

- Latin Literature: Synopses of Major Works
-
- **Annales by Quintus Ennius** –An 18-book history of Rome from the fall of Troy down to the seizure of Ambracia by Quintus Fulvius Nobilior in 171 BC. It represents the first use of dactylic hexameter in Latin literature.
- Books 1-3: Fall of Troy to the expulsion of the last king Tarquinius Superbus.
- Books 4-6: The wars with Etruria, Samnium, and Pyrrhus.
- Books 7-9: The Second Punic War (the First Punic War was omitted).
- Books 10-12: Campaigns of the 190s BC.
- Books 12-15: The defeats of Philip V and Antiochus III of Macedon.
- Books 16-18: Deeds of the junior officers in the 180s BC.
- Contains the opening line, *Moribus antiquis stat res Romana virisque* (“On ancient customs and men the Roman state stands firm”).
- Includes the most alliterative line in Latin: O Tite tute Tati, tibi tanta, tyranne, tulisti.
- **Origines by Marcus Porcius Cato Censorius (Cato the Elder) (168 BC)** – A 7-book history of Rome. The first Roman history written in Latin. The only named character in the entire work is Syrus, Hannibal’s elephant. It was written for Cato’s sons.
- Book 1: Founding of Rome and the history of the monarchy.
- Books 2-3: Origins and customs of Italian towns.
- Books 4-7: First Punic War onwards.
- **De Agricultura by Marcus Porcius Cato Censorius (Cato the Elder)** – It is a didactic work on agriculture. First Latin prose work. It is a didactic work on agriculture.
- Advice to middle-sized estates (*latifundia*).
- Recipes.
- Religious formulae.
- Prescriptions.
- Simple contracts.
- Farming, focusing on the vine and the olive. Cato commonly advised to “plow, plow, and sow.”
- **Satires by Gaius Lucilius** – 30 books written in dactylic hexameter. This work set the standard of using dactylic hexameter for satirical works.
- Books 26-30 were written first
- Book 1 (“Council of the Gods”): On Cornelius Lentulus Lupus, the prince of the senate.
- Book 2: A parody of the trial of the Stoic Quintus Mucius Scaevola, who was accused of provincial extortion by the Epicurean Titus Albucius.
- Books 26 and 30: Defenses of personal attacks.
- **De Poetis by Volcarius Sedigitus**- Written in iambic senarii. Ranks ten authors of *fabulae palliatae* in order of merit:
- Caecilius Statius
- Titus Maccius Plautus
- Gnaeus Naevius

- Licinius Imbrex
- Atilius
- Publius Terentius Afer
- Turpilius
- Trabea
- Luscius
- Quintus Ennius
- ***Saturae Menippeae* by Marcus Terentius Varro** – Menippean satires written between 81-67 BC.
- Eumenides: Stoic paradox that all sages are insane.
- Manius: Picture of old-fashioned rustic industry and hospitality.
- Sexagesis: Varro sleeps for fifty years to find a completely unrecognizable Rome.
- ***De Linguae Latina* by Marcus Terentius Varro** – 25 books on the Latin language. Published by Marcus Tullius Cicero.
- Book 1: Introduction.
- Books 2-7: Etymology and connections between words and the entities they represent.
- Books 8-13: Inflectional morphology and the conflict between anomalists and analogists.
- Books 14-25: Syntax and proper formation of “propositions.”
- Books 2-4 were dedicated to Publius Septimius.
- ***Antiquitates Rerum Humanarum et Divinarum* (47 BC) by Marcus Terentius Varro** – 41 books on religion, 25 books on humans (Romans) and 16 books on divinity.
- Book 1: Introduction.
- Books 2-7: De hominibus (inhabitants of Italy).
- Books 8-13: De locis.
- Books 14-19: De temporibus.
- Books 20-25: De rebus.
- Books 27-29: On priesthoods.
- Books 30-32: On holy places.
- Books 33-35: On holy items.
- Books 36-38: On rites.
- Books 39-41: On kinds of gods. Certi are those whose nature is explainable. Incerti are those whose nature is not explainable. Selecti (Praecipui) are those who require special treatment.
- Books 26-41 were dedicated to Julius Caesar as *pontifex maximus*.
- ***De Re Rustica* (37 BC) by Marcus Terentius Varro** – A didactic treatise in 3 books on farming.
- Book 1: On farming in general; addressed to Varro’s wife Fundania after she purchased an estate.
- Book 2: On cattle and sheep breeding; addressed to Varro’s friend Turranius Niger.

