

*Aut inveniam viam aut faciam.*¹

First Declension Nouns

Dative Case (singular)



On the pages 6 – 7 of *Latin Without Tears* you will find an explanation of the dative case with some examples. We are studying the group of nouns known as the First Declension. In First Declension singular nouns, the ending for the dative case, ...*ae*, is the same the ending for the genitive case. The case must therefore be decided by context. For instance the sentence give on p.6 *Regina dominae dat* could also mean “the Queen of the lady gives.” If a word is in the dative case it is usually preceded by “to” or “for” in the English translation.

Do not worry about learning the vocabulary in *Latin Without Tears*. Learn the vocabulary lower down this page instead. Enjoy making some sentences of your own by shuffling the words around. Remember to make sure that the endings of the nouns are correct, though. You need the *-a* ending for the subject and the *-am* ending for the object and the *-ae* ending for the genitive or the dative.

Listen to the audio on the *Mothers' Companion* flash drive to get the correct pronunciation unless you have someone helping you who knows how to pronounce Latin.

Here are three more nouns in the nominative case to learn from the IGCSE vocabulary list. If you wish to use one of these words as the object in a sentence you will need to change the ending from *a* to *am*. If you wish to use a noun in the genitive case or the dative case remember to change the ending to *ae*. In a dictionary the nominative singular is given followed by the genitive singular. This is because the genitive singular indicates which group or declension a noun belongs to. The nouns with genitive singular ending ...*ae* are all in the First Declension.

hora, horae, hour (HOR-ah, HOR-eye²-ee)

Bible example:

*vespere autem facto accesserunt ad eum discipuli eius dicentes, “desertus est locus et **hora** iam praeteriit, dimitte turbas ut euntes in castella emant sibi escas”* (Matthew 124:15)

fama, famae, rumour, reputation (FAR-mah, FARM-eye-ee)

Bible example:

*et exiit **fama** haec in universam terram illam* (Matthew 9:26)

1 I will either find a way or make one. (Where there's a will there's a way.)

2 As in the English word “eye.”

regina, reginae, queen (reg-EE-nah, reg-EEN-eye-ee)

Bible example:

regina austri surget in iudicio cum generatione ista et condemnabit eam quia venit a finibus terrae audire sapientiam Salomonis et ecce plus quam Salomon hic (Matthew 12:42)

fortuna, fortunae, fortune (for-TIOO-nah, for-TIOON-eye-ee)

Where there are Bible examples look them up to see your vocabulary in context.

Always write the vocabulary words in your indexed note book.

What English words are related to these three Latin nouns?

Answers on the next page.

Suggested answers:

hora, hour

fama, fame

regina, regal