

## **Applications of Latin**

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Latin is an inflection language, which means the endings of the words change to perform certain functions in the structure of a sentence. In Latin, inflection is done through declensions and conjugations.

## The Declension

In Latin, there are five basic declensions, as well as several irregular declensions. The declensions are inflections of most nouns. Declensions can be declined into singular or plural forms. Nouns can also be declined into the following forms:

### *Nominative*

The nominative form is used when the noun acts on its own or, if in a sentence, the noun acts as the subject. It is often displayed with the genitive form in a dictionary.

### *Genitive*

The genitive form can be used to derive the other declensions of a noun. In a sentence, the genitive form is used to indicate possession. In English, the equivalent is an apostrophe after a name or the use of the preposition, “of” before the noun. Usage of this form is easily confused. (e.g., “The king’s throne”, “The throne of the king”)

### *Dative*

When a noun is acting as the indirect object, or the person or thing that receives the object, the noun is declined into the dative form in Latin. (e.g., “Give the book to the teacher.” In this sentence, “teacher” is the indirect object, as it is the person receiving the book.)

### *Accusative*

In a transitive sentence, the accusative form of a noun acts as the object. The object is the noun that receives the action. In a dependent clause, the accusative form is also declined for direct objects. Sometimes, the accusative form is used as the object of prepositions, depending on the meaning.



### *Ablative*

The ablative form is declined for objects of prepositions. Sometimes, the accusative form may be used instead for a slightly different meaning.

### *Vocative*

In most cases, the vocative form is declined much like the nominative form. The vocative form is used when addressing someone or something, or to call attention to something or someone. (e.g., “O Caesar!”, “Boys! Go back to sleep!”)



In addition to these forms, there are three types of nouns: Feminine, Masculine and Neuter. They do not always imply gender, but rather describe the type of declension. The first declension is always feminine, the second declension is masculine or neuter, the third and fourth declensions can be all three, and the fifth declension is feminine or masculine. Some words can be declined in the first or second declension. (e.g., “*nova, novus* and *novum*” are in first and second declension, but all of them mean “new” or “young”.)

Not all declensions will use all of these forms, most likely because the situation for them is uncommon or illogical. (e.g., “darkness” or “*tenebra, tenebrae*” is rarely used in singular form.) Refer to the declension charts to see the patterns for declining nouns.

## The First Declension

The first declension, as mentioned earlier, is always feminine, with the exception of words such as “*agricola, agricolae*” for “farmer”, which is masculine. Some words do imply gender, but others, such as “*harena, harenae*” (sand) and “*stella, stellae*” (star) are inanimate objects, which do not imply gender. In addition, many adjectives may be declined in first declension.

<i>Declinatio Prima</i> ( <i>femina</i> ): <i>terra, terrae</i> —earth	Singular	Plural
Nominative	(root + “a”) <i>terra</i>	(root + “ae”) <i>terrae</i>
Genitive	(root + “ae”) <i>terrae</i>	(root + “arum”) <i>terrarum</i>
Dative	(root + “ae”) <i>terrae</i>	(root + “is”) <i>terris</i>
Accusative	(root + “am”) <i>terram</i>	(root + “as”) <i>terras</i>
Ablative	(root + “a”) <i>terra</i>	(root + “is”) <i>terris</i>

### Words in First Declension

*terra, terrae* f.—earth

*opulentia, opulentiae* f.—wealth

*harena, harenae* f.—sand  
*area, areae* f.—open space, area  
*magistra, magistrae* f.—female teacher  
*puella, puellae* f.—girl  
*stella, stellae* f.—star  
*femina, feminae* f.—woman  
*poeta, poetae* f.—poet  
*rosa, rosae* f.—rose  
*aqua, aquae* f.—water  
*publica, publicae* f.—public, common  
*Roma, Romae* f.—Rome  
*tela, telae* f.—web, warp

*pecunia, pecuniae* f.—money  
*luna, lunae* f.—moon, month  
*tenebra, tenebrae* f.—darkness  
*porta, portae* f.—gate, portal  
*agricola, agricolae* m.—farmer  
*cena, cenae* f.—dinner  
*fortuna* f.—luck  
*regina, reginae* f.—queen  
*silva, silvae* f.—forest  
*diva, divae* f.—goddess

## The Second Declension

The second declension is also common like the first one, and is either masculine or neuter. Both genders are declined in a similar manner, except that the nominative and accusative forms of the neuter are the same, but decline differently from the masculine nominative and accusative forms. As with the first declensions, second declensions can also be adjectives. Some words, such as “*liber, libri*” have the nominative singular form ending in “er”, but if you decline the other forms, the “e” should be removed from the other forms. Thus “*liber, libri*” declines into “*liber, libri, libri, librorum, libro, libris, librum, libros, etc.*” Also note that the vocative singular form of the second declension usually has an “e” after the root word instead of assuming the nominative singular form.



<i>Declinatio Secunda</i> (masculinus): <i>nasus, nasi</i> —nose	Singular	Plural
Nominative	(root + “us”) <i>nasus</i>	(root + “i”) <i>nasi</i>
Genitive	(root + “i”) <i>nasi</i>	(root + “orum”) <i>nasorum</i>
Dative	(root + “o”) <i>naso</i>	(root + “is”) <i>nasis</i>
Accusative	(root + “um”) <i>nasum</i>	(root + “os”) <i>nasos</i>
Ablative	(root + “o”) <i>naso</i>	(root + “is”) <i>nasis</i>
Vocative	(root + “e”) <i>nase</i>	(root + “i”) <i>nasi</i>

<i>Declinatio Secunda</i> (neuter): <i>odium</i> , * <i>odii</i> —hatred	Singular	Plural
Nominative	(root + “um”) <i>odium</i>	(root + “a”) <i>odia</i>
Genitive	(root + “i”) * <i>odii</i>	(root + “orum”) <i>odiorum</i>
Dative	(root + “o”) <i>odio</i>	(root + “is”) <i>odiis</i>
Accusative	(root + “um”) <i>odium</i>	(root + “a”) <i>odia</i>
Ablative	(root + “o”) <i>odio</i>	(root + “is”) <i>odiis</i>

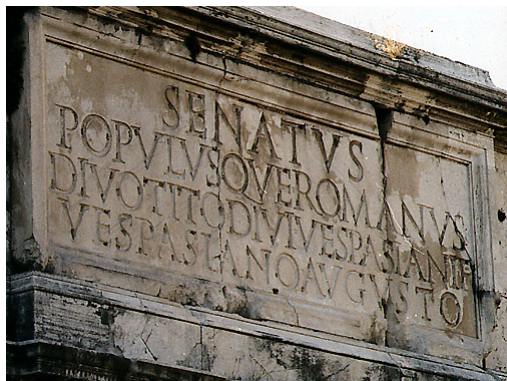
\*Late genitive form for “*odi*”.