- Book 3: On poultry, aviary, and herb gardening; addressed to Varro's neighbor Pinnius.
- ***In Catilinam* (63 BC) by Marcus Tullius Cicero (Cicero)** – Cicero, then consul, delivered a series of 4 orations against the traitor Lucius Sergius Catilina, who conspired to overthrow the government. Cicero was successful, having Catiline exiled.
- Prominent characters include: Catiline, Manlius, Volturcius, the envoys of the Allobrages, Lentulus, Cethegus, Statilius, Gabinius.
- First Oration: Delivered to the Senate with Catiline present at the Temple of Jupiter Stator on November 8, 63 BC. When Catiline came in and sat down, all the senators moved away from him. After the speech, Catiline left Rome and went to the camp of Manlius, who was with the army of the conspirators. The oration begins with the famous opening line: *Quo usque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? Quam diu etiam furor iste tuus nos eludet?* (“How long, Catiline, will you abuse our patience? How long is that madness of yours still to mock us?”). It also contains the famous line *O tempora, O mores!* (“O times, O customs!”).
- Second Oration: Delivered to an assembly of the people on November 9, 63 BC from the Rostra. In this speech Cicero described the conspirators as rich men who were in debt, men eager for power and wealth, veterans of Sulla, ruined men who hoped for change, criminals, and Catiline's friends. Cicero, however, assured the Roman people that he, as consul, and the gods would protect them. Meanwhile the Senate, now informed that Catiline had fled to Manlius' camp, formed an army under the command of Antonius. The army attacked the camp of Manlius and killed Catiline.
- Third Oration: Delivered to the Senate at the Temple of Concord on December 3, 63 BC. On the previous day Titus Volturcius and the envoys of the Allobrages were arrested on the Milvian Bridge for their involvement in the conspiracy. Cicero interrogates Volturcius, a known conspirator, asking him to tell the Senate what he knows. Volturcius confesses. Next Cicero examined the ambassadors of the Allobrages, whom the conspirators had tried to conspire with. The Allobrages implicated Lentulus, Cethegus, Statilius in the conspiracy. Not long after those conspirators along with Gabinius were imprisoned. Meanwhile the envoys of the Allobrages and Volturcius were praised for their patriotic efforts.
- Fourth Oration: Delivered to the Senate on December 4, 63 BC. On the previous night Cicero was with his colleagues discussing what should be done with the conspirators, while his wife Terentia was with the Vestal Virgins performing rites of the Bona Dea. Terentia interrupted Cicero's discussion and informed him that after the rites had been performed, the fire revived itself spontaneously. This was an omen, according to the Vestals, that Cicero should do whatever they were just discussing at that moment. The next morning Cicero and the Senate discussed killing the conspirators for their crimes. On December 5, 63 BC, the conspirators were executed. Catiline was later executed in 62 BC.
- ***Pro Milone* (52 BC) by Marcus Tullius Cicero (Cicero)** – Cicero unsuccessfully defends his friend Titus Annius Milo on the charges of killing Publius Clodius Pulcher. Milo was exiled to Massilia.

- Prominent characters include: Milo, Clodius, Clodia, Julius Caesar
- Cicero, rather than saying that Milo was completely innocent, claimed that Milo had killed Clodius in self-defense. Furthermore, Cicero claims that the murder was in the best interest of the state.
- Cicero famously painted the picture that Clodius was a terrible person and that he deserved to be killed. Cicero mentioned the famous Bona Dea incident with Clodius Pulcher in 62 BC in which Clodius had dressed as a woman and entered the house of the pontifex maximus Julius Caesar to have an affair with Caesar's wife Pompeia Sulla. The reason this was so terrible was that the Bona Dea was specific to women and men were excluded. Clodius escaped earlier charges of this by bribing the judges. Furthermore, Cicero also looks to Lucius Licinius Lucullus who claims that Clodius had multiple affairs with his own sister Clodia Pulchra Tercia.
- Despite all of Cicero's efforts, Milo was still found guilty. The main reasons for this are probably the fact that Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus exercised his political power to have Milo convicted. Also, on the last day of the trial, a mob that was loyal to Clodius was present at the trial and intimidated Cicero so much that he did not defend Milo that day.
- Upon the oration's publication, Milo was said to have commented that if Cicero had only spoken that well in court, he would "not now be enjoying the delicious red mullet of Massilia."
- The oration contains the famous line *silent enim leges inter arma* ("in times of war, the laws fall silent").
- ***Comentarii de Bello Gallico* by Gaius Iulius Caesar** – 7 book memoir (Books 1-6 are written by Caesar himself, Book 7 is by Aulus Hirtius) on Caesar's campaigns in Gaul.
- Book 1: About the geography of Gaul and the campaign against the Helvetii in 58 BC.
- Book 2: About the campaign against the Veneti.
- Book 3: About the campaign against the Aquitani.
- Book 4: About the campaign against the Germanic peoples and the Bretons.
- Book 5: About Caesar's invasions of Britannia.
- Book 6: About the insurrection of Gaul, Gallic clothing, Gallic religion, Gallic agricultural methods, and a comparison of the Gallic and German peoples.
- Book 7: About the Caesar's victory of Vercingetorix at Alesia in 52 BC.
- Contains the famous first line *Gallia est omnis divisa in partes tres, quarum unam incolunt Belgae, aliam Aquitanit, tertiam qui ipsorum lingua Celtae, nostra Galli appellantur* ("Gallia as a whole is divided into three parts, one of which the Belgae inhabit, another the Aquitani inhabit, the third those who in their own language are the Celtae, all are called our Gallia").
- ***De Rerum Natura* by Titus Lucretius Carus** – A didactic epic poem in 6 books of dactylic hexameter. The epic poem is dedicated to Gaius Memmius, who was praetor in 58 BC. The entire book discusses thought and philosophy moving from the atomic to the macroscopic level.
- Books 1-2: Deal with atomic phenomena.

