Henle Latin First Year includes 14 units and covers: the declensions, various conjugations, ablative and infinitive constructions, and much more. Humanistic insight and linguistic training are the goals of the Henle Latin Series from Loyola Press, an integrated four-year Latin course. Time-tested and teacher endorsed, this comprehensive program is designed to lead the student systematically through the fundamentals of the language itself and on to an appreciation of selected classic texts.

**Book Information**

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**Customer Reviews**

We used "English From the Roots Up" when my kids were little bitties (mostly games and memory work -- lots of fun), and used "Lively Latin" during the 4th-6th grade years (I cannot rave enough about that -- truly a wonderful intro to the study of Latin and perfectly suited to that age!), and we've now begun Henle for the high school years. Both of my kids are able to handle the challenging text, and I am doing the lessons as well. (I love the redemptive aspect of homeschooling the classical way -- I'm getting the education I missed the first time around.) It's a challenging text to be sure, but it is thorough. We each tend to do our lessons (independently) with all four books spread out before us; the lessons/exercises, the grammar book, the answer key, and a notebook. I also found that it's useful to have the paperback books spiral bound at the office supply store in order to lay them flat.
This has made switching from book to book much easier. We devote about an hour per day to this subject. My daughter is covering only lessons 1-10 of Y1 in 7th grade, and we'll repeat these and add 15 more (1-25) in 8th grade. My son just finished 1-30 in 8th grade, and in 9th grade, the plan is to repeat those lessons and hopefully finish the book. They are able to translate simple passages and stories into English, and this type of diligent study should serve them well in life. It's not easy, but LL provided a solid base for them. I've also noticed that their English grammar skills have improved since they began Henle. I cannot say why. It may just be the care and attention required by the process of translating. I sorely wish I had studied Latin in school before I took modern languages in college myself. Live and learn.

I purchased this curriculum for my son & plan to read through it over the next year in order to teach him the following year. It appears to be a very well-written curriculum, easy to follow, concise. I appreciate that it's not written like a typical textbook. I would recommend Henle Latin to others considering the study of this Language.

Thanks!

I like the straightforward, old-school style of this curriculum. It teaches Latin logically and thoroughly in a very simple way. Could use some updating, as it comes across very Catholic (lots of sentences about Mary, references to the Pope), and a bit outdated at times (uses the word negroe).

This is an easy way to learn Latin. My kids are having no problem understanding the lessons. I have paired this with Mother of Divine Grace Lesson Planning, and I feel the pace is very doable.

I took two quarters of college Latin, using Wheelock’s Latin text, but that was over 10 years ago, so I've forgotten most of what I learned. I'm a fan of Wheelock's book. I give that text a solid 4 stars. I would give Henle’s First Year Latin 4 1/2 stars if I could. It's not quite a 5-star book, though. What I like about Henle is that he doesn't hit you with new vocabulary in his stories. And you get more practice translating. What I don't like is that you have to go back and forth from the text to the grammar book. And if you want the answers, you'll need to purchase an answer book, too. Wheelock’s book is better organized and has better charts, and is thus easier to read and a better reference source. That said, I still prefer Henle’s book. Henle gives you vocabulary in small doses and quite regularly. And you get a bunch of practice translating, so it sticks. Since you get the
declensions first, you get a lot of nouns. After a bunch of practice sentences, both Latin to English and English to Latin, you quickly pick up the declensions. Since conjugations come later in the text, Henle will give you the verbs you'll need for translations in their conjugated form. So instead of teaching you to conjugate the verb 'laudare' in the present indicative, he'll just give you "laudat" and "laudant" -- of course you'll get the full conjugation grammar later. Long-term, I think both methods work, but I slightly prefer Henle's method for the sheer repetition without too much of the monotony. Let me say, now, that I'm only 40 pages into Henle's book, but I think it's enough to get a fair estimation. I'd say Wheelock does a better job explaining grammar, but Henle gives you more grammar, since his is a series of four books, while Wheelock's is just one book. Either way, you won't go wrong, but I am sticking with Henle until I discover something better -- perhaps Jenney's Latin?

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