1.1 Nouns: Gender, Number, Case & Declension

How a Noun Works

Every noun has gender (m./f./n.), number (sg./pl.) & case; the ending shows number & case, set by its **declension** (1st–5th); gender isn't always visible from it.
Dictionary form: nom. sg., gen. sg., gender: *rēx, rēgis, m.*; the gen. ending tells the declension, the gen. stem (rēg-) takes endings; 3rd-decl. nom. forms vary widely.
Case jobs: nom. = subject; gen. = of; dat. = to/for; acc. = direct object; abl. = by/with/from/in/on.

Singular Endings

Case	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Nom.	-a	-us/-um	varies	-us	-ēs
Gen.	-ae	-ī	-is	-ūs	-eī
Dat.	-ae	-ō	-ī	-uī	-eī
Acc.	-am	-um	-em	-um	-em
Abl.	-ā	-ō	-e	-ū	-ē

Plural Endings

Case	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Nom.	-ae	-ī/-a	-ēs/-a	-ūs	-ēs
Gen.	-ārum	-ōrum	-um	-uum	-ērum
Dat./Abl.	-īs	-īs	-ibus	-ibus	-ēbus
Acc.	-ās	-ōs/-a	-ēs/-a	-ūs	-ēs

Neuter rule: nom. = acc. in every declension; neuter plural nom./acc. always ends in **-a** (bella, nōmina, cornua).
i-stems (3rd decl.): gen. pl. -ium, neut. abl. sg. -ī, neut. nom./acc. pl. -ia (*mare, maris* → maria).
Gender clues: 1st mostly f. (but nauta, agricola, poēta = m.); 2nd -us m., -um n.; 5th mostly f. (diēs often m.).

⚠ Same ending, many cases: -ae (gen./dat. sg., nom. pl.), -īs (dat./abl. pl.), -ēs (nom./acc. pl.). Let context decide.

✓ Learn the gen. sg. w/ every noun: it reveals the declension & the stem the rest of the forms use.

1.1–1.3 Nominative, Accusative & Prepositions

Nominative

Subject: the doer of an active verb or receiver of a passive one: *puella cantat* = the girl sings (girl = doer).
Predicate nominative: a linking verb (est, fit, vidētur, appellātur) joins 2 nominatives: *Cicerō cōnsul erat* = Cicero was consul; both name the same person.
Implied subject: the verb ending supplies it (*venit* = he/she/it comes); a stated nom. adds emphasis or clarity.
Vocative: direct address, usually = nom.; 2nd-decl. -us → -e, -ius → -ī: *Mārce, fīlī, amīce*; often set off by commas.

Accusative

Direct object: receives the action: *mīles hostem vulnerat* = the soldier wounds the enemy (enemy = target).
Duration of time: how long, no prep.: *multōs annōs* = for many years; *trēs diēs* = for 3 days (the whole time).
Place to which: ad/in + acc. (*ad urbem*); city names w/o prep. (*Rōmam* = to Rome; *domum* = home).
Acc. of exclamation: *mē miserum!* = poor me! Common in letters & speeches to show strong emotion.

Prepositions

Case	Common prepositions
Acc.	ad, ante, apud, circum, contrā, inter, ob, per, post, prope, propter, trāns
Abl.	ā/ab, cum, dē, ē/ex, prō, sine
Both	in, sub: acc. = motion into/under; abl. = place in/under

in + acc. = into/onto/against (*in silvam*); **in + abl.** = in/on (*in silvā*): the case changes the meaning.

⚠ Latin word order is flexible: the object can come first. *Hostem mīles vulnerat* still = the soldier wounds the enemy.

✓ Find the verb first, then its subject (nom.) & object (acc.) by ENDING, not by position in the sentence.

1.3 Genitive & Dative

Genitive: "of"

Use	Example	Translation
Possession	villa amīcī	my friend's house
Description	fēmina magnae sapientiae	a woman of great wisdom
Partitive (whole)	plūs vīnī; nēmō nostrum	more (of) wine; none of us
Objective	cupiditās rēgnī	desire FOR a kingdom

Possession: whose is it? Often after the noun it modifies: *fīlius rēgis* = the king's son, the son of the king.
Description: gen. noun + adj. describes a quality: *vir summae virtūtis* = a man of the highest courage.
Partitive: the whole a part comes from; after quantity words: *satis, nihil, multum, pars, quis, plūs* (= more of).
Objective: the noun implies an action & the gen. is its "object": *amor patriae* = love FOR the country.
Gen. vs abl. of description: both show qualities; gen. often for size or kind, abl. for traits: *vir magnā virtūte*.