- Books 3-4: Deal with human beings.
- Books 5-6: Deal with the world.
- Book 1: Deals with the basic metaphysical and physical premises of Epicureanism, beginning with the proposition that nothing comes to be out of nothing, and concluding with a description of the collapse of our world. The epic opens with a description of the first day of spring and the appeal for help from Venus Genetrix.
- Book 2: Deals with the motion and shape of atoms, and how these are relevant to the relationship between the primary and secondary qualities; it concludes with the important Epicurean doctrine of the infinite number of worlds in the universe, and the connected proposition that our world has both a birth and a death.
- Book 3: Gives an account of the nature of the human soul, and argues both that it is mortal and that, because of this, death is not to be feared.
- Book 4: Discusses a variety of psychological phenomena, especially perception, and argues against skepticism. The book concludes with an attack on love, seen as a mental delusion.
- Book 5: Argues for the mortality of our world, and then gives a rationalist and anti-providentialist account of its creation and early history, concluding with the section on the development of human civilization, which is perhaps the most famous part of the poem.
- Book 6: Accounts for those phenomena of our world which are most likely to lead to false belief in the gods—thunder and lightning, earthquakes, volcanoes, etc.—and ends with the etiology of disease and the plague at Athens.
- Contains the famous opening line, *Aeneadum genetrix, hominum divumque voluptas* (“Mother of Rome, delight of Gods and men”).
- *Eclogues (Bucolica)* (39-38 BC) by Publius Vergilius Maro (Vergil) – 10 poems on agriculture. Based on Theocritus’s *Idylls*.
- *Eclogues* 1 and 9: Deal with land confiscations.
- *Eclogue* 1: The slave Tityrus describes how his land was saved with Meliboeus.
- *Eclogue* 9: Moeris describes how his land was not saved.
- *Eclogues* 2 and 8: Contain long laments by star-crossed lovers.
- *Eclogues* 3 and 7: Exchanges of song.
- *Eclogues* 4 and 6: Considered the most “elevated” of the collection.
- *Eclogue* 4: Called the “Messianic *Eclogue*.” Describes the birth of a child whose lifetime will see a return of the world to the golden age. Many Christians interpreted this as the First Coming, but it probably refers to the son of Asinius Pollio.
- *Eclogue* 6: Begins with a poem in the middle of the book, echoing the opening of Callimachus’ *Aetia*.
- *Eclogue* 5: Describes the apotheosis of Daphnis.
- *Eclogues* 10: Cornelius Gallus takes on the role of a dying lover, who was played by Daphnis in Theocritus’ *Idylls*.
- Contains the famous line: *Labor omnia vincit* (“Labor conquers all”).
- Contains the famous opening line: *Tityre, tu patulae recubans sub tegmine fagi*.

- ***Georgics* (29 BC) by Publius Vergilius Maro (Vergil)** – A didactic poem in 4 books on farming. Dedicated to Vergil’s patron, Maecenas.
- Book 1: On Crops. Includes a description of Jupiter’s disruption during the reign of his father Saturn during the golden age, ending with the troubles in Italy.
- Book 2: On trees and shrubs. Includes the “praises of Italy,” and concludes with a discussion of the virtues of country life.
- Book 3: On livestock. Ends with the description of the Noric plague, much like the ending of Lucretius’ *De Rerum Natura*.
- Book 4: On bee-keeping. Includes the epyllion of the myths of Aristaeus and Orpheus. This is a metaphor for the opposition between the successful conquest of nature through hard work (Aristaeus) and the pathos of loss and failure (Orpheus).
- Epilogue: Contrasts Augustus’ “thundering” on the Euphrates with Vergil’s own peaceful retirement in Neapolis (Naples).
- Contains the opening line: *Quid faciat laetas segetes, quo sidere terram.*
- ***Aeneid* (19 BC) by Publius Vergilius Maro (Vergil)** – An epic poem in 12 books, written in dactylic hexameter. The work is thought to be unfinished and was not published during Vergil’s lifetime. Augustus ordered that it be edited and published—Varius Rufus and Plotius Tucca undertook the task. The *Aeneid* is often used in the *sortes Vergilianae*, a form of oracle in which the future is foretold by randomly choosing lines from the work.
- Main and prominent characters include: Aeneas, Anchises, Ascanius (Iulus), Dido, Venus, Juno, the Cumaean Sibyl, Turnus, Evander, Pallas, Latinus, Lavinia, Amata, Nisus, Euryalus,
- Book 1: We meet Aeneas and his crew “in medias res.” Juno goes to Aeolus, the king of the winds, and causes a storm to blow the Trojan fleet off course. They land on the African coast and venture inland to Carthage.
- Book 2: At Carthage Aeneas meets Dido and tells him the story of the fall of Troy, their original homeland.
- Book 3: Aeneas continues to tell Dido the story of his wandering with his men after they left Troy, sailing through the Aegean Sea and finally coming to Carthage.
- Book 4: A description of the blossoming love affair between Dido and Aeneas that begins when they are trapped alone together in a cave during a storm. Rumor spreads and Iarbas, Dido’s African suitor, prays to his father, Jupiter Amon, who sends down Mercury to end the affair. Aeneas subsequently leaves Carthage alone, and Dido kills herself with her sister Anna present.
- Book 5: The Trojans land on Sicily where they meet the kindly king Acestes. On Sicily the Trojans hold funeral games in honor of Anchises, Aeneas’ deceased father. Meanwhile, Juno incites the Trojan women to burn the ships; the fleet leaves behind the elderly and sick with Acestes and departs for Italy.
- Book 6: Once Aeneas lands in Italy he consults the Cumaean Sibyl. She tells him to find a golden bough, which he does, and the pair descends into the underworld. There Aeneas talks with his father Anchises and sees future generations of Romans.

