

Verbs • The present tense of first-, second-, and fourth-conjugation verbs

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Verb characteristics

Every verb has certain features that we can use to describe it precisely. These features are called the *characteristics* of the verb. Latin verbs have the following five characteristics:

1. *Person*, which indicates who is performing the action of the verb
2. *Number*, which indicates whether the subject of the verb is singular or plural
3. *Tense*, which indicates when the action of the verb happens
4. *Voice*, which indicates whether the subject is performing or undergoing the action of the verb
5. *Mood*, which indicates the relationship between the action of the verb and reality

Latin encodes all of these characteristics into a verb by using a series of endings added to verbal roots. If you can decode the endings, you can find out all of this information quickly and easily.

This chapter discusses person, number, and one of the tenses. The other tenses, along with voice and mood, are discussed in later chapters.

The present tense

The present tense describes actions as occurring at the present moment. The usual English translation is simply _____s or *is* _____ing. For example:

amant	<i>they love / they are loving</i>
capis	<i>you take / you are taking</i>
audimus	<i>we hear / we are hearing</i>

The present tense of Latin verbs is formed by combining the present system root with the active personal endings (with slight adjustments in some forms).

The present system root

To find the present system root of any verb, drop the **-re** ending of the second principal part; what's left is the root. For example:

PRINCIPAL PARTS	PRESENT SYSTEM ROOT
amō, amāre, amāvī, amātum	amāre
habēō, habēre, habuī, habitum	habēre
agō, agere, ēgī, actum	agere
capiō, capere, cēpī, captum	capere
audiō, audire, audīvī, auditum	audire

EXERCISE

2.1

Write the present system root of each of the following verbs.

- | | | | |
|-----------|-------|------------|-------|
| 1. petō | _____ | 6. iaceō | _____ |
| 2. creō | _____ | 7. gerō | _____ |
| 3. nesciō | _____ | 8. discēdō | _____ |
| 4. cōgitō | _____ | 9. tangō | _____ |
| 5. cupiō | _____ | 10. pugnō | _____ |

The active personal endings

Latin attaches the active personal endings to the end of the system root to encode two of the verb's characteristics:

1. *Person*. The first person is the speaker, the second person is the person spoken to, and the third person is a person or thing being spoken about.
2. *Number*. There are two numbers: singular (*sg.*) and plural (*pl.*).

Here are the active personal endings:

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
FIRST PERSON	-ō/-m <i>I</i>	-mus <i>we</i>
SECOND PERSON	-s <i>you</i>	-tis <i>you</i>
THIRD PERSON	-t <i>he/she/it</i>	-nt <i>they</i>

Identify the person and number of each of the following verbs.

- | | | | |
|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| 1. orant | _____ | 6. dolet | _____ |
| 2. bibis | _____ | 7. dormiunt | _____ |
| 3. pereō | _____ | 8. implēmus | _____ |
| 4. aufertis | _____ | 9. trahō | _____ |
| 5. scribit | _____ | 10. crescis | _____ |

If you know how the present system root and the active personal endings work, you can easily form the present tense of any verb of the first, second, or fourth conjugation. Here are charts of example verbs:

First conjugation

amō, amāre, amāvī, amātum *love*

PRESENT SYSTEM ROOT amā-

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
FIRST PERSON	amō* <i>I love</i>	amāmus <i>we love</i>
SECOND PERSON	amās <i>you love</i>	amātis <i>you love</i>
THIRD PERSON	amat <i>he/she/it loves</i>	amant <i>they love</i>

Second conjugation

teneō, tenēre, tenuī, tentum *hold*

PRESENT SYSTEM ROOT tenē-

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
FIRST PERSON	teneō <i>I hold</i>	tenēmus <i>we hold</i>
SECOND PERSON	tenēs <i>you hold</i>	tenētis <i>you hold</i>
THIRD PERSON	tenet <i>he/she/it holds</i>	tenent <i>they hold</i>

Fourth conjugation

audiō, audīre, audīvī, auditum *hear*

PRESENT SYSTEM ROOT audī-

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
FIRST PERSON	audiō <i>I hear</i>	audimus <i>we hear</i>
SECOND PERSON	audis <i>you hear</i>	auditis <i>you hear</i>
THIRD PERSON	audit <i>he/she/it hears</i>	audiunt* <i>they hear</i>

*There are two exceptions: (1) The -ā- of the first-conjugation root is omitted in the first person singular of first-conjugation verbs, and (2) -u- is inserted in the third person plural of fourth-conjugation verbs. Notice that for verb forms ending in -ō, -t, or -nt, the vowel at the end of the root becomes short; this is true for all Latin verb forms with these endings.

EXERCISE

2·3

Keeping the same person, transform each of the following verb forms into its opposite number, singular to plural or plural to singular.

- | | | | |
|---------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| 1. praestātis | _____ | 6. parant | _____ |
| 2. fingimus | _____ | 7. imperās | _____ |
| 3. moveō | _____ | 8. videt | _____ |
| 4. sentīs | _____ | 9. valētis | _____ |
| 5. dēbent | _____ | 10. revocant | _____ |

EXERCISE

2·4

Give all six forms of the present tense for each of the following verbs.

- | | |
|-------------|-------|
| 1. maneō | _____ |
| 2. audiō | _____ |
| 3. exerceō | _____ |
| 4. vigilō | _____ |
| 5. caveō | _____ |
| 6. conveniō | _____ |
| 7. vocō | _____ |
| 8. certō | _____ |
| 9. sepeliō | _____ |
| 10. mūtō | _____ |

EXERCISE

2·5

Translate each of the following verb forms into English.

- | | | | |
|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| 1. orant | _____ | 6. dolet | _____ |
| 2. bibis | _____ | 7. dormiunt | _____ |
| 3. pereō | _____ | 8. implēmus | _____ |
| 4. aufertis | _____ | 9. trahō | _____ |
| 5. scribit | _____ | 10. crescis | _____ |

EXERCISE

2•6

Translate each of the following verb phrases into Latin.

1. they equip _____
2. you (sg.) discover _____
3. she arrives _____
4. they are slaves _____
5. you (pl.) are earning _____
6. you (sg.) rule _____
7. it holds _____
8. we are pleasing _____
9. they help _____
10. you (sg.) are weeping _____

VOCABULARY

Common first-, second-, and fourth-conjugation verbs

First-conjugation verbs

agitō, agitāre, agitāvī, agitātum	<i>pursue</i>
amō, amāre, amāvī, amātum	<i>love</i>
appellō, appellāre, appellāvī, appellātum	<i>call by name</i>
armō, armāre, armāvī, armātum	<i>equip</i>
cantō, cantāre, cantāvī, cantātum	<i>sing</i>
celebrō, celebrāre, celebrāvī, celebrātum	<i>honor</i>
certō, certāre, certāvī, certātum	<i>contend</i>
cessō, cessāre, cessāvī, cessātum	<i>yield</i>
cōgitō, cōgitāre, cōgitāvī, cōgitātum	<i>think</i>
comparō, comparāre, comparāvī, comparātum	<i>prepare</i>
constō, constāre, constitī	<i>be fixed</i>
creō, creāre, creāvī, creātum	<i>create</i>
cūrō, cūrāre, cūrāvī, cūrātum	<i>care for</i>
dēsiderō, dēsiderāre, dēsiderāvī, dēsiderātum	<i>wish for</i>
dōnō, dōnāre, dōnāvī, dōnātum	<i>give as a gift</i>
errō, errāre, errāvī, errātum	<i>stray</i>
existimō, existimāre, existimāvī, existimātum	<i>estimate</i>
exspectō, exspectāre, exspectāvī, exspectātum	<i>await</i>
ignōrō, ignōrāre, ignōrāvī, ignōrātum	<i>not know</i>
imperō, imperāre, imperāvī, imperātum	<i>order</i>
indicō, indicāre, indicāvī, indicātum	<i>point out</i>
interrogō, interrogāre, interrogāvī, interrogātum	<i>ask, question</i>
intrō, intrāre, intrāvī, intrātum	<i>enter</i>
iūrō, iūrāre, iūrāvī, iūrātum	<i>swear</i>

