

**THE PUBLIC EXAMINATION LATIN  
GRAMMAR. BEING THE SECOND  
EDITION OF LATIN GRAMMAR  
MADE EASY: AN EPITOME OF  
LATIN**

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The public examination Latin grammar. Being the second edition of Latin grammar made easy:  
an epitome of Latin by John Gibson

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**JOHN GIBSON**

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THE  
Public Examination Latin Grammar

BEING THE SECOND EDITION OF

LATIN GRAMMAR MADE EASY:

An Epitome of Latin,

PREPARED WITH A SPECIAL VIEW TO THE

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS.

BY

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THE  
Public Examination Latin Grammar,  
BEING THE SECOND EDITION  
(ENLARGED AND REVISED)  
OF  
LATIN GRAMMAR MADE EASY.

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PART I.

PARTS OF SPEECH, DEFINITIONS, NOUNS, ADJECTIVES AND PRONOUNS.

(a) PARTS OF SPEECH.

THESE are eight in number—four admitting of change of form, and four unchangeable:

Noun	}	admitting of change of form.
Adjective		
Pronoun		
Verb		
Adverb	}	unchangeable.
Preposition		
Conjunction		
Interjection		

(b) DEFINITIONS.

A *root* is the most elementary form of a word, beyond which we cannot go any further back. Thus: *ac-* is the root of *ac-er*, *men-* of *men-sa*, &c.

Exc. in -l:—Mugil, consul, sal, sol, pugil (masculine).

Exc. in -n:—Ren, splen, peoten, delphin, attagen (masculine); Gorgon, sindon, haleyon (feminine).

*The Fourth Declension*

Contains nouns in -us (masculine), and u- (neuter).

Exc. in -us:—All trees; tribus, acus, porticus, domus, nurus, socrus, anus, idus, manus (feminine).

*The Fifth Declension*

Contains nouns in -es (feminine). The only exception is dice, which is masculine or feminine in the singular, but always masculine in the plural.

*Nouns used in the Singular only.*

Names of metals, e. g. aurum, argentum, ferrum; ver, aevum, letum, sanguis, plebs, justitia, pueritia.

*Nouns used in the Plural only.*

Manes, loculi, penates; divitiae, cunae, nugae, grates; arma, deliciae, divitiae, nonae, idus, kalendae; and many others.

*Nouns that vary their meaning in Singular and Plural.*

<i>Sing.</i>	<i>Plur.</i>
Castrum, a fort.	Castra, a camp.
Opem, help.	Opes, wealth.
Copia, plenty.	Copiae, forces.
Littera, a letter of the alphabet.	Litterae, a letter (despatch).
Vis, force.	Vires, strength.
Aedes, a temple.	Aedes, a house.

*Nouns that take forms from two Declensions*  
(*Heteroclite Nouns*).

Laurus, domus (genitive -i and -ūs).

*Nouns that vary their gender (Heterogeneous Nouns).*

<i>Sing.</i>	<i>Plur.</i>
Jocus.	Joci and Joca.
Locus.	Loci and Loca.
Frenum.	Freni and Frena.
Rastrum.	Rastri and Rastra.

*Defective Nouns.*

N. Vis.	—	—	—	—	—
V. —	—	—	—	—	—
A. Vim.	Opem.	Vicem.	Dapem.	Precem.	Frugem.
G. —	Opis.	Vicis.	Dapis.	—	Frugis.
D. —	—	Vici.	Dapi.	Preci.	Frugi.
Abl. Vi.	Ope.	Vice.	Dape.	Prece.	Frugis.

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE DECLENSIONS.

*First Declension.*

Old gen. sing. in -as, found in pater-familias.

„ „ -ai, found in aquai, aulai.

Gen. plur. in -um, found in—

(a) Patronymics, e. g. Aeneadum, from Aeneades.

(b) Compounds of -cola, -gena, e. g. caelicola, terrigena.

(c) Drachma, amphora.

Dat. and abl. plur. in -abus, found in *dea, filia, nata*, and some other fem. nouns that correspond to masc. nouns in -us.



*Second Declension.*

Voc. sing. in -i, from nouns in -ius, *e. g.* fili, from filius; *mous* makes *mi* in voc.; *Deus* remains unchanged.

Gen. plur. in -um (for -orum), found—

- (a) In names of coins, weights, measures, &c., *e. g.* nummum, modium.
- (b) In some names of people, *e. g.* Argivum, Danaum.
- (c) In virum, deum.

*Third Declension.*

Acc. sing. in -im (from nouns in -is) is found in *tussim*, *sitim*, *clavim*, *puppm*, *securim*; also in names of rivers, *e. g.* *Tiberim*, and towns, *e. g.* *Hispalim*.

