

Creating a Digital Commentary Using CommentarySandbox

These instructions will show you how to:

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General Information

The CommentarySandbox plug-in is available on wordpress.org:

<https://wordpress.org/plugins/commentarysandbox/>

CommentarySandbox is a modification of CommentPress Core theme (futureofthebook.org/commentpress/). CommentPress allows paragraph-by-paragraph or line-by-line in the margins of a text.

The Commentary Press plug-in was developed by Bret Mulligan with the generous support of Haverford College. bmulliga@haverford.edu haverford.edu/classics

The screenshot shows a digital commentary page for Ovid's Metamorphoses. The top navigation bar includes links for My Sites, CommentarySandbox, Customize, New, and Edit Page. The title of the page is "COMMENTARY ON OVID, METAMORPHOSES 3.339-510: ECHO AND NARCISSUS".

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- Table of Contents
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3.339-358: ECHO SEES NARCISSUS

NOTES

339 *ille*: Tiresias
fama: ablative with *celeberrimus*
Aonias: (Greek) genitive; of Aonia, Boeotian
340 inreprehensa: negation of *reprehensa*, an Ovidian invention
341 prima... *Liriope temptamina sūmpsit*: idiom, "to test"
fide: shortening of the archaic genitive *fidēi*; conjoined with *vocis*
342 caerulea: poetic form of *caerulea*.
343 Céphisós: (Greek) nominative
344 vim tulit: a common and emphatic expression for rape
345 infantem: object of the deponent verb *énīxa estynymphē*: (Greek) nominative.
346 de quo [Narcissō] consultus: Tiresias
348 si se non noverit: Narcissus's tragic curse. Similar to the Delphic wisdom temet nosce (gnōthi seauton in Greek).
349 exitus [Narcissi] illam [vocem]
351 ter... addiderat ad ter quinos annos unum annum addiderat (he was $3 \times 5 + 1 = 16$ years old)
401 omnibus: dative of agent (Anderson *ad loc.*)

VOCABULARY

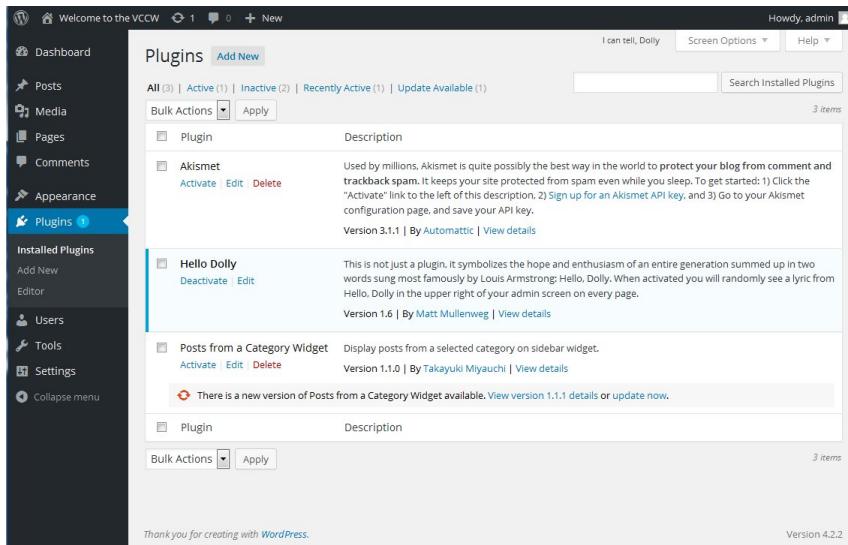
īlle per Āoniās fāmā celeberrimus urbēs
inreprehēnsa dabat populō respōnsa petentī; 340
prīma fidē vōcisque ratae temptamina sūmpsit
caerulea Līriopē, quam quondam flūmine curvō
implicuit clausaeque suīs Céphisōs in undis
vim tulit. ēnīxa est uterō pulcherrima plēnō
īnfantem nymphē, iam tum quī posset amārī, 345
Narcissumque vocat. dē quō cōnsultus, an esset
tempora mātūrae vīsūrūs longa senectae,
fātidicus vātēs 'sī sē nōn nōverit' inquit.

