

28TH LATIN SUMMER SCHOOL

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Bronze equestrian statue, Pompeii forum. *Photo: Tegan Gleeson*

LEVEL 1B

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Verbs

Verbs can be described according to **Mood, Tense, Voice, Person, and Number**.

Mood: Indicative, imperative, subjunctive

Tense: Present, future, imperfect, perfect, pluperfect, future perfect

Voice: Active, passive

Person: First, second, third

Number: Singular, plural

The full dictionary entry for a verb contains four **principal parts** and English meanings for the verb. The four principal parts are the given elements from which all the forms of a Latin verb are created. For example:

paro, parare, paravi, paratus - prepare

Principal parts:

1. **paro** = first person singular present active indicative 'I prepare'
2. **parare** = present active infinitive 'to prepare'
3. **paravi** = first person singular perfect active indicative 'I prepared'/'I have prepared'
4. **paratus** = perfect passive participle

In English, verbs sometimes change their endings depending on who is doing the action. Compare, for instance, the following sentences:

I **like** learning Latin.

She **likes** learning Latin.

The same thing happens with Latin verbs, but much more frequently. For example:

ego linguam Latinam disco .	I am learning Latin.
tu linguam Latinam discis ?	Are you learning Latin?
amicus meus linguam Latinam discit .	My friend is learning Latin.
linguam Latinam discimus .	We are learning Latin

Each of these sentences has a different subject and each verb has a different ending.

The different endings depend on the **person** doing the action:

1st person indicates I or we (that is, the person doing the action is speaking)

2nd person indicates you, singular or plural (the person doing the action is being spoken to)

3rd person indicates he, she, it, or they (the person doing the action is a third party, being spoken about rather than spoken to)

Latin verbs are grouped in four different families called conjugations. Each verb belongs to one conjugation, and each conjugation differs slightly from the others in how it creates certain forms. The four conjugations are distinguished and identified by the vowel preceding the **-re** ending of the second principal part (the present active infinitive). The following sets of principal parts will serve as examples of the four conjugations:

1st conjugation	-a-	voco, vocare, vocavi, vocatus	call
2nd conjugation	-e-	video, videre, vidi, visus	see
3rd conjugation	-e-	duco, ducere, duxi, ductus	lead
4th conjugation	-i-	audio, audire, audivi, auditus	hear

The finite forms of a Latin verb are created by:

1. taking a stem from one of the principal parts
2. sometimes adding an infix that indicates the tense
3. adding personal endings that indicate three things: person, number, and voice.

For all conjugations, the stem for the present, imperfect, and future tenses is found by removing the **-re** from the second principal part. This stem is called the **present stem**. All verb forms made with the present stem when taken together are called the present system of the verb.

For all conjugations, the stem for the perfect, pluperfect and future perfect tenses is found by removing **-i** from the third principal part. This is called the **perfect stem**. All verb forms made with the perfect stem when taken together are called the perfect system of the verb.

The Present Tense

The personal endings for Latin verbs in the **present tense** are:

Person	Ending
Singular	
1st ("I...")	-ō
2nd ("You...")	-s
3rd ("He..."/"She..."/"It...")	-t
Plural	
1st ("We...")	-mus
2nd ("You (pl.)...")	-tis
3rd ("They...")	-nt

Thus, the present tense of the four conjugations is as follows:

	1st conjugation	2nd conjugation	3rd conjugation	4th conjugation
Sing.				
1st	<i>vocō - I call</i>	<i>video - I see</i>	<i>duco - I lead</i>	<i>audio - I hear</i>
2nd	<i>vocās - you call</i>	<i>vides - you see</i>	<i>ducis - you lead</i>	<i>audis - you hear</i>
3rd	<i>vocat - he/she/it calls</i>	<i>videt - he/she/it sees</i>	<i>ducit - he/she/it leads</i>	<i>audit - he/she/it hears</i>
Plur.				
1st	<i>vocāmus - we call</i>	<i>videmus - we see</i>	<i>ducimus - we lead</i>	<i>audimus - we hear</i>
2nd	<i>vocātis - you (pl.) call</i>	<i>videtis - you (pl.) see</i>	<i>ducitis - you (pl.) lead</i>	<i>auditis - you (pl.) hear</i>
3rd	<i>vocant - they call</i>	<i>vident - they see</i>	<i>ducunt - they lead</i>	<i>audiunt - they hear</i>

Exercise A: Translate these present tense verbs into English

Example: **vocat** he/she/it calls

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. ambulas | 13. ascendo |
| 2. laboratis | 14. currunt |
| 3. laudant | 15. ducis |
| 4. narro | 16. mittimus |
| 5. paramus | 17. curritis |
| 6. festinat | 18. cadit |
| 7. monet | 19. audio |
| 8. sedeo | 20. dormit |
| 9. videmus | 21. venimus |
| 10. manemus | 22. audiunt |
| 11. monetis | 23. venitis |
| 12. sedent | 24. dormis |

