

Diagram Like a Roman! (Diagram these sentences!)

1. Marcus Tullius Cicero owns an Ethiopic gladiator who can use the net and trident with lethal precision.
2. A gladiator who can wield such weapons like nets skillfully is called a *reticularius*.
3. The gladiatorial arena gets its name from the Latin word *arena*, which means “sands” in English, and these sands were necessary to soak up the spilt blood, but the word *gladiator* comes from the Latin word *gladius*, meaning “sword.”
4. The great Flavian arena in Rome was built by engineers so that it was airtight, and this architectural feat allowed the entire arena to be flooded with water for mock naval combat.
5. When Emperor Caligula watched over such mock naval combats, he would order all of his *bestiarii* (animal-trainers) so they would unleash their African crocodiles into the water so they could eat men falling overboard.
6. Modern bullfights in Spain are a remnant of ancient Roman gladiatorial customs—though the officials no longer throw Christians in the arena so the bulls can win one every once in a while.
7. In ancient Greece, the *didaskalos* and the *paidagogos* were responsible for educating the young in philosophy, grammar, and rhetoric.
8. The *paidagogos*, a supervisor of children, was often a trusted elderly slave who carried books and supplies for his master’s children, and he oversaw their manners and general behavior.
9. The *didaskolos*, or paid schoolmaster, taught children to read history, poetry, and logic before they began their rhetorical careers.
10. I am considering whether a *paidagogos* would be good for today’s college students since they have to carry so many large books to class.

HOMEWORK:

11. Woefully deprived of the *paidagogos* in later centuries, the heroines of French chivalric tales were reduced to using dwarves to carry their luggage, as we see in Chrétien de Troyes’ romance, *Lancelot, Chevalier du Cart*.
12. I wonder if these dwarves ever formed a union of luggage-handlers in Marseilles.

--*Ego sum Rex Romanus, et supra grammaticam!*
 (“I am a Roman King, and I am above grammar!”)
Asserted by King Sigismund I when a scribe corrected his Latin.