iuvō, iuvāre, iuvī, iūtum	<i>help</i>
labōrō, labōrāre, labōrāvī, labōrātum	<i>work</i>
laudō, laudāre, laudāvī, laudātum	<i>praise</i>
liberō, liberāre, liberāvī, liberātum	<i>free</i>
mandō, mandāre, mandāvī, mandātum	<i>entrust</i>
memorō, memorāre, memorāvī, memorātum	<i>recall</i>
mūtō, mūtāre, mūtāvī, mūtātum	<i>change</i>
narrō, narrāre, narrāvī, narrātum	<i>tell a story</i>
negō, negāre, negāvī, negātum	<i>say not</i>
nōminō, nōmināre, nōmināvī, nōminātum	<i>name</i>
optō, optāre, optāvī, optātum	<i>wish</i>
ornō, ornāre, ornāvī, ornātum	<i>decorate</i>
ōrō, ōrāre, ōrāvī, ōrātum	<i>ask for</i>
parō, parāre, parāvī, parātum	<i>provide</i>
peccō, peccāre, peccāvī, peccātum	<i>make a mistake</i>
portō, portāre, portāvī, portātum	<i>carry</i>
postulō, postulāre, postulāvī, postulātum	<i>demand</i>
praestō, praestāre, praestitī, praestātum	<i>excel</i>
probō, probāre, probāvī, probātum	<i>approve</i>
properō, properāre, properāvī, properātum	<i>hurry</i>
pugnō, pugnāre, pugnāvī, pugnātum	<i>fight</i>
putō, putāre, putāvī, putātum	<i>think</i>
regnō, regnāre, regnāvī, regnātum	<i>rule</i>
revocō, revocāre, revocāvī, revocātum	<i>call back</i>
rogō, rogāre, rogāvī, rogātum	<i>ask</i>
servō, servāre, servāvī, servātum	<i>save</i>
sonō, sonāre, sonuī, sonitum	<i>make a sound</i>
spērō, spērāre, spērāvī, spērātum	<i>hope</i>
stō, stāre, steti, statum	<i>stand</i>
superō, superāre, superāvī, superātum	<i>survive, outdo</i>
temptō, temptāre, temptāvī, temptātum	<i>try</i>
vacō, vacāre, vacāvī, vacātum	<i>be idle</i>
vigilō, vigilāre, vigilāvī, vigilātum	<i>stay awake</i>
vocō, vocāre, vocāvī, vocātum	<i>call</i>
volō, volāre, volāvī, volātum	<i>fly</i>

Second-conjugation verbs

appāreō, appārēre, appāruī, appāritum	<i>appear</i>
ardeō, ardēre, arsi	<i>burn</i>
augeō, augēre, auxī, auctum	<i>increase</i>
careō, carēre, caruī, caritum	<i>lack</i>
caveō, cavēre, cāvī, cautum	<i>be careful</i>
contineō, continēre, continuī, contentum	<i>contain</i>
dēbeō, dēbēre, dēbuī, dēbitum	<i>ought to</i>
decet, decēre, decuit	<i>it suits</i>
doceō, docēre, docuī, doctum	<i>teach</i>
doleō, dolēre, doluī, dolitum	<i>suffer</i>
exerceō, exercēre, exercuī, exercitum	<i>train</i>
fleō, flēre, flēvī, flētum	<i>weep</i>
gaudeō, gaudēre, gāvīsus	<i>rejoice</i>
habeō, habēre, habuī, habitum	<i>have</i>
iaceō, iacēre, iacuī, iacitum	<i>lie</i>

impleō, implēre, implēvī, implētum
 invidēō, invidēre, invīdī, invīsum
 iubeō, iubēre, iussī, iussum
 licet, licēre, licuit
 maneō, manēre, mansī, mansum
 mereō, merēre, meruī, meritum
 misceō, miscēre, miscuī, mixtum
 moneō, monēre, monuī, monitum
 moveō, movēre, mōvī, mōtum
 noceō, nocēre, nocuī, nocitum
 oportet, oportēre, oportuit
 pateō, patēre, patuī
 placeō, placēre, placuī, placitum
 praebeō, praebēre, praebuī, praebitum
 respondeō, respondēre, respondi, responsum
 retineō, retinēre, retinuī, retentum
 rideō, ridēre, rīsī, rīsum
 sedeō, sedēre, sēdī, sessum
 soleō, solēre, solitus
 studeō, studēre, studuī
 sustineō, sustinēre, sustinuī
 taceō, tacēre, tacuī, tacitum
 teneō, tenēre, tenuī, tentum
 timeō, timēre, timuī
 valeō, valēre, valuī, valitum
 videō, vidēre, vīdī, vīsum

fill
envy
order
it is allowed
remain
earn
mix
advise
move
harm
it is proper
be open
be pleasing
offer
answer
hold back
laugh
sit
be accustomed
be eager
support
be quiet
hold
be afraid
be strong
see

Fourth-conjugation verbs

aperiō, aperīre, aperuī, apertum
 audiō, audīre, audīvī, auditum
 conveniō, convenīre, convēnī, conventum
 dormiō, dormīre, dormīvī, dormitum
 inveniō, invenīre, invēnī, inventum
 nesciō, nescīre, nescīvī, nescitum
 perveniō, pervenīre, pervēnī, perventum
 reperiō, reperīre, repperī, repertum
 sciō, scīre, scīvī, scitum
 sentiō, sentīre, sensi, sensum
 sepeliō, sepelīre, sepelīvī, sepultum
 serviō, servīre, servīvī, servitum
 veniō, venīre, vēnī, ventum

open
hear
come together, agree
sleep
discover
not know
arrive
discover
know
perceive
bury
be a slave
come

The present tense of third and third -iō conjugation verbs

The third and third -iō conjugations

The third and third -iō conjugations are slightly trickier than the first, second, and fourth conjugations, because the vowel at the end of the present system root is short—not long, as in the first, second, and fourth conjugations. That short root vowel undergoes a weakening when it combines with the personal endings and becomes -i-.

Third conjugation

pōnō, pōnere, posuī, positum *put*

PRESENT SYSTEM ROOT pōne-

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
FIRST PERSON	pōnō* <i>I put</i>	pōnimus <i>we put</i>
SECOND PERSON	pōnis <i>you put</i>	pōnitis <i>you put</i>
THIRD PERSON	pōnit <i>he/she/it puts</i>	pōnunt* <i>they put</i>

Third -iō conjugation

capiō, capere, cēpī, captum *take*

PRESENT SYSTEM ROOT cape-

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
FIRST PERSON	capiō <i>I take</i>	capimus <i>we take</i>
SECOND PERSON	capis <i>you take</i>	capitis <i>you take</i>
THIRD PERSON	capit <i>he/she/it takes</i>	capiunt* <i>they take</i>

*Notice that the weakened **vowel** of the root disappears altogether in the first person singular form of the third conjugation and that -u- precedes the personal ending in the third person plural forms.

EXERCISE

3.1

Identify the person and number of each of the following verbs.

- | | | | |
|-------------|-------|---------------|-------|
| 1. impōnit | _____ | 6. surgit | _____ |
| 2. addō | _____ | 7. effcis | _____ |
| 3. fallitis | _____ | 8. vincō | _____ |
| 4. parcitis | _____ | 9. permittunt | _____ |
| 5. faciō | _____ | 10. induimus | _____ |

EXERCISE

3.2

Keeping the same person, transform each of the following verb forms into its opposite number, singular to plural or plural to singular.

