

Chapter 11

I. Grammar

A. Personal Pronouns

The problems encountered with seeming irregularities in demonstrative pronouns are only compounded with the personal pronouns in Latin. Most students will find it best simply to memorize the Latin forms for "I," "you," etc. Recitation of these forms out loud will help many. There are, however, patterns in the declension of these forms which may aid in memorization: *mei* vs. *tui*, *mihi* vs. *tibi*, *me* vs. *te*, *nostrum* vs. *vestrum*, etc. As you decline these forms on the board and recite them aloud together, call these patterns to the students' attention. [The genitive singular forms of the personal pronoun do not have the expected ending of *-ius*, because *mei* and *tui* were derived from the genitive singular forms of the possessive adjectives, *meus* and *tuus*.]

B. *Is, Ea, Id*

This pronoun is built from a simple base *e-*, the weakest form of the demonstrative, to which are added first/second declension endings, with the expected substitution of *-ius* and *-i* in the genitive and dative singular. The only forms which do not follow this pattern are *is* and *id*. Call to the students' attention that there is a mandatory long mark in the feminine ablative singular (*eâ*). Also, when you write these forms up on the board, leave enough space between them to add *-dem*, so that you can use this declension later to demonstrate how *îdem*, *eadem*, *idem* is formed.

C. *Îdem, Eadem, Idem*

It's relatively rare in Latin to find suffixes because they turn endings into "middlings" and that grates on the Roman ear which wants to hear syntactical information at the end of a word. *Îdem* is one of the few exceptions. Nevertheless, its formation is quite regular. Only a few forms of this pronoun deviate from the basic pattern, *is/ea/id* + *-dem*. Here are some important things to note:

1. The long mark in *îdem* (masculine nominative singular, a contraction of **is-dem*) is **mandatory**.
2. The long mark distinguishes *idem* from the neuter nominative/accusative singular *îdem* which has a short *i-*. [**Id-dem* was not, however, the original form. The original particle attached to the pronoun was *-em* (cf. *quid-em*, *aut-em*), creating in the neuter nominative/accusative singular *idem* which was later wrongly analyzed as *i-dem*. From there, the suffix was misconstrued as *-dem* and added to other forms.]
3. For any form of *is*, *ea*, *id* which ends in *-m*, that final *-m* will become *-n* when *-dem* follows it: ***eundem*, *eadem*, *eorundem*, *earundem***.

Wheelock in Chapter 11 lists only the irregular forms of *îdem*. Show students the full declension at the back of the book on page 383. In general, it is a good idea to acquaint students as soon as possible with the Summary of Forms in the back of Wheelock (pp. 380ff.), because it is this that students will have to know how to use later when they move into reading Latin and need to refresh their memory of a certain form.

D. The Use of Pronouns in Latin

There are several important things to note about the use of the personal pronouns in Latin:

1. The nominative forms of the personal pronouns are used mainly for emphasis.
2. The genitive forms of the personal pronouns do not show possession but are used as partitive genitives (e.g. some *of us*) and objective genitives (love *of me*); see page 50, note 4. Instead, the adjectives *meus*, *tuus*, *noster*, and *vester* serve as the possessive forms of the first- and second-person pronouns.

3. Because, however, they had no possessive (non-reflexive) adjective for the third person (*his, her, its, their*), the Romans used the genitive of *is, ea, id* to show possession (*eius, eorum, earum*). Stress to students that the genitive forms of *is, ea, id* work differently from the possessive adjectives. Whereas the possessive adjectives decline and agree with their antecedents (e.g. ***amici mei, officia vestra***), *eius/eorum/earum* do not (e.g. *amici eius, officia eorum*). Rather, just like *his/her/its/their* in English, *eius/eorum/earum* indicate the noun to which they are attached by juxtaposition, usually coming after the noun.
4. Finally, Latin does not use possessive pronouns nearly as often as English; see Wheelock page 51, note 5. That is, where we say "Rufus has *his (own)* book," Latin says *Rufus librum habet* (with no equivalent of "his" attached to *librum*) because possession by the subject is assumed in Latin, if not stated otherwise. Make students aware of this Latin tendency by giving some examples where English would supply a possessive form but Latin would not: He hates (his) father, he drives (his) chariot too fast, he broke (his) neck, he is digging (his) grave.

E. The History of Personal Pronouns

"The personal pronouns in the various Indo-European languages . . . show a bewildering variety of forms from which it would be idle to attempt to reconstruct precise paradigms for the parent speech." - C.D. Buck

Here are a few interesting points of comparison between Latin and English, which might make some of the seeming irregularities manifest in Latin personal pronouns seem a little less "irregular" or, at least, less foreign:

1. *Ego*. The Old English form of the first person singular pronoun was *ic* (cf. Dutch *ik*, German *ich*), showing the regular change in Germanic languages (Grimm's Law) from inherited *g* to *k*, cf. ***gen-* > *kin, gelid-* > *cold***.
2. *Tu*. The modern—but perhaps archaic-sounding to us—forms of the second person singular pronoun in English, *thou* (subject) and *thee* (object), are related by Grimm's Law to Indo-European *tu* (or *tū*): *t* > *th* (***mater* > *mother, dent-* > *tooth***). English *you* develops from the second person plural pronoun, first substituted as a polite form of the singular pronoun and later generalized to other forms.
3. *Nos/Vos*. The Indo-European plural personal pronouns were **nes/*nos* (first) and **wes/*wos* (second). **Nos* became *uns* in German and *us* in Old English (hence, *us*). In Latin, the accusative forms *nōs* and *vōs* replaced the original nominative forms which were allied to English *we* and *ye*.

