

Looking at Latin

**A GRAMMAR
FOR
PRE-COLLEGE**

by
Anna Andresian



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A Grammar for Pre-College**

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VERB TERMINOLOGY

PERSON AND NUMBER

PERSON & NUMBER

Indicate what kind of **subject** is performing the verb.

You can tell what kind of subject is performing a Latin verb by examining the **verb ending**.

Īnsulam amō.

↓
✧I✧ love the island.
(1st person **singular**)

Īnsulam amās.

↓
✧You✧ love the island.
(2nd person **singular**)



Subject
↓
You and I rest on the shore.
↓
"you and I" = *we*
↓
1st person plural

SUBJECT of verb	PERSON of verb	NUMBER of verb
I	1st	Singular
You	2nd	Singular
He/She/It	3rd	Singular
We	1st	Plural
You (pl.)	2nd	Plural
They	3rd	Plural

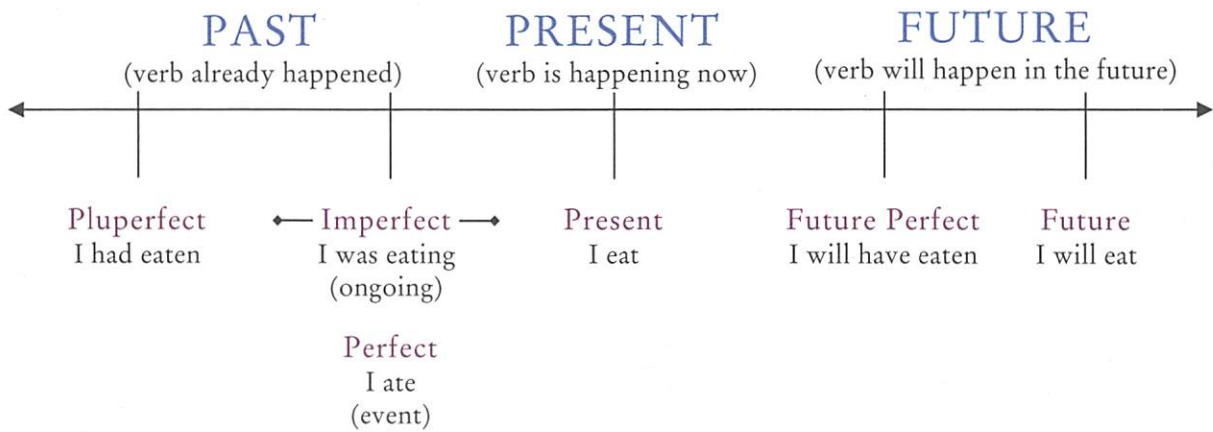
Subject
↓
The raft rests on the shore.
← "the raft" = *it*
↓
3rd person singular

VERB TERMINOLOGY

TENSE

TENSE

Indicates **when**
the verb takes place.



Latin has
SIX tenses

You can determine the
tense of a Latin verb
by examining the
verb ending.



labōrās
you work
↓
(present)

labōrābis
you will work
↓
(future)

labōrābās
you were working
↓
(imperfect)

VERB TERMINOLOGY

VOICE

VOICE

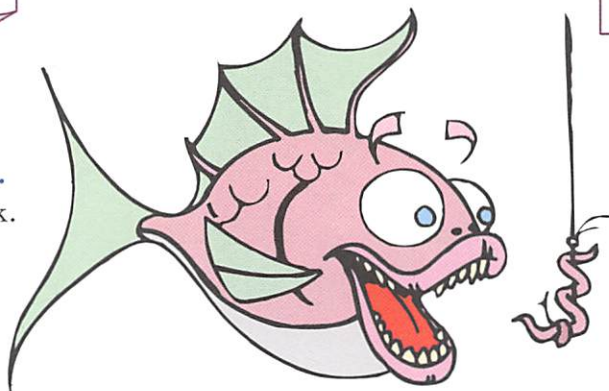
Indicates whether the subject is **acting** or **being acted upon**.

ACTIVE

↓
Subject **acts**.

Piscis hānum capit.
The fish ◊seizes◊ the hook.

↓
Subject is **acting**.



PASSIVE

↓
Subject is **acted upon**.

Piscis capitur.
The fish ◊is seized◊.
↓
Subject is being **acted upon**.

You can tell whether
a verb is active or passive
by examining the
verb ending.