- Book 7: Having arrived in Latium, Aeneas sends an envoy to king Latinus. Meanwhile Juno sends down Allecto to incite Turnus and Latinus' wife Amata to encourage on war. Aeneas' son Ascanius (Iulus) kills a stag and that begins a full blown war.
- Book 8: Aeneas, advised in a dream by the River Tiber, goes to see Evander, king of the Rutulians, who allies with the Trojans. Venus, Aeneas' mother, meanwhile brings him new armor and a shield which depicts future events of Rome, most notably the Battle of Actium.
- Book 9: Fighting begins and the young pair Nisus and Euryalus is killed during a night raid.
- Book 10: Turnus kills Pallas, the son of Evander, and takes his girdle. Aeneas then kills Lausus and his evil father Mezentius.
- Book 11: One of Turnus' main allies Camilla, leader of the Volscians, is killed.
- Book 12: Turnus and Aeneas meet in single combat. Aeneas bests Turnus and hesitates in killing him until he sees the girdle that Turnus had taken from Pallas—now Aeneas raises his sword and beheads Turnus, ending the epic.
- Contains the famous opening line: *Arma virumque cano, Troiae qui primus ab oris Italiam fato profugus Lavinaque venit litora* (“I sing of war and a man. From the sea coast of Troy in early days he came to Italy by fate”).
- ***De Architectura* by Vitruvius Pollio** – A 10-book treatise on architecture. It is not a handbook, but rather a book for people to understand architecture.
- Book 1: Discusses town-planning, architecture in general, and the qualifications proper in an architect.
- Book 2: Discusses building materials. Vitruvius also mentions that an architect who uses brick should be familiar with pre-Socratic theories of matter.
- Books 3-4: Discusses temples and architectural orders.
- Book 5: Discusses other civic buildings.
- Book 6: Discusses domestic buildings.
- Book 7: Discusses pavements and decorative plaster-work.
- Book 8: Discusses water-supplies.
- Book 9: Discusses geometry, measurements, astronomy, etc. In the discussion of geometry, Vitruvius makes mention of the geometry of Plato for the surveyor.
- Book 10: Discusses machines, both civil and military.
- ***Satira (Sermones)* (c. 30 BC) by Quintus Horatius Flaccus (Horace)** – 2 books of satires. Based primarily on Gaius Lucilius (“Horace's Light”), but is not wholly invective.
- Book 1: Contains 10 satires, including the famous “Journey to Brundisium,” undertaken with Maecenas and his circle in 38 or 37 BC.
- Poems 1-3: Diatribes.
- Poems 4-6: Autobiographies.
- Poems 7-9: Anecdotes.
- Poem 10: Retrospective look at the individuality of his satiric production.
- Book 2: Contains 8 satires, nearly all of which are dialogues.
- Poems 1 and 5: An expert is asked for advice.
- Poems 2 and 6: The theme is the value of a simple life on the land.

- Poems 3 and 7: Horace faces some decidedly dubious representatives of popular philosophy who inflict long sermons on him.
- Poems 4 and 8: The theme is the luxuriousness of contemporary Roman banqueting.
- ***Odes (Carmina) (23 BC) by Quintus Horatius Flaccus (Horace)*** – 3 books of lyric poetry in a variety of meters including alcaic and sapphic. Based primarily on the poet Alcaeus, but also uses Sappho, Anacreon, and Pindar as bases.
- Book 1: Contains 38 poems.
- Poem 11: Contains the famous line, *carpe diem quam minimum credula postero* (“seize the day, trusting as little as possible in tomorrow”).
- Poem 14: Horace discusses the “ship of state.”
- Poem 37: Horace celebrates Augustus’ victory over Marc Antony and Cleopatra VII at Actium in 31 BC.
- Book 2: Contains 20 poems.
- Poem 10: Contains the famous phrase, *aurea mediocritas* (“the golden mean”), a testament to Horace’s Epicurean views.
- Poem 13: Contains the famous line, *Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori* (“It is a sweet and becoming thing to die for one’s country”).
- Book 3: Contains 30 poems.
- Poem 29: Horace gives an invitation to Maecenas to visit his wonderful Sabine farm.
- Poem 30. Contains the famous line, *Exegi monumentem aere perennium* (“I have built a monument more lasting than bronze”).
- Book 4: Contains 15 poems, among which the *Carmen Saeculare* is sometimes included.
- ***Ars Poetica (Epistles to the Pisones) (18 BC) by Quintus Horatius Flaccus (Horace)*** – A discussion of the proper way to write poetry. The work suggests avoiding “purple patches” (unrelated discussions in an otherwise uniform work).
- Lines 1-41: Proposition that every poem must be a unified whole.
- Lines 42-44: On the necessary ordering of appropriate material.
- Lines 45-118: Discussion of poetic language and the correspondingly appropriate style.
- Lines 119-152: Discussion of the choice of material and its treatment, with examples taken from epic and drama.
- Lines 153-294: On the various genres of dramatic poetry.
- Lines 295-476: Discussion of general rules for the poetic craft.
- Contains the opening line: *Humano capiti cervicem pictor equinam.*
- ***Heroides (8 AD) by Publius Ovidius Naso (Ovid)*** – A series of 21 letters from mythological figures to their lovers.
- Letters 1-14: Letters from mythological female figures to their absent lovers.
- Letter 15: The only letter from a real woman (Sappho) to her lover.
- Letters 16-21: A series of pairs of letters, originally sent from mythological male figures to their female lovers, who in turn respond.
- Letter 1: Penelope to her husband Ulysses during his long absence after the defeat of Troy.

