

FUNCTION OF THE CASES

The seven Latin cases will be the primary grammatical material we cover in this class. Although you cannot truly understand them until you begin using them in context with real Latin, the following flashcards will help you develop a general idea of what each case does. Memorize the general function of each case. Many of the specific uses are best explained as answering a particular question, so these questions are listed below to help you understand the general function.

NOMINATIVE

General Function:

A NOMINATIVE NOUN NAMES THE SUBJECT OF
THE SENTENCE.

Specific Uses:

Who/what?

ACCUSATIVE

General Function:

AN ACCUSATIVE NOUN GENERALLY SHOWS THE
EXTENT OF A VERB.

Specific Uses:

Direct object, *Where to?*, *How long?*, *How
much?*, *How far?*

GENITIVE

General Function:

A GENITIVE NOUN FURTHER EXPLAINS ANOTHER
NOUN OR AN ADJECTIVE

Specific Uses:

Whose?, Which one?, What kind?.

DATIVE

General Function:

A DATIVE NOUN SHOWS INDIRECT OBJECT AND
USE

Specific Uses:

*To whom?, For whom?, By whom?, In relation to
whom/what? , and For what purpose?.*

ABLATIVE

General Function:

AN ABLATIVE NOUN SHOWS CIRCUMSTANCES,
MEANS, AND ORIGINS

Specific Uses:

When?, Where?, How?, Where from?, Why?

VOCATIVE

General Function:

A VOCATIVE NOUN SHOWS A DIRECT ADDRESS

Specific Uses:

Whom is the speaker addressing?

LOCATIVE

General Function:

A LOCATIVE NOUN ALWAYS SHOWS LOCATION.

Specific Uses:

In what location? Where?

1ST & 2ND DECLENSIONS

The following cards are designed to help you learn the 1st and 2nd declensions case by case. Feel free to learn to write out the whole chart first, but make sure that you eventually learn the endings this way, as this will be the format for declension questions on the August 4th exam. Notice that the 2nd Declension Neuter forms are separated when they differ from the normal 2nd declension endings. The Vocative and Locative endings are put in a separate chart because they are not typically included in noun declension charts.

FIVE MAJOR CASES

1ST DECLENSION

| CASE | SG. | PL. |
|------|-----|------|
| NOM | A | AE |
| ACC. | AM | ĀS |
| GEN. | AE | ĀRUM |
| DAT. | AE | ĪS |
| ABL. | Ā | ĪS |

2ND DECLENSION

| CASE | SG. | PL. |
|------|-------|------|
| NOM | US/ER | Ī |
| ACC. | UM | ŌS |
| GEN. | Ī | ŌRUM |
| DAT. | Ō | ĪS |
| ABL. | Ō | ĪS |

2ND DECLENSION NEUTER

| CASE | SG. | PL. |
|------|-----|-----|
| NOM | UM | A |
| ACC. | UM | A |
| GEN. | ← | ← |
| DAT. | ← | ← |
| ABL. | ← | ← |

TWO ADDITIONAL CASES

1ST DECLENSION

| CASUS | SG. | PL. |
|-------|-----|-----|
| VOC. | A | AE |
| LOC. | AE | ĪS |

2ND DECLENSION

| CASUS | SG. | PL. |
|-------|-----|-----|
| VOC. | E | Ī |
| LOC. | Ī | ĪS |

1st DECLENSION
(e.g., INSULA)

NOMINATIVUS

FIVE MAJOR CASES

| CASUS | SINGULARIS | PLURALIS |
|-------|------------|----------|
| NOM | A | AE |
| ACC. | | |
| GEN. | | |
| DAT. | | |
| ABL. | | |

2nd DECLENSION
(e.g., FLUVIUS, PUER)

NOMINATIVUS

FIVE MAJOR CASES

| CASUS | SINGULARIS | PLURALIS |
|-------|------------|----------|
| NOM | US/ER | Ī |
| ACC. | | |
| GEN. | | |
| DAT. | | |
| ABL. | | |

2nd DECLENSION NEUTER
(e.g., OPPIDUM)