Dative: "to/for"

Indirect object: w/ verbs of giving, speaking, showing: *puerō librum dat* = she gives the book to the boy.
Reference/advantage: for whose benefit: *tibi labōrō* = I work for you; *patriae vīvere* = to live for the homeland.
Special verbs take a dat. object: *crēdō, pāreō, persuādeō, noceō, imperō*: *ducī pāret* = obeys the leader.
Dat. w/ adjectives: amīcus, inimīcus, similis, cārus, fidēlis + dat.: *similis patrī* = similar to his father.
Possession: dat. + sum: *est mihi liber* = I have a book (lit. there is to me a book); stresses the owner.

⚠ Gen. & dat. 1st-decl. sg. both end in -ae; the verb (dat, dīcit, ostendit) usually signals the dat.

✓ MCQ "case & use" Qs: name the case AND the job (gen. of description), since both are tested.

1.4 Ablative

Core Uses (GRAM-1.K)

Use	Prep.?	Example
Means	No	gladiō = with a sword
Agent	ā/ab + person	ā rēge = by the king
Manner	cum or adj.	magnā (cum) cūrā
Place where	in, sub	in forō = in the forum
Time when	No	prīmā lūce = at dawn
Separation	ā/ab, dē, ē/ex	ex urbe = from the city
Accompaniment	cum	cum amīcīs = with friends

Means vs agent: a thing → plain abl. (*sagittā vulnerātus*); a person w/ passive verb → ā/ab (*ā mīlite vulnerātus*).
Manner: how it's done; cum may be dropped if an adj. is present: *magnā voce* = in a loud voice.
Time when vs within: *eō diē* = on that day; *paucīs hōrīs* = within a few hours (vs acc. = how long).
Separation: w/ verbs like *līberō, careō, prohibeō* often w/o prep.: *metū līberāre* = to free from fear.
Place from which: ā/ab, dē, ē/ex + abl.; city names w/o prep. (*Rōmā* = from Rome; *domō* = from home).
Comparison: abl. after a comparative = "than": *melior patre* = better than his father; quam + same case also works.
Respect: in what respect: *nōmine* = in name; *virtūte praestant* = they excel in courage (abl.).
Ablative absolute (preview): noun + participle in abl.: *urbe captā* = once the city had been captured.
Endings: -ā, -ō, -e, -ū, -ē (sg.); -īs, -ibus, -ēbus (pl.); a macron on -ā separates abl. from nom. -a.
Translate w/ by, with, from, in, on, at, or no prep. at all: choose the one that fits the verb & context.

⚠ cum + abl. = "with" (accompaniment/manner); a person + ā/ab after a passive verb = "by" (agent).

✓ Ask the abl. 4 Qs: by what/whom? how? where/when? from where? The answer names the use.

1.2 Verbs: Indicative Tenses & Voice

Verb Basics (GRAM-2.A)

Each verb shows person, number, tense, voice & mood through stem + ending; its **conjugation** (1st–4th, plus 3rd -iō) sets the pattern; the stem vowel (ā, ē, e, ī) identifies it.
Principal parts: *amō, amāre, amāvī, amātum* → present stem (amā-), perfect stem (amāv-), participle stem (amāt-).

6 Indicative Tenses

Tense	Sign	Example	English
Present	—	amat	loves, is loving
Imperfect	-ba-	amābat	was loving, used to
Future	-bi- / -ē-	amābit, reget	will love, will rule
Perfect	perf. stem + -it	amāvit	loved, has loved
Pluperfect	-era-	amāverat	had loved
Fut. perfect	-eri- / -erō	amāverit	will have loved

Active endings: -ō/-m, -s, -t, -mus, -tis, -nt. **Perfect**: -ī, -istī, -it, -imus, -istis, -ērunt (or -ēre: vēnēre = they came).

Voice (GRAM-2.K)

Active: subject does the action. **Passive**: subject receives it: *urbs capitur* = the city is being captured.
Passive endings: -r, -ris, -tur, -mur, -minī, -ntur; perfect passive = participle + sum: *capta est* = was captured.
Sum, esse is irregular (sum, es, est, sumus, estis, sunt; erat, erit, fuit) & often omitted: *factum* = (it was) done.
Indicative mood = statements of fact or reality; questions in the indicative ask about real situations.

⚠ 3rd/4th-conj. future uses -ē-/-a- (reget, audiet), not -bi-; don't misread reget (will rule) as present.

✓ On Q2 translation, keep tense & voice exact: "had been sent" ≠ "was sent"; each segment is scored.

1.4 Subjunctive, Imperative & Participles

Subjunctive in Main Clauses (GRAM-2.E)

Subjunctive = possibility, wishes, commands, conditions & dependent clauses; in a main clause it's translated may, might, would, should, let or "I wish that."

Use	Example	Translation
Hortatory	eāmus	let us go
Jussive	veniat	let him come
Optative	utinam vīveret	if only he were alive
Potential	dīcat aliquis	someone may say
Deliberative	quid faciam?	what should I do?

