



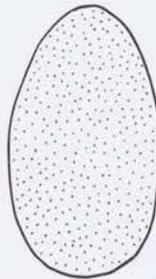
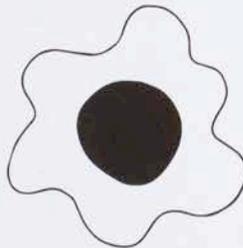
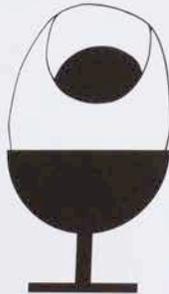
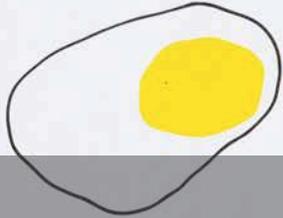
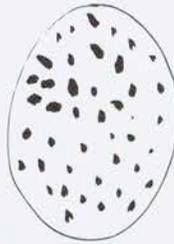
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TIMBERDOODLE SAMPLE PAGES

Timberdoodle's  
Curriculum Handbook

2015-2016 edition

# Welcome to Eleventh Grade





### **We're So Glad You're Here!**

Congratulations on choosing to homeschool this year! Whether this is your first year or your tenth, we're confident you'll find that there is very little that compares to the thrill of learning!

### **On Your Mark, Get Set, Go!**

Preparing for your student's first "school day" as a high-schooler is very easy. First, peruse this guide yourself, then let your student review the materials so you can plan his schedule together. After planning, you'll simply turn the entire set over to your student and take your place as his coach while his independent learning ability takes off!

### **We're Here to Help You**

We would love to assist you if questions come up, so please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions, comments, or concerns. Whether you contact us by phone, email, or live online chat, you will get a real person who is eager to serve you and your family. Have an absolutely amazing year!



**THIS YEAR  
YOU AND YOUR  
STUDENT WILL  
LEARN MORE  
THAN YOU  
HOPED  
WHILE  
HAVING A  
BLAST. READY?  
YOU ARE GOING  
TO LOVE THIS!**

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# Dear Parent

Congratulations and welcome to the high-school years! Whether this is your first year of homeschooling or you've come this far through years of teaching, you've now reached a real milestone. Not only will your student continue planning for college, apprenticeship, or the specific vocation he has in mind, but you will also be working with

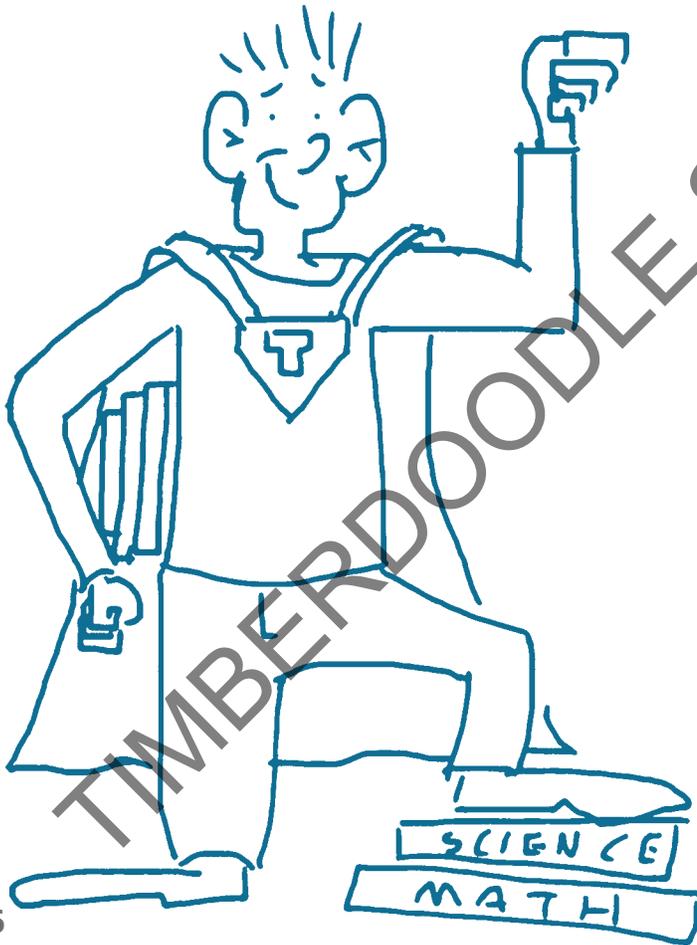
him to help him become a truly independent learner.