### Words in Second Declension

*magister, magistri* m.—master, teacher  
*nasus, nasi* m.—nose  
*deus, dei* m.—god  
*dominus, domini* m.—lord, master  
*hortus, horti* m.—garden  
*liber, libri* m.—book  
*puer, pueri* m.—boy  
*verum, vera* n.—truth, reality  
*virus, viri* m.—poison  
*vinum, vini* n.—wine  
*ursus, ursi* m.—bear  
*aurum, auri* n.—gold  
*servus, servi* m.—slave  
*mundus, mundi* m.—world

*nauticus, nautici* m.—sailor  
*equus, equi* m.—horse  
*odium, odii* n.—hatred  
*pomum, pomi* n.—apple  
*initium, initii* n.—beginning  
*elementum, elementi* n.—origin  
*bellum, belli* n.—war  
*vir, viri* m.—man  
*oculus, oculi* m.—eye  
*ager, agri* m.—field  
*verbum, verbi* n.—word  
*ferrum, ferri* n.—iron  
*judicium, iudicii* n.—judgment  
*datum, data* n.—present, debit

## The Third Declension



The third declension is also fairly common, and can be masculine, feminine or neuter. The gender difference is not really apparent, except in the case of the neuter, which, like the second declension, have the nominative and accusative forms the same. The third declension also tends to have more irregular words than the first or the second, especially in the singular nominative forms. For example, “*mare, maris*” for “sea” has “*maria*” and not “*mara*” for the nominative plural form and the ablative form is “*marī*” and not “*mare*”.



<i>Declinatio Tertia (femina, masculusque): dolor, doloris—pain</i>	Singular	Plural
Nominative	(irregular) <i>dolor</i>	(root + “es”) <i>dolores</i>
Genitive	(root + “is”) <i>doloris</i>	(root + “um”) <i>dolorum</i>
Dative	(root + “i”) <i>dolori</i>	(root + “ibus”) <i>doloribus</i>
Accusative	(root + “em”) <i>dolorem</i>	(root + “es”) <i>dolores</i>
Ablative	(root + “e”) <i>dolore</i>	(root + “ibus”) <i>doloribus</i>

<i>Declinatio Tertia (neuter): flumen, fluminis—river</i>	Singular	Plural
Nominative	(irregular) <i>flumen</i>	(root + “a”) <i>flumina</i>
Genitive	(root + “is”) <i>fluminis</i>	(root + “um”) <i>fluminum</i>
Dative	(root + “i”) <i>flumini</i>	(root + “ibus”) <i>fluminibus</i>
Accusative	(irregular) <i>flumen</i>	(root + “a”) <i>flumina</i>
Ablative	(root + “e”) <i>flumine</i>	(root + “ibus”) <i>fluminibus</i>

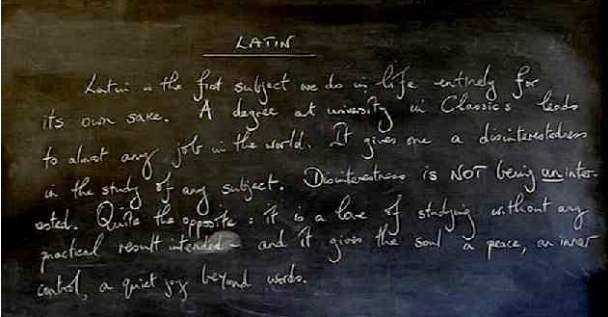
### Words in Third Declension

*urbs, urbis* f.—city, when capitalized, it can also mean the city of Rome  
*canis, canis* c.—dog  
*feles, felis* f.—cat  
*dolor, doloris* m.—pain  
*caput, capitis* n.—head, capital  
*turris, turritis* f.—tower, turret  
*mus, muris* c.—mouse  
*ver, veris* n.—spring  
*lumen, luminis* n.—light  
*homo, hominis* m.—mankind  
*civis, civis* c.—citizen  
*frater, fratris* m.—brother  
*mater, matris* f.—mother  
*carmen, carminis* n.—song  
*avis, avis* f.—bird  
*sapiens, sapientis* m.—wise man, sage  
*sol, solis* m.—sun  
*judex, iudicis* m.—judge  
*flos, floris* m.—flower  
*tempus, temporis* n.—time

*cortex, corticis* c.—bark, skin  
*pons, pontis* m.—bridge  
*dux, ducis* m.—leader  
*rex, regis* m.—king  
*mons, montis* m.—mountain  
*flumen, fluminis* n.—river  
*vigil, vigilis* m.—watchman  
*mens, mentis* f.—mind  
*nomen, nominis* n.—name  
*os, oris* n.—mouth  
*genus, genera* n.—birth, family  
*soror, sororis* f.—sister  
*pater, patris* m.—father  
*arbor, arboris* f.—tree  
*aer, aeris* c.—air, sky  
*auris, auris* n.—ear  
*miles, militis* m.—soldier  
*ignis, ignis* m.—fire  
*mare, maris* n.—sea  
*pax, pacis* f.—peace

## The Fourth Declension

As with the third declension, there are masculine, feminine and neuter words and irregular words, such as “*domus, domus*” for home, which can be declined as a second declensions in some cases. Most fourth declensions are masculine, but some, such as “*domus, domus*”, which is feminine are more rare. The fourth declension is more rare, and used less often than the other declensions.



