

Actions speak louder than words?
Language and identity in pre-Roman Italy

1. Ennius

Q. Ennius tria corda habere sese dicebat quod loqui Graece et Osce et Latine sciret. (Aulus Gellius, *Noctes Atticae* 17.17)

2. The Pyrgi Tablets, c. 500 BC

3. Oscan/Latin tile, not dated

hn. sattieís. detfri / seganatted. plavtad
herenneis. amica / signauit. qando / ponebamus. tegila(s)

Detfri, of Herennis Sattiis, signed with a footprint.
Amica, of Herennis, signed when we laid out the tiles.

4. Rebel currency, c. 90 BC

g. paapi.

Gaius Paapiis.

5. *eituns* inscription

eksuk. amvíanud. eítuns
anter. tiurrí. XII. íní. ver(u)
sarínu. puf. faamat
mr. aadíriis. v.

?Going from this street before the twelfth tower and the Sarina gate where Marahis Aadiriis, son of Vibis, gives orders.

6. *mensa ponderaria*

7. Graffiti in the brothel

margas

Latin name "Marcus" or Oscan name "Maras"?

8. Tabula Bantina, c.90 BC

9. "Borrowed" features?

Conditionals

suae pis contrud exeic fefacust... ~ *si quis contra hoc fecerit*

Commands

...molto etanto estud. ~ *...multa tanta esto.*

Coordination

nep... nep... ~ *neque... neque...*

Set phrases

senateis tanginud ~ *de senatus sententia*

egmas touticas ~ *rei publicae*

10. Laws from Roccagloriosa (c. 300 BC) and Tortora (c. 500 BC)

11. Or are they traditional features?

Conditionals

Roccagloriosa: *...aut iaf klopoust...; swai eiok neip faktied...*

Commands

Tortora: *...wolos fufuwod nepis taiiosqtod.*

Roccagloriosa: *... aktoud ... rekinom hafeitoud.*

Coordination

Tortora: *nepis... nepis...*

Roccagloriosa: *neip... neip...*

Set phrases

Tortora: *towtid*

Roccagloriosa: *touteikais; tagginoud*

Further Reading

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