

Latin Language Study Guide

General terminology:

macron : long mark put on a word

enclitic: ending added to a word (-ne, -que), etc.

diphthong: two vowels that when pronounced together make a different sound than when they are alone

Rules about Vowels (kind of obscure, but they sometimes ask this stuff):

1) A vowel is **SHORT** if:

a) it is followed by another vowel or the consonant **h**

b) it is followed by **nd** or **nt**

2) A vowel is **LONG** if:

a) it is a diphthong

b) it is followed by two consonants (other than blends—but don't worry about 'em)

Rules about Accent:

1) in a word of two syllables → accent falls on 1st syllable

2) in words of 3 or more syllables → accent falls on penult (second to last) IF it is long
→ if the penult is short, accent falls on the antepenult
(syllable before penult)

Accents are marked with a slash mark; the smiley mark = short syllable:

VEXILLÁRIUS (accent on the A b/c the I is short)

SEQUÉSTRA (accent on E b/c it is long)

Numbers to know:

11	undecim
12	duodecim
13	tredecim
14	quattuordecim
15	quindecim
16	sedecim
17	septendecim
18	duodeviginti
19	undeviginti
20	viginti
30	triginta
40	quadraginta
50	quingenta
60	sexaginta
70	septuaginta
80	octoginta
90	nonaginta
100	centum
500	quingenti

Ordinal numbers
1 st = primus
2 nd = secundus
3 rd = tertius
4 th = quartus
5 th = quintus
6 th = sextus
7 th = septimus
8 th = octavus
9 th = nonus
10 th = decimus

The 5 Declensions

Decl:	1	2	3	4	5
Common gender	feminine	masculine but: -um words are neuter	evenly divided between the genders	masculine	feminine
Notable exceptions	masculine words include: nauta = sailor auriga = charioteer poeta = poet pirata = pirate andabata = gladiator who fought blind agricola = farmer	domus = feminine names of cities, small islands and trees which are 2 nd declension are feminine	common neuter words: corpus, corporis iter, itineris vulnus, vulneris caput, capitis tempus, temporis onus, oneris nomen, nominis litus, litoris flumen, fluminis	manus = feminine cornua = only common neuter 4 th declension noun	dies = masculine
Endings:	-A -AE -AE -ARUM -AE -IS -AM -AS -Ā -IS	Masculine: -US/R -I -I -ORUM -O -IS -UM -OS -O -IS Neuter: -UM -A -I -ORUM -O -IS -UM -A -O -IS	Mas/Fem. given -ES -IS -UM -I -IBUS -EM -ES -E -IBUS Neuter. given -A -IS -UM -I -IBUS given -A -E -IBUS	-US -ŪS -ŪS -UUM -UI -IBUS -UM -ŪS -Ū -IBUS neuter word: cornu cornua cornūs cornuum cornui cornibus cornu cornua cornu cornibus	-ES -ES -EI -ERUM -EI -EBUS -EM -ES -E -EBUS
Irregularities:	dea & filia decline like this: -A -AE -AE -ARUM -AE -ABUS -AM -AS -Ā -ABUS		1) i stem words get -IUM in the genitive plural—the most common i stem is urbs see below for i stem rules 2)-i stem neuters mare, animal decline like this: given -IA -IS -UM -I -IBUS -EM -IA -I -IBUS		

Advanced Noun Uses:

GENITIVE

1) Partitive Genitive

What it is: the partitive is a term for genitive that is used to talk about parts of a whole; even though it still often involves the word 'of' in English, it does not involve ownership

Example: I have enough of that → 'that' would go in the genitive

How to recognize: occurs ONLY after the following words:

satis = enough nemis = too much nihil = none/no

E.g. Habeo satis cibi = I have enough food.

Habemus nihil aquae = We have no water (lit: nothing of water)

2) Genitive of Description

What it is: this is another type of genitive that is still signaled by an 'of' in English, but does not strictly show ownership, so it is given a different name. These 'of' phrases describe the noun they are attached to

Example: His love of wine was proverbial. Amor vini.....