<i>Declinatio Quarta</i> ( <i>femina, masculinusque</i> ): <i>status, status—position</i>	Singular	Plural
Nominative	(root + “us”) <i>status</i>	(root + “us”) <i>status</i>
Genitive	(root + “us”) <i>status</i>	(root + “uum”) <i>statuum</i>
Dative	(root + “ui”) <i>statui</i>	(root + “ibus”) <i>statibus</i>
Accusative	(root + “um”) <i>statum</i>	(root + “us”) <i>status</i>
Ablative	(root + “u”) <i>statu</i>	(root + “ibus”) <i>statibus</i>

<i>Declinatio Quarta</i> ( <i>neuter</i> ): <i>cornu, cornua—horn</i>	Singular	Plural
Nominative	(root + “u”) <i>cornu</i>	(root + “ua”) <i>cornua</i>
Genitive	(root + “us”) <i>cornus</i>	(root + “uum”) <i>cornuum</i>
Dative	(root + “u”) <i>cornu</i>	(root + “ibus”) <i>cornibus</i>
Accusative	(root + “u”) <i>cornu</i>	(root + “ua”) <i>cornua</i>
Ablative	(root + “u”) <i>cornu</i>	(root + “ibus”) <i>cornibus</i>

**Words in Fourth Declension**

*status, status* m.—position, status  
*cornu, cornus* n.—horn  
*potus, potus* m.—drink  
*habitus, habitus* m.—condition, garment  
*cultus, cultus* m.—cultivation, habitation

*gradus, gradus* m.—step  
*domus, domus* f.—home  
*genu, genus* n.—knee  
*fructus, fructus* m.—fruit  
*manus, manus* f.—hand





## The Fifth Declension

The fifth declension is even more rare than the fourth declension. It has no neuter form, so it is either masculine or feminine. The fifth declension is rather simple, but rarely used in sentences.

<i>Declinatio Quinta: facies, faciei—face</i>	Singular	Plural
Nominative	(root + “s”) <i>facies</i>	(root + “s”) <i>facies</i>
Genitive	(root + “i”) <i>faciei</i>	(root + “rum”) <i>facierum</i>
Dative	(root + “i”) <i>faciei</i>	(root + “bus”) <i>faciebus</i>
Accusative	(root + “m”) <i>faciem</i>	(root + “s”) <i>facies</i>
Ablative	(root) <i>facie</i>	(root + “bus”) <i>faciebus</i>

### Words in Fifth Declension

*dies, diei* c.—day

*facies, faciei* f.—face

*meredies, merediei* c.—midday

*spes, spei* f.—hope

*res, rei* f.—thing, matter

## The Pronoun (Irregular Declensions)

Pronouns in Latin are also declined, as with other nouns, but they are irregular. In addition to first, second and third person pronouns, relative pronouns used in dependent clauses (who, what, which, that, etc.) are also declined.

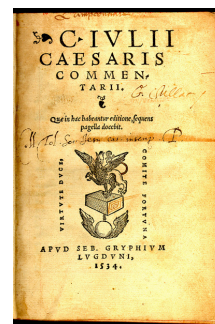
### First Person Pronoun (I, we)

In addition to the declensions for the first person pronoun, “*mea, meus* and *meum*” can be declined as if they were first and second declensions to indicate possession for feminine, masculine or neuter. The plural form of these is “*nostra, noster* and *nostrum*”. As the subject, the first person pronoun is optional, since the conjugation of Latin verbs usually indicates whether the subject is first, second or third person, but it is still considered correct to include a first person subject. If no possession of a noun in particular is given, it can usually be assumed as the speaker’s, if used in the right context. This will be discussed later on in *Parts of Speech*.

<i>Declinatio</i> <i>Praenomen: ego,</i> <i>mei—(first person</i> <i>pronoun)</i>	Singular	Plural
Nominative	<i>ego</i>	<i>nos</i>
Genitive	<i>mei</i>	<i>nostrum</i>
Dative	<i>mihi</i>	<i>nobis</i>
Accusative	<i>me</i>	<i>nos</i>
Ablative	<i>me</i>	<i>nobis</i>

### Second Person Pronoun (you)

The second person pronoun, as with the first, also has the possessive “*tua, tuus* and *tuum*” that decline like first and second declensions. There is also a plural form, “*vestra, vester* and *vestrum*”. The genitive plural form of the second person pronoun can also be “*vostrum*”, and likewise, the other possessive declensions can be “*vostra, voster* and *vostrum*”. Again, if the verb indicates first, second or third person, the subject is not necessary.



<i>Declinatio</i> <i>Praenomen: tu,</i> <i>tui—(second person</i> <i>pronoun)</i>	Singular	Plural
Nominative	<i>tu</i>	<i>vos</i>
Genitive	<i>tui</i>	<i>vestrum</i>
Dative	<i>tibi</i>	<i>vobis</i>
Accusative	<i>te</i>	<i>vos</i>
Ablative	<i>te</i>	<i>vobis</i>

### Third Person Pronoun (he, she, it)

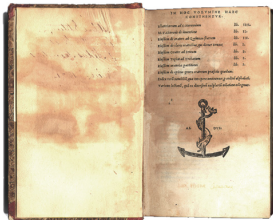
There are declensions for each gender. In sentence structure, if the subject is in third person, you may leave it in to indicate the gender, which the verb does not indicate. But if the subject is a third person pronoun, it may have already been used in a context, so the gender can be assumed.

<i>Declinatio</i> <i>Praenomen (femina):</i> <i>ea, eius—(third</i> <i>person pronoun)</i>	Singular	Plural
Nominative	<i>ea</i>	<i>eae</i>
Genitive	<i>eius</i>	<i>earum</i>
Dative	<i>ei</i>	<i>eis</i>
Accusative	<i>eam</i>	<i>eas</i>
Ablative	<i>ea</i>	<i>eis</i>

<i>Declinatio Praenomen (masculus): is, eius—(third person pronoun)</i>	Singular	Plural
Nominative	<i>is</i>	<i>ii</i>
Genitive	<i>eius</i>	<i>eorum</i>
Dative	<i>ei</i>	<i>eis</i>
Accusative	<i>eum</i>	<i>eos</i>
Ablative	<i>eo</i>	<i>eis</i>

<i>Declinatio Praenomen (neuter): id, eius—(third person pronoun)</i>	Singular	Plural
Nominative	<i>id</i>	<i>ea</i>
Genitive	<i>eius</i>	<i>eorum</i>
Dative	<i>ei</i>	<i>eis</i>
Accusative	<i>id</i>	<i>ea</i>
Ablative	<i>eo</i>	<i>eis</i>

### Relative Pronouns



In dependent clauses, the case of the relative pronoun determines what the clause is doing in a sentence. If the case were nominative, then the dependent clause the relative pronoun describes is describing the subject, whereas if the case were accusative, then the pronoun describes the object. In an ablative case, the pronoun indicates “in which”. The genitive case indicates “of which” and the dative case indicates “for which”.

