

GCSE Latin for Beginners Lesson 4 Handout

Learning Goals

- I have revised the *genitive* and *dative* cases.
- I understand some ways of using and translating the *ablative* case.
- I can recognise the *ablative* case endings for nouns like *puella* and *dominus*.

WARM UP

Remember:

nominative case

used when the noun is the subject (*doing* the action)

accusative case

used when the noun is the object (*receiving* the action)

genitive case

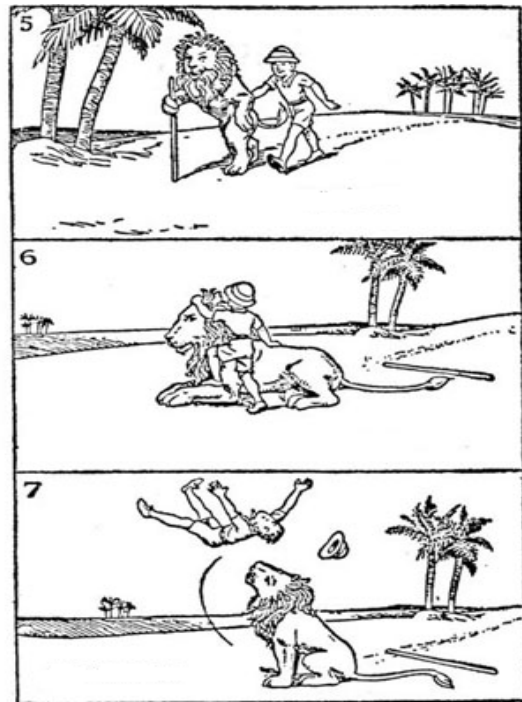
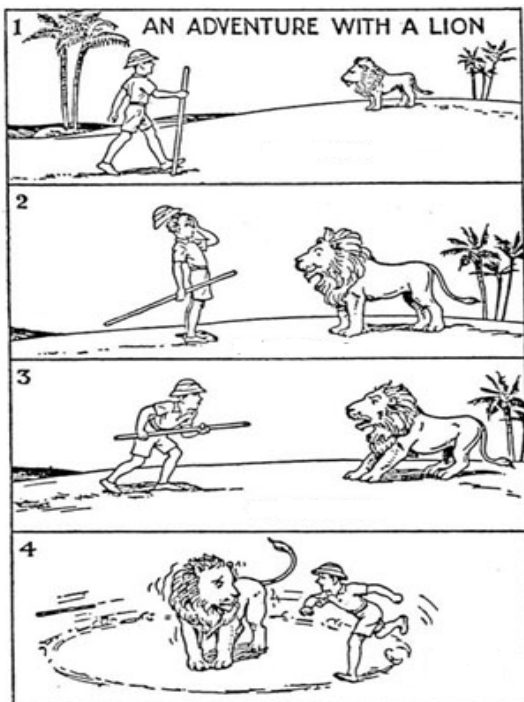
used to show possession (*of* or *'s*)

dative case

used to show indirect object (*to* or *for*)

Task 1: Incorrect Translations!! Can you correct the errors in the following English translations?

1. ancilla servum salutat. *The slave greets the slave-girl.*
2. gladios nuntiis paro. *I prepare swords for the messenger.*
3. domini cibum servis non parant. *The master does not prepare food for the slaves.*
4. servus domini semper laborat. *The slave is always working.*
5. amicus nuntiorum epistulam portat. *The messenger's friend carries the letters.*



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NOUNS: ABLATIVE CASE

The remaining one of the five main cases is the **ablative**. This case has a range of uses and meanings. If it appears by itself (without a preposition) it can mean **by**, **with** or **from**. Here are *puella* and *dominus* with the ablative added in:

		<i>1st declension</i> girl <i>f</i>	<i>2nd declension</i> master <i>m</i>
<i>sg</i>	<i>nominative</i>	puell- a	domin- us
	<i>accusative</i>	puell- am	domin- um
	<i>genitive</i>	puell- ae	domin- i
	<i>dative</i>	puell- ae	domin- o
	<i>ablative</i>	puell- ā (long <i>a</i>)	domin- ō
<i>pl</i>	<i>nominative</i>	puell- ae	domin- i
	<i>accusative</i>	puell- as	domin- os
	<i>genitive</i>	puell- arum	domin- orum
	<i>dative</i>	puell- is	domin- is
	<i>ablative</i>	puell- is	domin- is

- The *a* in the ablative singular of *puella* is pronounced long (whereas the *-a* in the nominative singular is short).
- Note that the dative and ablative singular of *dominus* are identical.
- The dative and ablative plural are the same for both *puella* and *dominus*.

In all instances where a word could be several different cases (e.g. *puellae* could be *gen sg*, *dat sg* or *nom pl*), judge which one it is from the **context**. You will need to think carefully about which translation out of *by*, *with* or *from* is best when you see a word in the ablative.

e.g. servus nuntium gladio necat _____

Task 2: a) Identify the **case** and **number** (singular/plural) required for the underlined part of the English sentence. b) Translate the underlined part into Latin.