## Your New Role

Think of your role this year as less of a teacher (step-by-step directions and oversight) and more of a career counselor/tutor. You are there to help him stay on track and to give direction and assistance when he gets stuck, but the primary responsibility falls to him. There are many ways to get to that point, but these steps worked for our family.

### 1. Annual Planning Meeting

At the beginning of the school year, Mom sat down with each student to iron out expectations, motivation, subjects, etc. We would discuss what our goals were, what subjects were mandatory, and which ones the student really wanted to add to the plan. The final step was to determine a completion date and calculate how many weeks we had to complete the work. If you plan around a typical school year, then 36 weeks is what you'll want to base your weekly checklist on. (We suggest that you also take some time at this meeting to work through the High-School Planner and lay out even longer term goals.)



## 2. Weekly Checklist

Now that you both know what you want to cover and over what period of time, it is a simple matter to determine how many pages should be done each week. We've already done all this work for you on pages 11-15, and you'll find it easy to add in any additional titles or subjects.

## 3. Expectations

Before you end this meeting, make sure you are both on the same page and understand that everything on the weekly checklist must happen or else \_\_\_\_, as we agreed. In our family, Friday night was family night, and anyone whose list wasn't done simply couldn't participate until he finished. While that was perfect for us, it won't work for every family. Find something that works for both of you and put it in writing if needed. It is worth the effort to keep peace later!

## 4. Coaching

Within a few weeks, your student should be able to complete his checklist independently and on time. However, if you've never had such a hands-off approach to homeschooling, it is reasonable to spend some time coaching his budding independence with reminders and even direct oversight of some subjects.

Just don't lose sight of the goal! Of course, don't feel guilty if you have some subjects which you would rather do as a family or that you yourself would like to learn alongside your student. You will both enjoy that! At the same time, though, don't hesitate to turn over the teacher's books and answer keys, equipping your student to be truly self-teaching. In that light, you'll find the rest of this guide is written to your student to give him all the information he needs to get started.





TIMBERDOODLE SAMPLE PAGES

# Meet Your Handbook

## THREE QUICK TIPS TO GET YOU STARTED

### **All the Details Included**

This Timberdoodle Curriculum Kit is available in three different standard levels: Basic, Complete, or Elite. This allows you to choose the assortment best suited to your interest level, your family's schedule, and your family's budget. In this guide, you'll find an overview and any tips for each of the items included in the Elite Curriculum Kit. If you are working with a Basic or Complete Kit, or if your family customized your kit, you did not receive every item, so you'll only need to familiarize yourself with the ones which were included in your kit.

### **Simple Is Better**

We really believe that, so your guide is as simple as we could make it. First up are the annual planner and sample weekly checklists, the absolute backbones of Timberdoodle's Curriculum Kits. More on those in a moment. Next up are short bios of each item in your

kit, designed to explain why each is included this year. We've also thrown in our tips or tricks to make this year more awesome for you. Finally, we'll conclude with favorite articles and tidbits amassed in our 30 years of homeschool experience.

### **Why Week by Week Works**

We know you. OK, maybe not you personally, but we have yet to meet a homeschooler who didn't have other irons in the fire. From running an entrepreneurial start-up to swimming lessons or volunteer opportunities, your weeks are not dull. A daily schedule could overwhelm you, but having a weekly checklist is the perfect blend of enough structure to finish in a timely fashion and enough freedom that your adventures won't make for stressful catch-up days. Relax; this year is so doable!

# Planning Your Year

## HOW TO USE TIMBERDOODLE'S PLANNERS

### **If You Want to Finish It This Year**

A standard school year is 36 weeks long, so that's what our samples here will show. But you do not have to use that schedule! Perhaps you'd like to expedite this year so all school is done before sports season? Or perhaps you prefer to school year-round and keep your brain sharp and work-load light?

### **Use the Customizer**

On the next pages you'll find sample weekly checklists for Basic, Complete, and Elite kits. Before you photocopy 36 of them, take a moment to check out the custom schedule builder that came free with your kit. At [www.TimberdoodleSchedules.com](http://www.TimberdoodleSchedules.com) you'll not only easily adjust the weeks, but also tweak the checklist to include exactly what you want listed.

