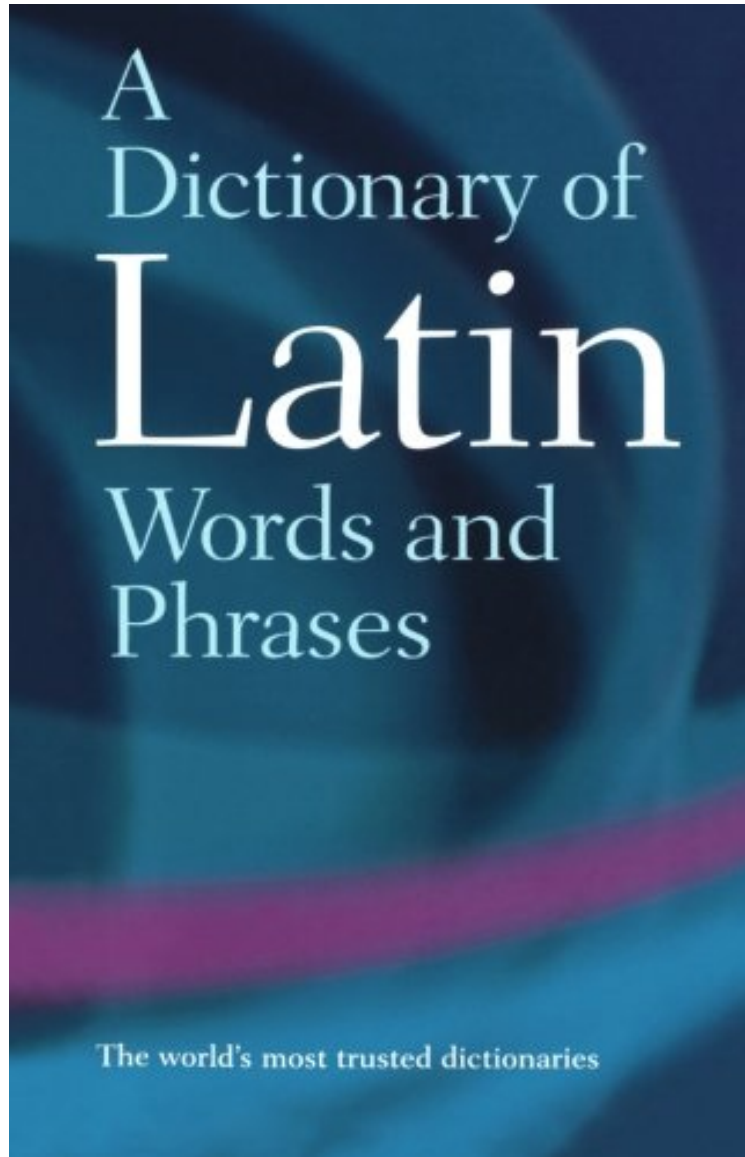


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From James Morwood : A Dictionary of Latin Words and Phrases before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Dictionary of Latin Words and Phrases:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Just what it promises...By B. MaroldI do not know Latin, and yet I am in one of those businesses, Theology, where, along with Medicine and the Law, you need to know a fairly large number of Latin expressions. And, as with any fully developed language, regardless of how dead it may be now, Latin is awash with declensions and tenses and conjugations and idioms, so that even the simplest words have dozens of

different forms, and it takes years to learn them all with proficiency. But I don't need that. What I need is something to look up stock phrases and give their meaning as used in situ. There, for example, I used a common Latin phrase used in all sorts of situations. This dictionary gives just the right amount of explanation and just the right number of examples. "Eleven Stonehenge stones are standing in situ." My favorite Latin expression, which shows up so often in reviews of stories, is "deux ex machina". Many have come to know this as a way out of a tight spot for the heroes of a story. Tom Bombadil in "The Fellowship of the Ring" is my favorite example. What we may not know, and what this dictionary supplies, is that the term from stagecraft, where a machine above the open stage, allows "God" or an angel or whatever, to be lowered to do some business in front of the audience. Not necessarily a rescue, but certainly an "unexpected intervention."

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. **A QUICK COURSE IN LEARNING SOME LATIN** By Robert Williams This is a concise, almost pocket size book of the more common words and phrases from historical times. It is alphabetized in the Latin. There is also a pronunciation guide at the beginning, however, the author believes that the classical pronunciation has been so lost that now anything now goes. I did not count the exact number of words and phrases included in this volume but estimate it to be about 1200. There is also a brief section about the more famous Latin writers. The book is indexed according to topic; medicine, law, art, etc. The book is a quick course in learning a little Latin. I enjoyed it.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. **Latin Phrases** By Falco del Fiume I recommend this book to those interested in learning Latin and for those in whose profession Latin phrases has a large role e.g. lawyers. Most dictionaries do not provide the phrases that come to be part of the English language. It is not a true dictionary but is a great companion to any good Latin-English dictionary.

This authoritative and highly browsable guide provides an enlightening account of the meaning and history of Latin words and phrases that have entered the English language. Readers will find over 1000 phrases, sayings, mottoes, and proverbs, translated with examples of usage and fascinating citations and explanations of their first occurrence. A detailed A-Z appendix lists all Latin authors from Augustine to Virgil, together with details of their life and work. A thematic index offers immediate access to the maxims and phrases relating to such topics as death, betrayal, gossip, love, and money. **A Dictionary of Latin Words and Phrases** will be an entertaining and instructive source of information for word lovers of all varieties, from the crossword aficionado to speech-writers, historians, literature buffs, the savvy general reader, and anyone properly curious about Latin's influence on English.

What should go into such a work nowadays is hard to assess and M. seems to have got it about right. I have been keeping an eye open over the last few months for Latin tags, and those in what may be reckoned current use he has identified. Roland Mayer, The Classical Vol. XLIX No. 2 About the Author Formerly Head of Classics at Harrow, James Morwood is a Fellow at Wadham College and Grocyn Lecturer for the Literae Humaniores Faculty.