

A Handy Guide to Using Bennett's *New Latin Grammar*

A. Note the Organization!

The book is divided into several large sections:

- 1) **Sounds** (etc.) - covering the basics of the alphabet, vowel quantity, and pronunciation
- 2) **Inflection** - which houses all of the paradigm charts you can use to study morphology (Think of this as equivalent to the appendices of Wheelock that I bet you know well!)
- 3) **Particles** - covering the small words: particles, adv., prep., conj., etc.
- 4) **Word Formation** - explains how Latin words are formed (*useful for building vocab!*)
- 5) **Syntax** - covers things like uses of the cases, uses of the subjunctive, etc.
(**THIS WILL BE THE SECTION THAT YOU WILL USE MOST OFTEN!**)
- 6) **Prosody** - explains how meter works in Latin poetry (good for next semester)
- 7) **Supplements** - some extra stuff, check it out when you have the chance

B. Learn how to use the section/paragraph numbering throughout the book!

- i. The **Table of Contents** lists the sections of the book and provides you with *page numbers*.
- ii. Every other reference in the book (especially the **Index** that you will use often) provides you with *section numbers (or paragraph numbers)*! These refer to the big bold numbers on the right-hand side of every page separating sections from one another. This is a common system in large reference works.
- iii. For practice: Look up "Ablative Absolute" in the General Index and see if you can find it in the text! What is its *section number*: _____. These are commonly given in commentaries or notes as "B" numbers, referring to the B of Bennett's name.

C. Random things to keep in mind:

- Bennett often uses the British or some outdated names for Syntactical structures; this is especially true for case uses and uses of the subjunctive. He usually gives alternative names for things, however, so look at their description to see the names you know. Remember, though, that this was originally published in 1895 and many things have changed since then (even in the study of Classics, which is so full of fuddy-duddy traditionalists).
- In his layout of noun and adjective case endings, he lists the cases in the following order: nom., gen., dat., acc., VOC., abl.—don't let the insertion of the voc. fool you as you look up the paradigms. It's also worth learning now that there is another system (usually called the "Continental" layout) that lists cases in this order: nom., ACC., gen., dat., abl.
- The **General Index** contains both English and Latin entries, so if you are looking for any particular information on a given Latin word, be sure to check the Index. Also note that there is an **Index of Examples** and an **Index to the Principal Parts of Important Verbs**

Practice, practice, practice! – See if you can find the following items in Bennett and provide the "B" numbers!

Abl. of Time Within Which: B _____

Cum Causal Clause: B _____

Fourth Declension nouns: B _____

Partitive Genitive: B _____