

Stage 15 Grammar notes (II) - gender

* All Latin nouns belong to one of three genders:

- masculine
- feminine
- neuter

→ This now means that noun & adjective pairs must agree in case, number, & gender.

Copy the following examples:

1. aquila est animus, qui ad deos ascendit.

The eagle is a soul, which is ascending to the gods.

2. turba, quae prope ianuam stabat, ad terram prostravit.

The crowd which was standing near the doorway, fell to the ground.

3. plaustrum, quod vides, rotam fractam habet.

The cart, which you see, has a broken wheel.

1. animus is masculine → qui (a masculine pronoun)

2. turba is feminine → quae (a feminine pronoun)

3. plaustrum is neuter → quod (a neuter pronoun)

Gender by declension:

1st Declension nouns are usually feminine. They can be identified with the -a- vowel pattern.

examples: via taberna
 puella villa
 cena ancilla

* Not all first declension nouns are feminine. There is a short list of nouns that are masculine. These masculine 1st declension nouns often refer to a specific skill or job that would have typically been done by a man in Roman times.

agricola - farmer
nauta - sailor
athleta - athlete
poeta - poet

→ because these are masculine, they will be paired with the masculine form of the adjective and will not look the same.

1st declension adjectives → although adjectives do not have their own gender, their endings change depending on the noun they agree with. 1st declension endings on adjectives are feminine

puella pulchra
magnae villae
ancillas stultas

} feminine noun + feminine adjective ending

2nd Declension nouns are mostly masculine. They can be identified with the -us- ending in the nominative.

examples: dominus servus
 cibus renalicius
 argentarius hortus

Adjectives in the second declension are also masculine:

dominus stultus poeta mortuus } masc. noun +
servos fessos nauta bonus } masc. adjective

2nd Declension also breaks off into another gender and has its own chart:

2nd Declension Neuter

singular	nom	- UM*	nom	- A*
	dat	- O	dat	- IS
	acc	- UM	acc	- A*
	abl	- O	abl	- IS

→ because the neuter endings are so similar to endings of other genders & declensions it is important to memorize genders of nouns.

examples (all in nominative):

plaustrum	atrium	saxum
vinum	cubiculum	horreum

Adjectives that agree with neuter nouns in the second declension will also follow the neuter declension chart.

3rd Declension nouns are a combination of all three genders:

<u>feminine</u> :	<u>masculine</u> :	<u>neuter</u> :
civis	civis	animal
nox	canis	mare
vox	leo	nomen
navis	sacerdos	agmen

We already know that noun & adjective pairs do not always look alike. You must pay attention to the gender + declension of each noun to correctly pair it.

For the following examples:

- write the Latin
- translate
- [bracket] the noun & adjective pair (in Latin)
- indicate case, number, & gender

1. sacerdotes effigiem ceratam portabant.
2. rex fabros callidos laudavit.
3. ancilla ignava laborare nolebat.
4. Quintus regi Britannico donum elegit.
5. Varica contentionem cum praecursoribus iratis habebat.
6. taurus horreum novum delavit.

(note: use your textbook's glossary and pages 186-187 to guide you. also, referencing a declension chart will help)