

2024 4th Grade Latin Jump Start

Salve! Hello and welcome to the study of Latin!

We will learn fun facts about Ancient Rome, skills that help reinforce English grammar and English word meanings as well as skills that will prepare you to learn other languages in the future. Plus, most students think it's just plain fun!

Here are some tips that will help you feel “up to speed” when you join your peers in the fall.

In Latin, nouns are grouped into families called **declensions**. Each of these declensions has certain endings which are associated with different noun jobs in a sentence. Your classmates have learned the first and second declension endings, and you can learn them too with the help of these songs.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EBOFgHFQMLc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J9cSmMREQDg>

First Declension Noun Endings

Case	Singular	Plural
Nominative	-a	-ae
Genitive	-ae	-ārum
Dative	-ae	-īs
Accusative	-am	-ās
Ablative	-ā	-īs

Second Declension Noun Endings

Case	Singular	Plural
Nominative	-us	-ī
Genitive	-ī	-ōrum
Dative	-ō	-īs
Accusative	-um	-ōs
Ablative	-ō	-īs

2nd Declension Neuter Noun Endings

Case	Singular	Plural
Nominative	-um	-a
Genitive	-ī	-ōrum
Dative	-ō	-īs
Accusative	-um	-a
Ablative	-ō	-īs

*****Can you find the 2nd declension neuter endings which are different from 2nd declension masculine?*****

You'll also notice those new words listed in the chart under case. **Case** is the word that is associated with each of the noun jobs in a sentence.

Nominative-subject

Genitive-possessive (of the noun)

Dative-indirect object (to/for the noun)

Accusative-direct object

Ablative-object of the preposition (by, with, from the noun)

In English, word order gives meaning to sentences; in Latin, the endings give the meaning, so word order isn't as important.

Now, let's look at **verbs**. Latin verbs are grouped into families called **conjugations**. Latin verbs have different endings based on who is doing the action and how many are doing the action. We have something similar in English. Compare "I jump" to "he jumps." The ending of the verb changed because the person doing the action changed. Here are the present tense verb endings.

Present Tense Verb Endings

	Singular	Plural
1st Person	-o (I verb)	-mus (we verb)
2nd Person	-s (you verb)	-tis (y'all verb)
3rd Person	-t (he, she, it verbs)	-nt (they verb)

Here is the present tense conjugation of the Latin verb *amo*. Memorizing it would be helpful. Here is a silly song/video to help you.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fLrXz9XoQgg&t=13s>

	Singular	Plural
1st Person	-amō (I love)	-amāmus (we love)
2nd Person	-amās (you love)	-amātis (y'all love)
3rd Person	-amat (he, she, it loves)	-amant (they love)

Fourth grade Latin will begin with a review of information covered in third grade, so you will have the opportunity to learn new concepts as they review them. Learning these couple of songs should give you some confidence starting out.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Vale! (Bye!)
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