Updated 10/20/17

I. Installing the CommentarySandbox Environment

Option 1: install plug-in on your Wordpress Server

Option 2: install plug-in on wordpress.com (business level or above) or another Wordpress service that allows installation of plug-ins.



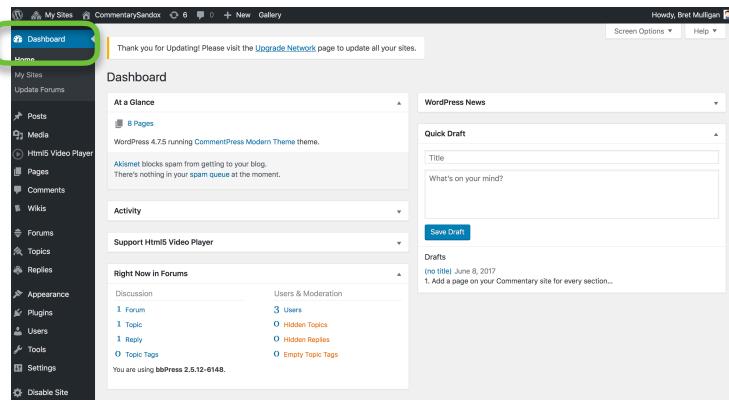
To add a WordPress Plugin using the [built-in plugin installer](#):

1. Go to [Plugins > Add New](#).
2. Type in the name of the WordPress Plugin or descriptive keyword, author, or tag in **Search Plugins** box or click a tag link below the screen.
3. Find the WordPress Plugin you wish to install.
 1. Click **Details** for more information about the Plugin and instructions you may wish to print or save to help setup the Plugin.
 2. Click **Install Now** to install the WordPress Plugin.
4. The resulting installation screen will list the installation as successful or note any problems during the install.
5. If successful, click **Activate Plugin** to activate it, or **Return to Plugin Installer** for further actions.

Additional Instructions for installing plug-ins to your blog can be found here: https://codex.wordpress.org/Managing_Plugins

II. Publish a Page (Essay or Commentary)

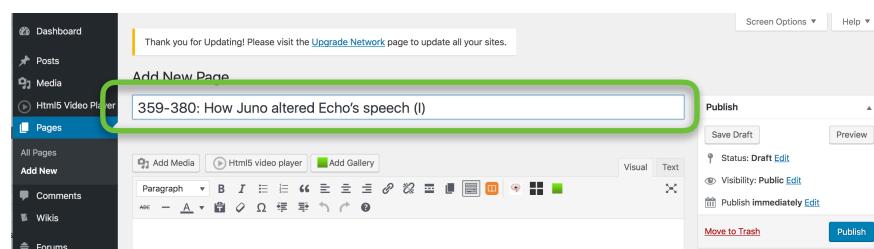
Step 1. Open the Wordpress Dashboard.



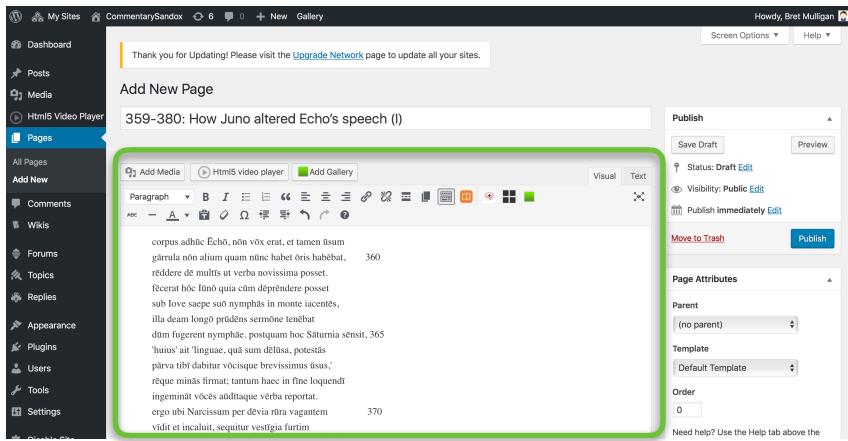
Step 2. Add a New Page using the sidebar or topbar menus.