For every tense, Latin has
a set of active endings and
a set of passive endings.

amat

↓
active
“he/she/it loves”

amābit

↓
active
“he/she/it will love”

amātur

↓
passive
“he/she/it is loved”

amābitur

↓
passive
“he/she/it will be loved”

VERB TERMINOLOGY

MOOD

MOOD

Verbs can refer to factual action with a specific subject (**indicative mood**), generalized action without a specific subject (**infinitive mood**), commanded action (**imperative mood**), and more.

The mood of a verb indicates which of these functions is intended.

INDICATIVE



"Subject hurries"
"Does subject hurry?"

INFINITIVE



"to hurry"

IMPERATIVE



"hurry!"

PARTICIPLE



"hurrying"

SUBJUNCTIVE



(See pp. 226–250, 252)



Different moods use
different **endings**.

festinat
he hurries
↓
(Indicative)

festināre
to hurry
↓
(Infinitive)

festinā
hurry!
↓
(Imperative)

festināns
hurrying
↓
(Participle)

festinet

↓
(Subjunctive)

VERB TERMINOLOGY

CONJUGATION

CONJUGATION

“Conjugation” is simply a word that means “**Verb Type**.”

There are **4** main types of verbs in the Latin language, and there are slight differences between the endings that each one uses.

IDENTIFYING A VERB'S CONJUGATION

Every conjugation has an **infinitive** form that is different from the infinitive forms of other conjugations.

Look at a verb's **dictionary entry** to find its infinitive form.

Typical Verb
Dictionary Entries

rogō, rogāre, rogāvī, rogātus (to ask)
audiō, audīre, audīvī, audītus (to hear)

INFINITIVE ENDINGS

-āre → 1st Conjugation
-ēre → 2nd Conjugation
-ere → 3rd Conjugation
-īre → 4th Conjugation

CONJUGATION MATTERS!

It will be difficult to interpret verb **endings** correctly if you do not know the verb's conjugation.

docēs:
2nd Conjugation
↓
Present

mittēs:
3rd Conjugation
↓
Future

SECOND CONJUGATION

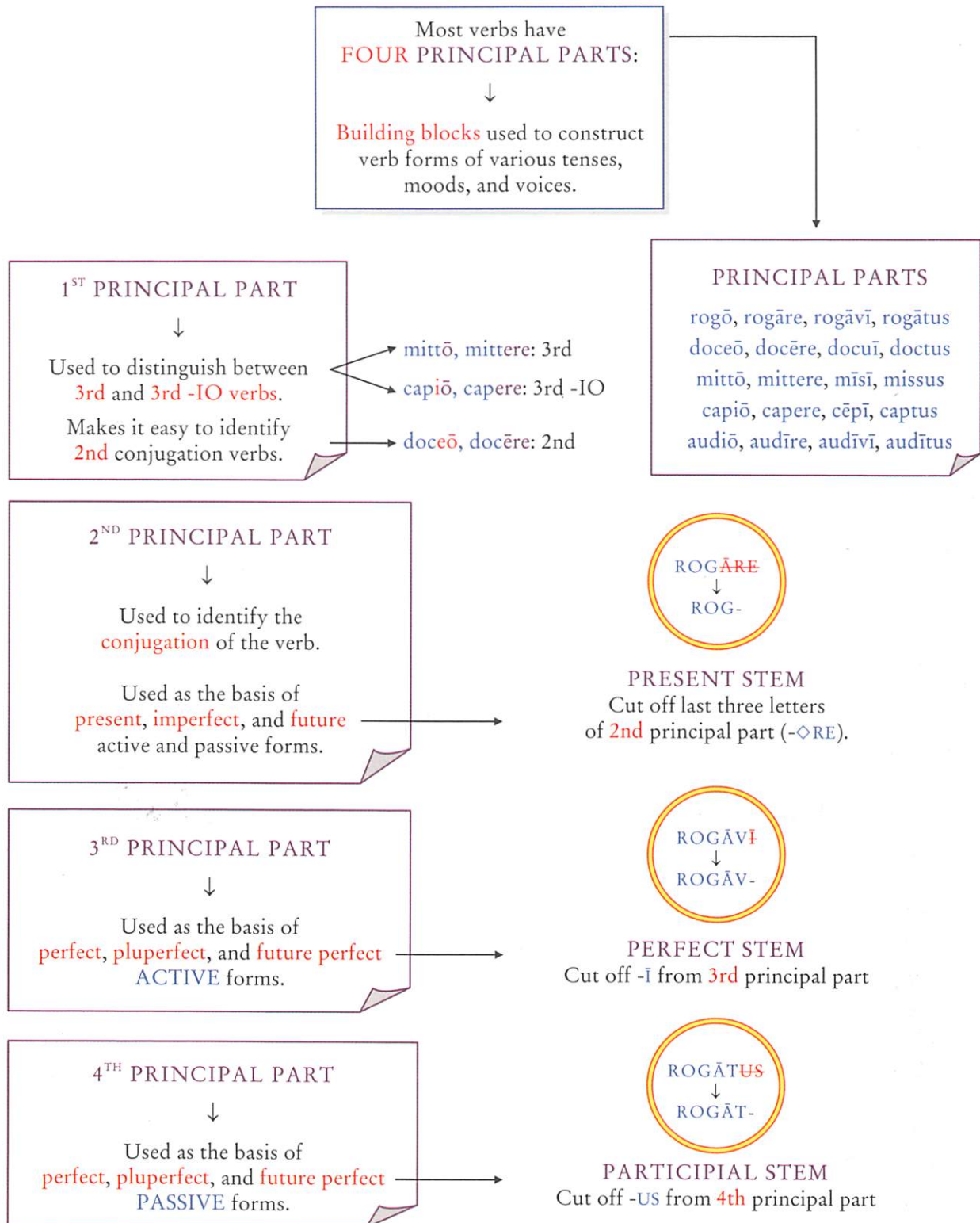
<u>Present</u>	<u>Imperfect</u>	<u>Future</u>
doceō	docēbam	docēbō
docēs	docēbās	docēbis
docet	docēbat	docēbit
docēmus	docēbāmus	docēbimus
docētis	docēbātis	docēbitis
docent	docēbant	docēbunt

