

ETA SIGMA PHI 51st Annual Latin Prose Composition Contest (2017)

To be written as an examination, under supervision, within a maximum of two hours. You may use a dictionary that does not contain paradigms (e.g., *Cassell's*). Please write in ink on every other line of the paper provided. The only identification on the contest papers should be your pen name.

Why should we love our enemies? The first reason is fairly obvious. Returning hate for hate multiplies hate, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that... Have we not come to such an impasse in the modern world that we must love our enemies? The chain reaction of evil—hate begetting hate, wars producing more wars—must be broken, or we shall be plunged into the dark abyss of annihilation... Hate destroys a man's sense of values and his objectivity. It causes him to describe the beautiful as ugly and the ugly as beautiful, and to confuse the true with the false and the false with the true... love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend. We never get rid of an enemy by meeting hate with hate; we get rid of an enemy by getting rid of enmity. By its very nature, hate destroys and tears down; by its very nature, love creates and builds up.

--From *Strength to Love* by Martin Luther King Jr., 1963

Notes & Vocabulary:

impasse: *obex, obicis* m. (often used in the plural)

chain reaction = cycle: *circulus, -i* m. or *orbis, -is* m.

sense of values and objectivity: render by using the phrase *ratio disciplinaque*