



UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS
LANGUAGE FAIR 2026
LATIN TRANSLATION
LEVEL 5

Time allowed: 2 hours max.

Instructions: Translate the Latin passage below into English as accurately as you can. You may use the glosses provided to assist you and a dictionary. Online tools are **not** allowed. Write your translation in clear, complete English sentences. Good luck!

De societate hominum

Dētrahere igitur alterī aliquid et hominem hominis incommodō suum commodum augēre magis est contrā nātūrā quam mors, quam paupertās, quam dolor, quam cētera, quae possunt aut corporī accidere aut rēbus externīs. Nām prīncipiō tollit convīctum hūmānum et societātem. Sī enim sīc erimus affectī, ut propter suum quisque emolūmentum spoliēt aut violēt alterum, disrumpī necesse est eam, quae maximē est secundum nātūrā, hūmānī generis societātem.

Ut, sī ūnum quodque membrum sensum hunc habēret, ut posse putāret sē valēre, sī proximī membrī valitūdinem ad sē trādūxisset, dēbilitārī et interīre tōtum corpus necesse esset, sīc, sī ūnus quisque nostrum ad sē rapiat commoda aliōrum dētrāhatque quod cuique possit, emolūmentī suī grātiā, societās hominum et communitās ēvertātur necesse est.

Neque vērō hoc solum nātūrā, id est iūre gentium, sed etiam lēgibus populōrum, quibus in singulīs cīvitatibus rēs pūblica continētur, eōdem modō cōstitutum est, ut nōn liceat suī commōdī causā nocēre alterī.

dētrahere: to take away, strip from

magis contrā nātūrā quam...: sets up a comparison beginning at *dētrahere*... *augēre*

commodum: benefit, advantage

incommodum: harm, disadvantage

augēre: to increase (something)

convīctus: shared living, social interaction

emolūmentum: gain, profit, advantage

spoliāre: to rob, strip

disrumpī: to be broken apart, collapse

valitūdō: health

trādūcere: to transfer, lead across

dēbilitārī: to be weakened

ēvertī: to be overthrown, destroyed