THIRD CONJUGATION

<u>Present</u>	<u>Imperfect</u>	<u>Future</u>
mittō	mittēbam	mittam
mittis	mittēbās	mittēs
mittit	mittēbat	mittet
mittimus	mittēbāmus	mittēmus
mittitis	mittēbātis	mittētis
mittunt	mittēbant	mittent

VERB TERMINOLOGY

DICTIONARY ENTRY AND STEMS



VERB TERMINOLOGY

SUMMARY

PERSON & NUMBER	Indicates who is doing the verb.	1st, 2nd, 3rd person singular or plural
TENSE	Indicates when the verb occurs.	Present, Imperfect, Future, Perfect, Pluperfect, Future Perfect
VOICE	Indicates whether the subject is acting or is being acted upon .	Active or Passive
MOOD	Indicates whether verb is expression of fact, generalized action, command, etc.	Indicative, Imperative, Infinitive, Participle, Subjunctive
CONJUGATION	Verb type – different conjugations use slightly different endings .	1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th
STEM	Basic foundation of verb: various tenses, moods, and voices are formed by adding endings to stems.	Present Stem Perfect Stem Participial Stem
DICTIONARY ENTRY	Reveals verb conjugation and stems .	e.g. -ō, -āre, -āvī, -ātus

PERSONAL ENDINGS

ACTIVE

Remember that the **subject** of an **active** verb **performs** some action.

ACTIVE PERSONAL ENDINGS

You can determine the **subject** of the verb by examining the verb **ending**.

1st person singular
(I)

2nd person singular
(You)

3rd person singular
(He/She/It)

-Ō/-M

-S

-T

-MUS

-TIS

-NT

amāmus



Ending tells you that "we" is performing the verb and that the verb is **active**.

1st person plural
(We)

2nd person plural
(You [pl.])

3rd person plural
(They)

NOTE:

"Tullia" = "she"

"Tullia and I" = "we"

"You and Tullia" = "you (pl.)"

Marcus lūdere amāt.

Marcus ♦loves♦ to play.

Marcum spectāmus.

We ♦watch♦ Marcus.

Marcus et Gāius lūdere amant.

Marcus and Gaius ♦love♦ to play.



PERSONAL ENDINGS

PASSIVE

Remember that the **subject** of a **passive** verb **receives** some action.

PASSIVE PERSONAL ENDINGS

You can determine the **subject** of the verb by examining the verb **ending**.

1st person singular
(I)

-R

2nd person singular
(You)

-RIS

3rd person singular
(He/She/It)

-TUR

-MUR

1st person plural
(We)

-MINĪ

2nd person plural
(You [pl.])