Exercise B Write these English verbs in Latin

Example: I am living **habito**

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. You enter | 11. It remains |
| 2. We prepare | 12. We are warning |
| 3. They are greeting | 13. You are coming |
| 4. You (pl.) call | 14. He is sleeping |
| 5. He is telling | 15. You send |
| 6. I am carrying | 16. You (pl.) approach |
| 7. They see | 17. I remain |
| 8. She sits | 18. We lead |
| 9. I run | 19. She sends |
| 10. They hear | 20. You proceed |

The Imperfect Tense

In Latin, the **imperfect tense** is for reporting action in past time with a progressive/repeated aspect. For example, 'She used to think,' or 'She was thinking,' or 'She thought [every day/often/repeatedly].' For example:

puer ad ludum ambulabat The boy *was walking* to school.

To form the imperfect tense:

1. take the present stem (by removing the **-re** from the second principal part)
2. add the infix for the imperfect active indicative: **-ba-**
3. add the active personal endings (use **-m** for the first person singular)

Thus, the personal endings for Latin verbs in the imperfect tense are

Person	Ending
Singular	
1st ("I...")	-bam
2nd ("You...")	-bas
3rd ("He..." / "She..." / "It...")	-bat
Plural	
1st ("We...")	-bamus
2nd ("You (pl.)...")	-batis
3rd ("They...")	-bant

The imperfect tense of the four conjugations is as follows:

	1st conjugation	2nd conjugation	3rd conjugation	4th conjugation
Sing.				
1st	vocabam - I was calling	videbam - I was seeing	ducebam - I was leading	audiebam - I was hearing
2nd	vocābas - you were calling	videbas - you were seeing	ducebas - you were leading	audiebas - you were hearing
3rd	vocabat - he/she/it was calling	videbat - he/she/it was seeing	ducebat - he/she/it was leading	audiebat - he/she/it was hearing
Plur.				
1st	vocābamus - we were calling	videbamus - we were seeing	ducebamus - we were leading	audiebamus - we were hearing
2nd	vocābatis - you (pl.) were calling	videbatis - you (pl.) were seeing	ducebatis - you (pl.) were leading	audiebatis - you (pl.) were hearing
3rd	vocabant - they were calling	videbant - they were seeing	ducebant - they were leading	audiebant - they were hearing

Exercise C Write the following in English.

Example: **monebamus** we were warning

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. spectabant | 7. cupiebamus |
| 2. scribebamus | 8. rogabant |
| 3. docebas | 9. clamabatis |
| 4. faciebatis | 10. dicebam |
| 5. navigabat | 11. ludebat |
| 6. fugiebam | 12. dabas |

Exercise D Write the following in Latin.

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. I was sitting | 7. You (pl.) used to desire |
| 2. You were teaching | 8. They were fleeing |
| 3. They were playing | 9. You were watching |
| 4. She was saying | 10. I used to sail |
| 5. He used to write | 11. He was asking |
| 6. We were shouting | 12. We used to do |

The Perfect Tense

The perfect tense is most often used to express a completed past action, for example:

puer ad ludum ambulavit The boy *walked* to school.

The personal endings for Latin verbs in the **Perfect Tense** are:

Person	Ending
Singular	
1st ("I...")	-i
2nd ("You...")	-isti
3rd ("He..." / "She..." / "It...")	-it
Plural	
1st ("We...")	-imus
2nd ("You (pl.)...")	-istis
3rd ("They...")	-erunt

To form the perfect tense:

- find the *perfect stem* of the verb using a Latin dictionary (this is the third principal part, without the -i ending), e.g.:

1st conjugation	vocav-	3rd conjugation	dux-
2nd conjugation	vid-	4th conjugation	audiv-
- add the perfect person endings

Thus, the perfect tense of the four conjugations is as follows:

	1st conjugation	2nd conjugation	3rd conjugation	4th conjugation
Sing.				
1st	vocavi <i>- I called</i>	monui <i>- I warned</i>	duxi <i>- I led</i>	audivi <i>- I heard</i>
2nd	vocāvisti <i>- you called</i>	monuisti <i>- you warned</i>	duxisti <i>- you led</i>	audivisti <i>- you heard</i>
3rd	vocavit <i>- he/she/it called</i>	monuit <i>- he/she/it warned</i>	duxit <i>- he/she/it led</i>	audivit <i>- he/she/it heard</i>
Plur.				
1st	vocāvimus <i>- we called</i>	monuimus <i>- we warned</i>	duximus <i>- we led</i>	audivimus <i>- we heard</i>
2nd	vocāvistis <i>- you (pl.) called</i>	monuistis <i>- you (pl.) warned</i>	duxistis <i>- you (pl.) led</i>	audivistis <i>- you (pl.) heard</i>
3rd	vocaverunt <i>- they called</i>	monuerunt <i>- they warned</i>	duxerunt <i>- they led</i>	audiverunt <i>- they heard</i>

