FUTURE ACADEMIES

LATIN

Name: ……………………………………………………

Teacher: ……………………………………………………

CHAPTER 3: FABLES

A fable is a story to do with animals with a moral at the end. Most fables were invented by the Ancient Greek Aesop. We can all name a few fables: The Tortoise and the Hare; The Boy Who Cried 'Wolf'. However, what most people do not know is that Aesop was a slave, who invented fables as a way of communicating to his master and mistress. If the master understood the fable, he would think it was his idea all along; if he did not like the moral, Aesop could claim ignorance – it was just a silly story about talking animals. This use of fables as a secret slave language continued into Roman times. Your task when reading the following fables is not only to think about the moral, but to think of any other hidden messages: what were the slaves who said these fables trying to communicate to their masters, or indeed to each other?

1st group nouns	Adverbs
bestia (feminine): animal, beast cena (feminine): dinner, dinner-party taberna (feminine): shop, tavern via (feminine): road	iterum: again nunc: now quod: because

1st conjugation verbs	2nd conjugation verbs	3rd conjugation verbs	4th conjugation verbs
paro: I prepare	habeo: I have, hold timeo: I fear	cado: I fall dico: I say pono: I put, place	audio: I hear

THE IMPERATIVE

The imperative is the form of the verb which is used for orders.
> e.g. Sit!

The **imperative singular** is formed by taking away the verb ending from the verb.
> e.g. *festinat* = **he/she** hurries à *festina!* = Hurry! (sing.)

The **imperative plural** is formed by adding the ending –*te* to the singular imperative.
> e.g. *festina!* = Hurry! (sing.) à *festinate!* = Hurry! (pl.)

The **negative imperative singular** is formed by *noli* + infinitive.
> e.g. *noli festinare!* = Don't hurry!

The **negative imperative plural** is *nolite* + infinitive.
> e.g. *nolite festinare!* = Don't hurry! (pl.)

Exercise 1: Translate into English.	**Exercise 2**: Translate into Latin.
1. *ambula!*	1. Don't walk! (singular)
2. *ambulate!*	2. Sing! (singular)
3. *clama!*	3. Think! (singular)
4. *clamate!*	4. Think! (plural)
5. *noli clamare!*	5. Stand! (plural)
6. *festina!*	6. Don't fight! (plural)
7. *noli festinare!*	7. Don't think! (singular)
8. *nolite festinare!*	8. Praise! (singular)
9. *cantate!*	9. Watch! (plural)
10. *nolite intrare!*	10. Don't cry! (singular)

THE VOCATIVE

The vocative is the form of the noun used when addressing someone.
It is the same as the subject form except for the 2nd group which has an –**e** ending,
e.g. *specta, serve!* = Look, slave!

When we are translating a sentence that contains an imperative, we always start by identifying and translating the imperative first. Then, we need to work out whether the imperative verb takes an object, and also whether there is a vocative. We normally translate in the order SUBJECT VERB OBJECT. However, we translate imperatives in the order VERB (in the imperative) OBJECT VOCATIVE. This is in fact usually the word order of the Latin sentence, which makes things easier.

porta vinum, serve!
Carry (imperative) – wine (object) – slave (vocative).
Carry the wine, slave!

porta vinum in hortum, ancilla!
Carry (imperative) – wine (object) – into the garden (preposition phrase) – slave-girl (vocative).
Carry the wine into the garden, slave-girl!

nolite portare vinum, servi!
Don't carry (negative imperative) – wine (object) – slaves (vocative)
Don't carry the wine, slaves!

Exercise 3: The following sentences are all orders that a master or mistress may have given. Translate them into English.

1.   *ambula in villam!*
2.   *laborate, servi!*
3.   *noli lacrimare, domina!*
4.   *nolite lacrimare, ancillae!*
5.   *voca servos ad villam, domine!*
6.   *labora semper, serve!*
7.   *porta epistulas ad dominam, liberte!*
8.   *spectate terram, non dominum, servi!*
9.   *sta <u>ibi</u>, serve stulte!* (*ibi* = there)
10. *noli esse fessus!*

Exercise 4: Translate the following sentences into Latin.

1.   Don't hurry, slave.
2.   Don't hurry, slaves.
3.   Carry the wine to the master, slave-girl!
4.   Hurry to the shop, freedman!
5.   Don't enter the house, bad slave!

Exercise 5: Write five instructions in Latin that a master or mistress might have given their slaves. Translate these sentences into English.

Fable 1 – *camelus et viae* Translate into English.

dominus <u>pondum</u> magnum in camelum ponit. dominus camelum <u>rogat</u>:

'desiderasne viam <u>sinistram</u> <u>aut</u> viam <u>dextram</u>?'

camelus dicit: 'via <u>brevis</u>.'

Additional Vocabulary:

pondus = weight, load   rogo = I ask
sinistra = left   aut = or
dextra = right   brevis = short

Fable 2 – *camelus et rivus* Translate into English.

dominus <u>pondum</u> maximum in camelum ponit. <u>pondus</u> est <u>sal</u>. camelus est fessus.
camelus et dominus ad <u>rivum</u> ambulant. camelus <u>salem</u> trans <u>rivum</u> portat, sed camelus in
<u>rivum</u> <u>casu</u> cadit. <u>sal</u> <u>dissolvat</u> et camelus <u>pondum</u> parvum portat. dominus iterum multum
<u>salem</u> in camelum ponit. ad <u>rivum</u> iterum ambulant. nunc camelus in <u>rivum</u> <u>consilio</u> cadit.
<u>sal</u> <u>dissolvat</u>, <u>pondus</u> est parvus, et camelus est laetus. dominus camelum spectat et
putat. dominus <u>pondum</u> <u>novum</u> in camelum ponit. camelus in <u>rivum</u> iterum cadit, sed
(<u>eheu</u>!) nunc camelus non <u>salem</u>, sed <u>spongias</u> portat.

Additional Vocabulary:

pondus = weight, load   sal, salem = salt   rivus = river
casu = by accident   dissolvo = I dissolve   consilio = deliberately
novus = new   eheu! = Oh no!   spongia = sponge

Fable 3 – *camelus, dominus et fures* Translate into English.

dominus et camelus per viam ambulant. camelus magnum <u>pondum</u> portat. dominus <u>fures</u>
audit et timet. dominus clamat: 'festina, camele! <u>fures</u> <u>veniunt</u>.'

camelus dominum spectat et dicit: 'ponuntne <u>fures</u> <u>maiores</u> <u>pondos</u> in camelos?' 'minime!'
dominus dicit.

camelus dicit, 'itaque <u>non mihi refert</u> <u>quem</u> dominum habeo. servus semper sum.'

Additional Vocabulary:

pondus = weight, load   fures = thieves
venio = I come   maiores = greater, bigger
non mihi refert = I don't care   quem = which