-NTUR

3rd person plural
(They)

NOTE:

"Tullia" = "she"

"Tullia and I" = "we"

"You and Tullia" = "you (pl.)"

amāmur



Ending tells you that "we" is performing the verb and that the verb is **passive**.

Librō dēlector.

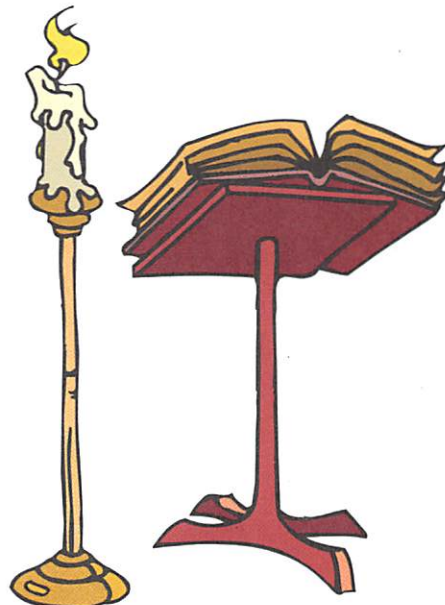
✧I am delighted✧ by the book.

Ego et Lūcius librō docēmur.

Lucius and I ✧are taught✧ by the book.

Librō terrēminī.

✧You (pl.) are frightened✧ by the book.



CONNECTOR VOWELS

1 ST conjugation	2 ND conjugation
3 RD /3 RD -IO conjugation	4 TH conjugation

CONNECTOR VOWELS

(Also called stem vowels)



Vowels attached to the **stems** of verbs before adding endings.

Different conjugations use different connector vowels, as shown by the charts below.

3RD/3RD -IO

() → something extra appears in 3rd -IO in addition to what appears in 3rd conjugation.

These charts are meant to convey dominant patterns, but some verb endings do deviate from them (e.g. no "i" appears in the 3rd conjugation present form *regunt*).

It is important to examine all verb forms carefully, and exceptions to these charts are pointed out on the relevant pages.

PRESENT CONNECTOR VOWELS

a	e
1 2	
3 4	
i	i

IMPERFECT CONNECTOR VOWELS

a	e
1 2	
3 4	
(i)e	ie

3rd → "e"
3rd -IO → "ie"

FUTURE CONNECTOR & ENDINGS

ābō	ēbō
1 2	
3 4	
(i)am	iam

3rd → "am, ēs, et. . ."
3rd -IO → "iam, iēs, iet. . ."

PRESENT ACTIVE INFINITIVE

āre	ēre
1 2	
3 4	
ere	īre

PRESENT PASSIVE INFINITIVE

ārī	ērī
1 2	
3 4	
ī	īrī

PRESENT PARTICIPLE CONNECTOR VOWELS

a	e
1 2	
3 4	
(i)e	ie

GERUND(IVE) CONNECTOR VOWELS

a	e
1 2	
3 4	
(i)e	ie

ACTIVE IMPERATIVE ENDINGS

ā	ē
1 2	
3 4	
āte	ēte
e	ī
ite	īte

PASSIVE IMPERATIVE ENDINGS

āre	ēre
1 2	
3 4	
āminī	ēminī
ere	īre
iminī	īminī

VOICE

ACTIVE VS. PASSIVE

ACTIVE VOICE

Role of the Subject:



Performs action.

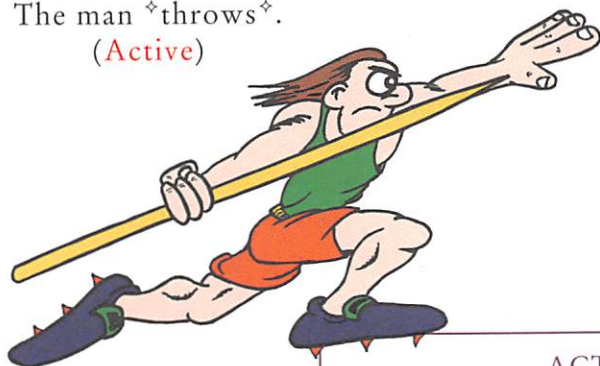
ENDINGS:

-o, -s, -t, -mus, -tis, -nt

Vir iacit.

The man [♦]throws[♦].

(Active)



PASSIVE VOICE

Role of the Subject:



Receives action.