- I gave some popcorn to my friend *dative. s.* *amicae (f) or amico (m).*
- The girl's dog is very aggressive. _____ _____
- They arrived with swords. _____ _____
- The masters went on holiday. _____ _____
- The messenger loves money. _____ _____
- We don't give coffee to the horses. _____ _____
- The frogs stole the masters' food. _____ _____
- I made this for my friends 😊. _____ _____

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PREPOSITIONS (2): WITH THE ABLATIVE

More commonly, an ablative noun does not appear by itself but instead follows a **preposition** that takes the ablative case. In Lesson 3, we met five prepositions that are followed by a noun in the accusative case: *ad*, *circum*, *contra*, *in*, *per*. Prepositions can also be followed by the **ablative** case. Some important examples are:

*a/ab** *from, away from*
*e/ex** *from, out of, out*
cum *with (i.e. accompanied by)*
in *in, on*

* *a* and *e* when the next word begins with a consonant.
ab and *ex* when the next word begins with a vowel or h.

e.g. ancillae dominum e villa portant. _____
nuntius ab insula navigat. _____

in can be followed by either the accusative or the ablative. There is an important difference in meaning:

in + *acc* = into (motion towards)
in + *abl* = in/on (staying put in a place)

e.g. dominus in hortum ambulat. *The master walks into the garden. (i.e. he enters it)*
dominus in horto ambulat. *The master is walking in the garden. (i.e. he is strolling in it)*

cum means *with* in the sense of *accompanied by* (e.g. a person). To say *with* in the sense of *using a thing* the ablative is used by itself, without a preposition (we call this the *instrumental* use):

e.g. cum puella ambulo. _____
amicum gladio neco _____

Task 3: a) Bracket off the prepositions + *ablative* nouns. b) Translate into English.

1. est nuntius in villa.
2. puellae feminam gladiis necant.
3. amicus ab insula nunc navigat.
4. ex horto cum amicis ambulatis.
5. servi dominum e villa portant.
6. non sunt villae in insula.
7. feminae in hortum cum puellis ambulat.
8. dominus contra amicum gladio pugnat.
9. in horto semper laboras.
10. puella a villa nunc ambulat.

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Task 4: Translate into English.

1. There are messengers in the garden.

2. I walk into the garden with my friends.

3. We sail away from the island with our master.

4. The friends are now walking out of the house.

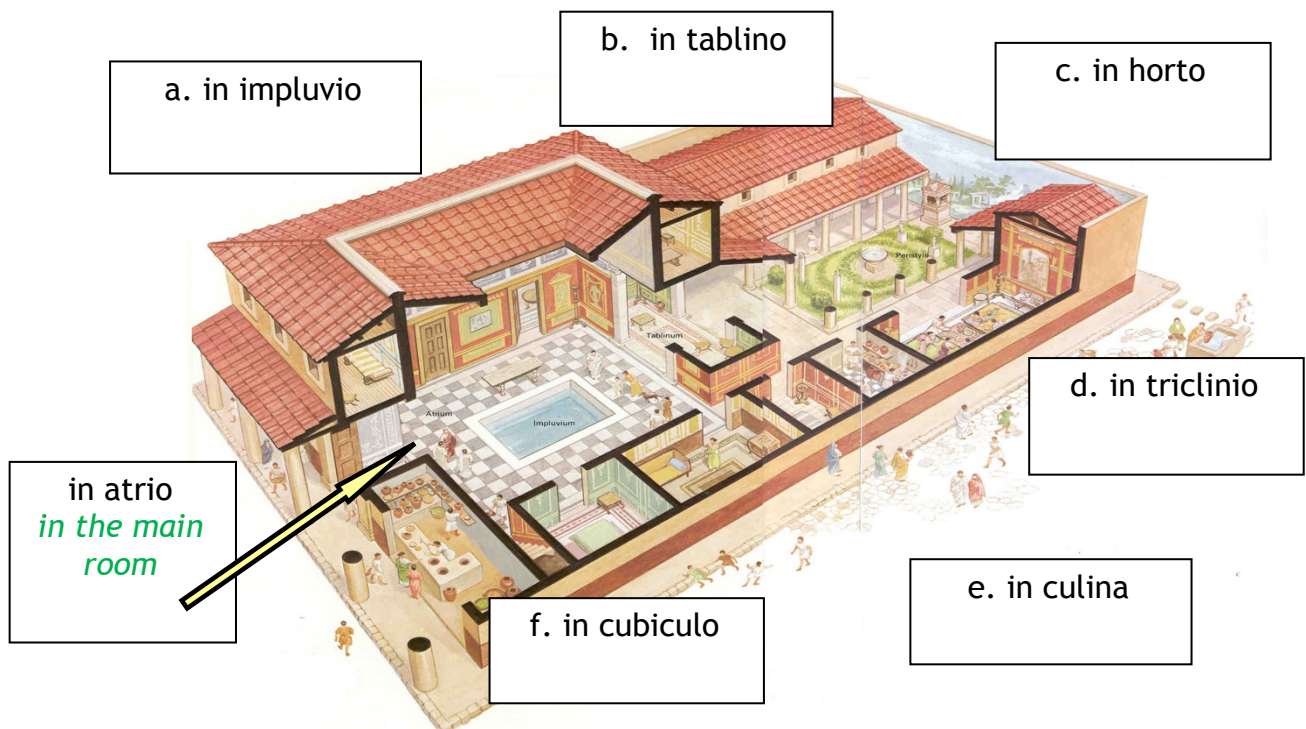
Study Tips:

1) Highlight *nominative* and *accusative* nouns in different colours.

2) Underline the verb.

3) Bracket off preposition + noun pairs e.g. *I am working (in the garden)* and identify what case the preposition takes (*acc* or *abl.*).

PLENARY



#1.

#2.

#3.