She has an irrational fear of frogs. Habet timorem ranarum

How to recognize: just look for an 'of' phrase that describes rather than shows ownership—(i.e.—you cannot replace the word after the of with 's version)

Possessive: The father of the girls → The girl's father

Descriptive: Her fear of frogs DOES NOT = the frog's fear

DATIVE

1) Dative of Possession

What it is: Another way to show ownership that uses a form of the verb 'to be' plus the person owning put in the dative

Example: Casa est mihi. = The house is mine (literally: the house is to me)

Frater tibi est = He is your brother (literally: the brother is to you)

Cibus Corneliae erat = The food was Cornelia's.

Mihi nomen est ... = My name is

How to recognize: Look for a form of ESSE together with a dative

2) Dative with Special (Compound) Verbs

What it is: certain verbs take their DO in the Dat. instead of the Acc.

Example: Succurrit mihi. = He helps me.

How to recognize: You can memorize a list of these verbs, but it is also handy to know that many of them are what we call 'compound' verbs, meaning that they are a compound consisting of a prefix plus a verb—for example occurro = ob (against) + curro (I run)

(note: not all compound verbs take the dative, but a lot do)

List of verbs which take the Dative:

Common:

cedo - yield

credo - believe

diffido - distrust

faveo - favor

fido (confido) - trust

ignosco - pardon

impero - command, order

invideo - envy
noceo - harm
parco - spare
pareo - obey
placeo - please
resisto - resist
respondeo - answer

More obscure:

studeo - be eager, desire
suadeo (persuadeo) - exhort, recommend, persuade
displiceo - displease
evenio - happen, occur
irascor - be angry at
minor (minitor) – threaten
servio – serve
indulgeo – indulge

ACCUSATIVE:

1) Place to Which

What it is: You already know that you generally translate motion towards a place by putting the preposition AD in front of it, followed by the object in the Accusative. However, for some nouns, you can still express this idea, but leave out the AD. Specifically, you can do this with the names of all cities, plus these three others: **domus (house), rurus (countryside), humus (ground)**

Example: Romam veniemus. We will come to Rome.

Ambulant domum. They walk (to the) home.

How to recognize: Look for the name of a city (or the other noted words) put into an Accusative when it is NOT acting as a direct object but instead expresses ‘to...’

2) Extent of Time

What it is: While Latin has the word pro, which means ‘for’, pro only means ‘for’ in the sense of ‘in favor of’; if you want to express the idea of ‘for’ as in ‘for a long time’ there is no preposition for this. Instead you just put the object of that prepositional phrase in the accusative.

Example: Multos annos Ulixes errabat. Ulysses was wandering for many years.

Iter faciemus unum diem. We will journey for one day.

How to recognize: Look for a word that has to do with time put in the accusative—ALWAYS translate it with ‘for....’

Common time words: **tempus, temporis** = time; **dies, diei** = day; **annus, anni** = year, **mensis, mensis** = month; **hora, horae** = hour; **nox, noctis** = night

NOTE: Extent of Space also takes the Accusative (as in we could see for miles)

3) Accusative of Exclamation

What it is: When you utter an exclamation that is not a complete sentence (usually beginning with an O and ending in English with an exclamation point), this takes the accusative in Latin

Example: O tempora, O mores! -- “Oh the times, oh the morals!” (famous quote from Cicero)

How to recognize: just look for the disjointed exclamation sandwiched between an O....!

ABLATIVE

1) Place from Which

What it is: This is in many ways the opposite use from Acc. of Place to Which; with the names of cities, plus **domus, rurus, and humus** you can express the idea of “away from...” without using the preposition AB; instead you simply put the word in the Ablative

Example: Romā ambulabamus. = We were walking away from Rome.

Discedo domo. = I leave (from) home.

How to recognize: Look for the name of a city (or one of those other words) in the Ablative; always translate as ‘(away) from’

2) Time When

What it is: This is the opposite of ‘Extent of Time’. A time word placed in the ablative means ‘**at, on, in...X time**’ (in other words, time when expresses a finite point in time, rather than a length or duration of time)

Example: Uno die adveniemus. We will arrive in one day.

Oppugaverunt nocte. They attacked at night.

Secundo die adveniam. I will arrive on the second day.

