

LATIN IN ROME

ESSAY QUESTION

It is one of every person's duties in life to have some idea--so as to be able to explain it, both to others and to oneself--of the nature and the purpose of one's work. So if someone said to you (as people often do), "*Latin! What on earth is that good for?*", what would you say to him? How would you defend your study of this "dead language", which no one (or almost no one) speaks any more?

In other words, as part of your application, please write a 400 word essay about *the Latin language, and the value of learning it*. You can "slant" this in any way you like. But though you can concentrate most on either thing, you should say both what gifts you think it has given to you yourself (and perhaps also--if it's not the same thing--why it gives you pleasure), and what value you think that knowledge of it could have for anyone at all.

Of course you can, if you wish, quote the opinions of other people; but we are most interested to know what you yourself think. And if you think that there are also *drawbacks* in studying Latin, you can say them, fearlessly (as a concession to the enemy!)