- | | | | |
|----------------|-------|---------------|-------|
| 1. relinquit | _____ | 6. accipiō | _____ |
| 2. colis | _____ | 7. gignimus | _____ |
| 3. metuitis | _____ | 8. iacit | _____ |
| 4. vertimus | _____ | 9. intellegit | _____ |
| 5. conspiciunt | _____ | 10. currunt | _____ |

EXERCISE

3.3

Give all six forms of the present tense for each of the following verbs.

- | | |
|-------------|-------|
| 1. quaerō | _____ |
| 2. condō | _____ |
| 3. legō | _____ |
| 4. cadō | _____ |
| 5. praecipō | _____ |
| 6. eligō | _____ |
| 7. ēripiō | _____ |
| 8. iungō | _____ |
| 9. premō | _____ |
| 10. pergō | _____ |

EXERCISE

3•4

Translate each of the following verb forms into English.

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. pendis _____ | 6. reddimus _____ |
| 2. āmittunt _____ | 7. cēdit _____ |
| 3. figitis _____ | 8. consulunt _____ |
| 4. recipis _____ | 9. claudis _____ |
| 5. cernō _____ | 10. interficiō _____ |

EXERCISE

3•5

Translate each of the following verb phrases into Latin.

1. you (sg.) are composing _____
2. you (pl.) pour _____
3. they snatch _____
4. we deceive _____
5. it carries _____
6. you (pl.) flow _____
7. I sprinkle _____
8. we are seeking _____
9. you (pl.) are stretching _____
10. I begin _____

VOCABULARY

Common third and third -iō conjugation verbs

Third-conjugation verbs

accēdō, accēdere, accessī, accessum	<i>approach</i>
accidō, accidere, accidī	<i>happen</i>
addō, addere, addidī, additum	<i>add</i>
agō, agere, ēgī, actum	<i>drive, act</i>
āmitto, āmittere, āmīsī, āmissum	<i>lose</i>
ascendō, ascendere, ascendī, ascensum	<i>climb</i>
bibō, bibere, bibī	<i>drink</i>

cadō, cadere, cecidī, cāsum	<i>fall</i>
canō, canere, cecinī, cantum	<i>sing</i>
cēdō, cēdere, cessī, cessum	<i>go, yield</i>
cernō, cernere, crēvī, crētum	<i>discern</i>
cingō, cingere, cinxī, cinctum	<i>encircle</i>
claudō, claudere, clausī, clausum	<i>close</i>
cognoscō, cognoscere, cognōvī, cognitum	<i>recognize</i>
cōgō, cōgere, coēgī, coactum	<i>compel</i>
colligō, colligere, collēgī, collectum	<i>collect</i>
colō, colere, coluī, cultum	<i>inhabit, worship</i>
comedō, comedere, comēdī, comessum	<i>eat</i>
committō, committere, commīsī, commissum	<i>entrust</i>
compōnō, compōnere, composuī, compositum	<i>compose</i>
concēdō, concēdere, concessī, concessum	<i>give up</i>
condō, condere, condidī, conditum	<i>store</i>
constituō, constituere, constituī, constitūtum	<i>establish</i>
consulō, consulere, consuluī, consultum	<i>take counsel</i>
contemnō, contemnere, contempsī, contemptum	<i>condemn</i>
contingō, contingere, contigī, contactum	<i>touch</i>
convertō, convertere, convertī, conversum	<i>turn over</i>
crēdō, crēdere, crēdidī, crēditum	<i>believe</i>
crescō, crescere, crēvī, crētum	<i>increase</i>
currō, currere, cucurrī, cursum	<i>run</i>
dēdūcō, dēdūcere, dēduxī, dēductum	<i>lead down</i>
dēfendō, dēfendere, dēfendī, dēfensum	<i>defend</i>
descendō, descendere, descendī, descensum	<i>climb down</i>
dīcō, dicere, dixī, dictum	<i>say</i>
diligō, diligere, dilexī, dilectum	<i>esteem</i>
dīmittō, dīmittere, dīmīsī, dīmissum	<i>send away</i>
dīrigō, dīrigere, dīrexī, dīrectum	<i>guide</i>
discēdō, discēdere, discessī, discessum	<i>leave</i>
discō, discere, didici	<i>learn</i>
dīvidō, dīvidere, dīvīsī, dīvisum	<i>divide</i>
dūcō, dūcere, duxī, ductum	<i>lead</i>
ēligō, ēligere, ēlēgī, ēlectum	<i>choose</i>
ēvādō, ēvādere, ēvāsī, ēvāsum	<i>escape</i>
fallō, fallere, fefelli, falsum	<i>deceive</i>
figō, figere, fixī, fixum	<i>fasten</i>
fingō, fingere, finxī, fictum	<i>devise</i>
fluō, fluere, fluxī, fluxum	<i>flow</i>
frangō, frangere, frēgī, fractum	<i>break</i>
fundō, fundere, fūdī, fūsum	<i>pour</i>
gerō, gerere, gessī, gestum	<i>carry</i>
gignō, gignere, genuī, genitum	<i>give birth to</i>
impōnō, impōnere, imposuī, impositum	<i>put onto</i>
induō, induere, induī, indūtum	<i>put on</i>
instituō, instituere, instituī, institūtum	<i>establish</i>
instruō, instruere, instruxī, instructum	<i>build</i>
intellegō, intellegere, intellexī, intellectum	<i>understand</i>
intendō, intendere, intendī, intentum	<i>strain</i>
iungō, iungere, iunxī, iunctum	<i>join</i>
legō, legere, lēgī, lectum	<i>read</i>

linquō, linquere, liquī	<i>abandon</i>
lūdō, lūdere, lūsī, lūsum	<i>play</i>
metuō, metuere, metuī, metūtum	<i>fear</i>
mittō, mittere, mīsī, missum	<i>send</i>
neglegō, neglegere, neglexī, neglectum	<i>disregard</i>
noscō, noscere, nōvī, nōtum	<i>know</i>
occīdō, occīdere, occīdī, occīsum	<i>kill</i>
ostendō, ostendere, ostendī, ostensum	<i>show</i>
pandō, pandere, pandī, passum	<i>spread</i>
parcō, parcere, pepercī	<i>spare</i>
pendō, pendere, pependī, pensum	<i>weigh</i>
perdō, perdere, perdidī, perditum	<i>lose</i>
pergō, pergere, perrexī, perrectum	<i>continue</i>
permittō, permittere, permīsī, permisum	<i>allow</i>
petō, petere, petivī, petītum	<i>seek</i>
pōnō, pōnere, posuī, positum	<i>put</i>
praedicō, praedicere, praedixī, praedictum	<i>predict</i>
premō, premere, pressī, pressum	<i>press</i>
prōcēdō, prōcēdere, prōcessī, prōcessum	<i>advance</i>
prōdō, prōdere, prōdidī, prōditum	<i>give forth</i>
prōmittō, prōmittere, prōmīsī, prōmissum	<i>promise</i>
prōpōnō, prōpōnere, prōposuī, prōpositum	<i>propose</i>
quaerō, quaerere, quaesivī, quaesītum	<i>seek</i>
quiescō, quiescere, quiēvī, quiētum	<i>rest</i>
rapiō, rapere, rapuī, raptum	<i>snatch</i>
recēdō, recēdere, recessī, recessum	<i>withdraw</i>
reddō, reddere, reddidī, redditum	<i>return</i>
regō, regere, rexī, rectum	<i>rule</i>
relinquō, relinquere, reliquī, relictum	<i>leave</i>
requirō, requirere, requisivī, requisītum	<i>seek</i>
revertō, revertere, revertī, reversum	<i>turn back</i>
rumpō, rumpere, rūpī, ruptum	<i>break</i>
scribō, scribere, scripsī, scriptum	<i>write</i>
solvō, solvere, solvī, solūtum	<i>loosen</i>
spargō, spargere, sparsī, sparsum	<i>sprinkle</i>
sternō, sternere, strāvī, strātum	<i>strew</i>
sūmō, sūmere, sumpsī, sumptum	<i>take up</i>
surgō, surgere, surrexī, surrectum	<i>rise</i>
tangō, tangere, tetigī, tactum	<i>touch</i>
tendō, tendere, tetendī, tentum	<i>stretch</i>
trādō, trādere, trādidī, trāditum	<i>hand over</i>
trahō, trahere, traxī, tractum	<i>drag</i>
vehō, vehere, vexī, vectum	<i>carry</i>
vertō, vertere, vertī, versum	<i>turn</i>
vincō, vincere, vīcī, victum	<i>conquer</i>
vīvō, vīvere, vixī, victum	<i>live</i>