Two side-by-side screenshots of the WordPress dashboard. The left screenshot shows the 'Pages' tab selected in the sidebar. The right screenshot shows a context menu open over the 'Pages' link in the topbar, with the 'Page' option highlighted by a green circle.

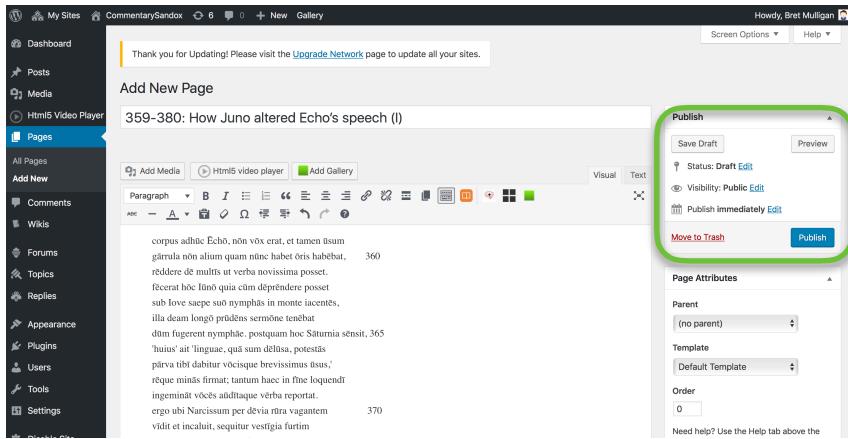
Step 3. Add a Title for the page.



Step 4. Add your Text, links, images, audio, and anything else you wish in the main text field.

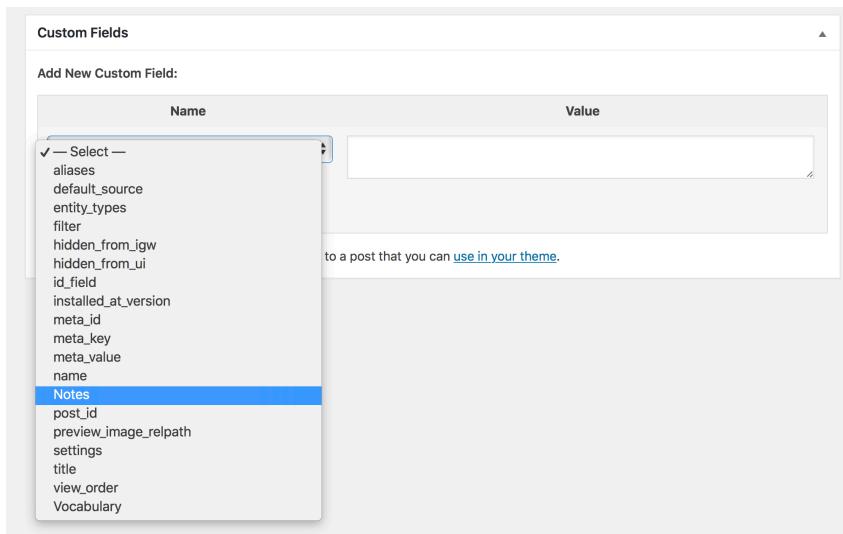


Step 4. Publish your Page or Save it as a Draft.



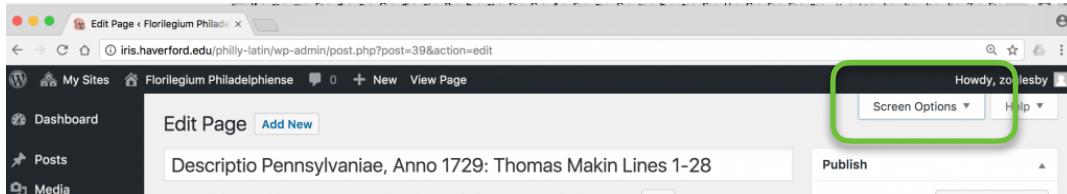
III. Create a Commentary Page by Adding Notes and Vocabulary Panes

Step 1. On a page that you would like to make into a commentary page, find the "Custom Fields" window near the bottom of the page. Click on "— Select —" under "Name" and select "Notes".



