Capitulum VII - Via Latina

The Dative Case

The Dative Case is used to express what is only indirectly affected by the action of the verb. It is the case for the indirect object and is translated in English with the prepositions "to" or "for".

The dative for First Declension nouns are as follows:

Singular	Plural	
-ae	- ₹S	

The dative for Second Declension nouns are as follows:

Singular	Plural	
- Ō	- ₹S	

The Dative Case completes the case system for 1st and 2nd Declension Nouns. Here are the full declension patterns:

First Declension

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	puella	puellae
Gen.	puellae	puellārum
Dat.	puellae	puellīs
Acc.	puellam	puellas
Abl.	puellā	puellīs

Second Declension

Masc.			Neuter		
	Singular	Plural		Singular	Plural
Nom.	servus	servī	Nom.	oppidum	oppida
Gen.	servī	servōrum	Gen.	oppid ī	oppidōrum
Dat.	servō	servīs	Dat.	oppidō	oppidīs
Acc.	servum	servōs	Acc.	oppidum	oppida
Abl.	servō	servīs	Abl.	oppidō	oppidīs

Note the following regularities (these apply to *all* five declension patterns):

- 1. The Dative and Ablative are always alike in the plural. In the First and Second Declensions they end in -īs.
- 2. The Accusative singular of all masculine and feminine nouns always ends in -*m* and the plural in -*s*.
- 3. In Neuters of all declensions, the Nominative and Accusative are always alike, and in the plural end in -a.
- 4. The Genitive plural of all declensions always ends in *-um*.
- 5. The Nominative and Vocative are alike in all declensions, except for the singular of Second Declension nouns and adjectives ending in -us, which show -e in the Vocative: Et tu Brute?

The Dative of the Personal Pronoun

The personal pronoun *is, ea, id* (he, she, it; they) was fully introduced in the notes to Chapter 5. In this chapter we see the dative: the singular $e\bar{\imath}$ (to him, to her, to it) and the plural $i\bar{\imath}s$ (to them).

The Dative of the Relative Pronoun

In Chapter 3 we met the relative pronoun (who, which) in the nominative and accusative singular. Here we meet it in dative: $cu\bar{\imath}$ (to whom).

The Demonstrative/Adjective hic, haec, hoc

This chapter introduces the demonstrative pronoun/adjective hic, haec, hoc (this, that; he, she it). It appears in the nominative case. Recall the important point that the personal pronoun (is, ea, id) and the demonstrative pronoun (hic, haec, hoc) are interchangeable in Latin (but not in English). Be careful not to confuse the demonstrative pronoun hic with the adverb $h\bar{\iota}c$ (here, in this place).

The Reflexive Pronoun (sē)

The reflexive pronoun indicates that the action of the verb is operating, or reflecting back on, the subject of the sentence:

He sees *himself* in the mirror. She asks *herself* why her nose is so ugly.

This chapter introduces the reflexive pronoun in the accusative case: $s\bar{e}$ (all genders).

Vocabulary

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mālum, -ī n apple (do not confuse with the adjective malus, -a, -um) immō interj nay!, on the contrary! nōnne? interrog. asks a question to what an affirmative answer is expected et . . . et, both . . . and neque . . . neque, neither . . . nor
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