- Letter 2: Phyllis, the daughter of Lycurgus, to her lover Demophoon, the son of Theseus king of Athens, after he failed to return from Athens.
- Letter 3: Briseis, the daughter of Brises, to Achilles, urging him to accept herself as part of a package from Agamemnon and return to battle against the Trojans.
- Letter 4: Phaedra, wife of Theseus, to her stepson, Hippolytus, confessing her love for him.
- Letter 5: The nymph Oenone to Paris, the son of Priam.
- Letter 6: Hypsipyle, queen of Lemnos, to Jason after he abandoned her for Medea.
- Letter 7: Dido to Aeneas on his departure to Italy.
- Letter 8: Hermione, daughter of Menelaus, to Orestes, son of Agamemnon and Clytemnestra, urging him to save her from marriage to Achilles' son, Pyrrhus.
- Letter 9: Deianira, daughter of Oeneus, king of Aetolia, to her husband Hercules after he laid down his weapons to be with Iole, the daughter of Eurytus, king of Oechalia.
- Letter 10: Ariadne to Theseus after he abandoned her in favour of her sister, Phaedra.
- Letter 11: Canace, daughter of Aeolus, to her brother and lover, Macareus, before killing herself following the death of their baby at the hands of their father.
- Letter 12: Medea to Jason after he abandoned her to marry Creusa.
- Letter 13: Laodamia, the daughter of Acastus, to her husband Protesilaus, urging him not to take too many risks in the Greeks' attack on Troy.
- Letter 14: Hypermnestra to her husband, Lynceus, calling for him to save her from death at the hands of her father, Danaus.
- Letter 15: Sappho to her ex-lover Phaon after he left her.
- Letter 16: Paris to Helen, trying to persuade her to leave her husband, Menelaus, and go with him to Troy.
- Letter 17: Helen's reply to Paris, revealing her readiness to leave Menelaus for him.
- Letter 18: Leander to Hero on his love for her.
- Letter 19: Hero's reply to Leander on her love for him.
- Letter 20: Acontius to Cydippe on his love for her, reminding her of her commitment to marry him.
- Letter 21: Cydippe's reply to Acontius, agreeing to marry him.
- ***Metamorphoses (8 AD, before exile) by Publius Ovidius Naso (Ovid)*** – An epic in 15 books written in dactylic hexameter that describes the creation and history of the world through transformations.
- Book 1: Invocation, Chaos and Creation, Ages of Man, The Flood, Deucalion and Pyrrha, The New World, Apollo and Daphne, Io and Jove, The Pipes of Pan, Io as Isis.
- Book 2: Phaethon's Ride, Jove and the Arcadian Nymph, The Raven, Ocyrrhoe, Mercury and Battus, Mercury and Herse, Jove and Europa.
- Book 3: Cadmus, Actaeon, Semele, Tiresias, Echo and Narcissus, Pentheus and Bacchus.
- Book 4: Pyramus and Thisbe, Mars and Venus, The Sun and Leucothoe, Salmacis and Hermaphroditus, Ino and Athamas, Metamorphosis of Cadmus, Perseus.

- Book 5: Perseus' Battles, Pallas Athena and the Muses, Death and Proserpina, Arethusa, Triptolemus, Metamorphosis of the Pierides.
- Book 6: Arachne, Niobe and Latona, Marsyas, Pelops, Tereus and Procne and Philomela, Boreas and Orithyia.
- Book 7: Jason and Medea, Minos' Wars against Aegeus, The Myrmidons, Cephalus and Procris.
- Book 8: Minos and Nisus and Scylla, Daedalus and Icarus, Meleager and the Boar, Althaea and Meleager, Achelous, Baucis and Philemon, Erysichthon.
- Book 9: Achelous and Hercules, Hercules and Nessus and Deianira, Hercules' Birth, Dryope, Themis' Prophecy, Byblis and Daunus, Iphis and Ianthe.
- Book 10: Orpheus and Eurydice, Cyparissus, Ganymede, Apollo and Hyacinthus, Pygmalion, Cinyras and Myrrha, Venus and Adonis, Atalanta, Metamorphosis of Adonis.
- Book 11: The Death of Orpheus, Midas, The Building of Troy, Thetis and Peleus, Daedalion, Peleus' Cattle, The Journeys of Ceyx, Sleep, Metamorphosis of Alcyone, Aesacus and Hesperia.
- Book 12: The Trojan War Begins, Caenis, Nestor's Tale of the Centaurs, The Death of Achilles.
- Book 13: The Dispute over Achilles' Armor, The Fall of Troy, The Sacrifice of Polyxena, Hecuba's Grief, Memnon, Aeneas, Galatea and Polyphemus, Glaucus.
- Book 14: Circe and Glaucus, and Scylla, Aeneas Visits Cumae, Achaemides and Polyphemus, Circe, Picus and Canens, The Conquests of Aeneas, Later Kings of Alba, Pomona and Vertumnus, Iphis and Anaxarete, Other Kings of Italia.
- Book 15: Numa Hears the Story of Myscelos, The Philosopher, The Death of Numa, Hippolytus, Cibus, Aesculapius, Caesar, Epilogue.
- Contains the opening line: *In nova fert animus mutates dicere formas corpora* ("Now I shall tell of things that change, new being out of old").
- ***De Medicina* by Aulus Cornelius Celsus** – An 8-book treatise on medicine. It is possibly a section of the encyclopedia of the *Artes* that Celsus also wrote.
- Book 1: Includes an historical introduction to Greek medicine and a discussion of the origins of dietetics and medical theory.
- Book 2: Discusses pathology and therapeutics.
- Books 3-4: Discuss special treatments.
- Books 5-6: Discuss drug-lore.
- Book 7: Discusses surgery.
- Book 8: Discusses skeletal anatomy.
- ***Astronomica* by Marcus Manilius** – A didactic poem in 5 books. Takes influence from Egyptian, Hermetic, and Posidonian sources. It spans the reigns of the emperors Augustus and Tiberius, and also makes mention of Publius Quinctilius Varus' defeat at Teutoburg Forest in AD 9.
- Books 2-4: Provide a zodiacal central section.
- Books 1-4: Have extensive prologues.
- Books 1, 4, and 5: Have significant finales.
- Book 1: An introductory theodical account of creation and an astronomy influenced by the poet Aratus.