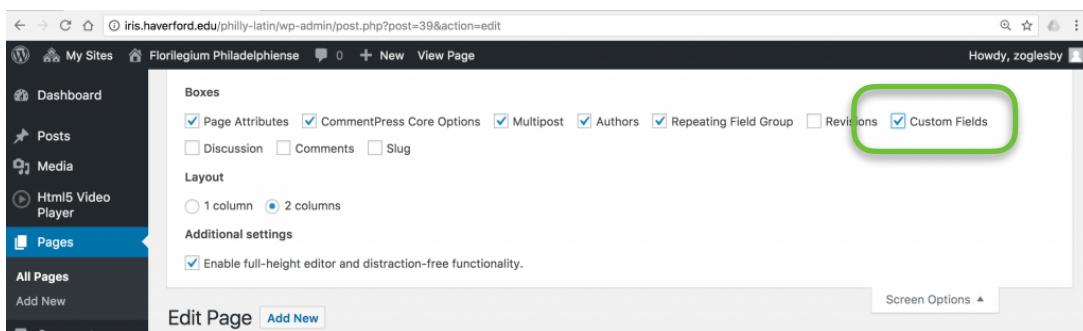
The screenshot shows the 'Custom Fields' section of the WordPress admin. A dropdown menu titled 'Name' is open, listing several custom field names. The 'Notes' option is selected and highlighted with a blue bar at the bottom of the list.

NOTE: If you cannot see the "Add New Custom Fields" box, then you need to change your "Screen Options", located to right, next to the "Help" menu.



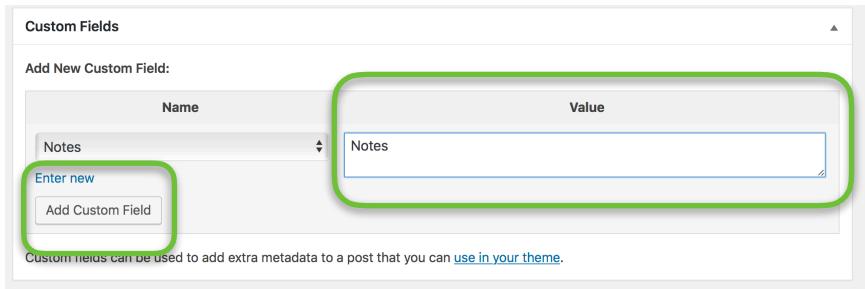
The screenshot shows the 'Edit Page' screen for a post titled 'Descriptio Pennsylvaniae, Anno 1729: Thomas Makin Lines 1-28'. In the top right corner, there is a 'Screen Options' button, which is highlighted with a green box.

In "Screen Options" make sure that "Custom Fields" is checked. Then reload your page.



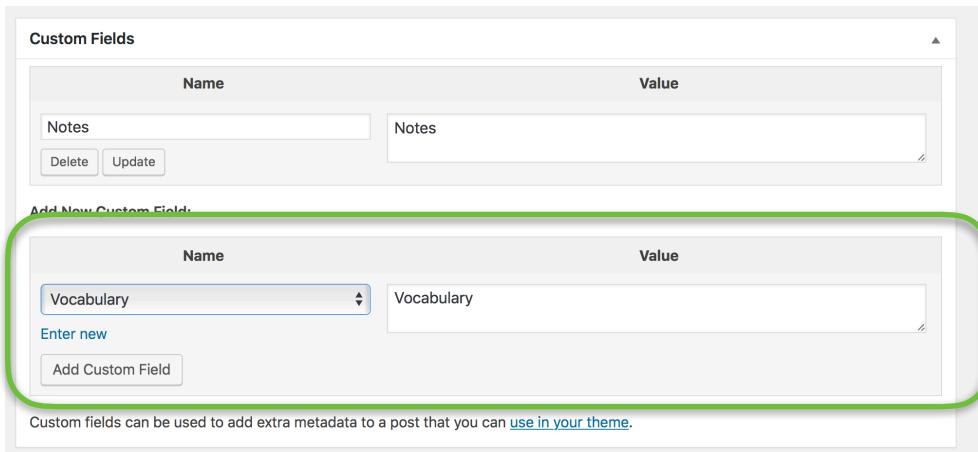
The screenshot shows the 'Edit Page' screen with the 'Pages' tab selected. In the 'Screen Options' panel on the right, the 'Boxes' section is expanded. Within this section, the 'Custom Fields' checkbox is checked and highlighted with a green box.

