

SAMPLE
BENE QUI
LATUIT,
BENE VIXIT.

One who lives well,
lives unnoticed.

- Ovid

43 B.C.-18 A.D.



CAESAR'S ENGLISH II
VOCABULARY FROM LATIN
LESSON X

English

1. **tacit**: unspoken
2. **affable**: friendly
3. **sanguine**: cheerfully confident
4. **torpid**: sluggish
5. **mortify**: profoundly humiliate

Spanish

tacito
afable
sanguineo
torpe
mortificar

tacit TAH-sit

The English adjective **tacit** comes from the Latin *tacitus*, silent, and it refers to things that people think but do not say. In Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the children have a "tacit treaty with Miss Maudie." John Knowles, in his 1959 novel *A Separate Peace*, referred to the "deep, tacit way in which feeling becomes stronger than thought." In his 1949 novel *1984*, George Orwell wrote that "Under this lies a fact never mentioned aloud, but tacitly understood and acted upon." Marjorie Kennan Rawlings wrote in *The Yearling* that "There was a tacit understanding among the three of them that Penny was to be spared." In *Dracula* Bram Stoker wrote that "The blush that rose to my own cheeks somehow set us both at ease, for it was a tacit answer to her own." In *Moby Dick* Herman Melville noted that "By some tacit consent, throughout the voyage little or no allusion was made to it, especially by the mates." And in *Emma* Jane Austen described how "I was—tacitly if not openly—encouraging you."

affable AFF-ah-bul

The English adjective **affable**, from the Latin *affabilis*, means friendly, but it refers to that special kind of friendliness in which someone is at ease, graceful and pleasant in talking to others. James Hilton used **affable** in *Lost Horizon*: "Conversation during the meal would have languished more than once but for the tact and affability of the Chinese." In Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows* Toad speaks "graciously and affably." In his *Autobiography* Benjamin Franklin wrote that "he conversed with me in the most affable, familiar, and friendly manner imaginable." Jane Austen, in *Emma*, described "the most amiable, affable, delightful woman." William Shakespeare used **affable** repeatedly in his 1594 play *The Taming of the Shrew*; he described "an affable and courteous gentleman," Katherine's "affability and bashful modesty," and a conversation in which Katherine spoke with "gentle conference, soft and affable."

sanguine SANG-gwin

The adjective **sanguine**, from the Latin *sanguineus*, contains the stem for blood, *sangui*, and means cheerfully confident. The idea is of red-blooded, rosy-cheeked health. In 1984, George Orwell wrote that “His hair was very fair, his face naturally sanguine.” Kenneth Grahame, in *The Wind in the Willows*, reported that “Toad was very much the same sanguine, self-satisfied animal that he had been of old.” Emily Brontë, in *Wuthering Heights*, wrote that “Catherine ran wild with joy at the idea of welcoming her father back, and indulged most sanguine anticipations of the innumerable excellences of her ‘real’ cousin.” In Cooper’s *The Last of the Mohicans*, “the conviction forced itself on her mind that the too sanguine and generous Duncan had been cruelly deceived.” Mary Wollstonecraft wrote, in her *Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, that “A virtuous man may have a choleric or a sanguine constitution.” Do you think **choleric** and **sanguine** are opposites?

torpid TORR-pid

Our English adjective **torpid** (the noun form is **torpor**) comes from the Latin *torpidus*, stiff or numb. To be torpid is to be sluggish, dormant. Once again, we find a great sentence in George Orwell’s 1984: “Even when he was awake he was completely torpid.” In *Walden*, Henry David Thoreau wrote that “the life that had lain torpid began to stretch itself.” In *Hard Times* Charles Dickens wrote that “Louisa awoke from a torpor, and her eyes languidly opened on her old bed at home.” Herman Melville wrote in *Moby Dick* that “hapless Dough-Boy was by nature dull and torpid in his intellects”—a description none of us would want applied to ourselves. William Makepeace Thackeray, in *Vanity Fair*, wrote that the “bold and reckless young blood of ten years back was subjugated and was turned into a torpid, submissive, middle-aged, stout gentleman.” One of the most poetic uses of **torpid** is by Ralph Ellison, who in his *Invisible Man* described “A thoroughly mysterious coming and going, like the surging of torpid tides.” Do you think that Ellison was aware of the alliteration (repetition of the initial sound) in “torpid tides”?