Exercise E Write the following in English

Example: **monuisti** you warned

1. servavimus
2. habuit
3. monuit
4. cupivimus
5. fecerunt
6. dixisti
7. duxisti
8. feci

Exercise F Write the following in English

Example: **they saved** servaverunt

1. I walked
2. They said
3. She led
4. We made
5. You (pl.) had
6. You warned

Irregular Verbs: sum (esse) and eo (ire)

The verb **sum, esse** ('to be') is an irregular verb in Latin, as it is in English. It is conjugated in the present, imperfect and perfect tenses as follows:

	Active Indicative		
	Present	Imperfect	Perfect
Singular			
1st	sum - <i>I am</i>	eram - <i>I was</i>	fui - <i>I was</i>
2nd	es - <i>you are</i>	eras - <i>you were</i>	fuisti - <i>you were</i>
3rd	est - <i>he/she/it is</i>	erat - <i>he/she/it was</i>	fuit - <i>he/she/it was</i>
Plural			
1st	sumus - <i>we are</i>	eramus - <i>we were</i>	fuimus - <i>we were</i>
2nd	estis - <i>you (pl.) are</i>	eratis - <i>you (pl.) were</i>	fuistis - <i>you (pl.) were</i>
3rd	sunt - <i>they are</i>	erant - <i>they were</i>	fuerunt - <i>they were</i>

The verb **eo, ire** ('to go'), is another irregular verb. The conjugations of the present, imperfect and perfect tenses of **eo** are presented below.

	Active Indicative		
	Present	Imperfect	Perfect
Singular			
1st	eo - <i>I go</i>	ibam - <i>I was going</i>	ii - <i>I went</i>
2nd	is - <i>you go</i>	ibas - <i>you were going</i>	iisti - <i>you went</i>
3rd	it - <i>he/she/it goes</i>	ibat - <i>he/she/it was going</i>	iit - <i>he/she/it went</i>
Plural			
1st	imus - <i>we go</i>	ibamus - <i>we were going</i>	iimus - <i>we went</i>
2nd	itis - <i>you (pl.) go</i>	ibatis - <i>you (pl.) were going</i>	iistis - <i>you (pl.) went</i>
3rd	eunt - <i>they go</i>	ibant - <i>they were going</i>	ierunt - <i>they went</i>

The verb **possum, posse** ‘to be able’, is also irregular:

	Present Tense	Imperfect Tense	Perfect Tense
Sing.			
1st	possum - <i>I am able</i>	poteram - <i>I was able</i> (or <i>I used to be able</i>)	potui - <i>I was able</i>
2nd	potes - <i>you are able</i>	poterās - <i>you were able</i>	potuisti - <i>you were able</i>
3rd	potest - <i>he/she/it is able</i>	poterat - <i>he/she/it was able</i>	potuit - <i>he/she/it was able</i>
Plur.			
1st	possumus - <i>we are able</i>	poterāmus - <i>we were able</i>	potuimus - <i>I was able</i>
2nd	potestis - <i>you (pl.) are able</i>	poterātis - <i>you (pl) were able</i>	potuistis - <i>you (pl.) were able</i>
3rd	possunt - <i>they are able</i>	poterant - <i>they were able</i>	potuerunt - <i>they were able</i>

Exercise G: Identify each form (give person, number, tense, voice, mood) and translate into English.

Example: **est** 3rd sg. pres. act. indic. he/she/it is

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. potes | 9. sumus |
| 2. possumus | 10. poteram |
| 3. sunt | 11. eramus |
| 4. sum | 12. erat |
| 5. es | 13. poterant |
| 6. estis | 14. eratis |
| 7. possum | 15. poteras |
| 8. possunt | |

Exercise H: Write these in Latin:

Example: **we were able** poteramus

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. they used to be | 8. we are able |
| 2. I was able | 9. you (pl.) were being |
| 3. she can | 10. he was able |
| 4. it used to exist | 11. I am |
| 5. we are | 12. you are |
| 6. you can | 13. you (pl.) are able |
| 7. there is | 14. there were |

The Infinitive

The infinitive is an abstract verbal noun in the neuter singular. It is indeclinable; that is, although it is a noun, it does not have case endings, and it has limited syntactic functions. The infinitive has the verbal properties of tense (present, perfect, or future) and voice (active or passive). We will only be concerned with the infinitive in its present active form for now. The second principal part of every verb is the present active infinitive and is regularly translated ‘to _____.’ For example: **movere**, ‘to move’.

The infinitive may be used to complete the meaning of another verb. Such an infinitive is called a Complementary Infinitive (< **compleo**, fill out). For example:

insulam **videre** possum
laborare debemus

I am able **to see** the island.
We ought **to work**.

