



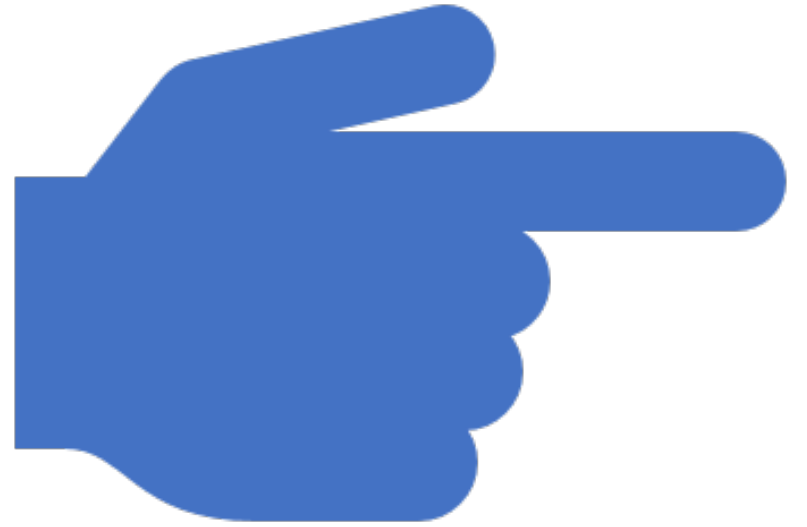
# Intensive Latin 1

CLLA7101

Week 1

Getting us all on the same page

# Grammar basics





# Grammar basics

In order to be able to discuss words in a Latin sentence and in order to understand their behaviour, we need to know grammatical and syntactical terms

The use of these terms transfers easily to other languages and will help you improve both your current languages and the ones you might start learning in the future

Tip: There is a glossary of grammatical terms at the beginning of *RL Grammar and Exercises*

# Parts of speech

- In a sense, 'grammar' might be used to describe the rules that apply to each individual word, and 'syntax' the rules and systems that apply to putting words together.
  - E.g. knowing how to recognise/create individual forms of a word is grammar...
  - ..but knowing what an individual form might mean in the context of a sentence is to do with syntax
- Even before they are put in a sentence, individual words can be categorised according to type.
  - The English term 'parts of speech' might be confusing: other modern languages call this 'types of words' (*nature* in French, *Wortart* in German, *ordklass* in Swedish, but *parti del discorso* in Italian and μέρη του λόγου in modern Greek)

# Parts of speech in English and Latin

- **Verb:** describes action
- **Noun:** describes objects/things/people
- **Adjective:** describes qualities of nouns
- **Pronoun:** noun stand-ins, e.g. 'it' instead of 'noun'
- **Adverb:** describes how a verb is performed, e.g. 'it grows quickly'
- **Preposition:** words describing position linked to a noun, e.g. in, outside, from, during, of, between...
- **Conjunction:** links clauses and sentences together, e.g. because..., although..., for...
- **Interjection:** exclamations, e.g. 'ecce!' 'heus!'

# Verbs & nouns: verbs

- Initially, the most important will be verbs and nouns as they help us make up the most basic sentences: *The student reads, the sun is shining, etc.*
- It will not surprise an English-speaker that verbs have different endings depending on who performs the action:
  - I am vs they are: we do too!
- Latin is however more detailed than English:

| Person          | Latin | English      |
|-----------------|-------|--------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Sum   | I am         |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Es    | You are      |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Est   | He/she/it is |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Sumus | We are       |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Estis | You (pl) are |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Sunt  | They are     |

# Verb conjugation: present indicative active

| 1 <sup>st</sup> conjugation (a-verbs)                                                                                                 | Verb stem:                         | 2 <sup>nd</sup> conjugation (long e-verbs)                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Amo</li><li>• Amas</li><li>• Amat</li><li>• Amamus</li><li>• Amatis</li><li>• Amant</li></ul> | <b>Ama-</b><br><b>Habe-</b><br>... | <b>-O</b><br><b>-S</b><br><b>-t</b><br><b>-mus</b><br><b>-tis</b><br><b>-nt</b> |

This applies to present tense verbs that are active in meaning!



# Word order?

- In English, we make sense of how words fit together depending on their order:
  - The dog sees the cat.
  - The cat sees the dog.
- In Latin, word order matters less – it determines emphasis but, fundamentally, not meaning



# Case

- Instead of word order, details of each word will show how it relates (fits with) to other words in the sentence
- Word endings are crucial and give you that information
- NOUNS and ADJECTIVES within a sentence belong to one of six cases, which indicates what role the word plays in the sentence

# Cases: English

- In modern English, we don't really separate words in different cases as the word forms coincide
- However, when we use pronouns we do take case into account and use it to signal syntactical function:
  - I see James => I see him [not: I see he]
  - I see Jim and Roy => I see them [not: I see they]

# Cases

- Latin has six cases:
  - Nominative
  - Accusative
  - Genitive
  - Dative
  - Ablative
  - Vocative
- This is the order in which they appear in grammar patterns in RL
- We will gradually increase the number of cases we use actively

# Cases in Latin

- Nominative: nominative forms and endings are for the subject
- Accusative: accusative forms and endings are for objects
  - We will use the term 'accusative object' for 'direct object'
- Accusative and ablative also appear with certain prepositions
- Genitive (as in English) will be used to show the owner of something, but we'll get back to that later

# Syntax: Words within a sentence



- The dog licks his nose
  - What happens, what is the action?: someone **licks** something = Verb (the syntax term is 'predicate')
  - Who (1) someone something?: The dog = **Subject**
  - What does (2) (1)?: his nose = **Accusative object**
  - **Canis nasum lingit**
  - **Nose = nasus-i (m)**
  - **Lick = lingo => 3<sup>rd</sup> singular present indicative = lingit**