### **Designed for Maximum Flexibility**

No two families are identical, so don't expect your pace or daily school time to be identical. We asked the families who used our high school kits last year how long their student

spent on "school." Nearly 65% estimated that they spent 3-5 hours a day specifically on these materials. That leaves about 35% spending more or less time than that, so don't stress if your schedule doesn't exactly match up. And, of course, the time you spend will be greatly impacted by how in-depth you take your studies, your learning approach, how distractable you allow yourself to be, and much more. Make sure you allow yourself some time to find your own rhythm!

### **Meeting State Requirements**

Check <https://www.hslda.org/laws> to see your specific requirements. For many states it is sufficient to simply hang on to your completed and dated weekly checklists along with a sampling of your best work this year and your completed One Year Planner. However, a more formal portfolio may be recommended for your state, your future college, etc. Take some time to determine how best to log all your work early in the year, so you can get your process refined as early as possible.

# WEEKLY CHECKLIST (COMPLETE)

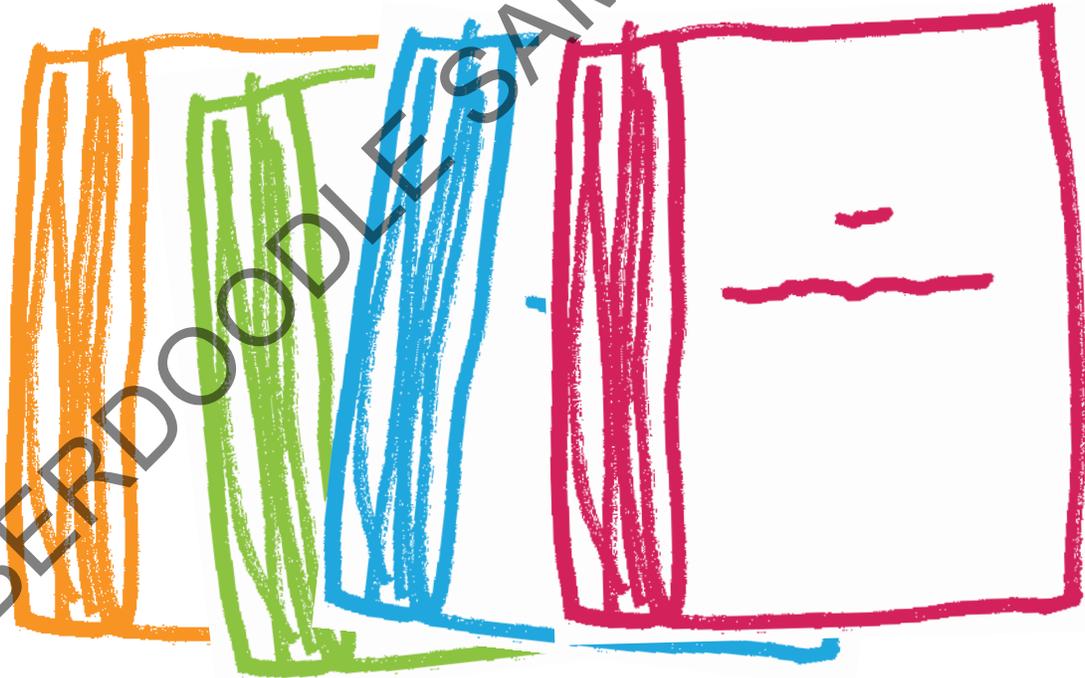
Language Arts	Easy Grammar Ultimate	5 lessons							
	The Power in Your Hands	3 chapters a month							
Math	Teaching Textbooks Algebra 2	4-5 lessons/tests							
Thinking Skills	James Madison Thinking	15-16 pages							
	IQ Fit	3-4 challenges							
History	Exploring America	5 lessons							
	Gettysburg Address graphic novel	as desired							
Science	Precepts of Anatomy and Physiology	1 lesson							
	Body of Evidence	2 lessons a month							
	Exploring the History of Medicine	3 chapters a month							
Etc.	High School One Year Planner	Daily							



TIMBERDOODLE SAMPLE PAGES

# Language Arts

Writing well and understanding language roots may seem unimportant to you, but these may very well be the most critical portions of your study this year. From writing an essay for your college application to publishing your resume, writing your first patient report as a doctor or submitting your final paper, your writing skills will impact your life even in a “non-writing” occupation. Of course, the impact will be much greater if you’re going to make a living as a journalist, script writer, or author!