The Imperative Mood

The imperative is the mood used for giving direct commands. Each of the verbs italicised below would be rendered in Latin by a verb in the imperative mood:

Eat your vegetables!
Give me a sword!
Listen, friends!

Commands such as these are addressed either to ‘you’ (singular) or ‘you’ (plural). Because imperatives are in the second person, they are often (but not always) found with nouns in the vocative case that indicate the persons to whom the commands are addressed. In the third sentence above, for example, ‘friends’ would be in the vocative plural.

To form the present active imperative of all four conjugations:

1. (for the singular) take the present stem and make no changes
2. (for the plural) take the present stem and add -te

Present stem	Present Active Imperative Singular		Present Active Imperative Plural	
voca-	voca	<i>summon!</i>	vocate	<i>summon! (pl.)</i>
move-	move	<i>move!</i>	movete	<i>move! (pl.)</i>
rege-	rege	<i>rule!</i>	regite	<i>rule! (pl.)</i>
cape-	cape	<i>take!</i>	capite	<i>capture! (pl.)</i>
audi-	audi	<i>listen!</i>	audite	<i>listen! (pl.)</i>

Nouns

Nouns and Cases

A noun is the name of a person, place, or thing. Every noun in Latin has three properties: gender, number, and case.

Gender: Latin nouns have the genders masculine or feminine. Nouns that are neither masculine nor feminine are called neuter.

Number: Latin nouns appear in the singular when referring to one, and in the plural when referring to more than one.

Case: Latin nouns occur in a variety of different forms in both the singular and the plural. Each different form or case is indicated by a special ending attached to a stem that remains constant. Each ending indicates the grammatical function that a noun has in a sentence.

The names of the Latin cases and their basic functions are:

Nominative Case - used for the subject of a sentence. The subject is the part of a sentence or clause that indicates a) what it is about, or b) who or what performs the verb

Vocative Case - used for addressing someone directly
- often the same as the nominative case
- this case is seldom found in texts and often left out of grammar tables.

Accusative Case - used for the direct object of a verb
- used following certain prepositions

Genitive Case - used to qualify or limit another noun in a variety of ways
- usually corresponds to a translation using the English preposition '*of*'

Dative Case - used to express the person or thing interested in or affected by the action of a verb
- usually corresponds to a translation using the English prepositions '*to*' or '*for*'

Ablative Case - many different uses. Commonly:

- used to express separation; in this usage, corresponds to a translation using the English preposition 'from'
- also expresses association or instrument; in this usage, corresponds to a translation using the English prepositions 'with' or 'by'
- also expresses location (in space or time); in this usage, corresponds to a translation using the English prepositions 'in,' or 'on.'

The Five Declensions

Latin nouns are grouped in five different families called declensions. Each noun belongs to one declension only, and each declension has its own distinctive set of case endings. The five groups of nouns are most reliably distinguished and identified by the genitive singular ending of each declension:

Declension	Genitive Singular Ending
1st declension	-ae
2nd declension	-ī
3rd declension	-is
4th declension	-ūs
5th declension	-ei/-eī

A full vocabulary entry for a Latin noun contains, in the following order, the nominative singular form, the genitive singular form, a notation of gender, and the English meaning(s). For example:

puella, pullae *f.* girl

amicus, amici *m.* friend

ager, agri *m.* field

vir, virī *m.* man; husband

periculum, periculī *n.* danger

Finding the Stem

The genitive singular form is given in the vocabulary for purposes of identifying the declension to which each noun belongs, but the genitive singular is also the form from which a stem is derived for use in making all other forms of the noun.

To find the stem of any noun, remove the ending from the genitive singular form. What remains is the stem.

puella, puell / ae <i>f.</i> girl	stem = puell-
amicus, amic / i <i>m.</i> friend	stem = amic-
ager, agr / i <i>m.</i> field	stem = agr-
vir, vir / ī <i>m.</i> man; husband	stem = vir-
periculum, pericul / ī <i>n.</i> danger	stem = pericul-

The First Declension

A note on gender: most nouns of the first declension are feminine, some are masculine. There are no neuter first-declension nouns.

The case endings of the First Declension are as follows:

	Singular	Plural
Nominative/Vocative	-a	-ae
Accusative	-am	-ās
Genitive	-ae	-ārum
Dative	-ae	-īs
Ablative	-ā	-īs

To decline a noun of the first declension, add these endings to the stem. For example:

puella, puellae *f.* girl
stem = **puell-**

Case		Meaning
Singular		
Nom./Voc.	puella	<i>the girl (subject)</i> <i>girl! (addressed directly)</i>
Acc.	puellam	<i>the girl (direct object)</i>
Gen.	puellae	<i>of the girl</i>
Dat.	puellae	<i>to/for the girl</i>
Abl.	puellā	<i>from/by/with/on/in the girl</i>
Plural		
Nom./Voc.	puellae	<i>the girls (subject)</i> <i>girls! (addressed directly)</i>
Acc.	puellās	<i>the girls (direct object)</i>
Gen.	puellārum	<i>of the girls</i>
Dat.	puellis	<i>to/for the girls</i>
Abl.	puellis	<i>from/by/with/on/in the girls</i>

Exercise J: Write these forms in Latin. The form provided is the nominative singular.

