

GRAMMAR TERMINOLOGY FOR CONFUSED MOMS AND STUDENTS INDEX

ablative	1	nominative	1
accusative	1	nouns	1
active	4	number, nouns	1
adjectives	2	number, verbs	4
adverbs	3	participles	6
agreement, adjs	2	parts of speech	1
cardinal numbers	2	passive	4
case	1	past tense	3
case uses	MSHDLG	perfect participles	6
clause	7	perfect tense	4
comparative degree	2,3	periphrastics	7
complex sentence	7	person	4
compound sentence	7	personal pronouns	2
compound-complex sentence	7	phrase	7
conjugation	3	pluperfect tense	4
conjunctions	7	plural, nouns	1
dative	1	plural, verbs	4
declension, adjective	2	positive degree	2,3
declension, noun	1	predicate of sentence	7
defective verbs	6	prepositions	7
degree, adjectives	2	present participles	6
demonstrative adjs	2	present tense	3
deponent verbs	5	progressive	3
emphatic	3	pronouns	2
first person	4	purpose	6
future participles	6	reflexive adjectives	2
future passive participles	6	reflexive pronouns	2
future perfect tense	4	regular adjectives	2
future tense	3	relative pronouns	2
gender	1	second person	4
genitive	1	semi-deponent vbs	6
gerunds	6	sentence	7
gerundives	6	simple	3
imperative	4	singular, nouns	1
imperfect tense	3	singular, verbs	4
impersonal verbs	6	subject infinitives	5
indeclinable adjectives	2	subject of sentence	7
indefinite pronouns	2	subjunctive	5
indicative	4	subjunctive uses	MSHDLG
indirect statement	5	superlative degree	2,3
infinitives	5	supines	6
infinitive tenses	5	tense	3
intensive adjectives	2	third person	4
interjections	7	verbals/verb forms used as nouns	6
interrogative pronouns	2	verbals/verb forms used as adjectives	6
irregular adjectives	2	verbs	3
irregular verbs	3	vocative	1
locative	1	voice	4
mood	4		
necessity	6		

GRAMMAR TERMINOLOGY FOR CONFUSED MOMS AND STUDENTS

FANCY LATIN GRAMMAR TERMS AND WHAT THEY'RE ALL ABOUT

What's THAT mean??

PARTS OF SPEECH: nouns, pronouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions, and interjections

I. NOUNS: the name of a person, place, thing, or abstract quality. A noun generally answers the question "What?"

A. **DECLENSION:** the chart of endings which a given noun uses.

Latin has FIVE declensions:

- first, which end -a, genitive singular -ae;
- second, which end -us, -r, or -um, genitive singular -i;
- third, which end in just about anything, gen. sing. -is;
- fourth, which end -us or -ū, gen. sing. -ūs;
- fifth, which end -ēs, gen. sing. -eī.

B. **GENDER:** masculine, feminine, and neuter.

Things that English considers to be "it" often have a grammatical gender of masculine or feminine.

- Latin: 1st decl. nouns are mostly F, with a few M
- 2nd decl. nouns are mostly M or N, with a couple F
- 3rd decl. nouns can be M, F, or N
- 4th decl. nouns are mostly M or N, with a few F
- 5th decl. nouns are mostly F, with a few M

C. **NUMBER:** singular and plural
boy - boys, child - children, mouse - mice, etc.

D. **CASE:** shows the use of the noun.

Latin has SEVEN cases, the first FIVE of which form a declension chart.

NOMINATIVE states the subject, the doer of the action, or renames the subject. "Marcus is a bad boy."

ACCUSATIVE receives the action of the verb, plus other uses (see CASE USES below) "Marcus hits Julia."

GENITIVE shows possession or a part of; generally 's, s', or "of" in English. "Marcus' father," "a part of the soldiers"

DATIVE is used for the person TO WHOM we give, show, or tell something, or FOR WHOM something is true. "It is necessary for you to give it to me."

ABLATIVE tells how, where, from where, when, in what way, etc.

"with a stick," "in Italy," "from Rome," "at night," "with glory."

VOCATIVE is used for the person whom you are calling by name.