mortify MOR-tih-fie

Mortified, from the Latin *mortificare*, means profoundly humiliated. Why? It is like the saying, “I could have died!” The stem *mort* means death, and *fy* means make. In *Ragtime* E.L. Doctorow wrote that “He turned out his pockets, mortified to see all around him people who reeked of their poverty coming up with handfuls of change.” In *Anne of Green Gables* Elizabeth Montgomery wrote that “I thought I would sink through the floor with mortification.” In *Kidnapped* Robert Louis Stevenson wrote, “At this I suppose I coloured with mortification.” Jane Austen wrote in *Emma* that “I should be mortified, indeed, if I did not believe I had been of some use.” Gulliver, in Jonathan Swift’s *Gulliver’s Travels*, recalls: “I reflected what a mortification it must prove to me to appear as inconsiderable in this nation as one single Lilliputian would be among us.” Have you read *Gulliver’s Travels*?

Review Stems from *Caesar's English I*

1. **melancholy**: sadness
2. **visage**: the face
3. **venerate**: to respect
4. **abate**: to lessen
5. **repose**: resting

The Grammar of Vocabulary: *affable*, an adjective.

Vocabulary and grammar are two aspects of the same phenomenon. Here is a sentence using the adjective **affable**, which means friendly.

The general, an affable fool, believed the rumor.

Parts of Speech: adj. n. adj. adj. n. v. adj. n.

Parts of Sentence: subject predicate direct object

Phrases: --appositive phrase--

Clauses: one independent clause, a simple declarative sentence

Here we see the adjective *affable* used to modify the noun *fool*. The sentence gives us a nice example of an appositive phrase; an appositive is an interrupting definition, apposed (put beside) what it defines. We see the noun *rumor* used as a direct object to receive the action of the action verb *believed*. The sentence only has one clause because it only has one subject/predicate set, *general/believed*.

Caesar's Classic Words Challenge

In each case below, one of the choices was really the word used by the author in the sentence provided. See if you can use your sensitivity and intuition to guess which word the author used.

1. From Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Calpurria nodded _____ consent.

- a. sanguine
- b. affable
- c. torpid
- d. tact

2. From Charles Dickens's *A Tale of Two Cities*

Doing good is...often the _____ mirage of so many good minds.

- a. sanguine
- b. affable
- c. mortified
- d. torpid

3. From Joseph Conrad's *Lord Jim*

[They were] startled out of their _____ by his movement.

- a. visage
- b. torpor
- c. mortification
- d. affability

SAMPLE
affable
friendly

Hide it
in smiles
and affability.

-William Shakespeare
Julius Caesar, II.i.

From William Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*

William Shakespeare was born in April of 1564 at Stratford-upon-Avon, England, and with a quill pen wrote many of the greatest plays in the English language, including *Hamlet*, *King Lear*, *Othello*, *Macbeth*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Much Ado about Nothing*, *The Tempest*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *Julius Caesar*, which he wrote in 1599. The play depicts the assassination of Julius Caesar in 44 B.C. by a group of conspirators led by Brutus and Cassius. In this quotation, Brutus is speaking to himself in soliloquy, fearing the guilt that killing Caesar will bring upon him.

BRUTUS, II.i.

O, conspiracy,
Sham'st thou to show thy dang'rous brow by night,
When evils are most free? O, then by day
Where wilt thou find a cavern dark enough
To mask thy monstrous **visage**? Seek none, conspiracy;
Hide it in smiles and **affability**:
For if thou path, thy native **semblance** on,
Not Erebus itself were dim enough
To hide thee from prevention.

From Julius Caesar's *Commentaries on the Gallic Wars*

On being informed of this by deserters and prisoners, Caesar sanguinely started to construct more elaborate siege works. He dug a trench twenty feet wide, which, having perpendicular sides was as broad at the bottom as at the top. The other works were kept some six hundred and fifty yards behind this trench, to protect them against the inexorable surprise attacks; for as such a vast extent of ground had to be enclosed, and it was difficult to man the whole circuit, there would be a danger of the enemy's swooping down in force on the lines at night, or hurling javelins in the daytime when the men were tied down to their work. At this distance, therefore, Caesar dug two trenches of equal depth, each fifteen feet wide, and filled the inner one, where it crossed the low ground of the plain, with water diverted from the streams. Behind the trenches a palisaded rampart twelve feet high was erected, strengthened by a battlemented breastwork, with large forked branches projecting where it joined the rampart to hinder the enemy if they tried to climb over. Towers were placed at intervals of a hundred and thirty yards along the entire circuit of fortifications.