Third -iō conjugation verbs

accipiō, accipere, accēpī, acceptum	<i>receive</i>
aspiciō, aspicere, aspexī, aspectum	<i>look at</i>
capiō, capere, cēpī, captum	<i>take</i>
conficiō, conficere, confēcī, confectum	<i>construct</i>

conspiciō, conspicere, conspexī, conspectum	<i>catch sight of</i>
cupiō, cupere, cupīvī, cupītum	<i>desire</i>
dēcipiō, dēcipere, dēcēpī, dēceptum	<i>deceive</i>
dēficiō, dēficere, dēfēcī, dēfectum	<i>lack, fail</i>
efficiō, efficere, effēcī, effectum	<i>cause</i>
ēripiō, ēripere, ēripuī, ēreptum	<i>snatch away</i>
excipiō, excipere, excēpī, exceptum	<i>receive</i>
faciō, facere, fēcī, factum	<i>make, do</i>
fugiō, fugere, fūgī	<i>flee</i>
iaciō, iacere, iēcī, iactum	<i>throw</i>
incipiō, incipere, incēpī, inceptum	<i>begin</i>
interficiō, interficere, interfēcī, interfectum	<i>kill</i>
pariō, parere, peperī, partum	<i>give birth</i>
percutiō, percutere, percussī, percutsum	<i>strike</i>
perficiō, perficere, perfēcī, perfectum	<i>complete</i>
praecipiō, praecipere, praecēpī, praeceptum	<i>teach</i>
recipiō, recipere, recēpī, receptum	<i>receive</i>
respiciō, respicere, respexī, respectum	<i>look back</i>
suscipiō, suscipere, suscēpī, susceptum	<i>take up</i>

4.

Nouns • Case endings • First-declension nouns

Noun characteristics and case endings

Like Latin verbs, whose characteristics are marked by endings, Latin nouns have case endings to express the following characteristics:

1. *Case*, which indicates the function of the word in the sentence
2. *Number*, which indicates whether the word is singular or plural
3. *Gender*, which indicates the arbitrary grammatical gender of the word

Latin compresses all three of these characteristics into a single case ending. If you can recognize the case ending, you can quickly and easily decode the case and number of a noun. Because gender is somewhat arbitrary, however, the ending doesn't always reveal a noun's gender.

Case functions

There are six cases in Latin.

CASE NAME	ABBREVIATION	MOST COMMON FUNCTION IN A SENTENCE
NOMINATIVE	nom.	Subject of the verb
GENITIVE	gen.	Possessor of another noun
DATIVE	dat.	Indirect object of the verb
ACCUSATIVE	acc.	Direct object of the verb
ABLATIVE	abl.	Adverbial use
VOCATIVE	voc.	Direct address

EXERCISE

4.1

Indicate which case the italicized word(s) in each of the following sentences would use in Latin.

1. *Quintus* is acting strangely. _____
2. No one has seen *Flavia* in a while. _____
3. We found *Quintus and Flavia* out in the street. _____
4. A friend offered *Flavia* some help. _____
5. *Quintus* is not very charitable toward his neighbors. _____
6. *Quintus*, when will you give me my money? _____
7. *Quintus's* tools were left out in the rain. _____
8. *Flavia* saw some beautiful birds through her window. _____
9. The intruder was captured *by Flavia*. _____
10. Let's all give *Quintus and Flavia* a round of applause. _____

Declensions

Another important piece of information about a noun is its declension. Latin has five declensions, each with its own set of case endings. Every noun in Latin (except irregular nouns) follows one of these five patterns of case endings. In order to decode the case, number, and gender of a noun, you need to know which declension it belongs to.

The first declension

The pattern of case endings for the first declension is built around the sound **-a-**. Most first-declension nouns—but not all—are feminine in gender. All first-declension nouns do, however, have a genitive singular form that ends in **-ae**. Here are the endings of first-declension nouns:

NUMBER	CASE	ENDING
SINGULAR	NOMINATIVE	-a
	GENITIVE	-ae
	DATIVE	-ae
	ACCUSATIVE	-am
	ABLATIVE	-ā
	VOCATIVE	-a
PLURAL	NOMINATIVE	-ae
	GENITIVE	-ārum
	DATIVE	-īs
	ACCUSATIVE	-ās
	ABLATIVE	-īs
	VOCATIVE	-ae

To find the stem of any noun, drop the genitive ending of the second part of the dictionary entry; what's left is the stem. For example:

DICTIONARY ENTRY		NOUN STEM
lacrima, lacrimae <i>f.</i> tear		lacrimae
NUMBER	CASE	ENDING
SINGULAR	NOMINATIVE	lacrima
	GENITIVE	lacrimae
	DATIVE	lacrimae
	ACCUSATIVE	lacrimam
	ABLATIVE	lacrimā
	VOCATIVE	lacrima
PLURAL	NOMINATIVE	lacrimae
	GENITIVE	lacrimārum
	DATIVE	lacrimīs
	ACCUSATIVE	lacrimās
	ABLATIVE	lacrimīs
	VOCATIVE	lacrimae

EXERCISE

4.2

Give the stem of each of the following nouns.

- | | | | |
|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| 1. via | _____ | 6. pugna | _____ |
| 2. turba | _____ | 7. glōria | _____ |
| 3. historia | _____ | 8. aura | _____ |
| 4. amīcītia | _____ | 9. poēta | _____ |
| 5. fābula | _____ | 10. māteria | _____ |

The nominative and accusative cases

The most important cases are the nominative and the accusative, because these two cases indicate functions that are found in nearly every sentence: the subject of the verb and the direct object of the verb. (Notice that the case ending is all the information you need to understand the relationships and functions of the words in a sentence; the order of the words does not give you this information.)

EXERCISE

4.3

Give the correct nominative or accusative form of each of the following nouns.

1. mora (*nom. sg.*) _____
2. culpa (*acc. pl.*) _____
3. patria (*acc. sg.*) _____
4. silva (*nom. pl.*) _____
5. coma (*acc. sg.*) _____
6. rosa (*acc. pl.*) _____
7. littera (*nom. pl.*) _____
8. victōria (*acc. pl.*) _____
9. scientia (*nom. sg.*) _____
10. herba (*nom. pl.*) _____

EXERCISE

4.4

Keeping the same case, transform each of the following nouns into its opposite number, singular to plural or plural to singular. Some nouns may have more than one opposite-number form.

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Mūsam _____ | 6. rīpae _____ |
| 2. fugās _____ | 7. memoriā _____ |
| 3. cūra _____ | 8. fēminās _____ |
| 4. stellae _____ | 9. aqua _____ |
| 5. portam _____ | 10. fāmae _____ |

Now that we have studied subjects, verbs, and objects, we can explore how cases and verb forms interact in Latin sentences. Notice how the case ending of each noun in the following sentences indicates its function, and how the personal ending of each verb indicates its person and number.

