UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS
LANGUAGE FAIR 2027

LATIN POETRY RECITATION - LEVEL 4

Level Up with World Language!

Instructions for Students:

Prepare and recite the Latin lines printed below. Focus on accurate pronunciation, clear pacing, expressive delivery, and understanding the meaning.

LEVEL 4

The magical power of music!

Ovid, Fasti 2.83 - 90

Quod mare nōn nōvit, quae nescit Ariōna[1] tellūs?
Carmine currentēs ille tenēbat aquās.
Saepe sequēns agnam lupus est ā vōce retentus,
saepe avidum fugiēns restitit agna lupum;
saepe canēs leporēsque umbrā iacuēre sub ūnā,
et stetit in saxō proxima cerva leae,
et sine līte loquāx cum Palladis ālite[2] cornīx
sēdit, et accipitrī iūncta columba fuit.

English translation

What sea has not heard of Arion? What land does not know him?
With his song, he held back the flowing waters.
Often a wolf pursuing a lamb was stopped by his voice,
and often a lamb fleeing a ravenous wolf came to a halt.
Often dogs and hares lay together in the same shade,
and a doe stood on a rock beside a lioness.

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[1] Arion was a legendary Greek musician whose singing could enchant the natural world.
[2] The owl (the bird of Athena/Minerva)

And the chattering crow sat without quarreling beside the bird of Pallas,
and a dove was joined to a hawk.