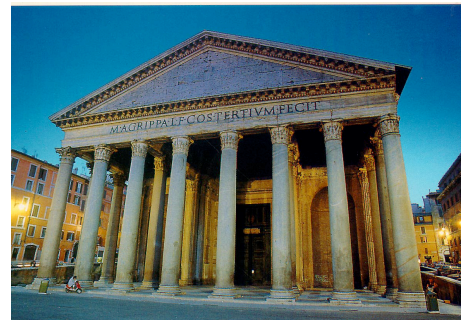
<i>Declinatio Praenomen (femina): quae, cuius—(relative pronoun)</i>	Singular	Plural
Nominative	<i>quae</i>	<i>quae</i>
Genitive	<i>cuius</i>	<i>quarum</i>
Dative	<i>cui</i>	<i>quibus</i>
Accusative	<i>quam</i>	<i>quas</i>
Ablative	<i>qua</i>	<i>quibus</i>

<i>Declinatio Praenomen (masculus): qui, cuius—(relative pronoun)</i>	Singular	Plural
Nominative	<i>qui</i>	<i>qui</i>
Genitive	<i>cuius</i>	<i>quorum</i>
Dative	<i>cui</i>	<i>quibus</i>
Accusative	<i>quem</i>	<i>quos</i>
Ablative	<i>quo</i>	<i>quibus</i>

<i>Declinatio Praenomen (neuter): quod, cuius—(relative pronoun)</i>	Singular	Plural
Nominative	<i>quod</i>	<i>quae</i>
Genitive	<i>cuius</i>	<i>quorum</i>
Dative	<i>cui</i>	<i>quibus</i>
Accusative	<i>quod</i>	<i>quae</i>
Ablative	<i>quo</i>	<i>quibus</i>

## The Conjugation

In Latin, verbs are also inflected to show tense, person and number. There are generally four Latin conjugations, as well as several irregular conjugations. Participles, or verbs acting as adjectives (in English, they are usually words with “ing” after them) are also conjugated. Here are the different tenses:



### *Present*

The present tense is a verb that refers to the time now. It indicates action that is happening. (e.g., “eats”, “dies”, “sleeps”, etc.)

### *Perfect*

The perfect tense indicates an action that has been completed in the past. Compare it with the imperfect tense. (e.g., “ate”, “died”, “slept”, etc.)

### *Imperfect*

The imperfect tense, unlike the perfect tense, indicates action done in the past, but the action is not completed. (e.g., “was eating”, “was dying”, “was sleeping”, etc.)

### *Pluperfect*

The pluperfect tense is used in reference to a point in past. It indicates action done before another action done in the past. (e.g., “I did this before doing that.”, “had eaten”, “had died”, “had slept”, etc.)

### *Future*

The future tense indicates action that is about to happen. This tense was not actually developed until the late Romans used it. (e.g., “will eat”, “will die”, “will sleep”, etc.)

In addition to the tenses, there are other forms that can be conjugated:

### *Infinitive*

The infinitive is the form of conjugations that is displayed in dictionaries. It is used in a case where “to” precedes the verb in English. In this way, the verb is acting as a noun or an adverb.



### *Present Participle*

The present participle is used when a word acts as a participle, or when a verb acts as an adjective. (e.g., “eating”, “dying”, “sleeping”, etc.)

### *Imperative*

The imperative form initiates a command. This is usually when the subject being addressed is in second person (“you”). (e.g., “eat!”, “die!”, “sleep!”, etc.)

Some conjugations are irregular, and others do not have some tenses or forms. Refer to the conjugation charts for the patterns.

## **The First Conjugation**

The first conjugation is quite straight forward and does not have very many irregular parts to it.

<i>Conjugatio Prima (present): vetare—to forbid</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “o”) <i> veto</i>	(root + “amus”) <i>vetamus</i>
Second Person	(root + “as”) <i>vetas</i>	(root + “atis”) <i>vetatis</i>
Third Person	(root + “at”) <i>vetat</i>	(root + “ant”) <i>vetant</i>

<i>Conjugatio Prima (perfect): pugnare—to fight</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “avi”) <i>pugnavi</i>	(root + “avimus”) <i>pugnnavimus</i>
Second Person	(root + “avisti”) <i>pugnnavisti</i>	(root + “avistis”) <i>pugnnavistis</i>
Third Person	(root + “avit”) <i>pugnnavit</i>	(root + “averunt”) <i>pugnnaverunt</i>

<i>Conjugatio Prima (imperfect): dare—to give</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “abam”) <i>dabam</i>	(root + “abamus”) <i>dabamus</i>
Second Person	(root + “abas”) <i>dabas</i>	(root + “abatis”) <i>dabatis</i>
Third Person	(root + “abat”) <i>dabam</i>	(root + “abant”) <i>dabant</i>

<i>Conjugatio Prima (pluperfect): aedificare—to build</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “veram”) <i>aedificaveram</i>	(root + “veramus”) <i>aedificaveramus</i>
Second Person	(root + “veras”) <i>aedificaveras</i>	(root + “veratis”) <i>aedificaveratis</i>
Third Person	(root + “verat”) <i>aedificaverat</i>	(root + “verant”) <i>aedificaverant</i>



<i>Conjugatio Prima</i> (future): stare—to stand	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “bo”) <i>stabo</i>	(root + “bimus”) <i>stabimus</i>
Second Person	(root + “bis”) <i>stabis</i>	(root + “bitis”) <i>stabitis</i>
Third Person	(root + “bit”) <i>stabit</i>	(root + “bunt”) <i>stabunt</i>

<i>Conjugatio Prima</i> (imperative): excitare—to awaken	Singular	Plural
Second Person	(root + “a”) <i>excita</i>	(root + “ate”) <i>excitate</i>

<i>Conjugatio Prima</i> (present participle): luminare—to illuminate	Singular	Plural
Nominative/Accusative	(root + “ans”) <i>luminans</i>	(root + “ans”) <i>luminans</i>
Dative/Ablative	(root + “atis”) <i>luminatis</i>	(root + “atis”) <i>luminatis</i>
Accusative	(root + “antem”) <i>luminantem</i>	(root + “antes”) <i>luminates</i>

<i>Conjugatio Prima</i> (past participle): navigare—to navigate (conjugate as if declensions)	Singular
Femina	(root + “ata”) <i>navigata</i>
Masculus	(root + “atus”) <i>navigatus</i>
Neuter	(root + “atum”) <i>navigatum</i>

### Words in First Conjugation

*vetare*—to forbid  
*pugnare*—to fight  
*dare*—to give  
*aedificare*—to build  
*stare*—to stand  
*excitare*—to awaken



*luminare*—to illuminate  
*navigare*—to navigate  
*amare*—to love  
*ambulare*—to walk  
*oppugnare*—to attack  
*celare*—to hide  
*salvare*—to save  
*dicare*—dedicate, consecrate  
*laborare*—to work  
*vocare*—to call, summon  
*portare*—to carry  
*servare*—to protect  
*verberare*—to beat



## The Second Conjugation

The second conjugation is also fairly simple. The only irregular thing about it is the perfect form, which does not always use the “ui” ending after the root.

