Capitulum I - Imperium Romanum

Nouns

Latin nouns will *decline* (change their endings) to indicate their grammatical function in the sentence. They decline through 6 *cases*, as follows:

Nominative	Subject or predicate
Genitive	Possession, characteristic
Dative	Indirect object
Accusative	Direct object
Ablative	Object of a preposition (and multiple other uses)
Vocative	Direct address

In addition nouns have a specific gender (masculine, feminine, or neuter) and number (singular or plural). All nouns will thus show number, case, and gender.

The forms of the case endings vary between nouns and are called *Declensions*. There are 5 such patterns. Chapter One introduces the first two declensions, with the following endings in the Nominative and Ablative Cases:

	1st Declension		Second Declension		
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	
Nom:	*-a*	*-ae*	*-us*	*-ī*	(Masculine)
			-um	*-a*	(Neuter)
Abl.	*-ā*		*-ō*		

Adjectives:

Adjectives agree with the nouns they modify in number, case, and gender. Adjectives show three declensions patterns: 1st and 2nd Declension and 3rd Declension. The adjectives in Chapter One are 1st and 2nd Declension showing the same cases endings as 1st and 2nd Declension nouns. We will not meet 3rd Declension adjectives until later in the book.

Verbs

Latin verbs will show number (singular and plural) and person. The nouns in Chapter One are all 3rd person (he, she it; they).

est = is   *sunt* = are

Prepositions

Latin prepositions are used as in English. The object of a preposition will be either in the accusative or ablative case. The preposition introduced in Chapter One (*in*) governs the ablative case.

Numbers

Cardinal numbers (one, two, three, etc.) and Ordinal numbers (first, second, third, etc.) are introduced in Chapter One. The cardinal and ordinal numbers are adjectives and have the following forms:

Cardinal		Ordinal	
ūnus, -a, -um	one	*prīmus, -a -um*	first
duo, duae, duo	two	*secundus, -a, -um*	second
trēs, trēs, tria	three	*tertius, -a, -um*	third
sex	six		
mīlle	one thousand		

Vocabulary

num? = asks a question (to which a negative answer is expected)

-ne = asks a question

quoque, also

Capitulum II - Familia Romana

Gender of Nouns

Latin nouns have gender, either masculine, feminine, or neuter. The gender may be *natural* or *grammatical*. The noun *puer* (boy) is masculine, *puella* (girl) is feminine, *oppidum* (town) is neuter.

The nouns of the first declension are mostly feminine, but some masculine nouns are found (mostly of natural gender such as *pirata, poeta, agricola* and others).

The nouns of the second declension ending in *-us* in the nominative singular are mostly masculine, but some feminine and neuter nouns are found. The nouns of the second declension ending in *-um* in the nominative singular are neuter.

Nouns (with rare exception) do not have more than one gender. That is, *puer* is always masculine, *puella* is always feminine, and *oppidum* is always neuter.

The Genitive Case

The genitive case is used to express a very close relationship between two nouns. In English this is usually accomplished by the preposition *of*. The relationship expressed, however, may have different meanings. Often, it is simply one of possession: *This is the house of John.* Sometimes, the relationship is one of characteristic: *She is a woman of virtue.* Sometimes the relationship is objective (i.e., expresses an understood direct object): *The Gauls' fear of the Romans cost them the battle.*

Because these relationships are identical to the English use of the genitive with *of*, there should be little difficulty in understanding the genitive case in Latin.

The endings of the genitive case the 1st and 2nd Declension nouns are as follow:

	1st Declension		Second Declension	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Gen:	*-ae*	*-ārum*	*-ī*	*-ōrum*

Possessive Adjectives

This chapter introduces the possessive adjectives of the first and second person (my, your): *meus, -a, -um* and *tuus, -a, -um*. As adjectives, they will agree in number, case and gender with the noun they modify: *servus meus* (my slave), *ancilla tua* (your maid-servant), *meum oppidum* (my town). They decline on the 1st and 2nd second pattern.

Interrogative Adjective/Pronoun

The interrogative adjective/pronoun (*who?* or *what?*) have a full declension in Latin, differing somewhat from the 1st and 2nd declension pattern. The nominative and genitive are introduced in this chapter:

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	*quis, quae*	*quī, quae*
Gen:	*cuius*	*quōrum, quārum, quōrum*

These interrogatives operate as they do in English: *Quis est Mārcus?* Who is Marcus? *Quae est mater Mārcī?* Who is the mother of Marcus? *Cuius servus est Dāvus?* Whose slave is Davus?

Vocabulary
vir *m* man
quot? how many?
liberī *m pl* children
-que, = and (before the word it is attached to)

Capitulum III - Puer Improbus

Personal Endings of Verbs
　　Verbs show number (singular or plural) and person (1st person, 2nd person, 3rd person). The English equivalents are:

	Singular	Plural
1st Person	I	we
2nd Person	you	you
3rd Person	he, she it	they

　　Chapters I & II introduced the verb "to be" in its 3rd person forms: *est, sunt*. This chapter introduces new verbs, also in the 3rd person. The person and number of Latin verbs are revealed by their endings. Verbs in the 3rd person singular end in *-t*. Verbs in the 3rd person plural end in *-nt*. Because the endings show person and number, the personal pronouns (I, you, *etc.*) are not required to show the subject (the nominative) of the verb in Latin and are used mainly for emphasis.

The Accusative Case
　　The accusative case is used for the direct object of nouns. The accusative case indicates that which is most *directly* affected by the action of the verb. The accusative singular for masculine and feminine nouns ends in *-m* in all declensions.

The endings of the accusative case the 1st and 2nd Declension nouns are as follow:

	1st Declension	2nd Declension
	Singular	Singular
Acc:	*-am*	*-um*

Thus:
　Mārcus puellam pulsat
　Aemilia puerum verberat.

Personal Pronouns
　　The personal pronouns in English are *I, you, he, she, it; we, you (pl), they*. In Latin they are not often used in the nominative case, but are common in the other cases. This chapter introduces the personal pronouns in the singular accusative case for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd persons:

1st person	*mē* (me, all genders)	
2nd person	*tē* (you, all genders)	
3rd person	*eum* (him)	*eam* (her)

Thus:

Quis mē vocat?
Iūlia tē vocat.
Mārcus eam pulsat.
Iūlius eum audit.

Relative Pronouns

Relative pronouns (who, which) create subordinate clauses. In English, the forms are:

Nom.	who	which
Gen.	whose / of whom	of which
Dat.	to whom	to which
Acc.	whom	which
Abl.	with whom	with whom

A subordinate clause attaches to the main clause and is often, but not always, found in the middle of it:

The farmer, who was a hard worker, lived a long and fulfilling life.
That woman whom you saw last night was my wife!

The relative pronoun in Latin will show number, case, and gender. The relative pronoun will agree with its antecedent (*i.e.,* the word it relates back to in the main clause) in number and gender; but the case is governed by the usage of the personal pronoun within the subordinate clause.

In this chapter are introduced the relative pronoun in the nominative and accusative singular, masculine and feminine.

	Masculine	Feminine
	Singular	Singular
Nom.	*quī*	*quae*
Acc:	*quem*	*quam*

Thus:

> *Puer quī rīdet est Mārcus.*
> *Puella quae plōrat est Iūlia.*
> *Puella quam Mārcus pulsat est Iūlia.*
> *Iūlius, quem Quīntus vocat, pater līberōrum est.*

The Vocative Case

The vocative case is used for direct address: "Son, come here!". In Latin the vocative case endings are identical to the nominative, with the exception of second declension nouns ending in *-us*, which show *-e* (as in *Et tu, Brute?*).