Present subj. vowel: 1st -e- (amet), 2nd -ea- (moneat), 3rd -a- (regat), 4th -ia- (audiat). **Imperfect** = infinitive + ending (amāret, regeret, audīret) in all 4 conjugations.

Imperative (GRAM-2.J)

Commands: sg. = present stem (*amā, monē, rege, audī*); pl. + -te (*amāte, regite*). Irregular: dīc, dūc, fac, fer.
Negative command: nōlī/nōlīte + infinitive: *nōlī timēre* = don't be afraid (lit. be unwilling to fear).

Participles (GRAM-2.R)

Participle	Form	Meaning
Present active	amāns, -antis	loving
Perfect passive	amātus, -a, -um	having been loved
Future active	amātūrus, -a, -um	about to love

Verbal adjectives: agree w/ a noun in case, number & gender, keep tense & voice & may take objects: *puerum librum legentem videō* = I see the boy reading a book.
Tense is relative: present = same time as main verb; perfect = before; future = after. Often best as an English clause: "who...," "while...," "after...," "since...".

⚠ A perfect passive participle w/o est (*captus*) is an adjective "having been captured," not "he captured."

✓ Find each participle's noun by matching endings, then translate it as a relative clause for smooth English.

1.3–1.4 Adjectives, Pronouns & Agreement

Adjectives (GRAM-3.A)

Agreement: adj. matches its noun in gender, number & case, NOT always in ending: *agricola bonus, nōmen clārum*.
Forms: 1st/2nd decl. (bonus, -a, -um; pulcher, -chra, -chrum); 3rd decl. (fortis, -e; ingēns, -ntis; ācer, ācris, ācre).
Substantive: adj. w/ an implied noun: *bonī* = good men; *omnia* = all things; *nostrī* = our men (soldiers).
Separation: adj. & noun can be far apart (hyperbaton); match endings to reconnect them: *magnam ... urbem*.
Comparison: -ior = comparative (*fortior* = braver); -issimus = superlative (*fortissimus* = bravest, very brave).

Pronouns (GRAM-3.D–E)

Pronoun	Forms (m., f., n.)	Meaning
Personal	ego, tū, nōs, vōs	I, you, we, you all
is	is, ea, id	he/she/it; that
hic	hic, haec, hoc	this; the latter
ille	ille, illa, illud	that; the former
ipse	ipse, ipsa, ipsum	-self (intensive)
Reflexive	suī, sibi, sē	himself/herself (subj.)
Relative	quī, quae, quod	who, which, that

Antecedent: the noun a pronoun replaces; it agrees in gender & number, but its CASE comes from its own clause.
Ex: *puella quam vīdī* = the girl whom I saw: quam is f. sg. (puella) but acc. (object of vīdī), not nom.
Implied antecedent: *quī fortēs sunt* = (those) who are brave; supply "those," "he" or "the one" in English.
Possessive adj.: meus, tuus, noster, vester, suus agree w/ the thing owned, not the owner: *mātrem suam amat*.

⚠ sē/suus = the SUBJECT of its clause; eum/eius = someone else. "He praises himself" vs "he praises him."

✓ Pronoun Qs ask "to whom does X refer?": match gender & number, then check the sense of the passage.

1.1–1.4 Reading Skills & Exam Moves

Vocabulary in Context (VOC-1, 2)

Core vocab: know the CED's core list; guess unknown words from context, English derivatives & prefixes.
Context clues: words in a list, opposites (nōn... sed) & repeated ideas often define an unknown word.

Prefix	Meaning	Example
ab-/ā-	away	abīre = go away
con-	together/fully	convenīre = come together
ē-/ex-	out	exīre = go out
re-	back/again	redīre = go back
dis-/dī-	apart	discēdere = depart
per-	through/thoroughly	perficere = complete
sub-	under	subīre = go under

Summarize (SUM-1, 2)

Explicit: who, what, where & sequence of events. **Implied**: meaning from figurative language & inference (tone, attitude).
Summary ex: "A father writes to his son, warns him about bad friends, then urges study" = who + what + sequence.

Translate (TRAN-1)

Method: read the whole sentence; find the main verb, subject & object; then attach phrases & clauses to what they modify.
Literal but idiomatic: keep every word's form (tense, voice, case, number) but use natural English word order.

Interpret & Cite (INT-4, 5)

Evidence: cite the specific Latin (w/ line #s), translate or closely paraphrase it, then explain HOW it supports the claim.
Exam: 52 MCQ in 65 min (50%), incl. sight prose; 5 FRQs in 115 min (50%): short answer, translation, short essay & 2 project passage essays + 2% course project checkpoints.

⚠ A long Latin quote w/o translation or explanation earns little; short, exact citations + analysis score best.

✓ Sight prose: skim for gist first, then reread sentence by sentence; use the title & English intro.