<i>Conjugatio Secunda (present): docere—to teach</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “eo”) <i>doceo</i>	(root + “emus”) <i>docemus</i>
Second Person	(root + “es”) <i>doces</i>	(root + “etis”) <i>docetis</i>
Third Person	(root + “et”) <i>docet</i>	(root + “ent”) <i>docent</i>

<i>*Conjugatio Secunda (perfect): timere—to fear</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “ui”) <i>timui</i>	(root + “uimus”) <i>timuimus</i>
Second Person	(root + “uisti”) <i>timuisti</i>	(root + “uistis”) <i>timuistis</i>
Third Person	(root + “uit”) <i>timuit</i>	(root + “uerunt”) <i>timuerunt</i>

\*Some Second Conjugations have irregular perfect forms.

<i>Conjugatio Secunda (imperfect): ardere—to burn</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “ebam”) <i>ardebam</i>	(root + “ebamus”) <i>ardebamus</i>
Second Person	(root + “ebas”) <i>ardebas</i>	(root + “ebatis”) <i>ardebatis</i>
Third Person	(root + “ebat”) <i>ardebat</i>	(root + “ebant”) <i>ardebant</i>

<i>*Conjugatio Secunda (pluperfect): terrere—to scare</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “ueram”) <i>terrueram</i>	(root + “ueramus”) <i>terrueramus</i>
Second Person	(root + “ueras”) <i>terrueras</i>	(root + “ueratis”) <i>terrueratis</i>
Third Person	(root + “uerat”) <i>terruerat</i>	(root + “uerant”) <i>terruerant</i>

\*Some Second Conjugations have irregular pluperfect forms.

<i>Conjugatio Secunda (future): videre—to see</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “ebo”) <i>videbo</i>	(root + “ebimus”) <i>videbimus</i>
Second Person	(root + “ebis”) <i>videbis</i>	(root + “ebitis”) <i>videbitis</i>
Third Person	(root + “ebit”) <i>videbit</i>	(root + “ebunt”) <i>videbunt</i>

<i>Conjugatio Secunda (imperative): debere—to owe</i>	Singular	Plural
Second Person	(root + “e”) <i>debe</i>	(root + “ete”) <i>debete</i>

<i>*Conjugatio Secunda (past participle): valere—to be strong (conjugate as if declensions)</i>	Singular
Femina	(root + “ita”) <i>valita</i>
Masculus	(root + “itus”) <i>valitus</i>
Neuter	(root + “itum”) <i>valitum</i>

\*Some second conjugations have irregular past participles

<i>Conjugatio Secunda</i> (present participle): <i>audere—to dare</i>	Singular	Plural
Nominative/Accusative	(root + “ens”) <i>audens</i>	(root + “ens”) <i>audens</i>
Dative/Ablative	(root + “entis”) <i>audentis</i>	(root + “entis”) <i>audentis</i>
Accusative	(root + “entem”) <i>audentem</i>	(root + “entes”) <i>audentes</i>

### Words in Second Conjugation

*docere*—to teach

*timere*—to fear

*ardere*—to burn

*terrere*—to scare

*videre*—to see

*debere*—to owe

*audere*—to dare

*valere*—to be strong (as farewell)

*salvere*—to be well (as greetings)

*monere*—to warn, advise

*manere*—to remain

*sedere*—to sit



## The Third Conjugation

The third conjugation has many irregular forms. Its future tense also conjugates differently from the first and second conjugations, and you may have to look up the dictionary to see their perfect forms.

<i>Conjugatio Tertia</i> (present): <i>ducere—to lead</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “o”) <i>duco</i>	(root + “imus”) <i>ducimus</i>
Second Person	(root + “is”) <i>ducis</i>	(root + “it is”) <i>ducitis</i>
Third Person	(root + “it”) <i>ducit</i>	(root + “unt”) <i>ducunt</i>

<i>Conjugatio Tertia (perfect): carpere—to sieze</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(irregular root + “i”) <i>carpsi</i>	(irregular root + “imus”) <i>carpsimus</i>
Second Person	(irregular root + “isti”) <i>carpsisti</i>	(irregular root + “istis”) <i>carpsistis</i>
Third Person	(irregular root + “it”) <i>carpsit</i>	(irregular root + “erunt”) <i>carpserunt</i>

<i>Conjugatio Tertia (imperfect): sistere—to stop</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “ebam”) <i>sistebam</i>	(root + “ebamus”) <i>sistebamus</i>
Second Person	(root + “ebas”) <i>sistebas</i>	(root + “ebatis”) <i>sistebatis</i>
Third Person	(root + “ebat”) <i>sistebam</i>	(root + “ebant”) <i>sistebant</i>

<i>Conjugatio Tertia (pluperfect): legere—to read</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(irregular root + “eram”) <i>legeram</i>	(irregular root + “eramus”) <i>legeramus</i>
Second Person	(irregular root + “eras”) <i>legeras</i>	(irregular root + “eratis”) <i>legeratis</i>
Third Person	(irregular root + “erat”) <i>legerat</i>	(irregular root + “erant”) <i>legerant</i>

<i>Conjugatio Tertia (future): scribere—to write</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “am”) <i>scribam</i>	(root + “emus”) <i>scribemus</i>
Second Person	(root + “es”) <i>scribes</i>	(root + “etis”) <i>scribetis</i>
Third Person	(root + “et”) <i>scribet</i>	(root + “ent”) <i>scribent</i>

<i>Conjugatio Tertia (imperative): pendere—to weigh out</i>	Singular	Plural
Second Person	(root + “e”) <i>pende</i>	(root + “ite”) <i>pendite</i>