# EASY GRAMMAR ULTIMATE

Most students dread grammar study because it is too complex. But Easy Grammar is just that, easy.

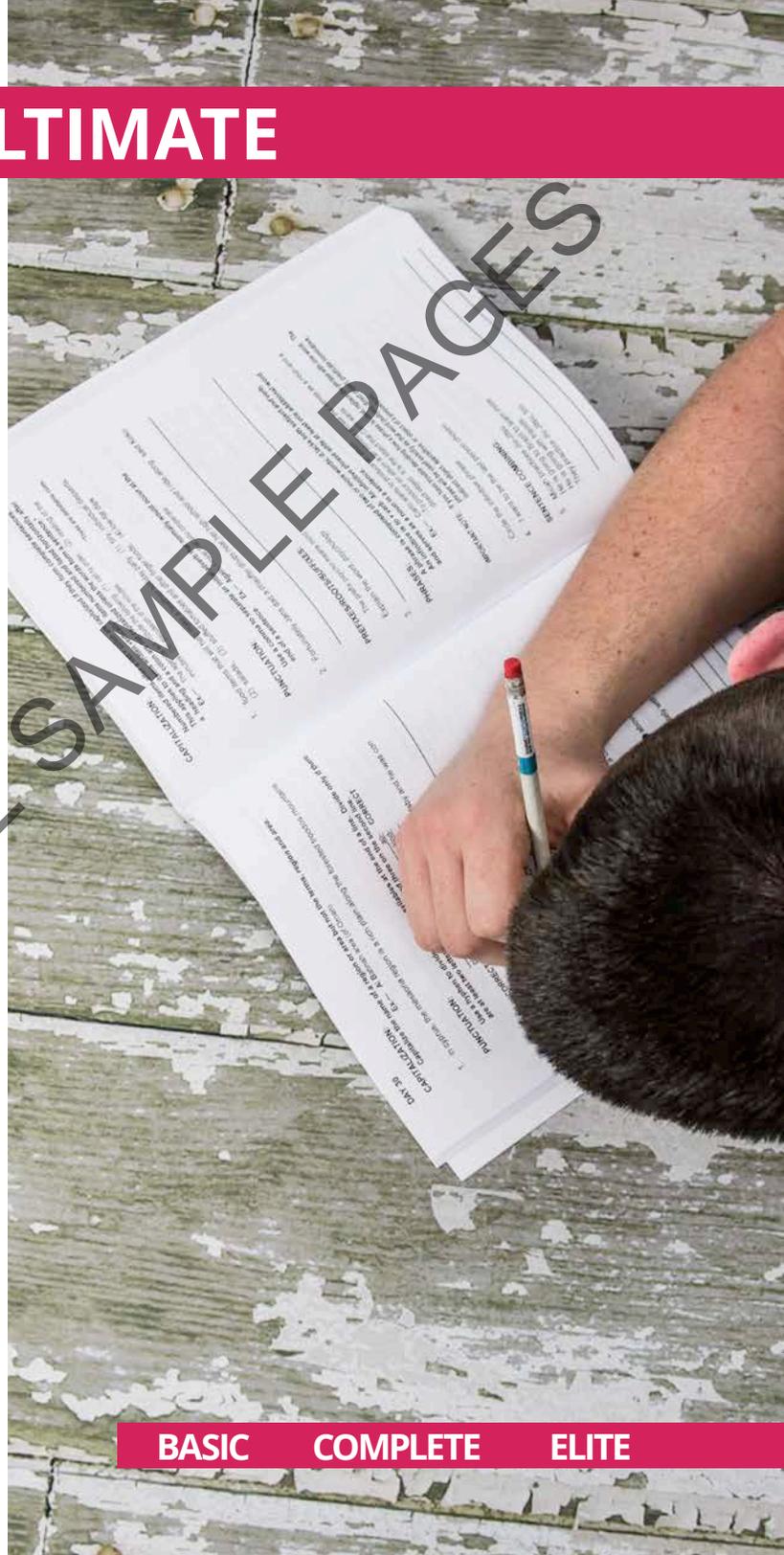
Easy Grammar Ultimate 11 is designed specifically to introduce and teach essential grammar concepts to older students, regardless of their previous grammar background. In just ten to fifteen minutes a day, you will be functioning at an eleventh-grade level and be competent to undertake your state or college prep tests.