NOMINATIVUS

FIVE MAJOR CASES

| CASUS | SINGULARIS | PLURALIS |
|-------|------------|----------|
| NOM | UM | A |
| ACC. | | |
| GEN. | | |
| DAT. | | |
| ABL. | | |

1ST DECLENSION
(e.g., INSULA)

ACCUSATIVUS

FIVE MAJOR CASES

| CASUS | SINGULARIS | PLURALIS |
|-------|------------|----------|
| NOM | | |
| ACC. | AM | ĀS |
| GEN. | | |
| DAT. | | |
| ABL. | | |

2ND DECLENSION
(e.g., FLUVIUS, PUER)

ACCUSATIVUS

FIVE MAJOR CASES

| CASUS | SINGULARIS | PLURALIS |
|-------|------------|----------|
| NOM | | |
| ACC. | UM | ŌS |
| GEN. | | |
| DAT. | | |
| ABL. | | |

2ND DECLENSION, NEUTER
(e.g., OPPIDUM)

ACCUSATIVUS

FIVE MAJOR CASES

| CASUS | SINGULARIS | PLURALIS |
|-------|------------|----------|
| NOM | | |
| ACC. | UM | A |
| GEN. | | |
| DAT. | | |
| ABL. | | |

1ST DECLENSION
(e.g., INSULA)

GENITIVE

FIVE MAJOR CASES

| CASUS | SINGULARIS | PLURALIS |
|-------|------------|----------|
| NOM | | |
| ACC. | | |
| GEN. | AE | ĀRUM |
| DAT. | | |
| ABL. | | |

2ND DECLENSION
(e.g., FLUVIUS, PUER, OPPIDUM)

GENITIVE

FIVE MAJOR CASES

| CASUS | SINGULARIS | PLURALIS |
|-------|------------|----------|
| NOM | | |
| ACC. | | |
| GEN. | Ī | ŌRUM |
| DAT. | | |
| ABL. | | |

1ST DECLENSION
(e.g., INSULA)

DATIVE

FIVE MAJOR CASES

| CASUS | SINGULARIS | PLURALIS |
|-------|------------|----------|
| NOM | | |
| ACC. | | |
| GEN. | | |
| DAT. | AE | ĪS |
| ABL. | | |

2ND DECLENSION
(e.g., FLUVIUS, PUER, OPPIDUM)

DATIVE

FIVE MAJOR CASES

| CASUS | SINGULARIS | PLURALIS |
|-------|------------|----------|
| NOM | | |
| ACC. | | |
| GEN. | | |
| DAT. | Ō | ĪS |
| ABL. | | |

1ST DECLENSION
(e.g., INSULA)

ABLATIVE

FIVE MAJOR CASES

| CASUS | SINGULARIS | PLURALIS |
|-------|------------|----------|
| NOM | | |
| ACC. | | |
| GEN. | | |
| DAT. | | |
| ABL. | Ā | ĪS |

2ND DECLENSION
(e.g., FLUVIUS, PUER, OPPIDUM)

ABLATIVE

FIVE MAJOR CASES

| CASUS | SINGULARIS | PLURALIS |
|-------|------------|----------|
| NOM | | |
| ACC. | | |
| GEN. | | |
| DAT. | | |
| ABL. | Ō | ĪS |

1ST DECLENSION (e.g., PUELLA)

VOCATIVE

TWO ADDITIONAL CASES

| CASUS | SINGULARIS | PLURALIS |
|-------|------------|----------|
| VOC. | A | AE |
| LOC. | | |

2ND DECLENSION (e.g., MARCUS)

VOCATIVE

TWO ADDITIONAL CASES

| CASUS | SINGULARIS | PLURALIS |
|-------|------------|----------|
| VOC. | E | Ī |
| LOC. | | |

1ST DECLENSION (e.g., ROMA)

LOCATIVE

TWO ADDITIONAL CASES

| CASUS | SINGULARIS | PLURALIS |
|-------|------------|----------|
| VOC. | | |
| LOC. | AE | ĪS |

2ND DECLENSION
(e.g., CORINTHUS, TUSCULUM)

LOCATIVE

TWO ADDITIONAL CASES

| CASUS | SINGULARIS | PLURALIS |
|-------|------------|----------|
| VOC. | | |
| LOC. | Ī | ĪS |