Example: **gen. pl. of filia** filiarum

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. acc. sing. of cena | 10. dat. sing. of aqua |
| 2. acc. pl. of casa | 11. voc. sing. of puella |
| 3. nom. pl. of femina | 12. abl. sing. of cena |
| 4. acc. sing. of aqua | 13. gen. sing. of Italia |
| 5. nom. pl. of casa | 14. dat. pl. of filia |
| 6. voc. pl. of filia | 15. acc. pl. of femina |
| 7. dat. pl. of via | 16. dat. sing. of via |
| 8. gen. sing. of femina | 17. abl. pl. of fabula |
| 9. gen. pl. of puella | 18. gen. sing. of filia |

Exercise K: Write in Latin.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. The daughters (subject) | 7. of the women |
| 2. girls! (addressed directly) | 8. for the girls |
| 3. the house (direct object) | 9. by water |
| 4. the houses (direct object) | 10. of stories |
| 5. The girls (subject) | 11. of the woman |
| 6. the women (direct object) | 12. with dinner |

The Second Declension

A note on gender: Most nouns of the second declension are masculine, a very small number are feminine, and many are neuter with endings slightly different from masculine and feminine nouns.

The case endings of the second declension **masculine** (and very occasionally feminine) are as follows:

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	-us/—	-ī
Vocative	-e	-ī
Accusative	-um	-ōs
Genitive	-ī	-ōrum
Dative	-ō	-īs
Ablative	-ō	-īs

To decline a masculine or feminine noun of the second declension, add these endings to the stem. For example:

servus, servī *m.* slave
stem = serv-

Case		Meaning
Singular		
Nom.	amicus	<i>the friend (subject)</i>
Voc.	amice	<i>friend! (addressed directly)</i>
Acc.	amicum	<i>the friend (direct object)</i>
Gen.	amici	<i>of the friend</i>
Dat.	amico	<i>to/for the friend</i>
Abl.	amico	<i>from/by/with/on/in the friend</i>
Plural		
Nom. / Voc.	amici	<i>the friends (subject)</i> <i>Friends! (addressed directly)</i>
Acc.	amicos	<i>the friends (direct object)</i>
Gen.	amicorum	<i>of the friends</i>
Dat.	amicis	<i>to/for the friends</i>
Abl.	amicis	<i>from/by/with/on/in the friends</i>

The case endings of the second declension **neuter** are as follows:

	Singular	Plural
Nominative/Vocative	-um	-a
Accusative	-um	-a
Genitive	-ī	-ōrum
Dative	-ō	-īs
Ablative	-ō	-īs

To decline a neuter noun of the second declension, add these endings to the stem. For example:

Case		Meaning
Singular		
Nom.	perīculum	<i>danger (subject)</i> <i>danger! (addressed directly)</i>
Acc.	perīculum	<i>danger (direct object)</i>
Gen.	perīculī	<i>of danger</i>
Dat.	perīculō	<i>to/for danger</i>
Abl.	perīculō	<i>from/by/with/on/in danger</i>
Plural		
Nom./Voc.	perīcula	<i>dangers (subject)</i> <i>dangers! (addressed directly)</i>
Acc.	perīcula	<i>dangers (direct object)</i>
Gen.	perīculōrum	<i>of dangers</i>
Dat.	perīculīs	<i>to/for dangers</i>
Abl.	perīculīs	<i>from/by/with/on/in dangers</i>

Exercise L: Write these forms of these second declension nouns in Latin.

Example: **abl. sing. of filius**

filio

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. nom. pl. of ager | 9. gen. sing. of ludus |
| 2. acc. sing. of vir | 10. abl. pl. of amicus |
| 3. nom. pl. of periculum | 11. dat. pl. of filius |
| 4. acc. pl. of colonus | 12. gen. sing. of cibus |
| 5. acc. sing. of puer | 13. abl. sing. of ludus |
| 6. acc. pl. of periculum | 14. gen. pl. of amicus |
| 7. gen. pl. of donum | 15. dat. pl. of vir |
| 8. dat. sing. of colonus | 16. abl. pl. of puer |

Exercise M: Write in Latin.

Example: **The boys (subject)**

pueri

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. The schools (subject) | 7. of a friend |
| 2. The farmer (subject) | 8. of the friends |
| 3. the field (direct object) | 9. to the boys |
| 4. dangers (subject) | 10. for the boy |
| 5. the sons (direct object) | 11. with a gift |
| 6. the dangers (direct object) | 12. with the men |

Nouns of the Third Declension

A noun belongs to the third declension if its genitive singular ending is **-is**. The third declension contains masculine nouns and feminine nouns, which have a common set of endings, and neuter nouns, which have endings slightly different from those of the masculine/feminine nouns.

