

Introduction

Thank you for reading the second pamphlet of *Primordia*! Once again, please do not hesitate to provide feedback at <https://tinyurl.com/feedingback>.

I'm still working on the website (<https://latin2u.github.io>), and it'll be improved during the mid-winter break. This pamphlet will cover third-declension nouns, Roman holidays in February, and verbs.

Third-declension nouns

The third-declension nouns consist of three genders: masculine, feminine, and neuter. However, there are four main paradigms: masculine/feminine i-stem, masculine/feminine consonant stem, neuter i-stem, and neuter consonant stem. (They'll make sense later.)

Lexical entries will always be in the form "nominative singular, genitive singular," like "rex, regis". There is always a misconception where the second part is the nominative plural, but that is not true, despite similarities students may notice in earlier declensions. (wonder why neuter nouns don't end in "a" for the second part? that's why!)

You could typically identify nouns as third-declension by seeing if the genitive singular (the second part of the lexical entry) ends in -is.

Standard endings are as follows:

3rd, m./f.	Singular	Plural
Nominative	No standard ending	-es

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Genitive	-is	-ium/-um
Dative	-i	-ibus
Accusative	-em	-es
Ablative	-e	-ibus

Nominative also changes stem sometimes (for example, *rex, regis* sees its stem change from "rex" to "reg"). Also, when I meant "i-stem" from before, those types of nouns will typically have a genitive plural of "ium".

3rd, n.	Singular	Plural
Nominative	[varies]	-a/-ia
Genitive	-is	-um/-ium
Dative	-i	-ibus
Accusative	[same as nom. singular]	-a/-ia
Ablative	-e	-ibus

To identify if a certain noun is an i-stem, you should find the following:

- Parasyllabic rule: if both nominative AND genitive have the same number of syllables, it might be an i-stem.
- If the stem ends in two consonants, it probably is an i-stem.
- If the noun is neuter AND it ends in -e, -al, or -ar, it is probably an i-stem.

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Note that I said *probably* in the points above - they aren't guaranteed to be exactly i-stems - for example, *ovis* doesn't end in two consonants, but it still is an i-stem noun.

If a masculine/feminine word does turn out to be i-stem, then the genitive plural should end in -ium. However, if it is a neuter word, then not only the genitive plural should end in -ium, but also the nominative and accusative plurals should be changed to "-ia". For example, "animal, animalis" is a neuter i-stem, so its nominative plural is "animalia" and its genitive plural is "animalium."

Nota Bene: There's also "pure i-stem", for words like *puppis* (poop deck), where the ablative singular ends in "-i", accusative singular ends in "-im", and sometimes the accusative plural being "-is", but those are also exceptions.

Verbs

Verbs have tenses (present/imperfect/future), voices (active/passive) and moods (indicative/imperative). (The most infuriating part is learning what each of the forms really means, especially when you get into translations like "I might have been called by...")

Each verb is in at least one of the four (really five) conjugations: 1st (-are), 2nd (-ēre), 3rd (-ere), 3rd -io (-ere), and 4th (-ire).

The most basic of all tenses, voices, and moods is the present active indicative - "I call", "we eat", and "he sleeps" are examples of the form in use.

Present means the action is happening in the present; active means that the action is done by the subject in the sentence; and indicative means that things are being definitively indicated/stated, NOT commanded/questioned.

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The following example uses the first conjugation verb *voco*, *vocare*, *vocavi*, *vocatus*. Take the second principal part - *vocare* - take off the "re" to get "voca", then use the present stem (vocā-) and add personal endings. For the first [person] singular, copy down the first principal part. Then stick on the endings starting from the 2nd singular: s/t/mus/tis/nt.

	Form	Translation
Singular: 1st	voco	I (call)
Singular: 2nd	voca-s	You (call)
Singular: 3rd	voca-t	He/she/it (calls)
Plural: 1st	voca-mus	We (call)
Plural: 2nd	voca-tis	You [all] (call)
Plural: 3rd	voca-nt	They (call)

There is also the *infinitive* - the present active infinitive is simply the second principal part, stating to [verb] - here, "to call." Additionally, an imperative exists - telling someone to do something, shown in the following.

	Form	Translation
Singular: 2nd	voca	[You] call!
Plural: 2nd	voca-te	[You all] call!

To conjugate different conjugations, note the following:

- In the second conjugation, do the same, but note that the infinitive is strictly ending in ēre, including the macrons, to not get confused with the third conjugation, discussed later.