- Book 2: Discussion of the characteristics, conjunctions, and twelve-fold divisions (*dodecatemoria*) of the zodiacal signs, the relationship of cardinals and temples to different areas of human life.
- Book 3: Discussion of a different circular system of twelve lots (*sortes*) of human experience, its adjustment, and the calculation of the horoscope at birth and length of life, and tropic signs.
- Book 4: Discussion of zodiacal influences at birth, the tripartite division of signs into decans, the 360 zodiacal degrees and their influence, the partition of the world and its nations among the signs, and ecliptic signs.
- Book 5: Discussion on the influence on character of extra-zodiacal constellations at their rising (*paranatellonta*), a lacuna, and stellar magnitudes. Includes an extensive myth of Andromeda which offers a depiction of stellar magnitudes as a hierarchical star-state analogous with human society.
- ***De Re Coquinaria (De Coquendo)* by Marcus Gavius Apicius (Apicius)** – A 10-book treatise on cooking, which amounts to a sort of cookbook. It was not published until the fourth century AD under the title *Apicius*, but Apicius is credited with its authorship nonetheless.
- Book 1 (*Epimeles*): Discusses the chef.
- Book 2 (*Sarcoptes*): Discusses meats.
- Book 3 (*Cepuros*): Discusses the garden.
- Book 4 (*Pandecter*): Discusses a variety of dishes.
- Book 5 (*Ospreos*): Discusses peas, beans, lentils, chickpeas, etc.
- Book 6 (*Aeropetes*): Discusses fowl.
- Book 7 (*Polyteles*): Also discusses fowl.
- Book 8 (*Tetrapus*): Discusses livestock.
- Book 9 (*Thalassa*): Discusses seafood.
- Book 10 (*Halieus*): Discusses fish specifically.
- ***De Re Rustica* by Lucius Iunius Moderatus Columella (Columella)** – A 12-book treatise on farming. The most systematic extant Roman agricultural manual.
- Book 1: Includes an introduction and discusses the proper layout of a villa and the organization of a slave workforce.
- Book 2: Discusses arable cultivation.
- Books 3-5: Discuss mainly viticulture, with less detail given to fruits and arboriculture.
- Book 6: Discusses animal husbandry, focusing on large livestock such as cattle, horses, and mules.
- Book 7: Discusses animal husbandry, focusing on smaller livestock such as asses, sheep, goats, pigs, and dogs.
- Book 8: Discusses the *pastio villatica*, specialized breeding and care, of mainly fish and fowl which include chickens, doves, thrushes, peacocks, Numidian chicken and guinea fowl, geese, ducks, and fish ponds.
- Book 9: Discusses the *pastio villatica*, specialized breeding and care, of mainly wild animals which include bees, the production of honey and wax, and enclosures for other wild animals.
- Book 10: Discusses horticulture in hexameter verse.

