Suggested Word List Sentence Starters and Language Chunks: A Helpful Guide for SCRIBO Contestants

When we're learning a new language, like Latin, it's important to have tools that make it easier to create sentences and express our thoughts. We often learn words as "vocabulary," but that is just the first step. How do we put all that vocab together? That's where sentence starters and language chunks come in!

Sentence Starters: These are like the beginning ingredients of a sentence. Just like when you're baking, you start with flour and sugar. In language, you start with these sentence starters to build your thoughts. They help you say things like "I like" (*mihi placet*), "I see" (*video*), or "There is" (*est*). Of course, remember that Latin word order is flexible, and sometimes a sentence "starter" can go at the *end* of a sentence! Oh, Latin...

Language Chunks: Think of these like building blocks. Instead of one word at a time, you can use these groups of words to make sentences faster. It's like having ready-to-go LEGO pieces! For example, if you want to talk about going to a place, you can use a language chunk that goes, "to the market" (ad forum) and then add your own subject and verb.

So, when you're writing in Latin about this year's theme (if you choose), you can use these sentence starters and language chunks to put your ideas together more easily. This document geared for novice level students* will hopefully be a treasure chest full of words that you can mix, match, and adapt to create your own unique sentences! Keep in mind, you will need to still know what these words mean and strive for their correct usage. To help you get started, we have provided the first- and third-person singular forms of verbs in the present tense. Happy writing!

N.B.: Students do not need to include all of the words in this document in order to have incorporated the theme into their submission.

*Intermediate and Advanced level students may use these phrases and sentence starters for inspiration, but they are not intended to be a reflection of intermediate or advanced proficiency.

Sentence Starters: Common Actions (may be used elsewhere in sentence)

Mihi placet	Sum	Eo	Habeo
Ei placet	Est	It	Habet
Volo	Dico	(Ne)Scio	Puto
Vult	Dicit	(Ne)Scit	Putat
Video	Audio	Fero	Pono
Videt	Audit	Fert	Ponit

Do	Venio	Discedo	Possum
Dat	Venit	Discedit	Potest

Common Conjunctions, Adverbs, and Transition Words

et	sed	an	quod quia
iam	tum	subito	mox
olim	etiam quoque	autem	itaque

Clothing (Vestimenta)

toga - A formal garment worn by Roman citizens. **tunica** - Tunic, the basic garment for men and women.

bulla - a protective amulet worn by Roman children, particularly boys, to ward off evil spirits and bring good luck

stola - A long dress worn by Roman women.

palla - A cloak or shawl worn by women.

calcei - Shoes or sandals.

fibula - Brooch or pin used to fasten garments.

cingulum - Belt or girdle.

Rituals (Ritūs et Sacra)

sacrificium - Sacrifice.

ala- Altar.

vestales - Vestal Virgins (priestesses of Vesta).

augur - Soothsayer or diviner.

haruspex - Priest who examines entrails for omens.

votum - Vow or offering to the gods.

templum - Temple.

Houses (Domus et Aedes)

domus- House of a wealthy Roman.

insula- Apartment building or block of flats.

atrium- Central courtyard or reception hall.

tablinum- Study or office in a Roman house.

triclinium- Dining room.

culina- Kitchen.

cubiculum- Bedroom.

lararium- Shrine for household gods.

compluvium- Basin for collecting rainwater in the atrium.

Daily Life Activities (Vita Cotidiana)

cena- Dinner or main meal.

prandium - Lunch.

ientaculum - Breakfast.

balneum - Bathhouse (small, private).

thermae - Public baths.

forum - Marketplace or public square.

latrina - Toilet.

ludus - School or game.

scriptorium - Place for writing or copying

manuscripts.

panis - Bread.

vinum - Wine.

mercator - Merchant.

agricola - Farmer

Verbs Associated with Daily Life	
habitat: lives	
cenat: dines	
laborat: works, labors	
lavat: washes	
dat: gives	
emit: buys	
vendit: sells	
facit: makes	
amat: loves	
legit: reads	
ponit: puts, places	
dormit: sleeps	