The case endings of the third declension are as follows:

	Masculine/Feminine		Neuter	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Nom./Voc.	—	-ēs	—	-a
Acc.	-em	-ēs	—	-a
Gen.	-is	-um	-is	-um
Dat.	-ī	-ibus	-ī	-ibus
Abl.	-e	-ibus	-e	-ibus

To decline a masculine or feminine noun or a neuter noun of the third declension, add the appropriate endings to the stem. For example:

rex, regis *m.* king
stem = **reg-**

corpus, corporis *n.* body
stem = **corpor-**

	M	N
Singular		
Nom.	rex	corpus
Acc.	regem	corpus
Gen.	regis	corporis
Dat.	regī	corporī
Abl.	rege	corpore
Plural		
Nom.	regēs	corpora
Acc.	regēs	corpora
Gen.	regum	corporum
Dat.	regibus	corporibus
Abl.	regibus	corporibus

Some nouns of the third declension have a genitive plural ending **-ium** instead of **-um** and certain other slightly different endings. These nouns are called **third-declension i-stem** nouns.

Case endings of the third declension i-stem:

	Masculine/Feminine		Neuter	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Nom./Voc.	—	-ēs	—	-ia
Acc.	-em	-ēs/-īs	—	-ia
Gen.	-is	-ium	-is	-ium
Dat.	-ī	-ibus	-ī	-ibus
Abl.	-e	-ibus	-ī	-ibus

To decline a masculine or feminine third-declension i-stem noun or a neuter third-declension i-stem noun, add the appropriate endings to the stem. For example:

urbs, urbis, (-ium) *f.* city
stem = **urb-**

animal, animālis, (-ium) *n.* animal
stem = **animāl-**

	F	N
Singular		
Nom./Voc.	urbs	animal
Acc.	urbem	animal
Gen.	urbis	animālis
Dat.	urbī	animālī
Abl.	urbe	animālī
Plural		
Nom./Voc.	urbēs	animālia
Acc.	urbēs/urbīs	animālia
Gen.	urbium	animālium
Dat.	urbibus	animālibus
Abl.	urbibus	animālibus

Among nouns of the third declension, there are many possible forms in the nominative singular and notable differences in the spellings of the nominative singular and genitive singular, from where the stem is taken. In addition, some nouns belong to the i-stem group, and others do not. All such important information for each noun is contained in the vocabulary entry.

Exercise N: Give the case, number, and gender of the following 3rd declension nouns.
Example: **urbibus** fem. plu. dat. *OR* fem. plu. abl.

1. animal
2. canibus
3. fratres
4. patri
5. rege
6. corporis
7. mortem
8. matrum
9. noctium
10. uxorem
11. labore
12. navi

Adjectives

First-Second (2-1-2) Declension Adjectives

An adjective describes or modifies a noun. The vocabulary entry for a first-second-declension adjective contains the masculine, feminine, and neuter singular nominative forms, followed by the English meaning(s). For example:

bonus, bona, bonum good

With very few exceptions, Latin nouns have only one gender and belong to only one declension. Adjectives, however, have all genders, and first-second-declension adjectives use endings borrowed from the first declension when modifying feminine nouns and from the second declension when modifying masculine and neuter nouns.

Like nouns, adjectives are declined. To decline a first-second-declension adjective, take the stem from the feminine singular nominative form by dropping the -a and add endings familiar from the first and second declensions of nouns. For example:

bonus, bona, bonum

Stem: **bon-**

	Singular			Plural		
	M. (2nd)	F. (1st)	N. (2nd)	M. (2nd)	F. (1st)	N. (2nd)
Nom.	bonus	bona	bonum	bonī	bonae	bona
Acc.	bonum	bonam	bonum	bonōs	bonās	bona
Gen.	bonī	bonae	bonī	bonōrum	bonārum	bonōrum
Dat.	bonō	bonae	bonō	bonīs	bonīs	bonīs
Abl.	bonō	bonā	bonō	bonīs	bonīs	bonīs

As is true for certain masculine/feminine second-declension nouns, some adjectives lack a masculine singular nominative ending and use instead a version of the stem as the masculine singular nominative form. For example:

miser, misera, miserum

wretched, pitiable, miserable

Noun-Adjective Agreement

Adjectives are usually placed after the nouns they modify, but adjectives of size or quantity often precede their nouns. Although a Latin adjective is usually placed after its noun, it is best translated before.

femina bona

a good woman

multum cibum

much food

Third Declension Adjectives

Third declension adjectives decline much like 3rd declension nouns. Most 3rd declension adjectives, such as **ingens**, **ingentis** (huge), have the following endings:

	Singular		Plural	
	M. & F.	N.	M. & F	N.
Nom.	ingens	ingens	ingentes	ingentia
Acc.	ingentem	ingens	ingentes	ingentia
Gen.	ingentis	ingentis	ingentium	ingentium
Dat.	ingenti	ingenti	ingentibus	ingentibus
Abl.	ingenti	ingenti	ingentibus	ingentibus

Remember that nouns and their modifying adjectives do not always have endings that are spelled the same. Their agreement is rather one of gender, number, and case. Therefore, if a third declension adjective modifies a first or second declension noun, their endings will look different:

dono ingenti a huge gift (dative or ablative singular)
puellae fortes the brave girls (nominative plural)

Similarly, a first or second declension adjective will have a different ending to a third declension that it modifies:

navis magnus a large ship (nominative singular)
canibus fessis the tired dogs (dative or ablative plural)

Exercise P: Translate into English

Example: **pater iratus** The angry father (subject)

1. animalium omnium
2. omnis cibus
3. feminis fortibus
4. portas ingentes
5. magistro forti
6. corporis mortui
7. princeps bonus
8. in insula magna
9. ad urbem aliam
10. cum uno cane

Personal Pronouns

A pronoun is a word used instead of a noun, and a personal pronoun represents the speaker(s) or writer(s) (I, we), the one(s) spoken to (you, you [pl.]), or the one(s) spoken about (he, she, it, they).

Like nouns, personal pronouns in Latin are declined. These declensions are somewhat irregular and it is helpful to memorise them. For the first- and second-person personal pronouns, try to memorise the following forms:

Case	First Person		Second Person	
Singular				
Nominative	ego	<i>I</i>	tu	<i>you</i>
Accusative	me	<i>me</i>	te	<i>you</i>
Genitive	mei	<i>of me</i>	tui	<i>of you</i>
Dative	mihi	<i>to/for me</i>	tibi	<i>to/for you</i>
Ablative	me	<i>from me (etc.)</i>	te	<i>from you (etc.)</i>
Plural				
Nominative	nos	<i>we</i>	vos	<i>you (pl.)</i>
Accusative	nos	<i>us</i>	vos	<i>you (pl.)</i>
Genitive	nostrum/nostri	<i>of us</i>	vestrum/estri	<i>of you (pl.)</i>
Dative	nobis	<i>to/for us</i>	vobis	<i>to/for you (pl.)</i>
Ablative	nobis	<i>from us (etc.)</i>	vobis	<i>from you (pl.) (etc.)</i>

For third-person personal pronouns, try to memorise the following forms:

Case	Masculine		Feminine		Neuter	
Singular						
Nominative	is	<i>he</i>	ea	<i>she</i>	id	<i>it</i>
Accusative	eum	<i>him</i>	eam	<i>her</i>	id	<i>it</i>
Genitive	eius	<i>of him</i>	eius	<i>of her</i>	eius	<i>of it</i>
Dative	eī	<i>to/for him</i>	eī	<i>to/for her</i>	eī	<i>to/for it</i>
Ablative	eō	<i>from him (etc.)</i>	eā	<i>from her (etc.)</i>	eō	<i>from it (etc.)</i>
Plural						
Nominative	eī/iī	<i>they</i>	eae	<i>they</i>	ea	<i>they</i>
Accusative	eōs	<i>them</i>	eās	<i>them</i>	ea	<i>them</i>
Genitive	eōrum	<i>of them</i>	eārum	<i>of them</i>	eōrum	<i>of them</i>
Dative	eīs/iīs	<i>to/for them</i>	eīs/iīs	<i>to/for them</i>	eīs/iīs	<i>to/for them</i>
Ablative	eis/iis	<i>from them (etc.)</i>	eis/iis	<i>from them (etc.)</i>	eis/iis	<i>from them (etc.)</i>

Prepositions

A preposition (< **praepōnō**, place before) is a word placed before a noun or pronoun to show its relation to another word in the sentence. The preposition and the noun or pronoun together are called a 'prepositional phrase.' In Latin, prepositions are most often followed by one of two cases, the **accusative** or the **ablative**.

Prepositions that take the **accusative** emphasise the idea of motion toward, into, around, and through. Prepositions that take the **ablative** indicate one of the three functions of the ablative (separation, association/instrument, location). A few prepositions can take either case, and their meanings differ according to which case they take.

The preposition **ad** takes the accusative and expresses motion to or toward a place. The prepositions **circum** (around), **prope** (near) and **inter** (between or amongst) all take the accusative. For example:

ad ludum towards the school

The prepositions **ā/ab**, **ē/ex**, and **dē** all require a noun in the ablative case and express separation. **ā/ab** expresses motion away from a place; **ē/ex** expresses motion out from a place; **dē** expresses motion down from a place. **cum** is a preposition meaning 'with' which appears with the ablative. For example:

a ludo away from the school

The preposition **in** may take either the accusative or ablative case. When it takes the *accusative*, it means 'into' or 'onto'. By extension of this meaning it may also mean 'against.' When it takes the *ablative* case, it expresses location and means either 'in' or 'on'. For example:

in ludum into the school
in ludo in the school

Exercise Q: Translate these prepositional phrases into English.