This book contains 180 daily teaching lessons, each divided into five parts: Capitalization, Punctuation, Grammar, Other Concepts, and Sentence Combining (with an emphasis on expository [informational] writing). As a bonus, as you practice your grammar skills, you will also be reviewing age-appropriate history, science, literature, geography, and so much more.

## Scheduling

Five lessons a week will complete the entire book in a standard school year.

*While a student workbook is available, we have opted to include only a teacher's manual. This is not just to save money, what is even more important is that having the answers available lets you check your own work and learn from any mistakes.*



# THE POWER IN YOUR HANDS

Nonfiction writing is perhaps more important than you've realized. From doctor's reports to technical manuals (or even letters to Grandma), nonfiction writing is essential! And, of course, there is the almost universally dreaded college paper. Are you ready to tackle that one yet?

Prepare for college writing with this practical, incremental, and, at times, humorous course written in a conversational tone. *The Power in Your Hands: Writing Nonfiction in High School* teaches all four modes of nonfiction writing: exposition, persuasion, description, and narration.

With over 100 daily lessons and complete instructions for 22 essays and reports, this is an engaging course you will enjoy—or at least not dread, even if you're not the writing type!

This course uses essays from real students and professionals to reinforce what you just learned. You will even get to evaluate those essays and learn how to be your own editor.

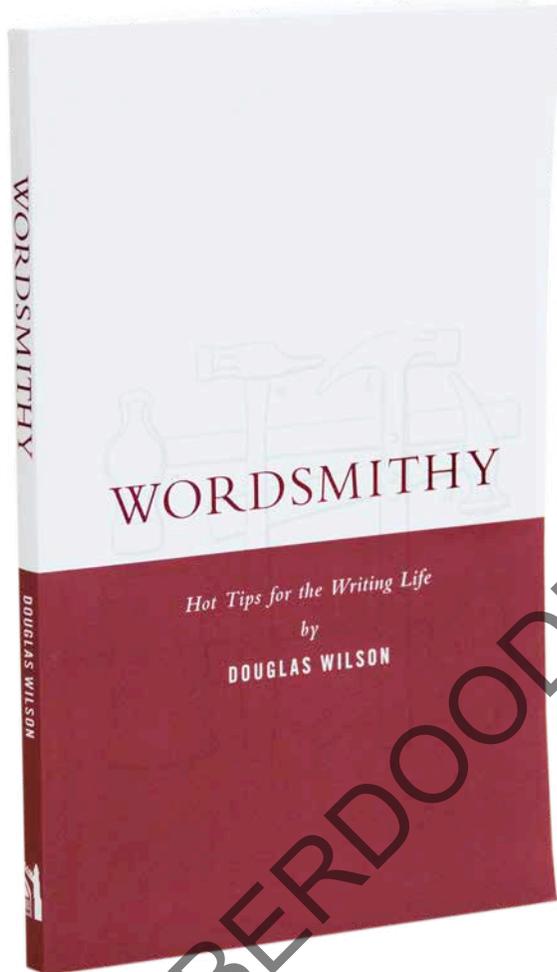
## Scheduling

*The Power in Your Hands* has several different scheduling options. Probably the simplest is to just divide up the 23 chapters (2 of which are designed to take twice the time as the others) and complete 3 chapters a month. Alternatively, complete 3 of the 108 lessons/assignments every week.



**BASIC      COMPLETE      ELITE**

# WORDSMITHY

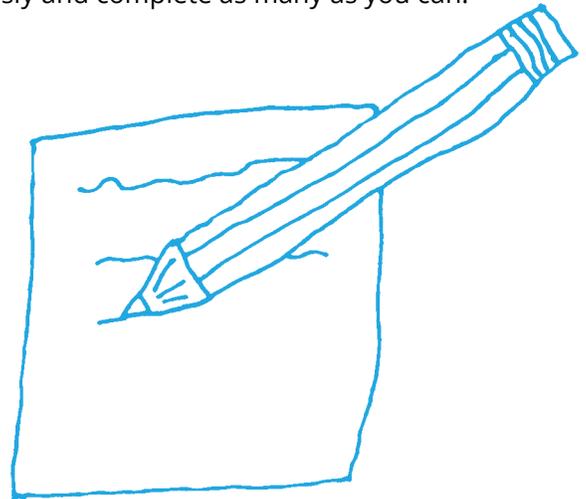


A highly entertaining guide to writing, *Wordsmithy* melds compelling lifestyle practices with decidedly palatable, assignment-free lessons, each with its own simple, effective tips.