"Marcus, stop punching Titus!"

LOCATIVE is used to say IN a town, on a small island, "at home," "on the ground," "in the country," and "outdoors."

E. **CASE USE:** see Mrs. Schearer's Handy-Dandy Latin Grammar.

II. **PRONOUNS:** words which take the place of a noun.

A. **PERSONAL:** subject: I you he she it we y'all they
 dir. object me you him her it us y'all them
 possessive my your his her(s) its our y'all's their
 Latin ego tū is ea id nōs vōs eī-ae-a

B. **REFLEXIVE:** a direct object which renames the subject.
 I like myself, you fool yourself, he sees himself, she feeds herself, etc.
 Latin: *mē* *tē* *sē* *sē*

C. **INTERROGATIVE:** asks Who? Whom? Whose? What?
 Latin: *Quis? Quid?*

D. **RELATIVE:** tells more about a noun, "who, whom, whose, which, that"
 **Agree with their ANTECEDENT (the word to which they refer) in gender and number ONLY; their case depends on their use in their own clause.
 Latin: *quī-quae-quod* (See Cap. VIII)

E. **INDEFINITE:** refers to a general, unknown person: "anyone, somebody, anything"
 Latin: *aliquis-aliquid, quisquam-quidquam*, and others.

III. ADJECTIVES: words which describe nouns. Generally tell "What sort of?"

A. **REGULAR:**

- DECLENSION:** *-us/-er-a-um* or *-er-ra-rum* use 1-2 declension endings
 (-er)-is-e and other one-ending-in-the-nominative use 3rd decl.
 endings (abl. sing. *-ī*, gen. pl. *-ium*, neut. nom-acc pl. *-ia*)
- AGREEMENT:** adjectives must "agree" with the noun they describe in GENDER, NUMBER and CASE
- DEGREE:** positive, comparative, and superlative
 - POSITIVE:** the regular form the the adjective: "easy," "big"
 - COMPARATIVE:** " er than," "more than"
 Latin: M-F: *-ior* (works like *pāstor*); Neut: *-ius* (woks like *corpus*)
 - SUPERLATIVE:** " est," "very ," "most "
 Latin: *-issimus-a-um* (For *-er* adjectives: *-erRIMUS-A-UM*)

B. **IRREGULAR:**

- CARDINAL NUMBERS:** *ūnus, duo, trēs, quattuor*, etc. ONLY *ūnus, duo*, and *trēs* and *ducentī-ae-a* (*trēcentī*, etc.) decline in the five cases.
- INDECLINABLE:** adjectives which do not change their endings.
quattuor, nēquam
- DEMONSTRATIVE:** adjectives tell this, these, that, those, same
 Latin: *hic-haec-hoc, ille-a-ud, iste-a-ud, is-ea-id, idem-eadem-idem*
- REFLEXIVE:** "the subject's own " so it's NEVER in the nominative.
 Latin: *suus-a-um*
- INTENSIVE:** stresses the noun it describes. "Marcus himself told me."
 Latin: *ipse-a-um*
- INDEFINITE:** any adjective meaning "some, any, certain"
 Latin: *quīdam-quaedam-quoddam, quicumque-quaecumque-quodcumque*

IV. ADVERBS: words which describe verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs and tell where, when, how, etc.

Describing a verb: He writes correctly.

Describing an adjective: Their answers are equally correct.

Describing another adverb: They write equally correctly.

A. FORMED FROM ADJECTIVES:

1. **POSITIVE** "____ly"

Latin: -us-a-um --> -ē -is-e --> -iter____-ns --> -nter

2. **COMPARATIVE**: "more ____ly THAN"

Latin: -ius (no matter what declension it is)

3. **SUPERLATIVE**: "most ____ly," "very ____ly"

B. NOT FORMED FROM ADJECTIVES: tell where, when, how, etc.

Latin examples: quoque, hīc, etiam, tum

V. VERBS: show action or a state of being

A. CONJUGATION: a chart of endings which a given verb uses. Latin has 4 1/2 conjugations: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 3rd-"I," and 4th.