<i>Conjugatio Tertia (past participle): perdere—to destroy</i>	Singular
Femina	(irregular) <i>perdita</i>
Masculus	(irregular) <i>perditus</i>
Neuter	(irregular) <i>perditum</i>

<i>Conjugatio Tertia (present participle): currere—to run</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “ens”) <i>currens</i>	(root + “ens”) <i>currens</i>
Second Person	(root + “entis”) <i>currentis</i>	(root + “entis”) <i>currentis</i>
Third Person	(root + “entem”) <i>currentem</i>	(root + “entes”) <i>currentes</i>

### Words in Third Declension

*ducere*—to lead  
*carpere*—to seize  
*sistere*—to stop  
*legere*—to read  
*scribere*—to write  
*pendere*—to hang, weigh out  
*currere*—to run  
*perdere*—to destroy  
*urere*—to burn  
*comedere*—to eat  
*dicere*—to say  
*vincere*—to conquer  
*facere*—to make





## The Fourth Conjugation

The fourth conjugation is more rare than the others. There are some irregular forms, but it is quite simple, compared to the third conjugation. Its future tense is closer to the third conjugation than the first or second.

<i>Conjugatio Quarta</i> (present): <i>venire—to come</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “io”) <i>venio</i>	(root + “imus”) <i>venimus</i>
Second Person	(root + “is”) <i>venis</i>	(root + “itis”) <i>venitis</i>
Third Person	(root + “it”) <i>venit</i>	(root + “iunt”) <i>veniunt</i>

<i>Conjugatio Quarta</i> (perfect): <i>dormire—to sleep</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “ivi”) <i>dormivi</i>	(root + “ivimus”) <i>dormivimus</i>
Second Person	(root + “ivisti”) <i>dormivisti</i>	(root + “ivistis”) <i>dormivistis</i>
Third Person	(root + “ivit”) <i>dormivit</i>	(root + “iverunt”) <i>dormiverunt</i>

<i>Conjugatio Quarta</i> (imperfect): <i>pervenire—to reach</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “iebam”) <i>perveniebam</i>	(root + “iebamus”) <i>perveniebamus</i>
Second Person	(root + “iebas”) <i>perveniebas</i>	(root + “iebatis”) <i>perveniebatis</i>
Third Person	(root + “iebat”) <i>perveniebat</i>	(root + “iebant”) <i>perveniebant</i>

<i>Conjugatio Quarta (pluperfect): audire—to hear</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “iveram”) <i>audiveram</i>	(root + “iveramus”) <i>audiveramus</i>
Second Person	(root + “iveras”) <i>audiveras</i>	(root + “iveratis”) <i>audiveratis</i>
Third Person	(root + “iverat”) <i>audiverat</i>	(root + “iverant”) <i>audiverant</i>

<i>Conjugatio Quarta (future): felire—to roar</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	(root + “iam”) <i>feliam</i>	(root + “iemus”) <i>feliemus</i>
Second Person	(root + “ies”) <i>felies</i>	(root + “ietis”) <i>felietis</i>
Third Person	(root + “iet”) <i>feliet</i>	(root + “ient”) <i>felient</i>

<i>Conjugatio Quarta (imperative): odire—to hate</i>	Singular	Plural
Second Person	(root + “i”) <i>odi</i>	(root + “ite”) <i>odite</i>

<i>Conjugatio Quarta (present participle): scire—to know</i>	Singular	Plural
Nominative/Accusative	(root + “iens”) <i>sciens</i>	(root + “iens”) <i>sciens</i>
Dative/Ablative	(root + “ientis”) <i>scientis</i>	(root + “ientis”) <i>scientis</i>
Accusative	(root + “ientem”) <i>scientem</i>	(root + “ientes”) <i>scientes</i>

<i>Conjugatio Quarta (past participle): salire—to twitch, jump</i>	Singular
Femina	(root + “ita”) <i>salita</i>
Masculus	(root + “itus”) <i>salitus</i>
Neuter	(root + “itum”) <i>salitum</i>

## Words in Fourth Conjugation

*venire*—to come

*dormire*—to sleep

*pervenire*—to reach, come through

*audire*—to hear

*felire*—to roar

*odire*—to hate

*scire*—to know

*salire*—to twitch, jump



## Irregular Conjugations

There are several irregular conjugations of verbs, which do not have a distinct pattern. These, you may just have to memorize, but “*esse*” for “to be” and “*ire*” for “to go” are the most common. In addition to “*esse*”, there are several similar forms, which have a few letters added in front of each conjugation to mean different verbs.

<i>Conjugatio (present): esse—to be</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	<i>sum</i>	<i>sumus</i>
Second Person	<i>es</i>	<i>estis</i>
Third Person	<i>est</i>	<i>sunt</i>

<i>Conjugatio (perfect): esse—to be</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	<i>fui</i>	<i>fuimus</i>
Second Person	<i>fuisti</i>	<i>fuistis</i>
Third Person	<i>fuit</i>	<i>fuērunt</i>

<i>Conjugatio (imperfect): esse—to be</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	<i>eram</i>	<i>eramus</i>
Second Person	<i>eras</i>	<i>eratis</i>
Third Person	<i>erat</i>	<i>erant</i>

<i>Conjugatio (pluperfect): esse—to be</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	<i>fueram</i>	<i>fueramus</i>
Second Person	<i>fueras</i>	<i>fueratis</i>
Third Person	<i>fuerat</i>	<i>fuerant</i>

<i>Conjugatio (future): esse—to be</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	<i>ero</i>	<i>erimus</i>
Second Person	<i>eris</i>	<i>eritis</i>
Third Person	<i>erit</i>	<i>erunt</i>

<i>Conjugatio (present participle): esse—to be</i>	Singular	Plural
Nominative/Accusative	<i>ens</i>	<i>ens</i>
Dative/Genitive	<i>entis</i>	<i>entis</i>
Accusative	<i>entem</i>	<i>entes</i>

<i>Conjugatio (past participle): esse—to be</i>	Singular
Femina	<i>futa</i>
Masculinus	<i>futus</i>
Neuter	<i>futum</i>

<i>Conjugatio (present): posse—to be able</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	<i>possum</i>	<i>possumus</i>
Second Person	<i>posses</i>	<i>possetis</i>
Third Person	<i>possest</i>	<i>possunt</i>

