I.1

requiro, -ere, -sivi, -situm, to look for, ask for.

totó: read with orbe. notus, -a, -um, known, famous. Read with hic and ille of the preceding line. orbis, orbis m. circle, wheel; earth. Martialis, -is m. Martial.

argitus, -a, -um, bright, smart, witty. epigrammata, -ätis n. epigram. epigrammaton is a genitive plural (from the Greek). libellus, -i, little book, pamphlet.

lector, -oris m. reader. studiösus, -a, -um, eager, devoted. quod: a relative pronoun referring to decus (next line). Note the anticipation.

decus, -oris n. glory, honor, dignity.

rari: rarely. cinis, -eris m/f. ash; death.

I.10

peto, -ere, -ivi, -itum, to ask, request, seek. nuptiae, -ärum f.pl. wedding, marriage.

cupio, -ere, -ivi, -itum, to desire, be eager. insto, -äre, -stiti, to follow, pursue closely, be insistent.

precor, -ári, -átus sum, to pray, beseech. dono (1) to bestow gifts.

adeo adv. to such a degree; truly, indeed. immo, nay, on the contrary, rather. foedus, -a, -um, ugly, hideous. Note the form of the neuter comparitive adjective. nil = nihil.

tussio, -ire, to cough, have a cough (here presumably of the fatal variety). This kind of “bounty hunting” (with wives and even adoptive parents) was very common in imperial Rome.

I.32

quare, why.

tantum adv. only. This epigram is the origin of the famous “Dr. Fell” poem written by Tom Brown. Expelled from his college in England, and given a chance to be reinstated by the Dean on the condition that he translate this epigram, Tom Brown did so, but substituted the name of his dean for Sabidius:

I do not love thee, Doctor Fell,
And why it is I cannot tell,
But this I know and know full well,
I do not love thee, Doctor Fell.

II.8

videbuntur: recall that the passive of videre translates “to seem”. charta, -ae, sheet of papyrus; pl. writings. Read with in istis. lector, -órís m. reader.

obscurus, -a, -um, obscure, vague. nöm is adv. too (much), overly. sive, or. parum adv. insufficiently, too little.

noceo, -ère, -ui, -citum + dat. to do harm to, damage. librarius, -i, bookseller.

propero (1) to hasten, hurry. versus, -ús m. verse, poetry. annumero (1) to count out. tibi: “for you” (dat. of reference).

quod si, but if. peccässe = peccavisse from peccò, -äre, to make a mistake, err. puto (1) to think.

cor, cordis n. heart. Here a partitive genitive with nihil.

quasi, as, as if. manifestum, -i, evident, clear. nego(1) to deny.

melior, melius, better.
V.33
21 carpō, -ere, carpsi, carptum, to pluck, pick; carp at, criticize. causidicus, -i, lawyer. fertur: "is said". carmen, -inis n. song; poem.
22 nesciō, -ire, -ivi, -itum, to not know. sciō, -ire, scīvī, scītum, to know. vae, woe!

VI.60
24 sinus, -ūs m. curse, hollow; fold (of a toga). manus, -ūs f. hand.
25 rubeō, -ère, to be red; blush. quīdam, quaedam, quiddam, pron. a certain one. palleō, -ère, -ui, to be pale. stupeō, -ère, -ui, to be amazed, be stunned. oscitō (1) to yawn, be bored. odī, -isse, ōsus, to hate (perfect form, present meaning).
26 placeō, -ère, -ui, -itum + dat. to be pleasing.

VIII.69
27 miror, -āri, -ātus sum, to wonder at; admire. vetus, -eris, old, ancient. sōlus, -a, -um, alone, sole, only.
28 mortuus, -a, -um, dead.
29 ignoscō, -ere, -nōvī, -nōtum, to forgive, pardon. petō, -ere, -ivī, -itum, to seek, ask, request. (ut) ignoscas petimus: "We ask that you forgive (us)". tantī: "of so great value" (a gentive of worth).
30 pereō, -ire, -iī, -itum, to perish, die.

IX.46
31 aedificō (1) to build. modo adv. just now, recently. limen, -inis n. threshold, door sill. pōnō, -ere, posuī, positum, to place, put.
32 foris, foris f. door. clāvis, -is f. key. aptō (1) to fit, fasten. emō, -ere, ēmi, emptum, to buy, purchase. sera, -ae, bolt, bar (of a door).
33 reficiō, -ere, -fectum, to refit, repair, rebuild. fenestra, ae, window.
34 tantum, -i, so much. quidlibet: whatever you like.
35 òro (1) to pray, beseech, ask. A present participle substantive, the indirect object of dicere and in apposition to amīcō. nummus, -i, coin, cash, money.
36 unum illud verbum: the direct object of dicere. In more prosaic word order: ut Gellius dicere possit amico oranti illud unum verbum 'aedifico'.

XII.56
37 aegrōtō (1) to be ill. unō . . . annō: "in one year". deciēs adv. ten times. saepius comp. adv. more often.
38 hoc: this (state of affairs). noceō, -ere, -ui, -itum + dat. to harm, injure.
39 quotiēns adv. as often, whenever. surgō, -ere, surrexī, surrectum, to arise, get up. sōtērium, -i, a party for a person recovered from an illness. poscō, -ere, poposći, to ask, request, demand. Note the double accusative.
30 pudor, -ōris m. shame. sit pudor: "for shame!" semel adv. once, once and for all.