# 1<sup>st</sup> declension nouns

(RL 11-12)

|                   | Singular | Plural   |
|-------------------|----------|----------|
| <b>Nominative</b> | serua    | seruae   |
| <b>Accusative</b> | seruam   | seruas   |
| <b>Dative</b>     | seruae   | seruarum |
| <b>Genitive</b>   | seruae   | seruis   |
| <b>Ablative</b>   | serua    | seruis   |

## 2<sup>nd</sup> declension nouns

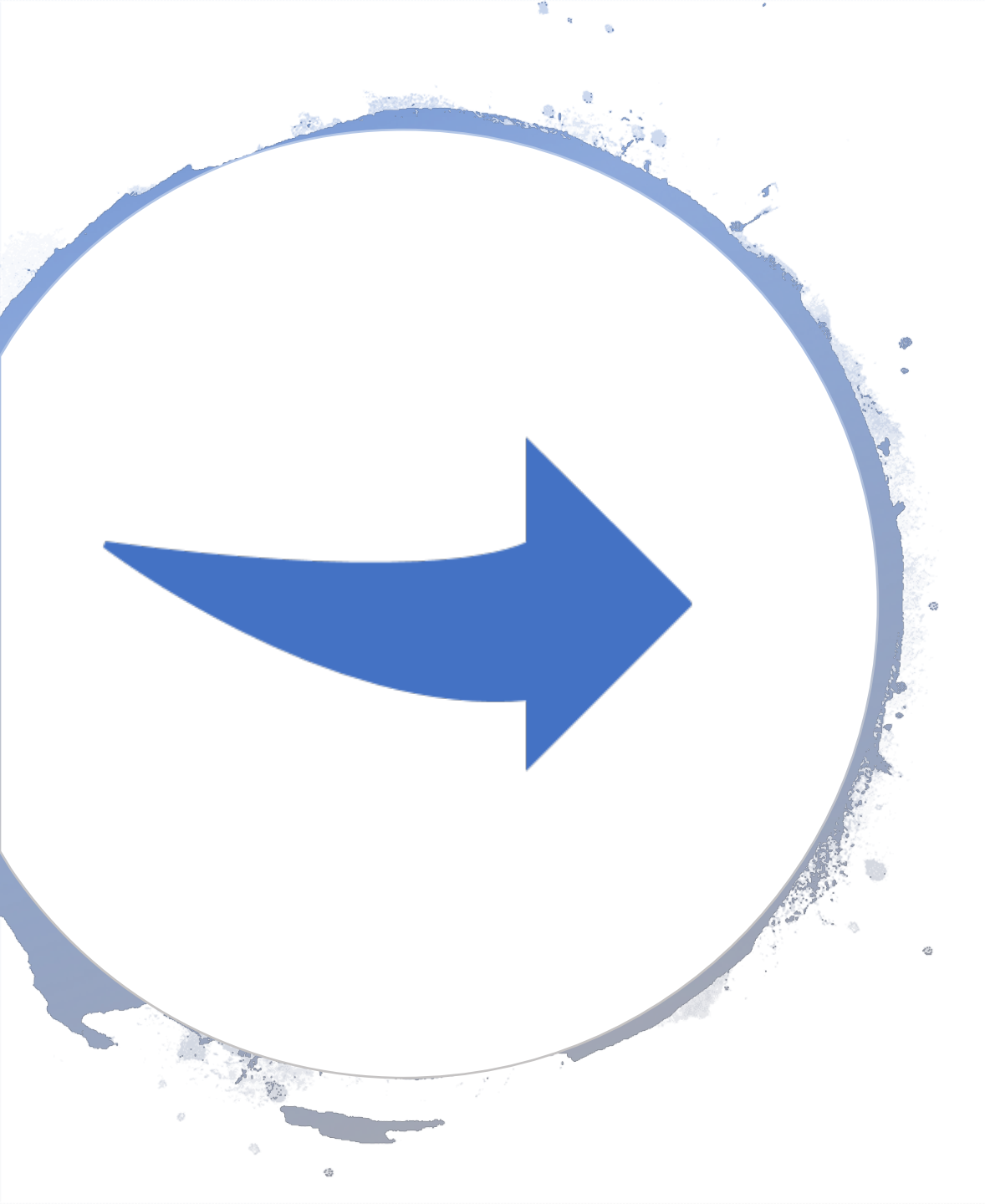
|                   | Singular | Plural   |
|-------------------|----------|----------|
| <b>Nominative</b> | seruus   | serui    |
| <b>Accusative</b> | seruum   | seruos   |
| <b>Genitive</b>   | serui    | seruorum |
| <b>Dative</b>     | seruo    | seruis   |
| <b>Ablative</b>   | seruo    | seruis   |

# Syntax: Words within a sentence



## The dog licks his nose

- What happens, what is the action?: someone **licks** something = Verb (the syntax term is 'predicate') = 1
- Who (1) someone something?: The dog = **Subject** = 2
- What does (2) + (1)?: his nose = **Accusative object** - 3
- Dog = canis-is (m) => 3<sup>rd</sup> declension (we will learn it in a few weeks)
- Nose = nasus-i (m) => 2<sup>nd</sup> declension (you know this pattern already)
- Lick = lingo => 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular present indicative of a verb in the 3<sup>rd</sup> conjugation = lingit
- Canis nasum lingit



## Next steps

- Go through the introductory material in RL Grammar and Exercises for Section 1 and 1A (p. 3-13)
- Try your hand on the exercises at the bottom of p. 11 and 13
- Keep an out for a further intro vidcast tomorrow