<i>Conjugatio (perfect): posse—to be able</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	<i>potui</i>	<i>potuimus</i>
Second Person	<i>potuisti</i>	<i>potuistis</i>
Third Person	<i>potuit</i>	<i>potuerunt</i>

<i>Conjugatio (imperfect): posse—to be able</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	<i>posseram</i>	<i>posseramus</i>
Second Person	<i>posseras</i>	<i>posseratis</i>
Third Person	<i>posserat</i>	<i>posserant</i>

<i>Conjugatio (pluperfect): posse—to be able</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	<i>potueram</i>	<i>potueramus</i>
Second Person	<i>potueras</i>	<i>potueratis</i>
Third Person	<i>potuerat</i>	<i>potuerant</i>

<i>Conjugatio (future): posse—to be able</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	<i>possero</i>	<i>posserimus</i>
Second Person	<i>posseris</i>	<i>posseritis</i>
Third Person	<i>posserit</i>	<i>posserunt</i>

<i>Conjugatio (present): ire—to go</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	<i>eo</i>	<i>imus</i>
Second Person	<i>is</i>	<i>it is</i>
Third Person	<i>it</i>	<i>eunt</i>

<i>Conjugatio (perfect): ire—to go</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	<i>ivi</i>	<i>ivimus</i>
Second Person	<i>ivisti</i>	<i>ivistis</i>
Third Person	<i>ivit</i>	<i>iverunt</i>

<i>Conjugatio (imperfect): ire—to go</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	<i>ibam</i>	<i>ibamus</i>
Second Person	<i>ibas</i>	<i>ibatis</i>
Third Person	<i>ibat</i>	<i>ibant</i>

<i>Conjugatio (pluperfect): ire—to go</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	<i>iveram</i>	<i>iveramus</i>
Second Person	<i>iveras</i>	<i>iveratis</i>
Third Person	<i>iverat</i>	<i>iverant</i>

<i>Conjugatio (future): ire—to go</i>	Singular	Plural
First Person	<i>ibo</i>	<i>ibimus</i>
Second Person	<i>ibis</i>	<i>ibitis</i>
Third Person	<i>ibit</i>	<i>ibunt</i>

<i>Conjugatio (present participle): ire—to go</i>	Singular
Nominative/Accusative	<i>iens</i>
Dative/Genitive	<i>ientis</i>

<i>Conjugatio (past participle): ire—to go</i>	Singular
Femina	<i>ita</i>
Masculinus	<i>itus</i>
Neuter	<i>itum</i>





## Parts of Speech

Other than inflections, words in Latin also have specific functions. Their order, declension or conjugation determines its function in a sentence, whether an adjective, adverb, preposition or dependent clause.

### Adjective

In Latin, the adjective is declined just like the noun it describes. The adjective must have the same gender, number and case as the noun it describes. Of course, not all nouns will have more than one gender, so only the number and case have to be the same.

E.g. *magna felis*                      large cat  
The gender, case and number match.

*novas stellas*                      new star  
The gender, number and case are the same. Both words are feminine, plural and are in the accusative case.

*lunis luminibus*                      moon light  
The gender of “*lunis*” is feminine, while “*luminibus*” is neuter, but “*lunis*” does not have a feminine form; it is simply neuter. The case for the noun and the adjective, however, are both ablative and they are both in plural form.

### Adverb

The adverb does not apply to inflection. It can just be placed with the words it describes. Here are some adverbs:

<i>celeriter</i>	quickly
<i>nunc</i>	now
<i>cras</i>	tomorrow
<i>numquam</i>	never
<i>tunc</i>	then
<i>semper</i>	always
<i>iam</i>	already
<i>hodie</i>	today



Adverbs can describe verbs or other adverbs.

*Celeriter currunt.*                      They run quickly.  
The adverb is describing the verb, “*currunt*”. In this sentence, the subject “they” is assumed from the number and person of the verb.

*Domum iam fui.*

I have already gone home.

Again, the adverb is describing the verb, but using “*iam*” or “already” forces the verb to be perfect because implying “already” means the action is completed.

*Semper celeriter legit.*

He always reads quickly.

Here, two adverbs are describing the verb, “*legit*”. Again, there is no personal pronoun because it can be assumed from the person and number of the verb. The gender, however, is not always clear, but when used in a certain context, it can be inferred.

### Preposition

The preposition, like the adverbs, does not have inflection, gender, number or case. The preposition is written before its object, which is in either the ablative or accusative case, depending on its meaning.

E.g.

*in Latina*

in Latin

The preposition is followed by its object. The object, “*Latina*” is in the ablative when it is used with “*in*” because it means “in”, or “on”.

*in primum annum*

into the first year

The preposition used here has “*primum annum*” in the accusative case because “*in*” implies “into”. Notice that “*primum*” is also accusative and agrees with “*annum*” as “*primum*” describes “*annum*”.

*ex visu*

out of sight

The object of the preposition, “*visu*” is in the ablative. Objects of such prepositions as “*ex*” are in the ablative case.

*magister cum discipulis*

the master with his disciples

Like the preposition “*ex*”, the object takes the ablative case. In this phrase, “*magister*” can be in the accusative, genitive or other form, since “*cum*”, or “with” goes with “*discipulis*”; it answers the question, “with who or what?”

The preposition, “of” in English implies possession. Instead of a preposition and an object, the possession is indicated with a noun in the genitive case describing another noun in another case. The gender and number do not have to match.

E.g.

*canis pueri*

boy’s dog (the same as “the dog of the boy”)

The noun that indicates the possession, “*pueri*” is in the genitive case. “*Canis*” can be any case, besides nominative.



*canes pueri*

boy’s dogs (the dogs of the boy)

Again, “*pueri*” indicates possession, but its number does not have to

match.

*canis puerorum* boys' dog (the dog of the boys)

*canes puerorum* boys' dogs (the dogs of the boys)

There can be different combinations of indicating possession, depending on numbers, as you can see in the last two examples.

*arborem pomi* the apple of the tree

As in the first example, "*pomi*" is genitive. Notice that "*arborem*" does not have to be nominative; it can be accusative or any other case.

*carmina amici magistrae* the master's friend's songs (or "the song of the friend of the master")

Even a genitive noun can describe another genitive noun. "*Magistrae*", which is in the genitive form, is describing "*amici*", which is also in the genitive form.

