

Parts of Speech

Adapted from Appendix A *Latin Via Ovid* by Norma Goldman and Jacob Nyenhuis

There are eight parts of speech in Latin, as in English: noun, pronoun, adjective, verb, adverb, conjunction, preposition, interjection.

A *noun* is a word used to express the name of a person, place, thing, or idea.



rēgīna
queen



Ītalia
Italy



Īnsula
island



sapientia
wisdom

Nouns have gender: Masculine, Feminine, or Neuter

number: singular or plural

case: Nominative, Genitive, Dative, Accusative, Ablative

A *pronoun* is a word used in place of a noun.

is	<i>he</i>	tū	<i>you (sing.)</i>
ea	<i>she</i>	ego	<i>I</i>
id	<i>it</i>	vōs	<i>you (pl.)</i>
eam	<i>her</i>	nōs	<i>we</i>
eum	<i>him</i>	eī	<i>they</i>

The personal pronoun is not expressed if it is clear from the context who is the subject of the verb, since the verb ending indicates the subject.

An *adjective* is a word used to describe a noun.

amīcus bonus
a good friend

puella pulchra
a beautiful girl

magnum templum
a large temple

The articles (*a*, *an*, and *the*) are to be supplied.

The adjective appears as **bonus**, **bona**, **bonum** in the vocabulary, since it must agree with the noun it modifies in case, number, and gender. Descriptive adjectives generally follow the noun; adjectives of size or quantity generally precede the noun.

A *verb* is a word used to express action or state of being.

amant	<i>they love, they are loving, they do love</i>
sunt	<i>they are</i>
vocāmus	<i>we call, we are calling, we do call</i>

Verbs have person: 1st, 2nd, 3rd

number: singular, plural

tense: Present, Imperfect, Future, Perfect, Pluperfect, Future Perfect

voice: Active or Passive

mood: Indicative, Imperative, Subjunctive, Infinitive

An *adverb* is a word used to describe a verb, an adjective, or another adverb.

ita	<i>thus</i>	satis	<i>enough</i>	primum	<i>first</i>
celeriter	<i>quickly</i>	plūs	<i>more</i>	tum	<i>then</i>

A *preposition* introduces a phrase which consists of the preposition and its object.



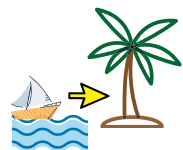
in silvā
in the forest



cum amīcīs
with friends



in caelum
into the sky



ad īnsulam
to the island

A *conjunction* is a connecting word used to join words, phrases, clauses, or sentences.

A conjunction can connect equal ideas (coordinate): **puerī et puellae**
boys and girls

A conjunction can connect unequal parts (subordinate):

Dum puella pictūrās fōrmat, nymphae spectant.
While the girl makes pictures, the nymphs watch.

An *interjection* is a word showing strong feeling or emotion.

ō!	<i>oh</i>	eheu!	<i>alas</i>	mehercule!	<i>by Hercules</i>
-----------	-----------	--------------	-------------	-------------------	--------------------