Quintus aquam bibit.
 Historiam scribō.
 Puellae silvam inrant.

Quintus is drinking the water.
I am writing history.
The girls are entering the forest.

Translate each of the following sentences into English.

1. Mūsās semper poētae amant. _____
2. Fugit īram. _____
3. Trōia iam stat. _____
4. Conficis viam? _____
5. Dēfendō vītam. _____
6. Petimus amīcitiās. _____
7. Nōn laudātis comam. _____
8. Domina saepe imperat. _____
9. Nātūra tandem quiescit. _____
10. Nunc vident stellās. _____

VOCABULARY

Common first-declension nouns

amīcitia, amīcitiāe (f.)	friendship	historia, historiae (f.)	history
anima, animae (f.)	soul	hōra, hōrae (f.)	hour
aqua, aquae (f.)	water	īra, īrae (f.)	anger
aura, aurae (f.)	breeze	Italia, Italiae (f.)	Italy
causa, causae (f.)	cause	lacrima, lacrimae (f.)	tear
coma, comae (f.)	hair	lingua, linguae (f.)	language
cōpia, cōpiae (f.)	abundance	littera, litterae (f.)	letter
culpa, culpae (f.)	fault	lūna, lūnae (f.)	moon
cūra, cūrae (f.)	concern	māteria, māteriae (f.)	stuff
custōdia, custōdiae (f.)	protection	memoria, memoriae (f.)	memory
dea, deae (f.)	goddess	mensa, mensae (f.)	table
dīvītae, dīvitiārum (f.pl.)	wealth	mora, morae (f.)	delay
domina, dominae (f.)	mistress	Mūsa, Mūsae (f.)	Muse
fābula, fābulae (f.)	story	nātūra, nātūrae (f.)	nature
fāma, fāmae (f.)	reputation	patria, patriae (f.)	country
fēmina, fēminae (f.)	woman	pecūnia, pecūniae (f.)	money
filia, filiae (f.)	daughter	poena, poenae (f.)	penalty
flamma, flammae (f.)	flame	poēta, poētae (m.)	poet
forma, formae (f.)	beauty	porta, portae (f.)	gate
fortūna, fortūnae (f.)	fortune	puella, puellae (f.)	girl
fuga, fugae (f.)	fleeing	pugna, pugnae (f.)	fight
Gallia, Galliae (f.)	Gaul	ripa, ripae (f.)	bank
glōria, glōriae (f.)	glory	Rōma, Rōmae (f.)	Rome
grātia, grātiāe (f.)	charm	rosa, rosae (f.)	rose
herba, herbae (f.)	grass	sapientia, sapientiae (f.)	wisdom

scientia, scientiae (f.)
sententia, sententiae (f.)
silva, silvae (f.)
stella, stellae (f.)
tenebrae, tenebrarum (f.pl.)
terra, terrae (f.)
Troia, Troiae (f.)

knowledge
thought
forest
star
shadows
land
Troy

turba, turbae (f.)
umbra, umbrae (f.)
unda, undae (f.)
via, viae (f.)
victoria, victoriae (f.)
vita, vitae (f.)
uproar
shade
wave
street
victory
life

•5•

More case endings: genitive, dative, ablative, and vocative

The remaining four cases perform functions in a sentence that are less essential than subject or object, but still important for understanding the sentence.

The genitive case ending marks a word that has possession of another noun.

cūrae **Flāviae**
portam **Rōmae**

Flavia's concerns
the gate of Rome

The dative case ending marks a noun that is indirectly affected by the action of the verb; the noun is often called an *indirect object*.

Aquam **puellae** dat.
Mūsae respondet.

He is giving water to the girl.
He answers to the Muse.

The ablative case ending marks a variety of adverbial relationships to the verb. An ablative noun is also often the object of a preposition.

Formā dēcipit.
Pecūniam in **rīpā** vidēs.

He deceives with his beauty.
You see the money on the bank.

The vocative case ending marks direct address to a person or thing. It is the least common case ending.

Ō **lūna**, quō errās?

O moon, where are you straying to?

EXERCISE

5.1

Give the correct form of each of the following nouns.

1. mora (*dat. sg.*) _____
2. culpa (*abl. pl.*) _____
3. patria (*voc. sg.*) _____
4. silva (*voc. pl.*) _____
5. coma (*dat. sg.*) _____
6. rosa (*gen. pl.*) _____
7. littera (*gen. sg.*) _____

8. victōria (*abl. pl.*) _____
9. scientia (*dat. sg.*) _____
10. herba (*abl. pl.*) _____

EXERCISE

5·2

List all possible cases for each of the following nouns.

1. pecūniae _____
2. terrīs _____
3. animā _____
4. filiam _____
5. causīs _____
6. fortūnae _____
7. custōdiarum _____
8. dominās _____
9. sapientiā _____
10. Trōiam _____

EXERCISE

5·3

Keeping the same case, transform each of the following nouns into its opposite number, singular to plural or plural to singular. Some nouns may have more than one opposite-number form.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Mūsae _____ | 6. rīpīs _____ |
| 2. fugīs _____ | 7. memoriae _____ |
| 3. cūrā _____ | 8. fēminīs _____ |
| 4. stellārum _____ | 9. aquae _____ |
| 5. porta _____ | 10. fāmam _____ |

EXERCISE

5.4

Give the correct Latin form of each of the following English nouns.

1. life (*dat. pl.*) _____
2. anger (*gen. pl.*) _____
3. girl (*acc. sg.*) _____
4. table (*abl. sg.*) _____
5. abundance (*acc. pl.*) _____
6. thought (*gen. pl.*) _____
7. nature (*nom. sg.*) _____
8. goddess (*gen. sg.*) _____
9. charm (*dat. pl.*) _____
10. moon (*abl. sg.*) _____

EXERCISE

5.5

Translate each of the following sentences into English.

1. Fābulās fēminae dīcit.

2. Ornant rosīs mensam.

3. Scientia dat memoriae sapientiam.

4. Ō Italia, haud ēvādis culpam!

5. Sub umbrā silvārum dormiō.

6. Comam lacrimīs spargit.

7. Īra deārum facit cūrās.

8. Filiās praebēmus patriae.

9. Post victōriam rapiunt pecūniam Trōiae.

10. Linguā narrātis.

•6•

Personal pronouns

A pronoun is used to refer to another noun. Personal pronouns are a special sub-category of pronouns that refer to the people involved in an action: *I, you, him*, and so on. We have already seen that Latin does not always need to use a noun or pronoun to indicate who is performing the action of a verb, because the ending of the verb contains that information itself. But Latin frequently uses personal pronouns in cases other than the nominative.

CASE	FIRST PERSON		SECOND PERSON	
	<i>I</i>	<i>we</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>you all</i>
NOMINATIVE	ego	nōs	tū	vōs
GENITIVE	meī	nostrī	tuī	vestrī
DATIVE	mihi	nōbīs	tibi	vōbīs
ACCUSATIVE	mē	nōs	tē	vōs
ABLATIVE	mē	nōbīs	tē	vōbīs

There is no specific personal pronoun in Latin for the third person. Latin either uses a specific noun, omits the noun and lets the verb's ending show the subject, or uses a demonstrative pronoun like **is ea id**.

EXERCISE

6.1

Translate each of the following personal pronouns into English according to case and number.

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. nōbīs _____ | 6. mihi _____ |
| 2. vestrī _____ | 7. tē _____ |
| 3. tū _____ | 8. vōs _____ |
| 4. mē _____ | 9. tibi _____ |
| 5. nōs _____ | 10. ego _____ |

EXERCISE

6·2

Give the Latin personal pronoun that would be used for the italicized word(s) in each of the following sentences.

