



Middle School Modern and Classical Languages Summer Engagement – 2026

FORM I CHINESE:

A. Watch YouTube videos about Chinese Pinyin and pronunciation, Lessons 1 to Lesson 9.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWXyZU_NJb_fGUFuJpqjn4vYLzpTZqhC0

The following links are a few to start:

1. [Mandarin Pinyin Pronunciation Guide](#)
2. [Learn Chinese Pinyin Lesson 1: Chinese Pinyin Simple Finals](#)
3. [Learn Chinese Pinyin Lesson 2 -Pinyin Initials](#)

B. Chinese Numbers 1-100:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-_N9jQEwbE0

C. *Months* song

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tTfAQ5LbnQc>

D. *Days of the Week* song

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oWLT3XjDoNU>

E. Chinese Zodiac

1. Learn 12 animals: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i9cuz3REbVE>
2. Story of Chinese Zodiac: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3aijITctqCc>

Optional: [Duolingo](#): choose “10 minutes a day”. Earn at least 10 points a day.

FORM I LATIN:

[*City: A Story of Roman Planning and Construction*, by David Macauley](#)

[*D'Aulaires' Book of Greek Myths*, Ingri and Edgar Parin D'Aulaire, pp. 8-69.](#)



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FORM I SPANISH:

- Study and learn the following Quizlets for **an assessment the first full week of school. You must know the definitions and how to spell the words.**

[Despedidas y Expresiones de Cortesía](#)

[Saludos y Presentaciones](#)

[Cero al veinte](#)

- Listen and learn this alphabet song. Have fun singing along! [Alphabet Song](#)

For extra practice:

- Go to Duolingo and practice for ten minutes everyday or every other day.
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FORM II CHINESE:

Required:

1. Character Writing

Review all posts including (1) sentences Q & A (1-49) in characters and (2) recordings on Li Laoshi's wall, (3) class schedules, (4) workbook recaps from [Padlet](#) and HANDWRITE ALL in Chinese characters on character grid sheets.

(Tips: Spread out over the summer 2-3 months. 3 sets of Q & As per time is ideal. Please look at the answers from Qi Renyou's wall. Please also note that you can no longer edit the content on this Padlet.)

Due date: Hand in those character sheets on the first day of the class.

2. Book Project: Review Pages 1 to 4. They should be all revised and ready to go on the first day of school.

Assessment: There will be a ***typing test*** at the beginning of the school based on the **Book Project questions and answers** (See Form I Canvas Module: Book Project).

3. Video recordings post on [Summer Work Padlet](#):

Video 1: Self-introduction (Book Project Page 1, Paragraph 1)

Video 2: My Family (Book Project Page 2, Paragraph 1)

*Eye on the camera, not on the script, when you record.

Due date: Both videos are due *by the first day of the school* on Padlet.

Assessment: There will be a ***speaking test*** in the beginning of school to present the speech of *My Family and I* 我和我的家人 (A combination of Video 1 and Video 2 content.)

Recommended:

Chinese songs: Listen to the following Chinese songs and pick one to record yourself:

- a) 对不起我的中文不好 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L5sCfCFw3Hs>



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- b) 小苹果"Little Apple": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p9tVFjZRvqE>
- c) 热爱105度的你: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9gVHtz5tqvM>
- d) 月亮代表我的心 (Moon Represents My Heart):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XJsEZ18Wc2k>
- e) 童话 Fairytale <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pDabTsryjN4>
- f) 你好不好? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZxEiomEUj14>
- g) 朋友
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pAV85wSCv8k&list=RDpAV85wSCv8k&start_radio=1
- h) Any Chinese songs of your choice.

FORM II LATIN:

Required:

- Read *Percy Jackson and the Olympians: Book 1, The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan
- Complete [this document](#) while reading the book. You will need to submit it on the first day of school.
- Watch the movie “Spartacus” (1960)
 - You can view it for free on the [Internet Archive](#)
 - You can rent or purchase it on [Amazon](#), [AppleTV+](#), [GooglePlay](#), or YouTube

Review Resources:

NOUNS on MAGISTRULA

[Noun Charts - 1st Declension](#)

[Noun Charts - 2nd Declension Masculine](#)

[Noun Charts - 2nd Declension Neuter](#)



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VERBS on MAGISTRULA

[Verb Conjugation Practice - Active](#)

[Verb Conjugation Practice - Passive](#)

Optional

If you are interested in chariot races, check out **Ben-Hur (2016 version or 1959 original)**, but feel free to skip the boring parts to see the naval battle on the *trireme* (Roman battleship) or watch the famous chariot race scene.

FORM II SPANISH:

- Read [Pobre Ana](#).
 - Duolingo: Keep working on your Duolingo account over the summer.
 - Set your goal at 75XP per week, which you will need to show your teacher, starting the week of June 10th and ending on September 2nd.
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For Middle Schoolers looking for extra engagement with Spanish, consider the following resources. This is not required work:

- [Spanishlistening.org](#) - listen to one conversation per week and answer the corresponding comprehension questions.
 - [Duolingo Podcasts in Spanish](#)
 - [Folder of level-appropriate books](#)
 - [Prensa Escrita](#) - online news sources from the Spanish-speaking world
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For Middle Schoolers looking for extra engagement with Latin, consider the following resources. This is not required work.

Form II Latin

Vocabulary Review:

[Quizlet Sets Ch. 1-6](#)

Grammar Review - Magistrula:

NOUNS

[Noun Charts - 1st Declension](#)

[Noun Charts - 2nd Declension Masculine](#)

[Noun Charts - 2nd Declension Neuter](#)

VERBS

[Verb Conjugation Practice - Active](#)

[Verb Conjugation Practice - Passive](#)

LATIN (NON-GRAMMAR- ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL LEVELS):

MOVIES

- Like mythology? Check out **Percy Jackson & The Lightning Thief**, based on the books by Rick Riordan (and its sequel, **Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters**)
- *Disney+* has turned it into a series, too

YOUTUBE CHANNELS

History

- [Extra Credit](#) - this link brings you to their series of videos on Rome's wars against Carthage (with Hannibal), but they cover other history, too
- Check out [Invicta](#) for short videos on daily life in ancient Rome (and the rest of the Mediterranean)



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- [Historia Civilis](#) uses simple graphics to give great, in-depth explanations for important moments in Roman political and military history
- TED-ED has many good videos about [Roman history and culture](#) and [Greek history and culture](#). Why not learn about [what democracy meant in ancient Athens](#), the [origin of robots in ancient Greece](#), or [teenage life in ancient Rome](#)?

Mythology

- [Extra Mythology](#) features a wide variety of world myths, including lots of Greek and Roman material.
- TED-ED has a ton of videos about [mythology](#), including videos on [Prometheus](#), [Jason and the Argonauts](#), the [science behind Homer's Odyssey](#), and the truly epic [8-bit Labors of Hercules](#)!

PODCASTS

- [Greeking Out](#) - National Geographic's podcast covering stories of Greek Mythology (it is on YouTube, too!)
 - [The History of Rome \(Mike Duncan\)](#) One of the most influential history podcasts of all time. Goes from the legendary founding of Rome all the way to the collapse of the empire.
 - [Emperors of Rome](#)
 - [Myths and Legends](#). Not all Greek and Roman, but a great listen.
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