” ” -ã or -em is found in the case of Greek nouns, *e. g.* *crater*, *lampas*, *gigas*, *acr*, *heros*. These make acc. plur. in -as.

*Iter* makes gen. *itineris*; *jecur* makes *jecinoris* or *jecoris*.

*Fourth Declension.*

Dat. sing. in -u (contracted from -ui), *e. g.* *Parce metu*, *Cytherea*.

Dat. and abl. plu. in -ubus (instead of -ibus), found in substantives ending in -ous, *e. g.* *arous*.

*Fifth Declension.*

Most nouns of this declension have no plural. *Dies* and *res* alone form increasing cases in the plural.

Gen. sing. in -ei contracted into -e with the poets, *e. g.* *Constantis juvenem fide*.

*Respublica* and *jurjurandum* decline both elements of the word, *e. g.* gen. *Rei-publicae*, *juris-jurandi*.

*Derived Nouns.*

Nouns whose character is -o, generally have their feminine forms in -a: *e. g.* Agnus, agna; asinus, asina; filius, filia, &c.

[N.B.—Avus makes avia; gallus makes gallina; caper has two feminine forms, capra and capella; puer changes into puella; magister into magistra; taurus becomes vacca.]

Consonant nouns in -tor have a feminine in -trix: *e. g.* Auctor, victor and ultor have feminine forms—*auctrix, victrix* and *ultrix*.

Caupo becomes in fem. *copa*; cliens, *clienta*; fidicen, *fidicina*; tibicen, *tibicina*; leo, *leaena* or *lea*; Cres becomes *Cressa*; Laco, *Lacaena*; Libys, *Libyssa*; Phoenix, *Phoenissa*; Thrax, *Threissa*; Tros, *Troas*, &c. Neptis is the fem. form of nepos; ovis of aries; mulier of vir; nurus of gener; socrus of socer; anus of senex.

*Diminutive Nouns.*

These end in—

- |     | <i>M.</i> | <i>F.</i> | <i>N.</i> |   |
|-----|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| (1) | -ulus     | -ula      | -ulum,    | <i>e. g.</i> Riv-ulus, cist-ula, scut-ulum.       |
| (2) | -olus     | -ola      | -olum,    | <i>e. g.</i> Fili-olus, capro-ola, savi-olum.     |
| (3) | -ellus    | -ella     | -ellum,   | <i>e. g.</i> Ag-ellus, pat-ella, lab-ollum.       |
| (4) | -culus    | -cula     | -culum,   | <i>e. g.</i> Flos-culus, parti-cula, munus-culum. |

*Patronymics.*

*I. e.* personal names derived from a parent or ancestor. These are—

- (1) Masc. in -ades, -ides and -ides, *e. g.* Aene-ades, Tyndar-ides, Pel-ides.
  - (2) Fem. in -is, -eis and -as, *e. g.* Tyndar-is, Ner-eis, Thesti-as.
- (Mostly taken from the Public School Primer.)

## (d) ADJECTIVES

Are divided into two classes, (i) those of three terminations (us, a, um; er, ra, rum; er, era, erum), which follow the inflections of the first two declensions; (ii) those of one, two and three terminations (*e. g.* felix, tristis -e, acer, acris, acre), which follow the inflections of the third declension.

Some numeral and pronominal adjectives (*e. g.* unus, alius, alter, ullus, nullus, totus, solus, uter, neuter) form their gen. in -ius, and their dative in -i.

*Force of Adjectival Terminations.*

- ax denotes inclination, *e. g.* aud-ax.
- ilis denotes capacity, *e. g.* doc-ilis.
- bilis denotes possibility, *e. g.* ama-bilis.
- cundus denotes fertility, *e. g.* fe-cundus.
- bundus has a present participial force, *e. g.* vaga-bundus.
- osus denotes fulness, *e. g.* fructu-osus.

*Comparison of Adjectives.*

Adjectives form their comparative by changing the -i or -is of the gen. case into -ior, and their superlative by changing it into -issimus, *e. g.* durus, gen. duri, comp. durior, sup. durissimus.

- Exc.: (i) Adj. in -er, *e. g.* pulcher, form their sup. by adding -rimus to the nominative.
- (ii) Six adjectives form the superlative by changing -is into -limus. These are similia, dissimilis, gracilis, humilis, facilis, difficilis.
- (iii) Adjectives in -dicius, -ficius, -volus, change -us into -entior and -entissimus, *e. g.* Benevolus, benevolentior, benevolentissimus.