

Lesson 7A

In Catilinam I.2

o tempora, o mores! senatus haec intellegit, consul videt; hic tamen vivit.
vivit? immo vero etiam in senatum venit, fit publici consili particeps, notat
et designat oculis ad caedem unum quemque nostrum. nos autem fortes viri
satis facere rei publicae videmur, si istius furorem ac tela vitemus

Notes

nostrum: a form of the 1st person plural pronoun, = 'of us'

facere: an infinitive ('to do X') form: from which verb?

vitemus: a subjunctive: for translation purposes here, treat as if it were
vitamus.

Translation A Louis Lord (Loeb) 1953 (1937)

What an age! What morals! The senate knows these things, the consul sees them. Yet this man lives. Lives, did I say? Nay, more, he walks into the senate, he takes part in the public counsel. He singles out and marks with his glance each one of us for murder. But we, brave men indeed, seem to be doing our duty by the state if we avoid his fury and his shafts.

Translation B Michael Grant (Penguin) 1973 (1969)

What a scandalous commentary on our age and its standards! For the Senate knows all about these things. The consul sees them being done. And yet this man still lives! Lives? He walks right into the Senate. He joins in our national debates - watches and notes and marks down with his gaze each one of us he plots to assassinate. And we, how brave we are! Just by getting out of the way of his frenzied onslaught, we feel we are doing patriotic duty enough.

Questions

1. Say what forms the following are, give their dictionary form and meaning, then say how the form in the text is translated in the two translations.

Comment on any differences.

1. intellegit (line 1)

2. videmur (line 3) you have met the 3rd person forms of this type of verb: can you work out which person this is?
3. venit (line 2)

2. Say what cases the following are and why, and give their dictionary form and meaning. Match each one up with its equivalent in the two translations, and comment on any differences.

1. tempora (line 1)
2. consili (line 2)
3. caedem (line 2)
4. tela (line 3)
5. mores (line 1)
6. oculis (line 2)
7. istius (line 3)
8. furorem (line 3)

3. Comment on any features of expression and style you notice in lines 1-2, up until particeps. What effect do you think these features might have?

How well do you think translations A and B represent

1. the sense
2. the style

of this section?

4. What case are the following and why? What other word does each agree with? What does each phrase (i.e. word plus the word they agree with!) mean?

1. quemque (line 3)
2. rei (line 3)

5. Find the Latin translated by the following phrases in version A, and then give a close translation of the Latin. Comment on any differences between translation A and the original Latin version.

1. "He takes part in the public counsel"
2. "marks with his glance each one of us for murder"

6. Comment on any features of expression and style you notice in the last sentence,

nos autem.... vitemus.

In what ways might these establish links between this sentence and the rest of this passage?

How well do you think translations A and B represent

1. the sense
 2. the style
- of this section?