

## Case usages with examples

Nominative: Subject

Nominative: Predicative

Accusative: Object

Accusative: Motion towards

Genitive: Possession

Dative: Indirect object

Dative: Advantage

Ablative: from, with, in, by

Ablative (in) : Location

Genitive: Charge (with verbs of accusing and condemning)

Genitive: Penalty (with verbs of accusing and condemning)

Ablative (without preposition): Means or Instrument

Nautae gladiis pugnantes: The sailors fight with swords

Oculis videmus: We see with our eyes

Feminas taeda terruit: He frightened the women with a torch

**Ablative**

cum required when noun is alone

cum optional when noun is modified by adjective: Manner (with or without cum)

Ablative (+ a or ab) (NB different from instrument with no prep): Personal agent

Puella a regina terretur: The girl is frightened by the queen

Dative: Agent with passive periphrastic

Poeta reginae videndus est: The poet must be seen by the queen

Dative: Possessor

Corona est reginae: A crown is to the queen; the queen has a crown

Liber est amico: A book is to the friend; the friend has a book

Ablative. Usually alone, also with a (ab), e (ex), de: Separation

Homines incolae insulae servitute liberaverunt: The men freed the inhabitants of the island from slavery

Oedipus, quod liber (e) cura non erat, se oculis privavit: Oedipus, since he was not free from care, deprived himself of his eyes

Ablative: Origin

Aeneas (e) dea natus est: Aeneas is the son from a goddess

Ablative + a (ab), e (ex), de (alone with named towns etc): Place from which

Ab Italia venit: He came from Italy

Roma venit: He came from Rome

Accusative + ad (alone with named towns etc): Place to which

Ad Italiam venit: He came to Italy

Romam venit: He came to Rome

Locative: Place in which with named towns, cities, small islands

Romae: at Rome

Athenis: at Athens

domi: at Carthage

Carthagine OR Carthagini: at home

ruri: in the country

Ablative with cum: Accompaniment

Ad urbem cum amico venit: He comes to the city with his friend

Ad urbem mecum venit: He comes to the city with me

Ablative (usually no prep): Time when

Illo tempore miser erat: At that time he was unhappy

Ablative: Time within which

Quinque annis hoc opus perficiet: Within five years he will complete this task

Accusative: Time during which

Quinque annos miser erat: For five years he was unhappy

Accusative: Extent of space

He walked five feet to the right: Quinque pedes ad dextram ambulavit

Ablative: Respect

Haec femina specie pulchra est: This woman is beautiful in appearance

Mea sententia nihil perficient: In my opinion, they will accomplish nothing

Dative: double dative construction: Purpose and reference

Filii matri fructui sunt: The sons serve as an asset to their mother

Ad urbem salutem mihi venit: He came to the city to save me

Opinio mali periculo erat civitati: The opinion of the evil man was a danger to the state

### Genitive: Partitive

Fortissimus omnium militum ad mē vēnit: The bravest of all the soldiers came to me  
Multī hominum opīniōnēs sapientium laudant: Many of the men praise the opinions of the wise  
Quīnque ex militibus domum vēnērunt: Five of the soldiers came home  
Satis pecuniae habet: He has enough money  
Plūs pecūniae habet quam tū: He has more money than you

### Ablative: Degree of difference

Pater eius est pede altior hospite: His father is taller than the guest by a foot  
Nunc multō fēlicior est: Now he is happier by much

### Ablative: Comparison

Pater eius est altior hospite: His father is taller than the guest  
Ablative, generally without preposition/Accusative with ob or propter: Cause  
Clāmāre gaudiō coepit: She began to shout because of joy  
Fōrmā laudābantur: They were praised because of their beauty  
Propter metum fēminās interfēcit: He killed the women on account of fear

### Ablative and genitive: Description

Vir magnā sapientiā: A man of great wisdom  
Vir magnae sapientiae: A man of great wisdom

### Genitive: Material

With nouns/adjs of feeling or action: Subjective genitive

fēminae amor patriae: the woman's love of her native land

With nouns/adjs of feeling or action: Objective genitive

amor patriae: love of the fatherland

metus bellī: fear of war

cupidus pecūniae: desire of money

### Genitive: Characteristic/predicate

Hominis sapientis est librōs legere: It is the mark of a wise man to read books

Bonī est deōs laudāre: It is the mark of a good man to praise the gods

### Accusative: Exclamation

Ō tempora! Ō mōrēs!: Oh the times, oh the customs!

Patriam perditam!: Oh wasted land

Puerum miserum!: Unhappy boy!

### Accusative: Respect esp after 'middle' verbs (borrowed from Greek)

Ferrum cingitur: He is girded with respect to a sword

Caput vulnerātus est: He was wounded in the head

Ōs pallōre suffūsa est: She was suffused with pallor in her face

### Accusative: Respect used adverbially

Maximam partem ille vir sapientissimus est: For the most part that man is very wise

Id temporis magnus numerus lēgātōrum ad urbem vēnit: Then a great number of legates came to the city

### Genitive (sometimes accusative): Remembering and Forgetting

Mātris et patris bene meminī: I remember my mother and father well

Dolōris nūper oblītus eram: I had recently forgotten my grief

Virtūtis eōrum nōn oblivīscor: I do not forget their courage

### Genitive: Indefinite value

Magnī mē habet: He considers me of great value

Parvī suam cīvitatē facit: He reckons his state of little value

Familiam suam floccī dūcit: He considers his family of a lock of wool

### Ablative: Price

Villam suam magnō (pretiō) vendidit: He sold his country house at a great price

Nēmō est quī pāce bellum mūtet: There is no one who would exchange war for peace