

TALKING

In the chapter reading, you encountered the expression:

Quōmodo tē vocant? “How do they call you?”

Mē vocant Menaechmum. “They call me Menaechmus.”

There are various ways of asking someone’s name in Latin:

Quod nōmen est tibi? “What is your name?”

Mihi nōmen est Marīa. “My name is Mary.”

Quod vērō nōmen tibi est? “And what is your name?”

Mihi nōmen est Mārcus. “My name is Mark.”

Quō nōmine appellāris? “By what name are you called?”

Laura appello. “I am called Laura.”

This is a list of some common Roman first names for males and their abbreviations:

A. = Aulus

C. = Gāius

L. = Lūcius

M. = Mārcus

P. = Pūblius

Q. = Quīntus

Ser. = Servius

Sex. = Sextus

T. = Titus

For information about names for females, see p. 107.

The Roman naming system consisted of *praenōmen* (first name), *nōmen* (family name), and *cōgnōmen* (surname/nickname).

In the name *Titus Maccius Plautus*: *Titus* is the first name, *Maccius* is the family name, and *Plautus* is a surname (it literally means “flat-footed”).

In the chapter reading, Menaechmus was asked *Quam patriam habēs?* “What fatherland do you have?” and he answered *Syrācūsānus sum*, “I am from Syracuse.”

There are several ways of asking where someone is from in Latin:

Cūiās es? “Where are you from?”

Cūiātēs estis? “Where are you all from?”

Unde es ortus/orta? “Where do you come from (male/female)?”

Unde estis ortī/ortae? “Where do you all come from (male/female)?”

Here are some possible answers:

Ortus/orta sum ex Cīvitātibus Foederātis Americae Septentrīōnālis. Americānus/Americāna sum. “I come from the USA. I am an American (male/female).”

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