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- rideo, rides, ridet, ridemus, ridetis, rident, **ridēre**, ride, ridete
- In the third conjugation, Latin plays a trick by changing vowels. It's all "i" in the 2nd singular to the 2nd plural (for example, trahīt), but in the 3rd plural, it's changed to *u* (trahunt), then changed back to "e" in the infinitive, then back to "i" for the imperative.
 - traho, trahis, trahit, trahimus, trahitis, **trahunt**, trahere, trahe, trahite
- In the fourth conjugation, note that the 3rd plural is "iu" like in *audiunt*.
 - audio, audis, audit, audimus, auditis, audiunt, audire, audi, audite.

The present active *passive* also exists, and is shown like the following - "I am held", "I am taken," and "they are taken."

The following example (on the next page) uses the same word as in the example below. Take the second principal part - *vocare* - take off the "re" to get "voca", and copy that from the 2nd singular to the 3rd plural. For the first [person] singular, copy down the first principal part, then stick on the "r." Then stick on the endings starting from the 2nd singular: ris/tur/mur/mini/ntur.

	Form	Translation
Singular: 1st	voco-r	I am (called)
Singular: 2nd	voca-ris	You are (called)
Singular: 3rd	voca-tur	He/she/it is (called)
Plural: 1st	voca-mur	We are (called)

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Plural: 2nd	voca-mini	You [all] are (called)
Plural: 3rd	voca-ntur	They are (called)
(Infinitive)	voca-ri	To be (called)

Again, as before, there are more things to note with the different declensions.

To conjugate different conjugations, note the following:

- In the second:
 - rideor, rideris, ridetur, ridemur, ridemini, ridentur
- In the third, know that the second singular always ends in "eris" - and also note the change of vowels in the third plural.
 - ducor, **duceris**, ducitur, ducimur, ducimini, ducuntur
 - Also note that the infinitive does not end in ri: duci stays "duci".
- In the fourth, note that the infinitive ENDS in ri: "audiri".
 - audior, audiris, auditor, audimur, audimini, audiuntur

There are many other tenses/moods/voices of verbs (for example, the imperfect active indicative), which will be covered in the next pamphlet.

February Holidays

13-15 February: Parentalia - honours deceased relatives

15 February: Februa - a purification rite

15 February: Lupercalia - some honour the goddess of fertility

17 February: Quirinalia - in honour of Quirinus, an early Roman god

22 February: Caristia - a private potluck in the family

23 February: Terminalia - in honour of Terminus, the god of boundaries

27 February: Equirria - horse-racing events in honour of Mars (his "birthday" was in the next month, Martius, named after him).

Functions

In the sentence "I walked to school today," the word "I" is the main focus of the sentence - the subject. In Latin, that would be on the lines of "[Ego] hodie ad ludum ambulavi," and thus the subject is "ego", which is in the nominative case. In pamphlet 1, I did really say, "Here, a case shows a noun's role in a sentence," and that still applies.

The functions that I had listed back then were only a few of the cases that Latin has for every case.

Nominative

Besides subject, it could also be used for the predicate:

- "Illa sunt mala." That means "Those are apples," and given that the word "apples" is a neuter noun in Latin, that makes an example.

Genitive

Besides possession...

- "Domus agricolae magna est" - "The house of the farmer is large."

... there's also partitive, where it shows that the item
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is a part of a whole:

- "Pars discipulorum dormivit" - "A part of the students are sleeping."

... and of value:

- "Liber magni pretii est." - "The book is of great value."

Dative

Besides indirect object...

- "Puella puerō malum dat" - "The girl gives an apple to the boy."

... there's also dative of reference:

- "Hoc mihi facile est." - "This is easy for me."

... and the dative of impersonal construction

- "Ambulare mihi placet" - "It pleases me to walk."

Accusative

Besides direct object...

- "Puer murum pulsat" - "The boy punched the wall"

There's also time...

- "Puer tres horas abest" - The boy is absent for three hours"

and double accusative.

- "Magister discipulos numeros docet" - "The teacher teaches the students numbers."

Ablative

There is the instrument:

- "Baculō ambulavit" - "He walked with a stick."

... and the agent...

- "Puer ab magistrō laudātus est." - "The boy was praised by the teacher"

... and many others, which are too much to list, and could be covered in future times.

Links