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# Advanced Latin Caesar: Methods

*Trawsnewid Addysg; Trawsnewid Bywydau*
*Transforming Education; Transforming Lives*

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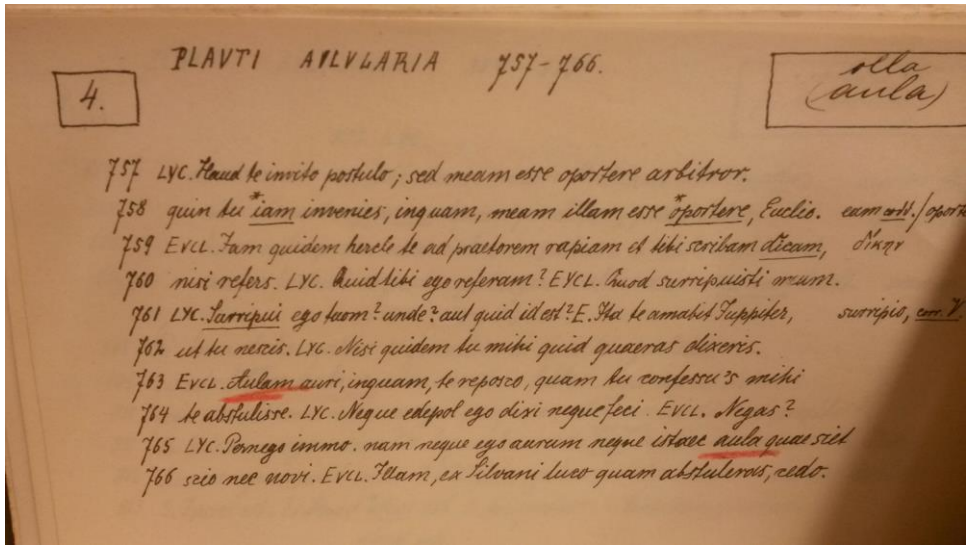
# Dictionaries

- What characterises a scholarly dictionary?
  - Coverage: time period and range of texts considered
  - Presentation of lemmata: primary sources clearly indicated, giving exact passage – number of examples cited for each lemma
- The largest scholarly dictionary for classical Latin is the *Thesaurus Linguae Latinae*
- The other option is the *Oxford Latin Dictionary*
- Both the *ThLL* and the *OLD* are available in hard-copy in most larger research libraries

# ThLL online

- Normally, UWTSD has access to the full online version of the ThLL – the Library is working on restoring this
- In the meantime, do use the Open Access version, which offers digitised images of the print volumes
- It is available here: [https://www.thesaurus.badw.de/tll-digital/tll-open-access.html](https://www.thesaurus.badw.de/tll-digital/tll-open-access.html)



# The structure of *ThLL* articles

- **Lemma** (headword).
  - NB. An asterisk before the lemma indicates not all instances included. Where not present, the article cites ALL instances of the word in Latin
- Evidence for **etymology** and different **morphological/grammatical** features
  - Etymology
  - Ancient comments on etymology
  - Variants in writing
  - Evidence for grammatical gender, including changes and ancient evidence
  - Chronological range
- **Main part**: longer words divided by meaning and usage, with passage references
  - Between general and metaphorical usage
  - Between things and people

# Using the *ThLL*: examples

- Is the word common in our author?, in that specific work?
  - What does it mean if an author opts to use a word otherwise mostly occuring in poetry?, etc
- Is it used in the regular way, or with an unusal construction?
  - Also consider the potential impact here on issues of textual criticism

- Bear in mind that where a passage is cited in the *ThLL* article represents the article author's interpretation: given the expertise of ThLL contributors, this is likely to be right, but especially when it comes to highly technical terms, it can be questioned too

# How to cite dictionaries

- Although authors of *ThLL* articles are named, the articles are normally cited by lemma and article section:
  - *ThLL* s.v. *cogitatio* I A
  - s.v. = sub uoce
  - No year is given
  - The *ThLL* does not normally need to be entered into your bibliography
- The same is true of the OLD, but if you do advanced lexical work, it is now relevant to distinguish between the first and second editions: list the relevant one in your bibliography

# Other options

- …but you don't always need an academic dictionary
- …sometimes a hand dictionary is sufficient (e.g. most translation needs)
- A useful mid-level option is the online version of Lewis and Short's *Latin Dictionary*