- Book 11: Discusses the duties of the *vilicus* (the slave estate-manager), the calendar of farm work, and horticulture.
- Book 12: Discusses the duties of the *vilica* (the female companion of the *vilicus*), including the management of the household, along with discussions of wine and oil processing and food conservation.
- ***De Bello Civili (Pharsalia)* (c. 62-63) by Marcus Annaeus Lucanus (Lucan)** – A 10 book history of the civil war between Caesar and Pompey, covering a period from 49-48 BC). Sources include Livy’s *Ab Urbe Condita* as well as Caesar’s *De Bello Civile*.
- Prominent characters include: Julius Caesar (presented as an amoral embodiment of Achillean and elemental energy), Pompey (presented as a figure of a moribund republic and shadow of his own former greatness), Cato Uticensis (Cato the Younger) (presented as an impossibly virtuous specimen of the Stoic saint)
- Lucan narrates as sort of “anti-*Aeneid*” because rather than describing the birth of Rome, the *Pharsalia* describes the destruction of the Roman body politic through a military turned on itself.
- Books 1 and 3: Offer a detailed description of geography and ethnography.
- Book 1: Ends with a list of omens at Rome.
- Book 2: The funereal remarriage of Cato and Marcia occurs.
- Book 4: A telling of the myth of Hercules and Antaeus.
- Book 5: Appius Claudius Pulcher consults the Delphic oracle.
- Book 6. Offers a detailed description of Thessaly. Sextus Pompeius consults the witch Erichtho, who resurrects a corpse.
- Book 7: Cicero is introduced in Pompey’s camp the night before the Battle of Pharsalus.
- Book 8: Pompey is killed.
- Book 9: Offers a series of “scientific” discussions on the snakes of Libya.
- Book 10: Offers detailed information on the sources of the Nile.
- Contains the opening line: *Bella per Emathios plus quam civilian campos.*
- ***Satyricon* by Petronius Arbiter** – An epic in probably 20 books, which may in fact be incomplete. Only books 14-16 are extant (books 14 and 16 are only partially extant, while book 16 is practically completely extant). The work draws many parallels with the *Odyssey*. The manuscript text of the *Satyricon* names the author as Titus Petronius.
- Prominent characters include: Encolpius (the narrator), Giton, Ascyltus, Eumolpus, Circe, Trimalchio
- General plot: The homosexual pair Encolpius and the younger Giton are traveling through southern Italy where they encounter a number of characters. Some of which is the unscrupulous adventurer Ascyltus and the lecherous poet Eumolpus, who both try to divide the lovers. Giton turns out not to be too faithful to his partner Encolpius. Meanwhile, Encolpius seems to be afflicted with impotence as the result of the wrath of the phallic god Priapus (a parody of the wrath of Poseidon in the *Odyssey*), and there are several episodes describing his sexual failures. Encolpius also encounters a woman named Circe, but she plays a rather minor role.

- Book 15 (*Cena Trimalchionis*): Encolpius, Giton, and Ascyltus attend a dinner hosted by the rich freedman Trimalchio, probably in Puteoli. Some of Trimalchio's freedman friends tell a collection of fables, an obvious parody of Plato's *Symposium*.
- Other tales that appear in the work include the stories of the Pergamene Boy and the Widow of Ephesus.
- The poems *Troiae Halosis* (65 lines in iambic trimeter) and *Bellum Civile* (295 lines in hexameter) both appear in the novel as the work of the terrible poet Eumolpus, whose work is so bad that children stone him to death for his bad verses.
- Contains the opening line: Num alio genere furiarum de clamatore.
- ***Institutio Oratoria* (c. 96) by Marcus Fabius Quintilianus (Quintilian)** – 12 books on the training of an orator. Dedicated to Victorius Marcellus.
- Prologue: A letter to the bookseller Trypho.
- Book 1: Discusses the early education of the child and the technicalities of grammar.
- Book 2: Discusses the education at the school of rhetoric, the virtues and vices of declamation, and Greek technique of rhetoric. There is a famous chapter on the Good Schoolmaster.
- Book 3: Names Quintilian's authorities, and discusses deliberative and epideictic oratory.
- Books 4-6: Discuss parts of speech and the arousal of emotions from oratory.
- Book 7: Arranges the different kinds of *status*.
- Books 8-9: Gives examples of prose and poetry.
- Book 10: Explains how the student can attain a "full facility: through reading, writing, and imitating good exemplars.
- Book 11: Discusses memory and delivery. This book offers details of dress and gesture.
- Book 12: Depicts the Complete Orator, *vir bonus dicendi peritus* ("the good man skilled in speaking") in action, a man of the highest character and ideals, the consummation of all that is best in morals, training, and stylistic discernment.
- ***Annals (Ab Excessu Divi Augusti)* (c. 120) by Publius Cornelius Tacitus (Tacitus)** – Originally consisted of 16 or 18 books, six books for Tiberius, six for Claudius, and either four or six for Nero. Tacitus used Cluvius Rufus, Pliny the Elder, Aufidius Bassus, and Fabius Rusticus as historical sources.
- Reign of Tiberius: The six books of Tiberius' reign are structured as two triads. Tiberius' reign took a turn for the worse in 23 when Lucius Aelius Seianus rose to power. Tacitus paints the picture that Tiberius covered up his true character which allowed him to be successful for as long as he was.
- Reign of Claudius: Tacitus paints the picture of Claudius' reign as one dominated by his wives and freedmen and gave considerable prominence to the sexual scandals of Valeria Messallina and the scheming of Iulia Agrippina the Younger. However, Claudius himself emerges as a pedantically thoughtful personality.
- Reign of Nero: Tacitus offers that Nero's reign was successful for a five-year period, due in part to the murder of his mother Agrippina the Younger in 59.

However, Tacitus disapprovingly depicts Nero's extravagance, sexual depravity, and un-Roman innovations. Furthermore Tacitus depicts a servile senate that congratulates Nero on the murder of his mother.