3) THREE USES INVOLVING ‘WITH’

What are they: In English we use the word WITH in three distinct senses;

- 1) I came with my friends → with = in the company of
- 2) I hit him with a spear. → with = by means of
- 3) I screamed with terror → with = in a state of

While Latin uses the ablative to translate all of the objects of these prepositions, it only uses the preposition WITH for some of them...See the chart below:

<i>Use Name</i>	<i>Example</i>	<i>How to recognize</i>	<i>How to translate</i>
Accompaniment	I came <u>with my friends</u>	use this for with = in the company of	cum + ablative with my friends = cum amicis
Means/ Instrument	I hit him <u>with a spear.</u>	use this for with = by means of	NO CUM! just put the word in the ablative with a spear = hastā
Manner	I screamed with terror	use this for with = in a state of	cum (optional) + ablative with terror = cum terrore or terrore

How to recognize:

Accompaniment generally deals with people (always has a CUM), Means/Instrument deals with objects (and NEVER has a CUM), Manner deals with emotions (or other such abstractions) and may or may not have a cum

4) Personal Agent

What it is: You won’t really encounter this for a while, but I’ll mention it because it came up at Classical Cottage. When a verb is in the passive voice (e.g. he was killed), you often include a prepositional phrase like ‘by me’ to explain who is doing the action. In Latin, you translate such a phrase using the preposition **a/ab** (which otherwise always means away from) plus an ablative

Example: Neccatur a me. He was killed by me

How to recognize: Look for the **3 P’s**

- 1) a **passive voice** verb (see notes on forming the Latin passive in the verb section of this handout)
- 2) a **person** who is the ‘agent’ of the action

3) the preposition **a/ab** in Latin or **by** in English

5) Ablative of Comparison

See further notes on this in the Comparison of Adjectives section of this handout

VOCATIVE:

don't forget that ALL vocatives are the SAME as the NOMINATIVE except in the 2nd Declension singular; in the second declension words that end in -US take their vocative in -E and words that end in -IUS take their vocative in -I

E.g. Vocative of Drusus = Druse

Vocative of filius = fili

LOCATIVE

You're probably saying WAIT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN? THERE AREN'T ANY MORE CASES...Actually there is one more (though some feel it is just a variant...)

What is it: The Locative is a case with only one use: **Place Where**. It is the companion to Place to Which and Place From Which. Like those, you use it ONLY with the names of cities, plus the words domus, humus and rurus. You use the Locative to express 'in...' as with the others, you do NOT use the preposition 'in' to do this, you JUST put the word in the Locative form. What is the locative form? Unfortunately that gets a bit complicated; the rules for forming Locatives are discussed in the chart below: How to form a Locative:

IF	THEN	Examples
the place name is 1 st or 2 nd declension singular	the locative is the same as the genitive singular	Roma → Romae domus → domi rurus → ruri Capua → Capuae
the place name is 1 st or 2 nd declension plural	the locative is the same as the ablative plural	Athenae → Athenis Puteoli → Puteolis Cumae → Cumis
the place name is 3 rd declension singular or plural	the locative is the same as the ablative singular or plural (sing for sing, pl for pl)	Carthago → Carthagine Gades → Gadibus

NOTE: If you are currently saying, "How the heck am I going to remember that?!?" bear in mind that the ones you generally get asked about are the Locative of Rome = Romae, and the locatives of domus = domi, rurus = ruri and humus = humi. Master those for starters.

Examples: Habito Romae. Habito Romae.

Manebimus ruri. We will stay in the country.

ADJECTIVES

COMPARISON OF ADJECTIVES

	Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Eng.	regular form, e.g. <i>happy</i>	-er or more _____ <i>happier</i>	-est or most _____ <i>happiest</i>
Latin	ends in -us, -a, -um OR -is, -e (with a few other exceptions) these are the of the adj.	take off ending and add m./f.: -IOR , n: -IUS	take off ending and add: -ISSIMUS, A, UM
Examples of Regular Adjectives			
	stultus, -a, -um	stultior, stultius	stultissimus, a, um
	stupid	stupider/ more stupid	stupidest/ most stupid
	fortis, -e	fortior, fortius	fortissimus, a, um
A Few Mildly Irregular Ones....			
	-er adjectives: celer, celeris	celerior, celerius	celerrimus
	-lis adjectives: facilis, facile difficilis, difficile	facilior, facilius	facillimus