*in verba rege* in the words of a king

This is an example of a genitive noun describing an ablative noun. Again, notice that the number for "*verba*" and "*rege*" do not have to be the same.

### Conjunction

The conjunctions, such as "and" and "but" can be added between two sentences to join their ideas and form a compound sentence. "And" can also be used to join two or more nouns, forming compound subjects or objects.

E.g.

*pueri puellaque* boys and girls

In lists of nouns, ideas are joined with "*que*" after the last item in a list of two items as shown.

*pueri ac puella* boys and girls

In addition to "*que*", "*ac*" can also be used to imply the same thing.



*di et reges et ferae* gods, kings and beasts

In a list of three or more, "*et*" is added between each item.

*Felis dormit et canis comedit.* The cat sleeps and the dog eats.

"*Et*" is also used as a conjunction to join sentences, forming compound sentences.

*Magister ambulat sed servus currit.* The master walks, but the slave runs.

"*Sed*" is also another conjunction that can be used to join sentences, but it implies "but".

### The Sentence

Although the sentence structure of Latin sentences is often flexible, there is some structure. First, a sentence usually has the verb at the end, and not between the subject and the object, as in English. The personal pronouns are not always necessary as the

subject, if they can be inferred from the number and person of the verb. However, it is not incorrect to include the personal pronouns. Modifiers should be placed next to the words they describe. Modifiers, however, can be sandwiched.

E.g.

*totius mundus novus*                      whole new world

Both “*totius*” and “*novus*” describe “*mundus*”, but “*mundus*” is placed between the adjectives. This way, it does not usually matter whether the modifier is before or after the word it describes.

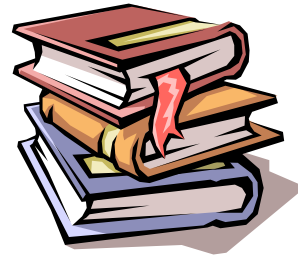
### Linking Verbs

Linking verbs such as “*esse*” make sentence structures slightly different. The linking verb acts as an equals sign and can go between the subject and subjective completion, or complement, or the linking verb can go at the end of the sentence. The complement is in nominative form, and not the accusative.

E.g.

*Deus est fatalis.*                                      God is dead.

Notice that both nouns are in the nominative form.



*Libri tibi boni sunt.*                                      Books are good for you.

A somewhat more complex sentence. Notice that “*sunt*” can go at the end of the sentence.

### Infinitive

The infinitive can be used just before the verb. The infinitive does not affect the tense or person of the verb, since there are no tenses, person or numbers on the infinitive.

E.g.

*vicere initias*                                      enter to win

“*Vicere*” is the infinitive and “*initias*” is the second person verb.

*Regem audire iverunt.*                                      They went to hear the king.

Like the above pattern. Notice the accusative “*regem*” applies to the infinitive.

*Urbem vincere initiamus.*                                      We entered the city to conquer it.

Same pattern as the first, but the accusative “*urbem*” applies to both verbs, since no other object is indicated.

### Dependent Clause

The dependent clause is always preceded by the relative pronoun in Latin, though it may be excluded in English. The dependent clause works much like an independent clause, or sentence, with the exception of the relative pronoun. Like in English, dependent clauses cannot stand on their own. The case of the relative pronoun is related to its function in the sentence according to the dependent clause.

e.g.

*quem Caesar amabat*

whom the Caesar  
loved

Notice the similar structure to the sentences. Also note that the relative pronoun refers to the object, and answers, “who or what the Caesar loved”, so it is in the accusative case.

*Librum quod scribebam misi.*

I sent the book, which  
I wrote.

The pattern of this example is similar to the first one above, but incorporated into the sentence. Notice that the dependent clause is close to the word it describes and that the first person pronoun is not required because it is understood from the verbs.

*Magister cuius epistolam legebam in urbem ambulat.*

The master, whose  
letter I was reading is  
walking into the city.

Notice that the relative pronoun does not always take the nominative or accusative case. In this case, it can be genitive.

## Pronunciation

Latin is fairly simple in pronunciation. All the consonants are pronounced as they are in English, with all “c” sounds pronounced hard like “k”, and all “g” sounds are hard as well (as in “garden”). The only consonants that differ are “v”, which is pronounced like “w”, and “j”, which is pronounced like “y”. Vowels are pronounced short—“a” in “apple”, “e” in “exit”, “i” in “imp”, “o” in “optimum” and “u” in “understand”. In Latin, “ae” is pronounced like “eye”, and some words, such as “*cui*” will force the speaker to pronounce the vowels long—hence “*cui*” sounds like “koo-ee”.

## Applications in English

The English language is a synthesis of languages from a variety of places. Latin is one of these languages that contributes heavily to many terms, prefixes and suffixes in the English language. Though its usage and pronunciation has changed to suit the English language and diction, many root words come from Latin.

e.g.

associate comes from the Latin preposition, “*ad*” for “to” or “towards” and the word, “*socius*” for “companion”. Notice that the “d” has been taken out of the English word for fluency and ease.

linguistics, or the study of languages also comes from the Latin word, “*lingua*” for “language”.

transport comes from the Latin preposition, “*trans*” for “across” and “*portare*” for “to carry”. Notice the verb has been simplified to suit the English language, since English does not use inflection.



pulchritude comes from the Latin root, “*pulcher*” for “beautiful”. It has been further refined to mean “beauty”.

opulent comes from the Latin word, “*opulens*” for “wealthy” or “rich”. Notice that this too has been modified to suit English.

odious comes from the Latin word, “*odi*” for “hatred”.

basis comes from the Latin word, “*basi*” for “basic”. Notice that the plural form, “bases” is also derived from the plural form in Latin.

exeunt in drama also comes from the Latin preposition, “*ex*” for “out of” or “from” and the verb, “*ire*”, in the third person plural form, “*eunt*”. This is also a similar root for the word, “exit”, which comes from the Latin third person singular form of “*ire*”, “*it*”.

Caesar is also used in English, but it is pronounced somewhat like “scissor”. In Latin, the first three letters are pronounced “kai” (rhymes with “high”).

educate also comes from the Latin preposition, “*e*” for “out of” or “from” (like “*ex*”), and the verb, “*ducere*” for “to lead”.

optimum comes from the Latin superlative, “*optima*” for “good” or “best”.

ultimate comes from the Latin superlative, “*ultima*” for “far”, “farthest”, “highest” or “greatest”.

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