

Name:

## Noun Declension Summary

We have now seen all five noun cases: nominative, genitive, dative, accusative, and ablative.

### Case Usage

nominative	<b>subject</b> (doer of action) of sentence; simple identification with forms of the verb <i>sum</i> (called <b>predicate nominative</b> or <b>predicate adjective</b> ).
genitive	shows <b>possession</b> : translate <i>of</i> or <i>'s/s'</i> .
dative	<b>indirect object</b> (receiver of direct object): usually translates <i>to</i> or <i>for</i> , also used with <b>special adjectives</b> such as <i>facile</i> ("easy for").
accusative	<b>direct object</b> (receiver of action) of sentence, anyone or anything used, processed, directly affected by the action of the subject; used after the <b>accusative prepositions</b> : <i>ad</i> ("to," "at"), <i>ante</i> ("before"), <i>apud</i> ("among," "at the home of"), <i>circum</i> ("around"), <i>contrā</i> ("against"), <i>extrā</i> ("outside"), <i>inter</i> ("between," "among"), <i>per</i> ("through"), <i>post</i> ("after"), <i>prope</i> ("near"), <i>trāns</i> ("across").
ablative	ideas in English expressed by prepositions like <b>with, by, from, in, at, on</b> are commonly ablative in Latin; used with the <b>ablative prepositions</b> : <i>ā/ab</i> ("from," "away from"), <i>cum</i> ("with"), <i>dē</i> ("down from," "concerning, about"), <i>ē/ex</i> ("out of," "from"), <i>prō</i> ("in front of," "in behalf of," "for"), <i>sine</i> ("without").

Two prepositions, *in* and *sub* can be followed by either accusative (with motion) or ablative (stationary). Accordingly, *in + acc.* ("to," "into," "onto," "against"); *in + abl.* ("in," "at," "on," "among"). Likewise, *sub + acc.* ("under," "up to"); *sub + abl.* ("beneath," "at the foot of").

### Noun Declensions

	1ST		2ND MASC.		2ND NEUT.		3RD COMMON		3RD NEUT.	
	<u>Sing.</u>	<u>Plur.</u>	<u>Sing.</u>	<u>Plur.</u>	<u>Sing.</u>	<u>Plur.</u>	<u>Sing.</u>	<u>Plur.</u>	<u>Sing.</u>	<u>Plur.</u>
nom.	-a	-ae	us/(e)r	-ī	-um	-a	?	-ēs	?	-a
gen.	-ae	-ārum	-ī	-ōrum	-ī	-ōrum	-is	-um	-is	-um
dat.	-ae	-īs	-ō	-īs	-ō	-īs	-ī	-ibus	-ī	-ibus
acc.	-am	-ās	-um	-ōs	-um	-a	-em	-ēs	?	-a
abl.	-ā	-īs	-ō	-īs	-ō	-īs	-e	-ibus	-e	-ibus

Most first declension nouns are feminine. We have learned a few that are masculine: *agricola* ("farmer"), *nauta* ("sailor"), *pīrāta* ("pirate"), and *poēta* ("poet"). Second declension nouns can be both masculine and neuter. Most masculine nouns in second declension take the nominative singular ending -us, but we have a few, like *ager* ("field"), *liber* ("book"), *puer* ("boy"), and *vir* ("man"), that end in -(e)r. Because there is no set ending for nominative singular in third declension, you must learn separately the nominative and genitive singular forms of every noun in the third declension! By removing the -is ending from the genitive singular, we find the noun stem. The rest of the third declension endings are applied to the stem, not the original form.