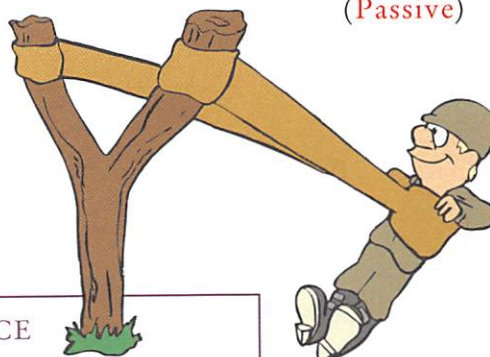
ENDINGS:

-r, -ris, -tur, -mur, -minī, -ntur

Vir iacitur.

The man [♦]is thrown[♦].

(Passive)



ACTIVE VOICE

Present: I verb, am verbing, do verb

Imperfect: I was verbing, kept verbing, used to verb

Future: I will verb

Perfect: I verbed, have verbed, did verb

Pluperfect: I had verbed

Future Perfect: I will have verbed

PASSIVE VOICE

Present: I am verbed, am being verbed

Imperfect: I was being verbed, kept being verbed, used to be verbed

Future: I will be verbed

Perfect: I was verbed, have been verbed

Pluperfect: I had been verbed

Future Perfect: I will have been verbed



SYSTEMS OF TENSES: MEANINGS



PRESENT SYSTEM

PRESENT INDICATIVE

Action happens **now**,
in the present time.

ACTIVE

rogat



"asks"

"**AM/IS/ARE** asking"
"**DO/DOES** ask"

Strēnuē lūdīmus.
✧We play✧ energetically.

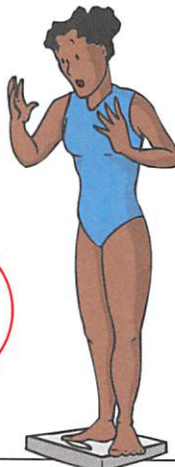
SHE IS PREPARING



No extra "helping" verb is
needed in Latin!

parat

~~EST
parat~~



PASSIVE

rogātur



"**AM/IS/ARE** asked"
"**AM/IS/ARE**
being asked"

Ā vōbis laudāmur.
✧We are praised✧ by you (pl.).

ACTIVE

rogābat



"**WAS/WERE** asking"
"**USED TO** ask"
"**KEPT** asking"

Celeriter currēbam.
✧I **was** running✧ quickly.
(Ongoing)

IMPERFECT INDICATIVE

Action happened in the **past**
and was **ongoing** or **repeated**.



PASSIVE

rogābatur



"**WAS/WERE** being asked"
"**USED TO** be asked"
"**KEPT** being asked"

Nōmen meum clāmābātur.
My name ✧**kept** being shouted✧.
(Repeated/Ongoing)

ACTIVE

rogābit



"**WILL** ask"

superābō / vincam
✧I will win✧
(1st & 3rd Conjugation)

FUTURE INDICATIVE

Action will happen
in the **future**.

2 SETS OF ENDINGS

1st & 2nd Conj.

bō, bis, bit. . .

3rd & 4th Conj.

am, ēs, et. . .

PASSIVE

rogābitur



"**WILL** be asked"

superābor / vincar
✧I will be conquered✧
(1st & 3rd Conjugation)



SYSTEMS OF TENSES: MEANINGS



PERFECT SYSTEM

ACTIVE
rogāvit
↓
“askED”
“HAS/HAVE asked”
“DID ask”

PERFECT INDICATIVE
Action happened in the **past**,
and is seen as **completed**.

Herī māchinam Stēllam appellāvī.
Yesterday *I named* my machine Stella.

PASSIVE
rogātus est
↓
“WAS/WERE asked”
“HAS/HAVE been asked”

Action was completed (not ongoing as in the imperfect).

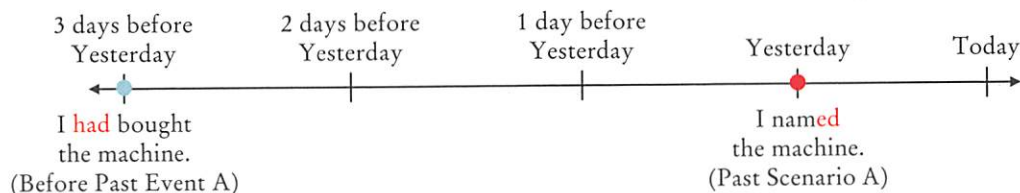
PLUPERFECT INDICATIVE

Action happened in the **past**
before some other past scenario.

ACTIVE
rogāverat
↓
“HAD asked”

Māchinam tribus ante diēbus ēmeram.
I had bought the machine three days earlier.

