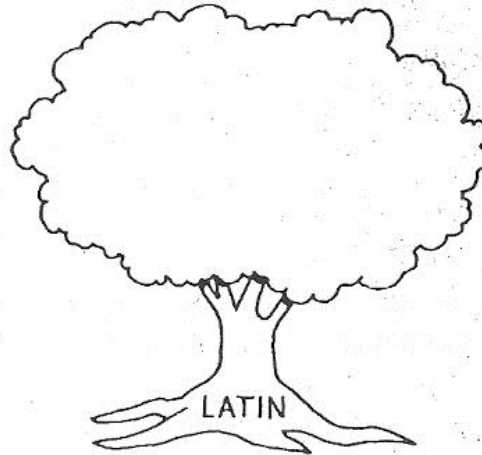


## Lingua Latina

**Latin** is the mother of the **Romance** languages—Spanish, French, Italian, Portuguese, and Rumanian. These daughter languages developed in the parts of Europe that belonged to the Roman Empire. When the Romans conquered new lands, they brought their language, Latin, with them. Latin was the common language for all peoples living in the great Roman Empire.

Put the names of the Romance languages in the tree. Latin is the root.



You can see for yourself that the Romance languages are related to Latin:

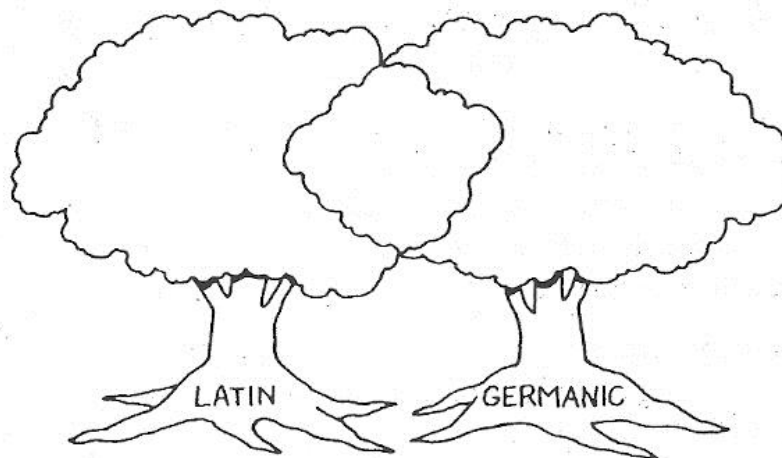
Latin	Italian	French	Spanish	Portuguese	Rumanian
ūnus	uno	un	uno	um	un
duo	due	deux	dos	dois	doi
trēs	tre	trois	tres	trez	trei

How does **English** fit in?

English is not a Romance language. Its origins are in another mother language, **Germanic**, which is also the mother of modern German.

**BUT**—Latin vocabulary (words) entered the English language from its very beginning, and the process is still going on! *Computer, camera, video* all come from Latin. So, about three out of every five English words have Latin roots.

Put **ENGLISH** in the section of the two trees that overlap:



## Naming in Ancient Rome

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Roman men and boys had three names:

1. the **praenōmen**, similar to our first or given name.
2. the **nōmen**, similar to our last name. This was the clan name. All free-born Romans belonged to a clan, or large family group.
3. the **cognōmen**, which indicated a particular family within the larger clan. We do not have this category of name in our system.

Here is an example:

*Marcus*  
praenōmen

*Tullius*  
nōmen

*Cicero*  
cognōmen

Daughter: Tullia

Son: Marcus Tullius Cicero

You will notice that the daughter simply has the father's **nōmen**, with a feminine ending *-a*. What was Cornelia's father's **nōmen**?

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If a family had more than one daughter, the girls were named by birth order: **Tullia Prīma** (first-born), **Tullia Secunda** (second-born), and so on. When the daughters got married, they sometimes added their husband's **nōmen** as their second name.

Sons often took their father's **praenōmen**, as in the example. More often, though, a boy's **praenōmen** stood for his birth order: **Prīmus**, **Secundus**, and so on. In fact, there were very few different first names in ancient Rome, compared to names today.

Here are some *actual* Roman names, either first names or clan names. Put the modern English version next to the Latin name:

Antōnius \_\_\_\_\_

Aemilia \_\_\_\_\_

Claudia \_\_\_\_\_

Marcus \_\_\_\_\_

Iūlius \_\_\_\_\_

Iūlia \_\_\_\_\_

Many other English names come from real Latin *words*. Here are some: Alma, Amanda, Amy, Beatrice, Belle, Felix, Florence, Grace, Leo, Margaret, Max, Paul, Peter, Rose, Stella, Sylvia, Vera, Victor, Victoria, Vincent. You can find out the *meaning* of these names and the Latin words they come from by looking in an English dictionary.