II. Compound Verbs

Just as in English, prepositions in Latin can be appended to the front of a verb and used to modify its meaning. In Latin, however, the preposition is always prefixed to the front of the verb, e.g. *induco*, whereas in English it more often follows the verb, e.g. *lead in*. In both languages, the preposition simply adds its literal sense to the verb for the most part, as above ("lead in"), but sometimes the compounded verb takes on a new, figurative sense, in which the connection to the base verb may be hard to fathom (Latin *induco* can also mean "cover, erase, revoke, persuade, resolve and believe," cf. English *make vs. make up, tank vs. tank up, screw vs. screw up*).

Vowel gradation is an important principle involved in compound verbs. It is the shortening of the vowel in the verb base when a compound is prefixed, e.g. ***facio* > *conficio, capio* > *accipio, rapio* > *eripio***. Most often, *-a-* will shorten to *-i-*, but *-e-* can as well, e.g. ***dis-* + *lego* > *diligō***. In another important process called **assimilation**, the prefix may also change form before bases beginning with certain consonants, e.g., *cum* can become *col-*, *com-*, *con-*, *co-*; *ad* > *ac-*, *al-*, *ap-*; *sub* > *sup-*, *sur-*, *sus-*, to name but a few of the many possibilities. Advise students to identify the base verb in compounds and learn to decipher the connotation of the compound from context. By understanding the constituent elements of compound verbs, one not only comes closer to understanding Latin the way the Romans did but can also save much time memorizing verbs.

Click [here](#) for a worksheet on compound verbs.

III. Vocabulary

- **nemo**: A contraction of *ne-* and *homo* (in an older form **hemo*). It borrows the genitive and ablative singular of *nullus*. I have found it useful over the years to ask students about Jules Verne's character, Captain Nemo, who is named after Odysseus in the famous Cyclops passage where he calls himself *Outis* ("No one") in order to trick the monster.
- **carus**: Can have a dative associated with it, "dear (to . . .)." If so, the dative is said to be "with *carus*." In the sense "expensive" (cf. French *cher*), *carus* is cognate with English *whore* (literally, "an expensive [woman]").
- **autem**: Another postpositive conjunction. See [igitur](#), Chapter 5.
- **bene**: The adverb is formed from the base *duen-*, an older, alternate grade (having a different vowel) of the adjective *bonus*.

IV. Sentences

Practice and Review

1. Is Wheelock telling us what aliens said in Latin? A rare comical moment!
1. See page 52, footnote 9. Explain to students that when personal pronouns are the object of the preposition *cum*, *cum* follows the ablative form of the personal pronoun and the two are written as one word: *mecum*, *tecum*, *nobiscum*, *vobiscum* (also *secum*, *quibuscum*). This does not apply, however, to the demonstrative pronouns, e.g. *cum eis*.

V. Review for Test 2

Test 2: Review

NOMEN TUUM

I. Give the correct Latin form for the underlined word. There will be only ONE Latin word necessary in each instance. (10 pts.)

1. He gave **me** a book
2. I will praise **that man**.
3. **This woman** is very intelligent.
4. I never found **their** book.
5. She like **you** (pl.).
6. They all did **the same things**.
7. How can we live with **you** (sing.)?
8. **His** life was a mess until he took Latin.
9. They did not praise **your** (sing.) character.
10. Those **of us** who study will pass.

II. Give the proper form of the adjective (in parentheses) which agrees with the noun in NUMBER, GENDER AND CASE. (20 pts.)

1. loca (alius)
2. senectutum (iste)
3. naturâ (noster)
4. filiorum (idem)
5. rationis (solus)
6. temporibus (hic)

7. homines (nullus)
8. amori (is)
9. vitium (ille)
10. civitatem (carus)

III. Translate the following verb forms into English. Pay careful attention to tense and mood. (30 pts.)

1. cogitamus
2. veniam
3. vident
4. sentiebas
5. fugient
6. audire
7. ducitis
8. cape
9. vivet
10. faciunt

IV. Translate the following sentences into good English which shows that you know the syntax of the Latin sentences. Answer the grammar questions appended. (40 pts.)

1. De **vitiismagistri** scribebat, sed vita eius erat **bona**.

What case is vitiis and why?	
What case is magistri and why?	
What case is bona and why?	

2. In **civitate** hâc **nemo** sine pecuniâ vitam agere ad **senectutem** poterit.

What case is civitate and why?	
What case is nemo and why?	
What case is senectutem and why?	

3. In magnam **gloriam** venietis, si vitia **istius** magnâ cum **curâ** fugietis.

What case is gloriam and why?	
What case is istius and why?	
What case is curâ and why?	

ANSWERS

I.

1. mihi
2. eadem
3. illum (OR istum)
4. te

5. Haec
6. Eius
7. eorum (OR earum)
8. tuos (mores)
9. vos
10. nostrum

II.

1. alia
2. istarum
3. nostrâ
4. eorundem
5. solius
6. his
7. nulli
8. ei
9. illud
10. caram

III.

1. we think
2. I will come
3. they see
4. you were feeling
5. they will flee
6. to hear
7. you lead
8. take!
9. he will live
10. they make

IV.

1. He was writing about the man's crimes, but his life was good.

vitiis: ablative, object of *de*

hominis: genitive, possession

bona: nominative, predicate adjective

2. No one in this state will be able to live life to old age without money.

civitate: ablative, object of *in*

nemo: nominative, subject

senectutem: accusative, object of *ad*

3. You will come into great glory, if you will shun the crimes of that (grrrr!) man with great care.

gloriam: accusative, object of *in*

istius: genitive, possession

curâ: ablative, object of *cum*