PASSIVE
rogātus erat
↓
“HAD been asked”



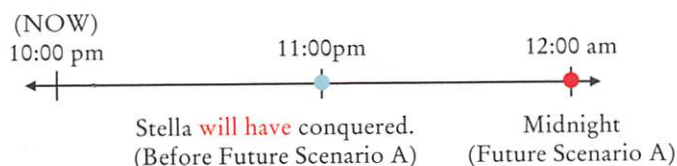
FUTURE PERFECT INDICATIVE

Action will be completed in the **future**
before some other future scenario.

ACTIVE
rogāverit
↓
“WILL HAVE asked”

Stēlla ante mediam noctem mē vicerit.
Stella *will have conquered* me before midnight.

PASSIVE
rogātus erit
↓
“WILL HAVE been asked”



PRESENT TENSE

ACTIVE
(2nd)

PRESENT ACTIVE INDICATIVE

-Ō
-S
-T
-MUS
-TIS
-NT

PRESENT ACTIVE INDICATIVE

↓
Present Stem
+
Connector Vowel
+
Endings
↓

"verbs"
"is verbing"
"does verb"

verbs,
is verbing,
does verb

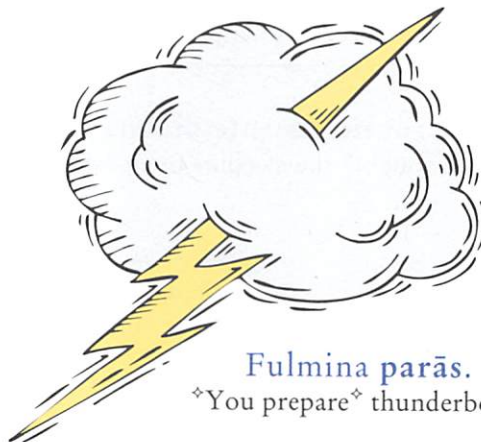
PRESENT CONNECTOR VOWELS

a		e
1	2	
3	4	
i		i

Note exceptions to
vowel pattern
in chart below.

Note that the 1st & 3rd
conjugations do not have a
connector vowel before -ō
in the 1st person singular.

Note other important
vowel behavior highlighted
in red below.



Fulmina parās.

You prepare thunderbolts.

PRESENT STEM

Use
2nd principal part.
↓
Cut off -ŌRE.

PRESENT ACTIVE INDICATIVE

1st Conj.	2nd Conj.	3rd Conj.	3rd -IO Conj.	4th Conj.	Translation
rogō	doceō	mittō	capiō	audiō	I <u>verb</u> , am <u>verbing</u> , do <u>verb</u>
rogās	docēs	mittis	capis	audīs	You <u>verb</u> , are <u>verbing</u> , do <u>verb</u>
rogat	docet	mittit	capit	audit	He/She/It <u>verbs</u> , is <u>verbing</u> , does <u>verb</u>
rogāmus	docēmus	mittimus	capimus	audīmus	We <u>verb</u> , are <u>verbing</u> , do <u>verb</u>
rogātis	docētis	mittitis	capitis	audītis	You (pl.) <u>verb</u> , are <u>verbing</u> , do <u>verb</u>
rogant	docent	mittunt	capiunt	audiunt	They <u>verb</u> , are <u>verbing</u> do <u>verb</u>

PRESENT TENSE

PASSIVE
(2nd)

PRESENT PASSIVE INDICATIVE

-OR
-RIS
-TUR
-MUR
-MINĪ
-NTUR

PRESENT PASSIVE INDICATIVE

↓
Present Stem
+
Connector Vowel
+
Endings
“is verbed”
“is being verbed”

is verbed,
is being
verbed

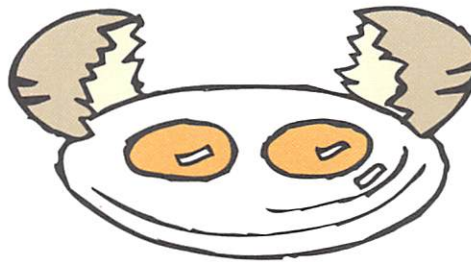
PRESENT CONNECTOR VOWELS

a	e
1	2
3	4
i	i

Note exceptions to
vowel pattern
in chart below.

Note that the 1st & 3rd
conjugations do not have a
connector vowel before -or
in the 1st person singular.

Note other important
vowel behavior highlighted
in red below.