There are also **IRREGULAR** verbs such as esse, posse, īre, ferre, velle, nolle, malle, fieri.

B. TENSE: shows the time of the action

PRESENT: what usually happens, what is happening now.

"the subject verb(s), is verbing, does verb"

Latin: amat, vident, pōnimus, accipiō, audīs

SIMPLE PRESENT: not necessarily right now, but as a general rule: "I eat anchovies."

I verb, you verb, he verbS, we verb, y'all verb, they verb

PROGRESSIVE PRESENT: action right now

I am verbing, you are verbing, he is verbing, we are verbing, etc.

EMPHATIC PRESENT: I do verb, you do verb, he does verb, we do verb, etc.

PAST/IMPERFECT: ongoing or incompleting action before now

"the subject verbed (over time), was/were verbing, did verb (many times), used to verb"

Latin: a-e-e-ie-ie + bam/bās/bat, etc.

amābam, vidēbās, pōnēbat, accipiēbāmus, audiēbatis

SIMPLE PAST: I verbed, you verbed, he verbed, we verbed, etc. (repeatedly, ongoing)

PROGRESSIVE PAST: I was verbing, you were verbing, he was verbing, etc.

I used to verb, you used to verb, etc.

EMPHATIC PAST: I did verb, you did verb, he did verb, we did verb, etc. (repeatedly, ongoing)

FUTURE: an action to happen after now "the subject WILL/SHALL verb"

Latin: 1-2: bō-bis-bit-etc. // 3-(3i-4): (i)am, (i)ēs, (i)et, etc.

SIMPLE FUTURE: I shall verb, you will verb, he will verb, etc.

PROGRESSIVE FUTURE: I shall be verbing, you will be verbing, he will be verbing, ...

PERFECT: an action that happened ONCE before now or is over and done with.

"the subject verbed ONCE, has/have verbed, did verb ONCE"

Latin ACTIVE: change stem + -ī-istī-it-imus-istis-ērunt

amāvērunt, tenuī, scripsit, accēpit, audīvimus

Latin PASSIVE: change stem + us-a-um + sum, es, est

-ī-ae-a + sumus, estis, sunt

SIMPLE PERFECT: I have verbed, you have verbed, he has verbed, we have verbed, etc.

PROGRESSIVE PERFECT: I/ you have been verbing, he has been verbing, etc.

PLUPERFECT: an action happening BEFORE another past action.

"the subject HAD (already) verbed before he did something else."

Latin ACTIVE: change stem + -eram,-erās,-erat, etc.

Latin PASSIVE: change stem + us-a-um + eram, erās, erat

-ī-ae-a + erāmus, erātis, erant

SIMPLE PLUPERFECT: I had verbed, you had verbed, he had verbed, etc.

PROGRESSIVE PLUPERFECT: I had been verbing, you had been verbing, etc.

FUTURE PERFECT: an action which will take place before another action in the future.

"the subject WILL HAVE verbed before he WILL do something else"

Latin ACTIVE: change stem + -erō,-eris,-erit,-erimus,-eritis,-erunt

Latin PASSIVE: change stem + us-a-um + erō, eris, erit

-ī-ae-a + erimus, eritis, erunt

SIMPLE FUTURE PERFECT: I shall have verbed, you will have verbed, etc.

PROGRESSIVE FUTURE PERFECT: I shall have been verbing, you will have been verbing, he will have been verbing, etc.

C. **PERSON:** **FIRST** person is most important: "I" and "we (I + you)"

SECOND person is the next most important: "you" and "y'all (you + someone else)"

THIRD person is the least important, the other guy: "he, she, it" and "they (he, she, it + someone else)"

D. **NUMBER:** **Singular** ("I, you, he, she, it") and **Plural** (we, y'all, they)

E. **VOICE:** **ACTIVE** (the subject is doing the action) or **PASSIVE** (the subject is being verbed BY someone)

F. **MOOD:** fact, possibility or wish, command, indirect statement.

1. **INDICATIVE:** a statement of FACT. "It is true." "He says..."

Latin: see TENSE above.

2. **IMPERATIVE:** giving an order Punctuation usually ".....!"