1. Did you see *us* yesterday? _____
2. I know it is very important *to you (sg.)*. _____
3. *You (sg.)* never showed us that! _____
4. You never showed *us* that! _____
5. Here's what *I* think. _____
6. I neglected *you (pl.)*, and I'm sorry. _____
7. His voice charmed *me*. _____
8. Would you like to come with *us*? _____
9. The traitor handed *you (sg.)* over to the enemy. _____
10. They gave *me* enough food for the next week. _____

EXERCISE

6·3

Translate each of the following sentences into English.

1. Tibi nōn noceō. _____
2. Nōs pōnis in flammīs. _____
3. Quid dē mē existimātis? _____
4. Memoria vestrī iterum vīvit. _____
5. Fāma Rōmae nōbīs placet. _____
6. Ego tamen causam habeō. _____
7. Terra mē sustinet. _____
8. Ā tē nunc petō moram. _____
9. Nōs lūnam paene tangimus. _____
10. Tū metuis poenam. _____

7

Second-declension nouns

The second declension functions exactly like the first declension, but uses a different set of case endings to indicate the noun's function in a sentence. This declension is built around the sound **-o-**. The case ending attaches to the stem of the noun. Most, but not all, second-declension nouns are masculine or neuter. All second-declension nouns have a genitive singular form that ends in **-ī**. Here are the endings of second-declension nouns:

NUMBER	CASE	MASCULINE ENDING	NEUTER ENDING
SINGULAR	NOMINATIVE	-us	-um
	GENITIVE	-ī	-ī
	DATIVE	-ō	-ō
	ACCUSATIVE	-um	-um
	ABLATIVE	-ō	-ō
	VOCATIVE	-e	-um
PLURAL	NOMINATIVE	-ī	-a
	GENITIVE	-ōrum	-ōrum
	DATIVE	-īs	-īs
	ACCUSATIVE	-ōs	-a
	ABLATIVE	-īs	-īs
	VOCATIVE	-ī	-a

Notice that neuter words have the same case endings for the nominative, accusative, and vocative cases, in both the singular and the plural. This pattern is consistent throughout Latin.

A few nouns in the second declension end in **-r** or **-er**. With the exception of the nominative and vocative singular, these nouns have the same forms as other second-declension nouns. On the next page is an example.

NUMBER	CASE	FORM
SINGULAR	NOMINATIVE	vir
	GENITIVE	virī
	DATIVE	virō
	ACCUSATIVE	virum
	ABLATIVE	virō
	VOCATIVE	vir
PLURAL	NOMINATIVE	virī
	GENITIVE	virōrum
	DATIVE	virīs
	ACCUSATIVE	virōs
	ABLATIVE	virīs
	VOCATIVE	virī

EXERCISE

7.1

Give the stem of each of the following nouns.

- | | | | |
|--------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| 1. puer | _____ | 6. ager | _____ |
| 2. bellum | _____ | 7. nuntius | _____ |
| 3. ōtium | _____ | 8. torus | _____ |
| 4. thēsauros | _____ | 9. humus | _____ |
| 5. tergum | _____ | 10. minister | _____ |

EXERCISE

7.2

Give the correct form of each of the following nouns.

- hortus (*acc. sg.*) _____
- verbum (*nom. pl.*) _____
- ingenium (*dat. pl.*) _____
- vīnum (*gen. sg.*) _____
- magister (*acc. sg.*) _____
- rogus (*voc. pl.*) _____
- animus (*dat. pl.*) _____
- locus (*dat. sg.*) _____
- praemium (*acc. pl.*) _____
- pontus (*abl. sg.*) _____

EXERCISE

7.3

List all possible cases for each of the following nouns.

1. servō _____
2. gladiīs _____
3. domini _____
4. virīs _____
5. deum _____
6. nāte _____
7. membra _____
8. digitus _____
9. argenti _____
10. agrum _____

EXERCISE

7.4

Keeping the same case, transform each of the following noun forms into its opposite number, singular to plural or plural to singular. Some nouns may have more than one opposite-number form.

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. somnum _____ | 6. gaudiīs _____ |
| 2. amīcō _____ | 7. Phoebum _____ |
| 3. oculī _____ | 8. templa _____ |
| 4. vōtī _____ | 9. numerō _____ |
| 5. librōs _____ | 10. puerīs _____ |

EXERCISE

7.5

Give the correct Latin form of each of the following nouns.

1. fault (*gen. pl.*) _____
2. horse (*acc. pl.*) _____
3. empire (*nom. pl.*) _____
4. attendant (*gen. sg.*) _____

5. husband (*nom. sg.*) _____
6. camp (*gen. pl.*) _____
7. weapon (*abl. pl.*) _____
8. duty (*dat. sg.*) _____
9. son (*acc. sg.*) _____
10. slave (*acc. pl.*) _____

EXERCISE

7·6

Translate each of the following sentences into English.

1. Servī agrōs colunt.

2. Pretium gladii ignōrātis.

3. Augustum triumphō celebrant.

4. In terrā et caelō deōs nōn cernis.

5. Populus consilium vestrī contemnat.

6. Iuga in hortis impōnō.

7. Tunc fēmina cibum capit.

8. Principium convīvii signō postulant.

9. Arma iuxtā mūrōs āmittis?

10. Sī vīnum bibis, gaudium habēs.

Common second-declension nouns

aevum, aevī (n.)	age	minister, ministrī (m.)	attendant
ager, agrī (m.)	field	modus, modī (m.)	manner
amicus, amicī (m.)	friend	mundus, mundi (m.)	world
animus, animī (m.)	mind	mūrus, mūrī (m.)	wall
annus, annī (m.)	year	nātus, nātī (m.)	child
argentum, argentī (n.)	silver	negōtium, negōtīi (n.)	business
arma, armōrum (n.pl.)	weapons	numerus, numerī (m.)	number
arvum, arvī (n.)	field	nuntius, nuntiī (m.)	messenger
astrum, astrī (n.)	star	oculus, oculī (m.)	eye
Augustus, Augustī (m.)	Augustus	officium, officiī (n.)	duty
aurum, aurī (n.)	gold	ōtium, ōtīi (n.)	leisure
auxilium, auxiliī (n.)	help	pelagus, pelagī (n.)	sea
Bacchus, Bacchī (m.)	Bacchus	periculum, periculī (n.)	danger
bellum, bellī (n.)	war	Phoebus, Phoebī (m.)	Phoebus
caelum, caeli (n.)	sky	pontus, pontī (m.)	sea
campus, campī (m.)	plain	populus, populī (m.)	people
castra, castrōrum (n.pl.)	camp	praemium, praemiī (n.)	reward
chorus, chorī (m.)	chorus	pretium, pretiī (n.)	price
cibus, cibi (m.)	food	principium, principii (n.)	beginning
consilium, consilii (n.)	plan	proelium, proeliī (n.)	battle
convivium, convivii (n.)	party	puer, puerī (m.)	boy
damnum, damni (n.)	loss	regnum, regnī (n.)	kingdom
deus, deī (m.)	god	rogus, rogī (m.)	pyre
digitus, digitī (m.)	finger	saeculum, saeculī (n.)	age
dominus, domini (m.)	master	saxum, saxī (n.)	rock
dōnum, dōnī (n.)	gift	sepulcrum, sepulcri (n.)	tomb
equus, equī (m.)	horse	servus, servī (m.)	slave
exemplum, exemplī (n.)	example	signum, signī (n.)	sign
famulus, famulī (m.)	slave	silentium, silentiī (n.)	silence
fātum, fāti (n.)	fate	somnus, somnī (m.)	sleep
ferrum, ferri (n.)	iron	spatium, spatii (n.)	space
filius, filii (m.)	son	studium, studiī (n.)	enthusiasm
Gallus, Galli (m.)	a Gaul	tectum, tectī (n.)	roof
gaudium, gaudiī (n.)	joy	tēlum, tēli (n.)	spear
gladius, gladii (m.)	sword	templum, templī (n.)	temple
hortus, horti (m.)	garden	tergum, tergī (n.)	back
humus, humī (f.)	ground	thēsaurus, thēsaurī (m.)	treasure
imperium, imperiī (n.)	empire	torus, torī (m.)	couch
ingenium, ingeniī (n.)	talent	triumphus, triumphī (m.)	triumph
iūdicium, iūdicii (n.)	trial	ventus, ventī (m.)	wind
iugum, iugī (n.)	yoke	verbum, verbī (n.)	word
liber, libri (m.)	book	vinculum, vinculi (n.)	chain
locus, locī (m.)	place	vīnum, vīnī (n.)	wine
magister, magistrī (m.)	teacher	vir, virī (m.)	man
marītus, mariti (m.)	husband	vitium, vitiī (n.)	fault
membrum, membri (n.)	limb	vōtum, vōtī (n.)	vow