Ientāculum parātur.
Breakfast *is being prepared*.

PRESENT STEM

Use
2nd principal part.
↓
Cut off -◇RE.

PRESENT PASSIVE INDICATIVE					
1st Conj.	2nd Conj.	3rd Conj.	3rd -IO Conj.	4th Conj.	Translation
rogor	doceor	mittor	capior	audior	I am <u>verbed</u> I am being <u>verbed</u>
rogāris	docēris	mitteris	caperis	audīris	You are <u>verbed</u> You are being <u>verbed</u>
rogātur	docētur	mittitur	capitur	audītur	He/She/It is <u>verbed</u> He/She/It is being <u>verbed</u>
rogāmur	docēmur	mittimur	capimur	audīmur	We are <u>verbed</u> We are being <u>verbed</u>
rogāminī	docēminī	mittiminī	capiminī	audīminī	You (pl.) are <u>verbed</u> You (pl.) are being <u>verbed</u>
rogantur	docentur	mittuntur	capiuntur	audiuntur	They are <u>verbed</u> They are being <u>verbed</u>

IMPERFECT TENSE

ACTIVE
(2nd)

IMPERFECT ACTIVE INDICATIVE

-BAM
-BĀS
-BAT
-BĀMUS
-BĀTIS
-BANT

IMPERFECT ACTIVE INDICATIVE

↓
Present Stem
+
Connector Vowel
+
Endings

"was verbing"
"used to verb"
"kept verbing"

was verbing,
used to verb,
kept verbing

IMPERFECT CONNECTOR VOWELS

a		e
	1 2	
(i)e	3 4	ie

In sellā **sedēbat**.
*She **was sitting** in the chair.



PRESENT STEM

Use
2nd principal part.
↓
Cut off -◇RE.

IMPERFECT ACTIVE INDICATIVE

1st Conj.	2nd Conj.	3rd Conj.	3rd -IO Conj.	4th Conj.	Translation
rogābam	docēbam	mittēbam	capiēbam	audiēbam	I was/kept <u>verbing</u> I used to <u>verb</u>
rogābās	docēbās	mittēbās	capiēbās	audiēbās	You were/kept <u>verbing</u> You used to <u>verb</u>
rogābat	docēbat	mittēbat	capiēbat	audiēbat	He/She/It was/kept <u>verbing</u> He/She/It used to <u>verb</u>
rogābāmus	docēbāmus	mittēbāmus	capiēbāmus	audiēbāmus	We were/kept <u>verbing</u> We used to <u>verb</u>
rogābātis	docēbātis	mittēbātis	capiēbātis	audiēbātis	You (pl.) were/kept <u>verbing</u> You (pl.) used to <u>verb</u>
rogābant	docēbant	mittēbant	capiēbant	audiēbant	They were/kept <u>verbing</u> They used to <u>verb</u>

IMPERFECT TENSE

PASSIVE
(2nd)

IMPERFECT PASSIVE INDICATIVE

-BAR
-BĀRIS
-BĀTUR
-BĀMUR
-BĀMINĪ
-BANTUR

IMPERFECT PASSIVE INDICATIVE

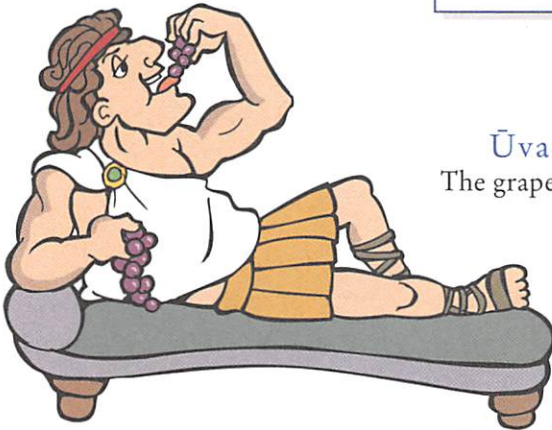
↓
Present Stem
+
Connector Vowel
+
Endings

“was being verbed”
“used to be verbed”
“kept being verbed”

was being,
used to be,
kept being
verbed

IMPERFECT CONNECTOR VOWELS

a	e
1	2
3	4
(i)e	ie



Ūvae dēvorābantur.
The grapes [◊]were being devoured[◊].

PRESENT STEM

Use
2nd principal part.
↓
Cut off -◊RE.