Step 2. Add a placeholder text to the “Value” field (e.g. “Notes” or Lorem Ipsum) and select the “Add Custom Field” button.



The screenshot shows the 'Custom Fields' section of a WordPress admin panel. A new custom field named 'Notes' has been created. The 'Name' column contains 'Notes' and the 'Value' column contains 'Notes'. A green box highlights the 'Value' input field. Below the table, there is an 'Add New Custom Field' section with a 'Name' dropdown set to 'Notes', a 'Value' input field containing 'Notes', and a 'Save' button.

Steps 3 & 4. Repeat to add a Vocabulary pane.



The screenshot shows the 'Custom Fields' section again. A new custom field named 'Vocabulary' has been added. The 'Name' column contains 'Vocabulary' and the 'Value' column contains 'Vocabulary'. A green box highlights the 'Value' input field. Below the table, there is an 'Add New Custom Field' section with a 'Name' dropdown set to 'Vocabulary', a 'Value' input field containing 'Vocabulary', and a 'Save' button.

If you preview your page, you will see that it now contains panes for NOTES and VOCABULARY. Next we will see how to add formatted text to these panes.

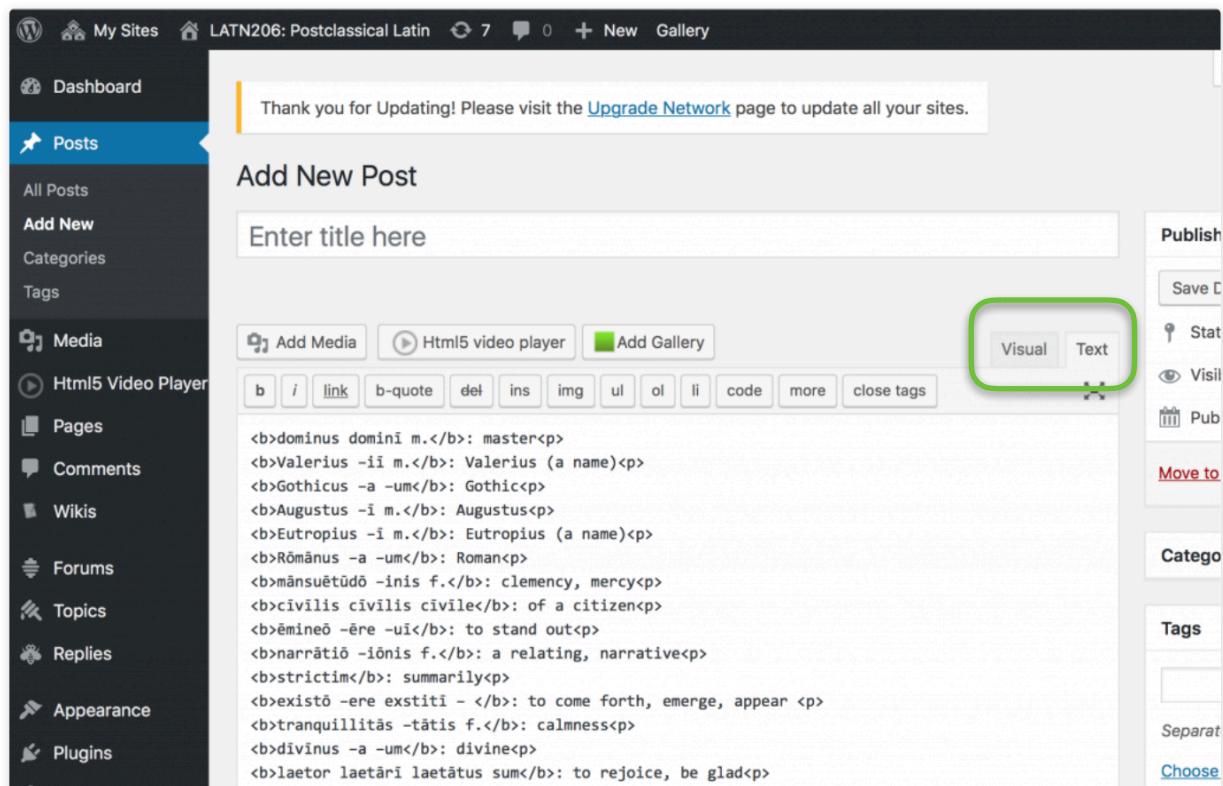
IV. Add Notes and Vocabulary to a Commentary Page