Noun and adjective agreement • Adjectives ending in **-us -a -um**

•8•

Adjectives describe nouns. In Latin, you can tell which adjective describes which noun only by their agreement. Agreement means that in order to describe a noun, an adjective must have the same case, number, and gender as the noun. Sometimes, the case endings of both words look the same, but often the case endings look different.

There are two main types of adjectives, each with its own pattern of endings. Fortunately, the endings of the first type are similar to those of the noun declensions you already know; this type is referred to as *first/second-declension adjectives*, or the **-us -a -um** type. The case endings of these adjectives are identical to the endings of first- and second-declension nouns combined. Here are the endings of **-us -a -um** adjectives:

NUMBER	CASE	MASCULINE	FEMININE	NEUTER
SINGULAR	NOMINATIVE	-us	-a	-um
	GENITIVE	-ī	-ae	-ī
	DATIVE	-ō	-ae	-ō
	ACCUSATIVE	-um	-am	-um
	ABLATIVE	-ō	-ā	-ō
	VOCATIVE	-e	-a	-um
PLURAL	NOMINATIVE	-ī	-ae	-a
	GENITIVE	-ōrum	-ārum	-ōrum
	DATIVE	-īs	-īs	-īs
	ACCUSATIVE	-ōs	-ās	-a
	ABLATIVE	-īs	-īs	-īs
	VOCATIVE	-ī	-ae	-a

There is also a small set of adjectives that end in **-r -ra -rum**. The stem for these is the same as that of second-declension nouns in **-r** or **-er**.

A few **-us -a -um** adjectives have different forms for the genitive and dative singular. Included in this group are **ūnus**, **nullus**, **ullus**, **sōlus**, **alius**, **tōtus**, and **alter**. Here is an example of this pattern:

NUMBER	CASE	MASCULINE	FEMININE	NEUTER
SINGULAR	NOMINATIVE	tōtus	tōta	tōtum
	GENITIVE	tōtīus	tōtīus	tōtīus
	DATIVE	tōtī	tōtī	tōtī
	ACCUSATIVE	tōtum	tōtam	tōtum
	ABLATIVE	tōtō	tōtā	tōtō
	VOCATIVE	tōte	tōta	tōtum
PLURAL	NOMINATIVE	tōtī	tōtae	tōta
	GENITIVE	tōtōrum	tōtārum	tōtōrum
	DATIVE	tōtīs	tōtīs	tōtīs
	ACCUSATIVE	tōtōs	tōtās	tōta
	ABLATIVE	tōtīs	tōtīs	tōtīs
	VOCATIVE	tōtī	tōtae	tōta

EXERCISE

8.1

Give the form of the adjective in parentheses that agrees with each of the following nouns.

1. (prīmus -a -um) proelium _____
2. (novus -a -um) mūrōrum _____
3. (adversus -a -um) undā _____
4. (nōtus -a -um) exemplī _____
5. (saevus -a -um) linguae _____
6. (maestus -a -um) poenam _____
7. (optimus -a -um) tectīs _____
8. (tener tenera tenerum) populōs _____
9. (mīrus -a -um) sepulcra _____
10. (tardus -a -um) hōrae _____

EXERCISE

8.2

Keeping the same case, transform each of the following adjective-noun phrases into its opposite number, singular to plural or plural to singular. Some phrases may have more than one opposite-number form.

1. superbōrum saeculōrum _____
2. beātum annum _____
3. aequum pretium _____

4. aeternam umbram _____
5. albī saxī _____
6. diversīs fātīs _____
7. dīvārum deārum _____
8. pūrae flammae _____
9. citō ferrō _____
10. cārī ōtiī _____

EXERCISE

8•3

From the following adjective-noun phrases, choose those in which the adjectives agree properly with their nouns.

immensō deō	placida bellī	mortuus consilium	singulās fēminās
piōs ventus	dūrīs regnīs	optimōrum poētārum	vīcīna terra
nūdō thēsaurum	ūniversīs auxiliīs	bonā fortūnā	perpetuae pugnārum
paucum damnum	candida bellō	malō caelō	ultimī perīcula
fessīs magistrīs	falsō studiīs	dīvīnārum scientiārum	vīvus Gallus

EXERCISE

8•4

Translate each of the following adjective-noun phrases into Latin.

1. wandering breeze (*nom. pl.*) _____
2. miserable year (*dat. pl.*) _____
3. worthy soul (*acc. pl.*) _____
4. pleasant Bacchus (*voc. sg.*) _____
5. beautiful world (*abl. sg.*) _____
6. ancient trial (*nom. pl.*) _____
7. unknown gift (*abl. pl.*) _____
8. large number (*acc. sg.*) _____
9. doubtful silence (*nom. sg.*) _____
10. royal business (*gen. pl.*) _____

EXERCISE

8·5

Translate each of the following sentences into English.

1. Lātum campum implent in bellō.

2. Sic principium tōtius aevī vidēmus.

3. Cārum aurum rapis digitīs foedis.

4. Consiliō certō templī portās inveniunt.

5. Arvum sacrum prō tē teneō.

6. Dē mūrīs altīs descendimus.

7. Filiō integrō et dīvinō vōta dant.

8. Dīvitiae etiam officium publicum saepe superant.

9. Ideō litterās multās tibi mittō.

10. Proelia saeva vōs suscipitis.

VOCABULARY

Common adjectives ending in -us -a -um

adversus adversa adversum	<i>adverse</i>	beātus beāta beātum	<i>blessed</i>
aeger aegra aegrum	<i>sick</i>	blandus blanda blandum	<i>charming</i>
aequus aequa aequum	<i>equal</i>	bonus bona bonum	<i>good</i>
aeternus aeterna aeternum	<i>eternal</i>	caecus caeca caecum	<i>blind</i>
albus alba album	<i>white</i>	candidus candida candidum	<i>bright</i>
aliēnus aliēna aliēnum	<i>another's</i>	cārus cāra cārum	<i>dear</i>
altus alta altum	<i>high</i>	castus casta castum	<i>pure</i>
antiquus antiqua antiquum	<i>ancient</i>	certus certa certum	<i>sure</i>
aptus apta aptum	<i>fitting</i>	cēterus cētera cēterum	<i>other</i>
aureus aurea aureum	<i>golden</i>	citus cita citum	<i>quick</i>