Active "Do it!"

Sing. drop -re from present infinitive

Pl. add -te to singular (except 3rd -e --> -ite)

Passive "Be/Get verbed (by)!" or for deponents "Do it!"

Sing. looks just like a present active infinitive

Pl. replace -re with -minī (except 3rd -ere --> -iminī)

Future: "Thou shalt do it!" "You'd better do it!"

add -to or -tote (pl) to the sing. imperative

3. **INFINITIVE:** used only when there is another verb in the same clause

a. **USES:**

SUBJECTIVE: "to err is human, to forgive is divine."

OBJECTIVE/COMPLEMENTARY: when "to verb" logically follows some other verb: "I'm able to verb, you want to verb, he starts to verb, we hate to verb, you allow us to verb, they prefer to verb"

INDIRECT STATEMENT: when someone *sees, says, hears, thinks, knows, understands, rejoices, senses, writes*, etc. that something is so.

HEAD VERB + ACC. + INFIN.

b. TENSES of INFINITIVES IN INDIRECT STATEMENT (I.S.)

PRESENT active -re ; passive -rī/ -ī

"to verb, to be verbed"; I.S. "he says that he verbs, is-verb"

PERFECT active -isse; passive -um esse

"to have verbed, to have been verbed;"

I.S. "he says that he (has) verbed, was/has been verbed by"

FUTURE active -ūrum esse; passive -um irī

exists ONLY in indirect statement: " he says that he will verb, will be verbed by"

4. **SUBJUNCTIVE:** a wish of possibility: "He should verb," "he would verb," "he may verb," "he might verb," "let him verb."

Latin Present Subjunctive for regular verbs:

change vowel to e-ea-a-ia + ending (-m-s-t-mus-tis-nt/-r-ris-tur-mur-mini-ntur):

amēs, videat, pōnāmus, accipiātis, audiant

Latin Imperfect Subjunctive for any verb:

present active infinitive + ending (-m-s-t-mus-tis-nt/ -r-ris-tur-mur-mini-ntur)

amārem, vidēres, pōneret, acciperēmus, audirētis

Latin Perfect Active Subjunctive for any verb: looks like Future Perfect Indicative except "I" form is "-erim," not -erō."

amāverim, tenueris, scripserit, accēperimus, audiveritis

Latin Perfect Passive Subjunctive for any verb: just change sum-es-est-sumus-estis-sunt to sim-sīs-sit, sīmus, sītis, sint.

amātī sīmus, tentī sītis, audītī sint

Latin Pluperfect Active Subjunctive for any verb: put an active ending on the perfect active infinitive.

amāvissēm, tenuissēs, scripsisset, accēpissēmus, audivissetis

Latin Pluperfect Passive Subjunctive for any verb: just change eram,erās, erāt to essem, essēs, esset, etc.

amātus essem, tentus essēs, scriptus esset, etc.

SUBJUNCTIVE USES: SEE Mrs. Schearer's Handy Dandy Latin Grammar

G. DEPONENTS

Verb which always use PASSIVE endings.

They do, however, have present and future active participles.

H. SEMI-DEPONENTS

Verbs which are active in the present, imperfect, and future, but deponent in the perfect, pluperfect, and future perfect.

Latin: *solēre/ solitum, gaudēre/ gavisum, audēre/ ausum, fidere/ fīsum*

I. IMPERSONALS

Verbs which ALWAYS end in the 3rd person singular -t/ -tur and mean "IT verbs."
necesse est, oportet, opus est, pudet

J. DEFECTIVES

Verbs which do not have most of their possible forms: *inquit, ait, meminī, ōdī, coepī*

K. VERBALS/ VERB FORMS (nouns and adjectives formed from verbs)

1. NOUN VERBALS

a. **INFINITIVES**: see above

b. **SUPINES**:

i. of **purpose**: tells WHY you *come* or *go* somewhere: "I'm coming to verb"

= the perfect passive infinitive without the esse;

*Nōn veniō villam **oppugnātum**.*

ii. of **respect**: tells in what way something is *easy, hard, amazing*, etc.:
"That is easy to say, amazing to hear"

= the perfect passive infinitive without the esse or the -m;

*facile **dīctū**, mīrābile **audītū***

c. **GERUNDS**: an *-ing* noun "fond of swimming," "ready for sailing"

Used in every case except nominative, when an infinitive is used.