To add notes and vocabulary to a Commentary page, you can type directly in the Notes and Vocabulary Custom fields in the editor. But the easiest way to create web-ready material is by making and formatting your text in the Wordpress Visual Editor (or another HTML editor) and then copying the **HTML** into these fields. The directions below will guide you through creating a formatted vocabulary list but it can be used for notes as well.

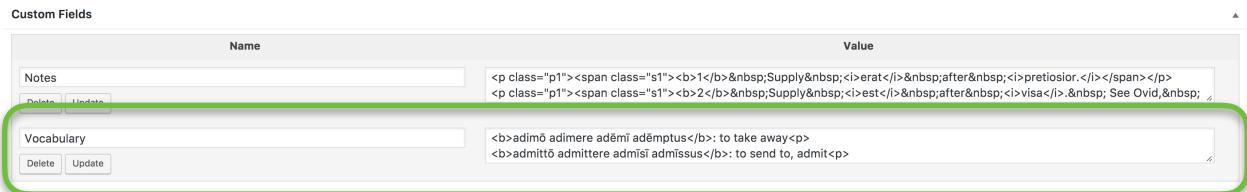
N.B. Do not publish the **post** in which you are creating your formatted text; save it as a draft or delete it after you transfer the HTML to the Vocabulary field. If you publish the page or post it will be visible to your readers.

Step 1. In Wordpress, create a new **post** and paste or create your list in the **Visual pane**.

Unless... If you are using a list pre-formatted with HTML (e.g. generated from Excel) then be sure to paste it in the **Text pane** of the editor (not Visual).



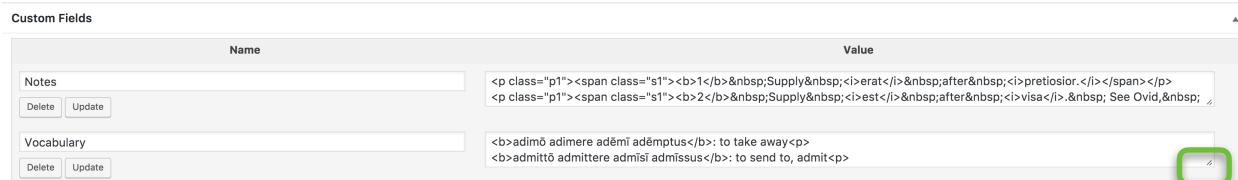
Step 2. Copy the text from the Text pane and paste it into the “Vocabulary” Custom Field on your commentary page.



Custom Fields

Name	Value
Notes	<p class="p1">1 Supply <i>erat</i> after <i>pretiosior.</i></p><p class="p1">2 Supply <i>est</i> after <i>visa</i>. See Ovid, ...
Vocabulary	adimē adimere adēmī adēmptus: to take away<p>admittō admittre admisi admissus: to send to, admit<p>

You can resize the Value fields by clicking-and-dragging the small triangle in the lower right of the field.



Custom Fields

Name	Value
Notes	<p class="p1">1 Supply <i>erat</i> after <i>pretiosior.</i></p><p class="p1">2 Supply <i>est</i> after <i>visa</i>. See Ovid, ...
Vocabulary	adimē adimere adēmī adēmptus: to take away<p>admittō admittre admisi admissus: to send to, admit<p>

Step 3. Repeat for Notes, as needed.

Note that you can add audio, video, images or any other media or formatting possible in your HTML editor to either your Notes or Vocabulary fields. Just be sure to copy all the HTML from the Text pane into the appropriate field. Because you are copying the HTML code, embedded elements such as images and links to external resources will all be preserved with no need for coding.

Happy Commenting!