Far removed from being a prescribed list of mechanical techniques, *Wordsmithy* will suggest that you get a life, read until your brain groans, learn a foreign language, and other no-nonsense proposals.

## Scheduling

Seven tips in each of seven chapters means that if you cover one or two a week you'll finish easily this year. Be sure to take the author's recommendations seriously and complete as many as you can!



BASIC

COMPLETE

ELITE

# VISUAL LATIN

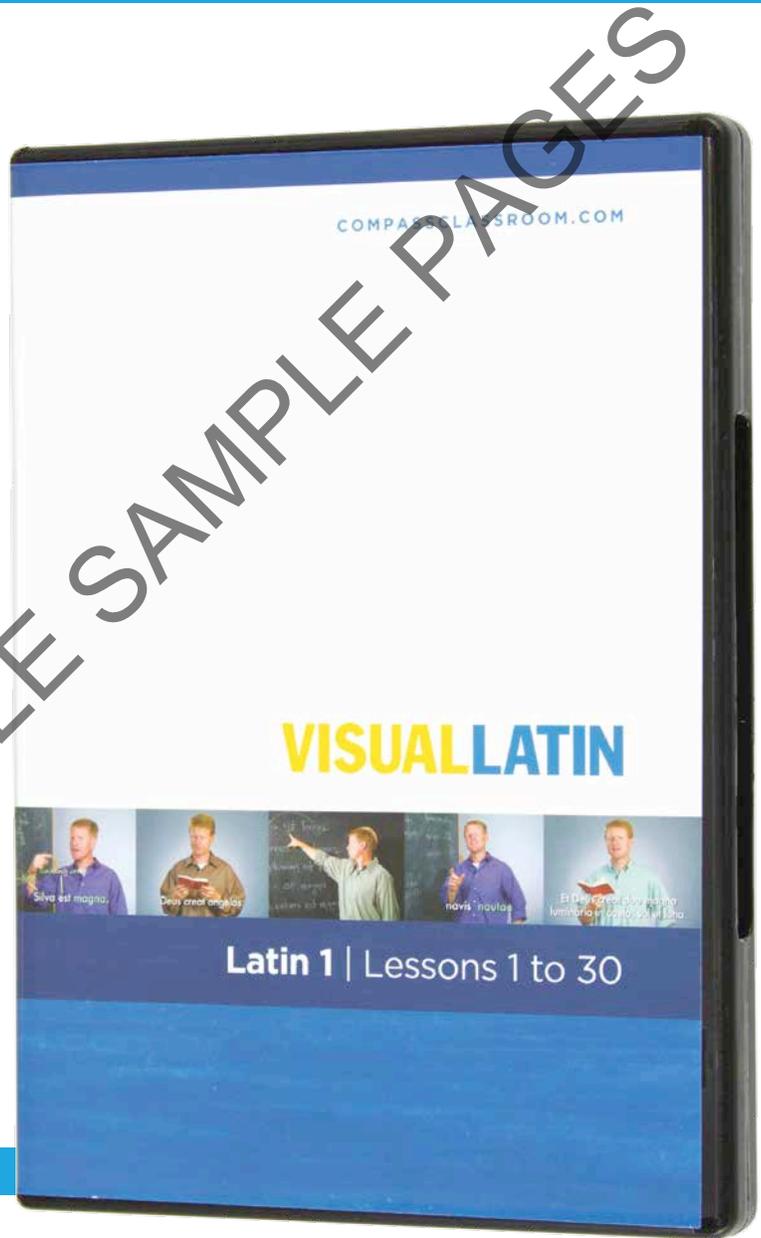
Hear it, see it, speak it, write it, think it! Short lessons give you a solid foundation in Latin—and an edge in whatever field you go into!

Just load the Visual Latin DVD in the player, hit play, and start learning; nothing could be easier. Every Visual Latin lesson contains three parts: grammar, sentences, and reading, with the reading segment covering reading, comprehension, and translation.

In each of the three parts you begin with a video that takes less than ten minutes to watch. Afterwards, you complete the corresponding PDF worksheet to reinforce what you just learned. So Visual Latin is not only visual, it is multi-sensory.

## Scheduling

Complete one lesson a week and you'll finish before the school year is up. This gives you some flexibility, too—you can skip it occasionally on those crazy weeks and still finish on time. Just don't do that more than six times!



BASE COMPLETE

ELITE