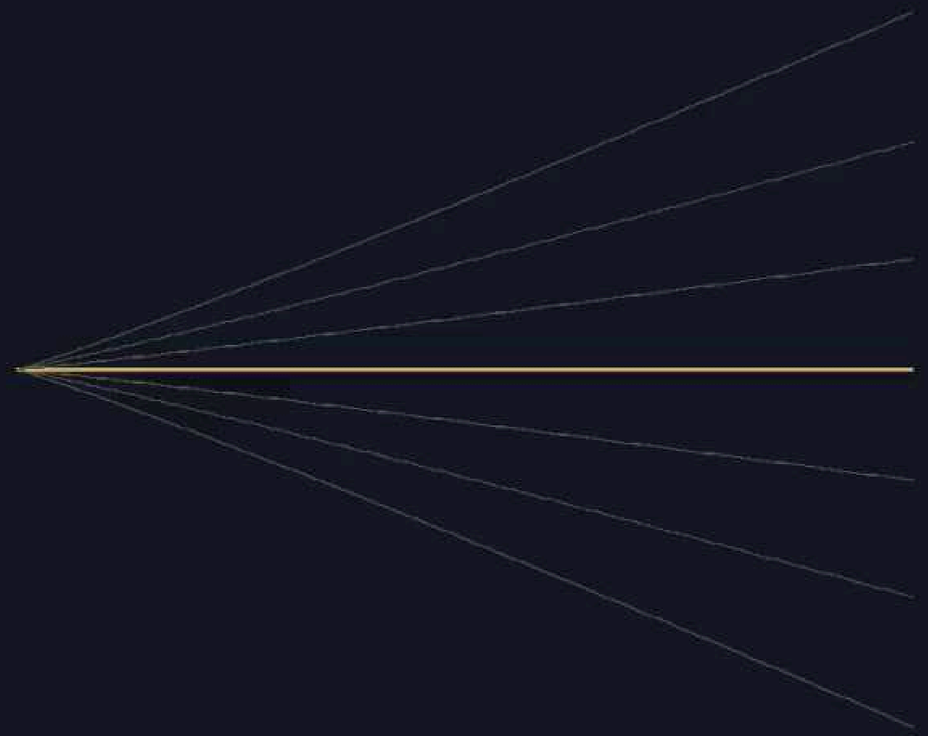
ANDERSON ACADEMY

LATN 102 B · Elementary Latin II (Brief course)

Lecture 3 · about 7 min

The Third Declension



A library of university-level courses

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Three questions

- Why does it matter?
- How do we find the stem?
- How do its adjectives work?

¶ 3.1

And how do third-declension adjectives work alongside the nouns you already know?

Why it matters

- The largest noun family
- Many of the commonest words
- All three genders
- Any ending in the nominative

¶ 3.2

It contains masculine, feminine, and neuter nouns, and its nominative singular can end in almost anything.

Finding the stem

Dictionary entry	Stem
Rex, regis	Stem reg
Corpus, corporis	Stem corpor
Nomen, nominis	Stem nomin

¶ 3.3

Remove the is, and you have the stem to which all the other endings are added.

Rex, the king

Singular	Plural
Rex	Reges
Regis	Regum
Regi	Regibus
Regem	Reges
Rege	Regibus

¶ 3.4

Plural: nominative reges, genitive regum, dative regibus, accusative reges, ablative regibus.

Stems in English

- Rex, regis: regal
- Lux, lucis: lucid
- Lex, legis: legal
- Homo, hominis: homicide

¶ 3.5

Whenever you meet an English word that seems to come from a strange Latin form, check the genitive stem,

Corpus, the body

Singular	Plural
Corpus	Corpora
Corporis	Corporum
Corpori	Corporibus
Corpus	Corpora
Corpore	Corporibus

¶ 3.6

So corpus, body, has nominative and accusative corpus, genitive corporis, dative corpori, and ablative corpore.

Gender clues

Clue	Gender
• Ending or: amor, labor	• Usually masculine
• Ending tio: natio, oratio	• Feminine
• Ending men, or us with oris: nomen, corpus	• Neuter

¶ 3.7

Nouns ending in men, such as nomen and flumen, river,

Ordinary and i-stem

Ordinary

- Rex: regum
- Corpus: corpora
- Same syllables test fails

I-stem

- Civis: civium
- Mare: maria
- Same syllables test passes

¶ 3.8

A common rule of thumb is that nouns with the same number of syllables in nominative and genitive,

Third-declension adjectives

- Omnis, omne: all, every
- Fortis, forte: brave
- Ablative in i, genitive plural in ium
- Ingens: one form, huge

¶ 3.9

These adjectives behave like i-stems: they have i in the ablative singular, forti, and ium in the genitive plural, omnium.