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. in via | 9. prope casas |
| 2. in viam | 10. prope ludum |
| 3. in vias | 11. ab insula |
| 4. in terra | 12. a patria |
| 5. ad Italiam | 13. circum muros |
| 6. ad hortum | 14. inter portas |
| 7. cum colonis | 15. ex urbe |
| 8. cum puella | 16. e ludo |

Exercise R: Write these prepositional phrases in Latin:

1. in the house
2. into the house
3. towards the house
4. towards the school
5. with the daughter
6. with the daughters
7. near the street
8. near the field
9. near the fields
10. with food
11. out of danger
12. amongst the women
13. around the island
14. away from the field
15. away from the gates
16. with the boys

CATULLUS

Gaius Valerius Catullus is one of Ancient Rome's most accessible poets. He lived in the first century B.C. and was strongly influenced by Greek lyric poets, such as Sappho. He had a relationship with a woman whom he nicknamed Lesbia (after Sappho's birth place), and many of his poems reflect the ups and downs of their relationship- from passionate love, to bitterness and despair.

To Lesbia, about kisses

carmen 5

vivamus, mea Lesbia, atque amemus,
rumoresque senum severiorum
omnes unius aestimemus assis!
soles occidere et redire possunt:
nobis cum semel occidit brevis lux, 5
nox est perpetua una dormienda.
da mi basia mille, deinde centum,
dein mille altera, dein secunda centum,
deinde usque altera mille, deinde centum.
dein, cum milia multa fecerimus 10
conturbabimus illa, ne sciamus,
aut ne quis malus invidere possit,
cum tantum sciat esse basiorum.

- l.1 *vivamus, amemus* and *aestimemus* are all present subjunctive; translate as 'let us...'.
severis: strict, severe
- l.3 *unius... assis*; gen.case. trans 'as worth one as' (an *as* was one of the smallest coins the Romans had)
aestimare (-avi): to estimate, to reckon
- l.4 *occidere* usually means to die; here, referring to the sun, to set.
- l.5 Catullus is here using *lux* (light) as a metaphor for life.
semel: once
- l.6 *dormienda*: trans 'which must be slept through'
perpetuus, -a, -um: everlasting
- l.7 *da*: the imperative from *do, dare*: to give
basium (nt, 2): a kiss
- l.9 *usque*: still
- l.11 *conturbare (-avi)*: to throw into confusion
ne sciamus is a negative purpose clause; 'so that we do not know [how many there are]'
- l.12 *quis malus*; literally 'someone who [is] malicious' or 'some malicious person'
invidere (invidi): to be jealous
- l.13 *tantum*; means 'how many' (understand 'there are')

Odi et amo

carmen 85

Odi et amo. quare id faciam, fortasse requiris.

nescio, sed fieri sentio et excrucior.

An Invitation to Dinner

carmen 13

cenabis bene, mi Fabulle, apud me

paucis, si tibi di favent, diebus

si tecum attuleris bonam atque magnam

cenam, non sine candida puella

et vino et sale et omnibus cachinnis; 5

haec si, inquam, attuleris, venuste noster,

cenabis bene; nam tui Catulli

plenus sacculus est aranearum.

sed contra accipies meros amores, 10

seu quid suavius elegantiusve est:

nam unguentum dabo, quod meae puellae

donarunt Veneres Cupidinesque;

quod tu cum olfacies, deos rogabis,

totum ut te faciant, Fabulle, nasum. 15

- l.1 *odi*: I hate (the perfect *odi* is translated as present)
quare = cur fortasse: perhaps
l.2 *fieri sentio* means something like 'I feel it happening'
excrucior: to be tortured (-or is 1st person, present, deponent)

- l.1 *cenabis*: much of this poem is in the future tense. *apud me*: at my place
l.2 *paucis... diebus*: in a few days *di= dei*- the gods
l.3 *si tecum attuleris*: if you bring with you
l.4 *non sine*: not without (i.e. with) *candidus, a, um*: pretty
l.5 *sal, is (m)*: wit *omnibus cachinnis*: all sorts of laughter
l.6 *inquam... venuste noster*: I tell you... my charming friend
l.9 *plenus, a, um*: full *sacculus, i (m)*: purse *aranea, ae (f)*: cobwebs
l.10 *contra accipies*: in return you will receive *merus, a, um*: pure, undiluted
l.11 *seu (conj)*: or *quid suavius elegantiusve*: or something sweeter or more refined
l.12 *unguentum, i (n)*: perfume
l.13 *donarunt=donaverunt*: gave
l.14 *olfacio, ere*: smell