- Contains the opening line: *Urbem Romam a principio reges habuere; libertatem et consulatum L. Brutus instituit.*
- **Satires by Decimus Iunius Iuvenalis (Juvenal)** – A series of 16 *Satires* probably written during the first few decades of the second century AD. Most likely published in book form.
- Book 1: Comprises *Satires* 1-5.
- Book 2: Comprises *Satire* 6 alone.
- Book 3: Comprises *Satires* 7-9.
- Book 4: Comprises *Satires* 10-12.
- Book 5: Comprises *Satires* 13-16 (the last poem is unfinished).
- *Satire* 1: Called the “Programmatic Satire” for its justification of satire. Introduces the Juvenal’s indignant speaker who condemns Rome, especially the corruption of *amicitia*, the patron-client relationship, and the decadence of the elite.
- *Satire* 2: The narrator claims to want to flee civilization when confronted by moral hypocrisy, namely sexual immorality. This *Satire* depicts the emperor Domitian as a sexual hypocrite.
- *Satire* 3: The narrator and his Roman friend Umbricius have a conversation in the same place where Numa Pompilius received council from Egeria. Umbricius says that Rome is so overrun with foreigners that real Romans can no longer succeed, so he is emigrating to Cumae.
- *Satire* 4: A mock epic about a lavish banquet held by the emperor Domitian. The *Satire* focused on an enormous fish that was so large that no one knew how to cook it, so the council of the emperor is called in.
- *Satire* 5: A patron discusses with his friends at a dinner party how all patrons are superior to their clients. This is illustrated by offering differing qualities of food and drink to each guest based on their status as a patron or client. Juvenal states that clients who put up with this treatment deserve it.
- *Satire* 6: This is the longest satire and is famously an attack on women, which gives it its alternate title: “Against Women.” The narrator vehemently attempts to dissuade the addressee Postumius from marriage by cataloguing the faults of many Roman wives. Contains the famous line, *Sed quis custodiet ipsos custodios?* (“But who will guard the guards themselves?”).
- *Satire* 7: Juvenal again attacks the distorted values of the elite, who are too willing to provide support for poets, lawyers, and teachers.
- *Satire* 8: The narrator takes issue with the idea that pedigree ought to be taken as evidence of a person’s worth.
- *Satire* 9: The narrator has a conversation with Naevolus, the disgruntled client of a pathetic patron. Naevolus complains that it is hard work to suck up to your patron.
- *Satire* 10: The narrator argues that objects of desire such as wealth, power, beauty, etc. are false goods; they are only good so far as other factors do not intervene. Eventually the preoccupied Rome loses its political freedom because of its avarice and the only thing that people care about still is *panem et circenses*

- (“bread and circuses”). *Satire 10* is also the source of the phrase, *mens sana in corpore sano* (“a sound mind in sound body”).
- *Satire 11*: An invitation to dinner conveys a condemnation of decadence and a recommendation of self-sufficiency. The narrator contrasts the ruinous spending of gourmands with the moderation of a simple meal of home-grown foods in the manner of the ancient Romans.
 - *Satire 12*: The narrator describes to the addressee Corvinus the sacrificial vows that he made for the salvation of his friend Catullus from shipwreck. These vows are made to the Capitoline Triad (Jupiter, Juno, and Minerva), but other shipwrecked sailors make offerings to Isis. The narrator asserts that his vows are for his friend’s safety, a contrast to the regular vows made to gain wealth or legacy.
 - *Satire 13*: The narrator recommends a philosophical moderation and the perspective that comes from realizing that there are many things worse than financial loss. The *Satire* dissuades excessive rage or the desire for revenge when one has been defrauded.
 - *Satire 14*: The narrator stresses that children most readily learn all forms of vice from their parents. This *Satire* suggests that greed is a particularly pernicious vice because it has the appearance of a virtue, and that it is the source of a myriad of crimes and cruelties.
 - *Satire 15*: The narrator discusses the centrality of compassion for other people to the preservation of society. This *Satire* suggests that people without limits on rage against their enemies (those with no compassion) are worse than animals.
 - *Satire 16*: Unfinished (only 60 lines survive). The primary theme is the advantages of soldiers over ordinary citizens.
 - ***Metamorphoses (Aureus Asinus, the Golden Ass) by Apuleius*** – An 11-book picaresque novel written on an epic scale. The only Latin novel which survives in its entirety.
 - Prominent characters include: Lucius (the ass), Isis, Cupid, Psyche
 - Lucius, a young man interested in magic, is transformed into an ass. He then finds himself being exploited and used by wealthy landowners along with other slaves because of his new form. Through his travels he encounters many people and hears many tales, including the famous story of Cupid and Psyche, told by an old woman.
 - Psyche is a beautiful girl whom Venus is jealous of because the locals have begun to worship Psyche rather than her. Venus sends Cupid to cause them not to worship her anymore, but he falls in love with Psyche and takes her back to his ornate home. She is told that she can never look upon her husband, but she becomes curious. One night she enters Cupid’s room with a lamp to peek at his face but she drips hot wax on his shoulder, causing him to fly away. Pan advised the girl to perform a set of tasks, which she did, and so she regained Cupid’s love.
 - In the last book, the style abruptly changes. Lucius calls for divine aid, and Isis hears his prayer, helping him to return to his human form. After this, Lucius subsequently dedicates his life to the cult of Isis.
 - Contains the opening line: *At ego tibi sermon isto Milesio varias fabulas conseram auresque tuas benivolas lepido susurro permulceam.*

- *Catonis Disticha (Distichs of Cato)* (3rd cent. AD - 4th cent. AD) by the **unknown author Dionysius Cato** – A Latin collection of proverbial wisdom and morality. It was later used as a medieval schoolbook for teaching Latin.
- *Scriptores Historiae Augustae* by an **anonymous author** – A Roman collection of biographies from the period 117-284.