

# GCSE Latin for Beginners

## Lesson 4 Pre-Class Tasks

**1. Abbreviations.** Did you know that we use Latin abbreviations in everyday modern English? "Abbreviations" are shortened forms of longer words. Match the Latin expressions below to the correct meaning:

Abb.	Full Latin	English Meaning
PS	post scriptum	and the rest
etc.	et cetera	after midday
am	ante meridiem	before midday
pm	post meridiem	for the sake of example
AD	anno domini	Note well
e.g.	exempli gratia	after the writing
NB	nota bene	in the year of the/our lord

**2. Genitive Case Revision.** As we saw in Lesson 3, the genitive case normally expresses *possession*. It is translated *of*, or (often more naturally) represented by the use of an apostrophe (before *s* for a singular, after it for a plural):

haec est villa feminae.

This is the house of the woman.

Or This is the woman's house.

As well as expressing possession, the genitive is used in many other places where English uses *of*.

E.g. optimus servorum es.

You are the best of the slaves.

partem libri lego.

I am reading part of the book.

The word *plus* (= more) is treated as a noun meaning *a larger quantity*, and is always followed by a genitive.

E.g. da mihi plus cibi.

Give me more of the food!

Or Give me more food!

**Task 1. Using the genitive case endings on Page 3 of your Lesson 3 Handout to help, write down a Latin word in the genitive case for Q 3 - 10. Think carefully if it needs a *singular* or *plural* ending.**

- |                   |                  |                   |       |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------|
| 1. of the girl    | <u>puellae</u>   | 6. of the women   | _____ |
| 2. of the masters | <u>dominorum</u> | 7. of the friends | _____ |
| 3. of the master  | _____            | 8. the woman's    | _____ |
| 4. of the slave   | _____            | 9. of the swords  | _____ |
| 5. of the slaves  | _____            | 10. of the food   | _____ |

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### 3. The Dative Case

The **dative** case is used when a noun is the **indirect object**. The indirect object is a noun that is affected by the action of a sentence but is not the direct object of the verb:

e.g. I give the money (*direct object*) to the slave (*indirect object*).

In this example, *money* would be accusative (since it is on the receiving end of the verb) and *slave* would be dative.

The term *dative* comes from the Latin verb *do* (I give): one use of the dative is when one person gives a thing to someone else. Here are *puella* and *dominus* with the *dative* added in:

		1 <sup>st</sup> declension girl <i>f</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> declension master <i>m</i>
<i>sg</i>	<i>nominative</i>	puell- <b>a</b>	domin- <b>us</b>
	<i>accusative</i>	puell- <b>am</b>	domin- <b>um</b>
	<i>genitive</i>	puell- <b>ae</b>	domin- <b>i</b>
	<i>dative</i>	puell- <b>ae</b>	domin- <b>o</b>
<i>pl</i>	<i>nominative</i>	puell- <b>ae</b>	domin- <b>i</b>
	<i>accusative</i>	puell- <b>as</b>	domin- <b>os</b>
	<i>genitive</i>	puell- <b>arum</b>	domin- <b>orum</b>
	<i>dative</i>	puell- <b>is</b>	domin- <b>is</b>

- For *puella* the dative singular is identical to the genitive singular (and the nominative plural). You need to decide which one it is from the context.
- Note that the dative plural is the same for both *puella* and *dominus*.
- *dea* has an irregular form in the dative plural, *deabus*: this is to distinguish it from the dative plural of *deus* (*deis*).

The dative is usually translated with **to** or **for**.

e.g. cibum domino paramus. We prepare the food for the master.

Note the new verb **do** (*I give*), which goes like porto (i.e. *do, das, dat, damus, datis, dant*).

e.g. pecuniam domino damus. We give money to the master.

#### Task 2. Translate into English, identifying the dative nouns:

1. puella cibum feminae dat.
2. servi equum domino nunc parant.
3. ancilla epistulas servo dat.
4. equos nuntiis paramus.
5. feminae cibum deis et deabus dant.