BAD NEWS: There are also a small number of really irregular adjectives

GOOD NEWS: most have common derivatives, which can help you remember them

bonus, -a, -um	melior, melius	optimus, a, um
good	better	best
malus, -a, -um	peior, peius	pessimus, a, um
bad	worse	worst
magnus, -a, -um	maior, maius	maximus, a, um
big	bigger	biggest
parvus, -a, -um	minor, minus	minimus, a, um
small	smaller	smallest
multus, a, um	--, plus	plurimus
many	more	most

Using Comparative Forms:

All adjectives can be declined (they have to be, so they can agree with varying forms of nouns). All **Comparative** adjectives decline as follows:

	Singular		Plural	
	<i>m. /f.</i>	<i>n.</i>	<i>m. /f.</i>	<i>n.</i>
Nom.	fortior	fortius	fortiores	fortiori
Gen.	fortioris	fortioris	fortiorum	fortiorum
Dat.	fortiori	fortiori	fortioribus	fortioribus
Acc.	fortiorem	fortius	fortiores	fortiora
Abl.	fortiore	fortiore	fortioribus	fortioribus

Using Superlatives: superlatives decline like 1st/2nd adjectives

NOUN USES ASSOCIATED WITH COMPARATIVE ADJECTIVES:

1) Comparative + quam:

You have already encountered **quam** as an acc. fem. form of the relative pronoun qui, quae, quod. But when you see a comparison followed by a quam, the **quam = than**

E.g. Quintus est intelligentior **quam** tu. Quintus is more intelligent than you.

The word after the quam (which will be the person who is being compared) will be the same case as the person before the quam. This is usually, but not always the nominative. It depends on the sentence.

E.g. : Marcus altior **quam** Flavius est. Marcus is taller than Flavius is.

Vidi puellam pulchrior **quam** Horatiam. I see a girl prettier than Horatia.

2) Abl. of Comparison:

It is possible to make the same sort of sentence as above in a different way. You can omit the **quam** and put the person being compared into the ABLATIVE case. This is called an Ablative of Comparison.

Marcus altior Flavio est. Marcus is taller than Flavius

What it is: the ablative of comparison is a way to say **than...** WITHOUT using quam

How to form it: put the person (or thing) after the than into the ablative

How to recognize it: look for a comparative adjective followed by a word in the ablative

ADVERBS

1) Formation from Adjectives:

a) For 1st/2nd Declension Adjectives: change -us, -a, um to -e

E.g.: laetus, a, um = happy → laete = happily

Exceptions: bonus → bene = well

multus → multum = much

primus → primum = first(ly)

b) For 3rd Declension Adjectives: add -iter to the genitive stem

E.g.: celer = quick → celeriter = quickly

felix, felicitis = lucky → feliciter = luckily

Exceptions: facilis → facile = easily

difficilis → difficile = with difficulty

HOW TO MAKE COMPARATIVE AND SUPERLATIVE ADVERBS

	Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Adj.	stultus, -a, -um	stultior, stultius	stultissimus, a, um
Adv.	stulte (stupidly)	stultius (more stupidly)	stultissime (most stupidly)
Adj.	fortis	fortior, fortius	fortissimus, a, um
Adv.	fortiter (bravely)	fortius (more bravely)	fortissimo (most bravely)

QUAM + SUPERLATIVE ADVERBS (AND ADJECTIVES)

You have already learned about a comparative + quam.

Comparative + quam = _____ **-er than**

Quam + superlative = **as _____ as possible**

E.g. Fac meam cenam quam celerrime. Make my dinner as quickly as possible

VERBS

IRREGULAR VERBS

Be sure you know all of the common irregular verbs (ESSE, POSSE, IRE, VELLE & NOLLE); there is also one more you haven't learned yet:

FERRE = to bring/ bear/carry

Present		Imperfect		Future	
fero	ferimus	ferebam	ferebamus	feram	feremus
fers	fertis	ferebas	ferebatis	feres	feretis
fert	ferunt	ferebat	ferebant	feret	ferent

FUTURE TENSE

Remember the following:

1 st & 2 nd Conjugations take the endings:	3 rd & 4 th take the endings -am, -es, -et, -emus, -etis, -ent it is important to remember that otherwise they follow the vowel rules established in the present tense: 3 rd conj. can NEVER get double vowels, so the vowel of the stem falls away when the ending contains a vowel 4 th conj. can get double vowels, so they ALWAYS stay	
	3 rd : DUCERE (stem: duce) stem will effectively be DUC-	4 th : AUDIRE (stem: audi)
-bo	ducam	audiam
-bis	duces	audies
-bit	ducet	audiet
-bimus	ducemus	audiemus
-bitis	ducetis	audietis
-bunt	ducent	audient

THE PERFECT TENSES

	Perfect	Pluperfect	Future Perfect
Translation	1) -ed (simple past) 2) have/has	had	will have
Endings	-I -IMUS -ISTI -ISTIS -IT -ERUNT	-ERAM -ERAMUS -ERAS -ERATIS -ERAT -ERANT	-ERO -ERIMUS -ERIS -ERITIS -ERIT -ERINT
Remember that all of these endings are added to the 3 rd principle part (the perfect stem) E.g. amo, amare, amavi, amatus			
Perfect:	amavi amavimus amavisti amavistis amavit amaverunt	Pluperfect amaveram amaveramus amaveras amaveratis amaverat amaverant	Future Perfect amavero amaverimus amaveris amaveritis amaverit amaverint

Remember: NO verbs are irregular in the Perfect tenses

IMPERATIVES:

1) Positive imperatives—don't forget how to form them:

AMARE	SEDĒRE	SCRIBERE	AUDIRE
Sing: ama!	sede!	scribe!	audi!
Pl: amate!	sedete!	scribite!	audite!

2) Irregular Positive Imperatives—remember that the following verbs are irregular:

DUCERE	DICERE	FACERE	FERRE
Sing: dic!	duc!	fac!	fer!
Pl: dicite!	ducite!	facite!	ferite!

NOTE: the imperative of ESSE = esto!

3) Negative imperatives: all verbs form these the same way:

Sing: Noli + infinitive	e.g. Noli amare
Pl: Nolite + infinitive	e.g. Nolite amare

MAKING VERBS INTO QUESTIONS:

Question Type	What you add	Examples
Simple yes or no	enclitic -ne	Amasne me? Do you love me?
Expects a yes answer	put Nonne in front	Nonne amas me? Don't you love me?
Expects a no answer	put Num in front hint: I remember that num expects a negative answer because it rhymes with 'doom'	Num amas me? You don't love me, do you?

THE PASSIVE VOICE

Remember the passive voice reflects a situation where the subject is no longer the doer of the action; it can exist in all tenses and translated as follows:

Tense	ACTIVE	PASSIVE
Present	I love	I am loved
Imperfect	I used to love	I used to be loved
Future	I will love	I will be loved
Perfect	I have loved	I have been loved
Pluperfect	I had loved	I had been loved
Future Perfect	I will have loved	I will have been loved

HOW TO CHANGE AN SIMPLE TENSE ACTIVE VERB TO THE PASSIVE

Except for a few small changes elsewhere, the only big difference in form between active voice verbs and passive verbs is the ending. Everything you ever learned about vowels remains the same except for the bolded ones

Active Ending	Passive Ending
-O	→ -OR, -M → -R
-S	→ -RIS
-T	→ -TUR
-MUS	→ -MUR
-TIS	→ -MINI
-NT	→ -NTUR

SIMPLE TENSE CHART, PASSIVE VOICE

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
Present	amar	videor	ducor	audior
	amaris	videris	duceris	audiris
	amatur	videtur	ducitur	auditur
	amamur	videmur	ducimur	audimur
	amamini	videmini	ducimini	audimini
	amantur	videntur	ducuntur	audiuntur
Imperfect	amabar	videbar	ducebar	audiebar
	amabaris	videbaris	ducebaris	audiebaris
	amabatur	videbatur	ducebatur	audiebatur
	amabamur	videbamur	ducebamur	audiebamur
	amabamini	videbamini	ducebamini	audiebamini
	amabantur	videbantur	ducebantur	audiebantur
Future	amabor	videbor	ducar	audiar
	amaberis	videberis	duceris	audieris
	amabitur	videbitur	ducetur	audietur
	amabimur	videbimur	ducemur	audiemur
	amabimini	videbimini	ducemini	audiemini
	amabuntur	videbuntur	ducentur	audientur