

Capitulum Tertium Decimum

Grammar Notes for Grammatically Challenged Parents

1. **Superlative Adjectives** – To express adjectives in the superlative degree, Latin uses the endings **-issimus, -a, -um**. Remember: Adjectives agree with the nouns they modify in Case, Number and Gender.

Translate superlatives as: ____ est, very ____, or most ____.

longissima via = the longest road, a very long road, the most long road

brevissimum verbum = the shortest word, a very short word, the most short word

2. **Ablative of Time When** – Latin uses the Ablative case, without a preposition, to express “Time when”.

nocte = at night *hōc tempore* = at this time, now *aestate* = in summer

3. **Accusative of Duration of Time & Extent of Space**

Latin uses the Accusative case without a preposition to express “how long” in distance to “how long” in time. *Sex mensēs* = For six months

Duōs pedēs = two feet

4. **The Genitive Case is used to complete the meaning of the Latin nouns *fīnis* and *initium*.**

fīnis = the end of

initium = the start of, the beginning of

Vesper est fīnis diēī atque initium noctis. Ln. 38-39

Evening is the end of day and the beginning of night.

5. **To learn fifth declension endings in chart form.**

see pg. 101 Chart

Nom	-ēs	-ēs	diēs	diēs
Acc	-em	-ēs	diem	diēs
Gen	-ēī	-ērum	diēī	diērum
Dat	-ēī	-ēbus	diēī	diēbus
Abl	-ē*	-ēbus	diē*	diēbus

6. To learn what case is used with verbs **nōminātur** and **dīcitur**. In Latin, the **Nominative Case** is used with *esse* and the passive verbs **nōminātur** and **dīcitur**.

Tempus (ā Mārtiō ad Māium) *vēr dicitur.* Ln. 84

Dies tertius decimus (post kalendas) ‘*īdus*’ *nōminātur.* Ln. 57

7. To learn the **past tense of est / sunt. erat/erant**

erat = he/she/it was, has been

erant = they were, have been

8. Learn Latin names of the months and how they work –

Iānuārius, Februārius, Mārtius, Māius, Iūnius, Iūlius, Augustus all decline like 1st & 2nd Declension adjectives [-us/a/um]

Māius, Māiī, Māiō, Māium, Māiō, etc.

Aprīlis, September, Octōber, November, December all decline like 3rd Declension adjectives [-is/e]

Aprīlis, Aprīlis, Aprīlī, Aprīlem, Aprīle, etc.