

Capitulum Secundum

Grammar Notes for Grammatically Challenged Parents

1. The **Genitive Case** is used in Latin to show possession. Use **of**, **'s**, or **s'** to express **possession** in English.

Latin nouns ending in –us form their singular possessive by using the ending -ī.

filius Iulī = *son of Iulius, Iulius' son*

dominus Mēdī = *master of Medus, Medus' master*

pater Quintī = *father of Quintus, Quintus' father*

Latin nouns ending in –a form their singular possessive by using the ending -ae.

filia Aemiliae = *daughter of Aemilia, Aemilia's daughter*

domina Syrae = *lady-boss of Syra, Syra's mistress*

mater Iuliae = *mother of Iulia, Iulia's mother*

Plural Possessives (meaning “of more than one”) use **-ōrum** and **-ārum**

Iulius dominus servōrum est. *Iulius is the master of slaves.*

Aemilia domina ancillārum est. *Aemilia is the lady-boss of maidservants.*

2. Questions are asked with gender specific words and answered accordingly.

Quis? *Who? (M)* Substitute an –us ending word for the answer. *Marcus*

Quae? *Who? (F)* Substitute an –a ending word for the answer. *Iulia*

Quī? *Who? (M-Plural)* Substitute two masculine singular words or a plural

Masculine word. *Marcus et Quintus* or *Servī*

3. Answer the question *Quot* (How many) by substituting a number.

Quot servī in familiā Iulī sunt? *Centum.*

Quot fīliae in familiā Iulī sunt? *Una.*

Quot sunt I et II? *Unus et duo sunt tres.*

4. Adjectives – Learn the **Principle of Agreement**:

Adjectives agree with the nouns they modify in **Case**, **Number** and **Gender**.

Adjectives have endings, which (thus far/mostly) match their nouns.

Singular	Plural
filius meus / my son	fluviī tuī / your rivers
puer Romanus / Roman boy (Both puer and filius are masculine sg.)	
filia mea / my daughter	ancillae meae / my maid-servants
oppidum meum / my town	oppida tua / your towns

5. After **numerus**, always use a noun ending in **-ōrum** or **-ārum**
 numerus servōrum = *number of slaves*
 numerus ancillārum = *number of maidservants*
 numerus oppidōrum = *number of towns*

Patterns thus far:

Noun Ending Chart Verticalish

2 nd Declension Masculine Noun Endings	Sg.	Pl.
Nominative Case (Subject)	-us/-r	-ī
Genitive Case (Possession-of, 's)	-ī	-ōrum

1st Declension Feminine Noun Endings	Sg.	Pl.
Nominative Case (Subject)	-a	-ae
Genitive Case (Possession-of, 's)	-ae	-ārum

2 nd Declension Neuter Noun Endings	Sg.	Pl.
Nominative Case (Subject)	-um	-a
Genitive Case (Possession-of, 's)	-ī	-ōrum

Noun Ending Chart Horizontalish

	Masculine		Feminine		Neuter	
	SG	PL	SG	PL	SG	PL
Subject	-us/-r	-ī	-a	-ae	-um	-a
Possessive (of, 's)	-ī	-ōrum	-ae	-ārum	-ī	-ōrum

Paradigm / Pattern Nouns/ Nominative	Singular	Plural
Masculine	fluv ius magn us / large river	fluvi ī magn ī / large rivers
Feminine	insul a parv a / small island	insul ae parv ae / small islands
Neuter	oppid um parv um / small town	oppid a parv a / small towns

Genitive	Singular	Plural
Masculine	fluvi i magn i / of the large river, the large river's _____	fluvi orum magn orum / of the large rivers, the large rivers' _____
Feminine	insul ae parv ae / of the small island, the small island's _____	insul arum parv arum / of the small islands, the small islands' _____
Neuter	oppid i parv i / of the small town, the small town's _____	oppid orum parv orum / of the small towns, the small towns' _____