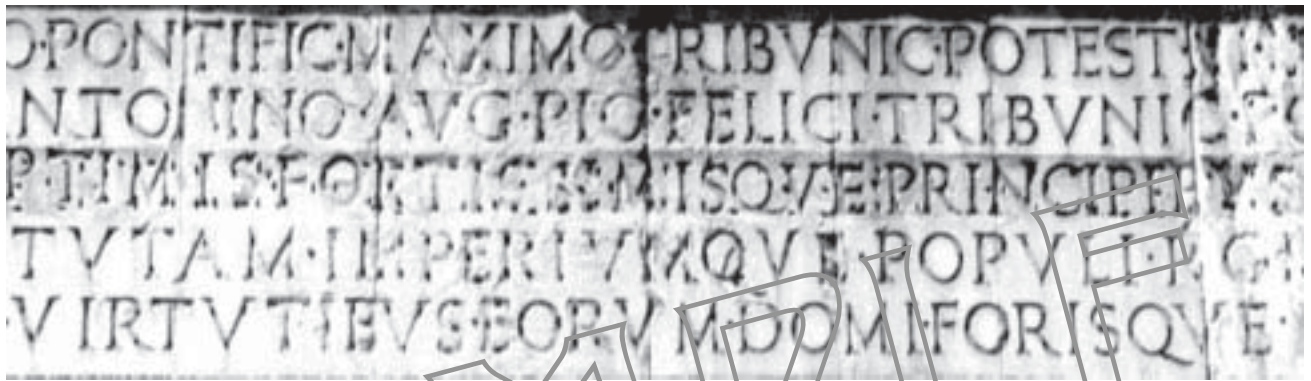
Caesar's Usage

We have to make subtle alterations in vocabulary as we shift from using a word as one part of speech, and use it as a different part of speech. Pick one example from each column below, and write a good sentence using it.

<u>noun</u>	<u>adjective</u>	<u>verb</u>	<u>adverb</u>
-	tacit	-	tacitly
affability	affable	-	affably
magnanimity	magnanimous	-	magnanimously
sanguinity	sanguine	-	sanguinely
torpor	torpid		torpidly
amiability	amiable		amiably
mortification	mortified	mortify	-
reverence	venerable	venerate	-

Caesar's Sesquipedalian Story

By tacit agreement, the Roman soldiers increased their precautions as they made camp. There was something melancholy in this green hillside, something profound, vaguely threatening, and as though the odious redness of the sunset was only a lurid warning of what was inexorable. Even the waning sun seemed prostrate, mortified, prodigiously apologetic. The soldiers looked at one another with doleful countenances, and said nothing about the surreal serenity that was descending on the camp. The scattered campfires and smell of food did nothing to abate the mood, and sanguine and affable conversation descended into torpid murmuring. And now something was moving in the trees; they seemed dislocated and grotesque, and a perplexing complex of metallic sounds became audible. The sounds descended obliquely onto the camp, and the pensive visages of the soldiers changed into manifest incredulity, as the singular sound rose into a belligerent clamor and importuned their attention. "The Gauls," said one, "Here they come." The implacable Gauls, they were breaking through the somber tree line even now, with ostentatious belligerence, shattering the placid repose of the hillside as with howling alacrity they raced down upon the legion.



REVIEW FOR CUMULATIVE QUIZ

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father
mother
people
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light
time

loco
sur
alter
contra
stell
amat
luna
greg
clam
tang
junct
medi

place
over
other
against
star
love
moon
group
cry out
touch
join
middle

placate
derision
vivacious
procure
retort
audible
benevolent
somber
pensive
importune
tacit
sanguine
mortify

to appease
ridicule
full of life
to acquire
a quick, clever reply
able to be heard
charitable
gloomy
thoughtful
to pester
unsspoken
cheerfully confident
profoundly humiliate

prostrate
profuse
ostentatious
inexorable
indolent
doleful
alacrity
oblique
magnanimous
peremptory
affable
torpid

lying flat
abundant
showy
inevitable
lazy
mournful
eagerness
indirect / slanting
generous
imperious
friendly
sluggish

affable
friendly

SAMPLE

He was received
with an affable kiss
and shake of the hand.

- Charlotte Brontë
Jane Eyre

affable
afable
AFFABILIS