clārus clāra clārum	<i>famous</i>	nullus nulla nullum	<i>none</i>
cunctus cuncta cunctum	<i>all together</i>	obvius obvia obvium	<i>in the way</i>
densus densa densum	<i>thick</i>	parvus parva parvum	<i>small</i>
dexter dextera dexterum	<i>right</i>	paucus pauca paucum	<i>few</i>
dignus digna dignum	<i>worthy</i>	paulus paula paulum	<i>small</i>
diversus diversa diversum	<i>different</i>	perpetuus perpetua	<i>continuous</i>
divinus divīna divīnum	<i>divine</i>	perpetuum	
dīvus dīva dīvum	<i>divine</i>	pīus pia pium	<i>dutiful</i>
dubius dubia dubium	<i>doubtful</i>	placidus placida placidum	<i>calm</i>
dūrus dūra dūrum	<i>hard</i>	plēnus plēna plēnum	<i>full</i>
extrēmus extrēma extrēmum	<i>farthest</i>	praecipuus praecipua	<i>special</i>
falsus falsa falsum	<i>deceptive</i>	praecipuum	
ferus fera ferum	<i>wild</i>	proprius propria proprium	<i>own</i>
fessus fessa fessum	<i>tired</i>	proximus proxima	<i>closest</i>
festus festa festum	<i>holiday</i>	proximum	
foedus foeda foedum	<i>foul</i>	publicus publica publicum	<i>public</i>
Graecus Graeca Graecum	<i>Greek</i>	pulcher pulchra pulchrum	<i>beautiful</i>
grātus grāta grātum	<i>thankful</i>	pūrus pūra pūrum	<i>pure</i>
hūmānus hūmāna hūmānum	<i>civilized</i>	quantus quanta quantum	<i>how great</i>
ignōtus ignōta ignōtum	<i>unknown</i>	rārus rāra rārum	<i>uncommon</i>
immensus immensa immensum	<i>immeasurable</i>	rectus recta rectum	<i>correct</i>
improbus improba improbum	<i>wicked</i>	rēgius rēgia rēgium	<i>royal</i>
inferus infera inferum	<i>lowest</i>	reliquus reliqua reliquum	<i>remaining</i>
inimicus inimica inimicum	<i>hostile</i>	Rōmānus Rōmāna	<i>Roman</i>
integer integra integrum	<i>intact</i>	Rōmānum	
iūcundus iūcunda iūcundum	<i>pleasant</i>	rusticus rustica rusticum	<i>country</i>
iustus iusta iustum	<i>fair</i>	sacer sacra sacrum	<i>sacred</i>
laetus laeta laetum	<i>cheerful</i>	saevus saeva saevum	<i>cruel</i>
Latinus Latīna Latīnum	<i>Latin</i>	sanctus sancta sanctum	<i>sacred</i>
lātus lāta lātum	<i>wide</i>	sēcūrus sēcūra sēcūrum	<i>carefree</i>
liber libera liberum	<i>free</i>	singulus singula singulum	<i>one each</i>
longus longa longum	<i>long</i>	socius socia socium	<i>companion</i>
maestus maesta maestum	<i>sad</i>	sollicitus sollicita sollicitum	<i>worried</i>
magnus magna magnum	<i>large</i>	sōlus sōla sōlum	<i>only</i>
malus mala malum	<i>bad</i>	superbus superba superbum	<i>haughty</i>
medius media medium	<i>middle</i>	tantus tanta tantum	<i>so great</i>
mīrus mīra mīrum	<i>wonderful</i>	tardus tarda tardum	<i>slow</i>
miser misera miserum	<i>miserable</i>	tener tenera tenerum	<i>tender</i>
mortuus mortua mortuum	<i>dead</i>	tōtus tōta tōtum	<i>whole</i>
multus multa multum	<i>many</i>	tūtus tūta tūtum	<i>safe</i>
mundus munda mundum	<i>clean</i>	ullus ulla ullum	<i>any</i>
necessārius necessāria	<i>necessary</i>	ūniversus ūniversa	<i>all together</i>
necessārium		ūniversum	
niger nigra nigrum	<i>black</i>	vacuus vacua vacuum	<i>empty</i>
nocturnus nocturna nocturnum	<i>nighttime</i>	vagus vaga vagum	<i>wandering</i>
noster nostra nostrum	<i>our</i>	varius varia varium	<i>varied</i>
nōtus nōta nōtum	<i>famous</i>	vērus vēra vērum	<i>true</i>
novus nova novum	<i>new</i>	vīcīnus vīcīna vīcīnum	<i>neighboring</i>
nūdus nūda nūdum	<i>naked</i>	vīvus vīva vīvum	<i>alive</i>

The present tense of **sum** • Predicate sentences

The present tense of **sum**

The most common verb in Latin, as in most languages, is the verb that means *to be*. In Latin, it is an irregular verb, but it uses the same personal endings you already know. Here is the present tense of **sum**:

	SINGULAR		PLURAL	
FIRST PERSON	sum	<i>I am</i>	sumus	<i>we are</i>
SECOND PERSON	es	<i>you are</i>	estis	<i>you are</i>
THIRD PERSON	est	<i>he/she/it is</i>	sunt	<i>they are</i>

Predicate sentences

Sometimes all you want to say is that one thing equals something else. In this case, there is no action verb or direct object involved. Sentences like this are called *predicate sentences*, and they use a verb like **sum**. You can think of the verb **sum** as an equals sign, and the two people or things being equated are both in the nominative case.

Italia est patria mea.
Nōs sumus puellae.

Italy is my country.
We are girls.

Predicate nominatives, predicate adjectives, and agreement

If a predicate sentence is equating two nouns, one is the subject and the other is a predicate nominative. If the sentence is equating a noun with an adjective, the noun is the subject and the adjective is a predicate adjective. Predicate nominatives only have to agree with the subject in case. Predicate adjectives, though, like all other adjectives, have to agree with the subject in case, number, and gender.

Tenebrae sunt nigrae.
Somnus est blandus.

The shadows are black.
Sleep is charming.

EXERCISE

9.1

Give the correct form of **sum** in each of the following sentences.

1. Locus _____ antīquus.
2. Tū _____ amīcus.
3. Gaudia _____ vitium.
4. Ego _____ liber.
5. Membra _____ mea.
6. Vōs _____ virī.
7. Stella _____ candida.
8. Phoebus _____ deus.
9. Nōs _____ Graecī.
10. Vīta _____ varia.

EXERCISE

9.2

In each of the following sentences, give the correct form of the word in parentheses so that it agrees with the subject.

1. Praemium tuum est (equus) _____.
2. Deī Rōmānī sunt (maximus) _____.
3. Verbum est (causa) _____.
4. Nōs (m.) sumus (vērus) _____.
5. Poena est (vinculum) _____.
6. Pecūnia est (aliēnus) _____.
7. Virī sunt (dubius) _____.
8. Trōia est (regnum) _____.
9. Tū (m.) es (rusticus) _____.
10. Sepulcra sunt (Latīnus) _____.

EXERCISE

9·3

Translate each of the following sentences into Latin.

1. Phoebus is a god of Rome. _____
2. He is hostile. _____
3. The roses are ours. _____
4. Help is the duty of friendship. _____
5. Memories are golden. _____
6. You are a girl. _____
7. Augustus is my master. _____
8. Words are sometimes weapons. _____
9. The triumph is famous. _____
10. We are the poets of Troy. _____

EXERCISE

9·4

Translate each of the following sentences into English. Some are predicate sentences, and some are not.

1. Templum Graecum est sacrum. _____
2. Ventī in pelagō sunt placidī. _____
3. Equus caecus tibi mē reddit. _____
4. Sententia est mihi nōta. _____
5. Liber in castrīs Gallōrum est. _____
6. Vōs estis improbae sicut servī. _____
7. Es dominus? _____
8. Tibi damus novum tectum. _____
9. Sum liber, nec famulus. _____
10. Fugae sunt plēnae periculōrum. _____