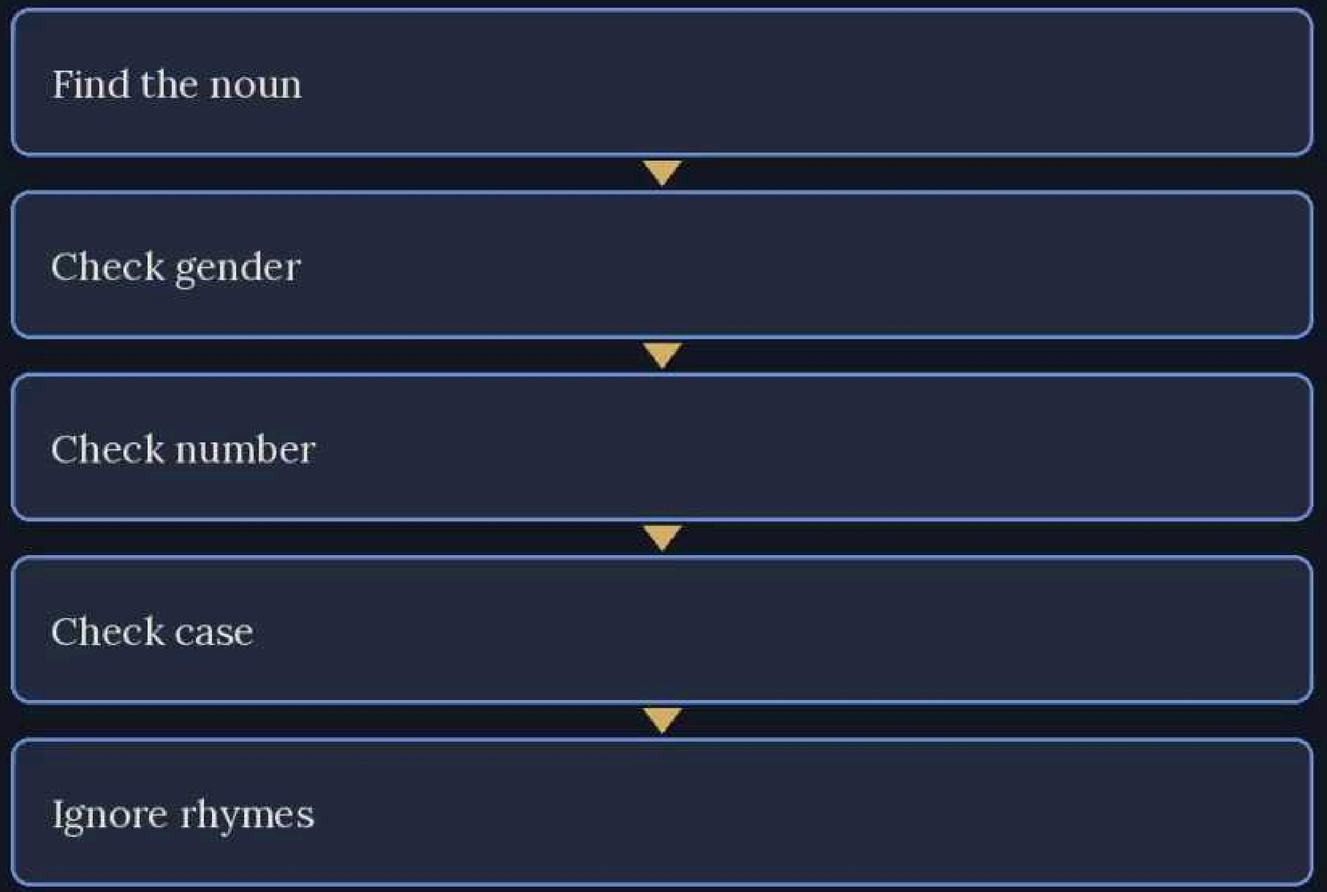
Agreement, not matching endings

Phrase	Explanation
Rex bonus	Third-declension noun, second-declension adjective
Regem bonum	Endings differ but agree
Puella fortis	First-declension noun, third-declension adjective
Puellam fortem	Endings differ but agree

¶ 3.10

In the phrase puella fortis, the brave girl, the noun is first declension and the adjective third. Both are correct.

Checking agreement



¶ 3.11

even though one ends in i and the other in o.

Hidden stems

Latin	English
Miles, militis	Military
Pes, pedis	Pedestrian
Iter, itineris	Itinerary
Caput, capitis	Capital

¶ 3.12

Caput, a head, has capitis, giving capital.

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Ablative of time

- Nocte: at night
- Hieme: in winter
- Eo tempore: at that time
- Answers the question when

¶ 3.13

This ablative of time answers the question when, and it is very common in narrative.

Sample sentences

- Rex leges bonas dat: the king gives good laws
- Cives urbem amant: the citizens love the city
- Omnes homines: all human beings
- Libertatem desiderant: desire freedom

¶ 3.14

Omnes homines libertatem desiderant: all human beings desire freedom.

How to learn them

- Nominative
- Genitive
- Gender
- Meaning

¶ 3.15

If you know the genitive and the gender, every other form follows,

Exercise

Decline lux and nomen

Translate three sentences

Check your answers

Next: the perfect system

¶ 3.16

The answers are: the brave soldiers were defending the city; people will love peace;