IMPERFECT PASSIVE INDICATIVE

1st Conj.	2nd Conj.	3rd Conj.	3rd -IO Conj.	4th Conj.	Translation
rogābar	docēbar	mittēbar	capiēbar	audiēbar	I was/kept being <u>verbed</u> I used to be <u>verbed</u>
rogābāris	docēbāris	mittēbāris	capiēbāris	audiēbāris	You were/kept being <u>verbed</u> You used to be <u>verbed</u>
rogābātur	docēbātur	mittēbātur	capiēbātur	audiēbātur	He/She/It was/kept being <u>verbed</u> He/She/It used to be <u>verbed</u>
rogābāmur	docēbāmur	mittēbāmur	capiēbāmur	audiēbāmur	We were/kept being <u>verbed</u> We used to be <u>verbed</u>
rogābāminī	docēbāminī	mittēbāminī	capiēbāminī	audiēbāminī	You (pl.) were/kept being <u>verbed</u> You (pl.) used to be <u>verbed</u>
rogābantur	docēbantur	mittēbantur	capiēbantur	audiēbantur	They were/kept being <u>verbed</u> They used to be <u>verbed</u>

FUTURE TENSE

ACTIVE
(2nd)

FUTURE ACTIVE INDICATIVE

1 ST & 2 ND	3 RD & 4 TH
-BŌ	-AM
-BIS	-ĒS
-BIT	-ET
-BIMUS	-ĒMUS
-BITIS	-ĒTIS
-BUNT	-ENT



Cēnābis bene!
*You **will** dine* well!

FUTURE ACTIVE INDICATIVE

↓
Present Stem
+
Connector Vowel
+
Endings
“will verb”

will verb

FUTURE CONNECTOR & ENDINGS

ābō	ēbō
1 2	1 2
3 4	3 4
(i)am	iam

PRESENT STEM

Use
2nd principal part.
↓
Cut off -◇RE.



Canis cibum **quaeret**.
The dog ***will** seek* food.

FUTURE ACTIVE INDICATIVE

1st Conj.	2nd Conj.	3rd Conj.	3rd -IO Conj.	4th Conj.	Translation
rogābō	docēbō	mittam	capiam	audiam	I shall (will) <u>verb</u>
rogābis	docēbis	mittēs	capiēs	audiēs	You will <u>verb</u>
rogābit	docēbit	mittet	capiet	audiet	He/She/It will <u>verb</u>
rogābimus	docēbimus	mittēmus	capiēmus	audiēmus	We shall (will) <u>verb</u>
rogābitis	docēbitis	mittētis	capiētis	audiētis	You (pl.) will <u>verb</u>
rogābunt	docēbunt	mittent	capient	audient	They will <u>verb</u>

FUTURE TENSE

PASSIVE
(2nd)

FUTURE PASSIVE INDICATIVE

1 ST & 2 ND	3 RD & 4 TH
-BOR	-AR
-BERIS	-ĒRIS
-BITUR	-ĒTUR
-BIMUR	-ĒMUR
-BIMINĪ	-ĒMINĪ
-BUNTUR	-ENTUR

~~IRIS
INT~~



FUTURE PASSIVE INDICATIVE

↓
Present Stem
+
Connector Vowel
+
Endings
“will be verbed”

will
be verbed

FUTURE CONNECTOR & ENDINGS

ābor	ēbor
1 2	1 2
3 4	3 4
(i)ar	iar

Ā multīs spectābitur.
He will be watched by many.

PRESENT STEM

Use
2nd principal part.
↓
Cut off -◇RE.

Notable 3rd Conj.
Long Marks:

mitteris	mittēris
↓	↓
present	future

Ā tē nōn cōspiciētur.
He will not be seen by you.

FUTURE PASSIVE INDICATIVE

1st Conj.	2nd Conj.	3rd Conj.	3rd -IO Conj.	4th Conj.	Translation
rogābor	docēbor	mittar	capiar	audiar	I shall (will) be <u>verbed</u>
rogāberis	docēberis	mittēris	capiēris	audiēris	You will be <u>verbed</u>
rogābitur	docēbitur	mittētur	capiētur	audiētur	He/She/It will be <u>verbed</u>
rogābimur	docēbimur	mittēmur	capiēmur	audiēmur	We shall (will) be <u>verbed</u>
rogābiminī	docēbiminī	mittēminī	capiēminī	audiēminī	You (pl.) will be <u>verbed</u>
rogābuntur	docēbuntur	mittentur	capientur	audientur	They will be <u>verbed</u>