Latin: -a-e-e-ie-ie + ND + *-um, -ī, -ō*

2. ADJECTIVE VERBALS (agree with a noun just like adjectives do)

a. PARTICIPLES

i. **PRESENT PARTICIPLES**: "a verbing person/thing"

a-e-e-ie-ie + -ns (changes endings like *mons*)

ii. **PERFECT (PASSIVE) PARTICIPLES**: "something verbed or verbEN"

(armed soldier, written letter)

Latin: change -um esse to -us-a-um miles armātus,

epistula scīpta

iii. **FUTURE PARTICIPLES**: "going/intending/about to verb"

Latin: insert -ŪR- into the perfect passive participle.

"Bonus puer futūrus sum" "I am going to be a good boy."

b. GERUNDIVE/ FUTURE PASSIVE PARTICIPLE

i. **NECESSITY** "something must be verbed"

a-e-e-ie-ie + ND + us-a-um + sum, es, est, sumus, etc.

Carthāgō dēlenda est: "Carthage must be destroyed."

ii. **PURPOSE** "(for) verbing something" (Gerund + object)

"ready for cooking dinner: *parātus ad cēnAM coquENDAM*

the noun is whatever case is required by Latin grammar, and the gerundive is whatever case its noun must be, AND the gerundive takes the gender and number of the noun.

(Makes deponent verbs look easy!)

c. PERIPHRASTICS a round-about way of saying something.

i. **ACTIVE** "someone is going to verb"

add some form of esse to a future active participle:

Bonus puer futūrus sum.

"I am going to be a good boy."

ii. **PASSIVE** "someone must be verbed (by)"

add some form of esse to the gerundive (= gerundive of necessity)

VI. **PREPOSITIONS:** words which begin a phrase which tells where, how, when, why:
"in Italy," "with care," "at night," "because of luck"

NOT ALL prepositional phrases use a preposition in Latin:

NO PREPOSITION: -- means/ things used -- time when
--length of time of space/ how long

--to, from, in/on a town or small island

OPTIONAL PREPOSITION: --Manner with an adjective (*magnā glōriā* OR *magnā cum glōriā*)

VII. **CONJUNCTIONS:** words which join words, phrases, or clauses

A. Independent conjunctions (and, or, but, nor, for, yet), used in compound sentences

B. Dependent conjunctions (after, when, because, since, if, therefore, where, although, even if, even though, (so) that, lest, in order that, however, nevertheless, anyhow, etc.) used in complex sentences.

VIII. **INTERJECTIONS:** words which express emotion and have nothing to do grammatically with the rest of the sentence. Hi! Alas! Hey there! Hooray! Rats! Wow!

PARTS OF A SENTENCE: subject, predicate, phrase, clause, sentence, compound sentence, complex sentence, compound-complex sentence

I. **SUBJECT:** the doer of the action, the thing you are talking about, usually comes BEFORE the verb

II. **PREDICATE:** the verb and its direct object or predicate noun/adjective

III. **PHRASE:** two or more words which go together but don't form a whole thought without other words. "I love (?)" "in Italy," "giving a present," "to conquer"

IV. **CLAUSE:** has at least a subject and a verb. "I like dogs." "John, do your work."

V. **SENTENCE:** may be just one clause, or may add other clauses.

VI. **COMPOUND SENTENCE:** Two clauses joined by an *independent* conjunction (and, or, but, nor, for, yet) "I like tomatoes, and/but you like peanuts."

VII. **COMPLEX SENTENCE:** Two clauses joined by a *dependent* conjunction (after, when, because, since, if, therefore, where, who/which, although, even if, even though, (so) that, lest, in order that, however, nevertheless, anyhow, etc.)

VIII. **COMPOUND-COMPLEX SENTENCE:** at least one part of a compound sentence is also complex. "Mary loves John, but John, *who is rich*, scorns Mary *because she is poor*."