

*Hic est aut nusquam quod quaerimus.*<sup>1</sup>

## Second Declension Nouns



Pages 56-59a of *Latin Without Tears* give further practice in second declension nouns. Carefully go through the exercises, covering the English, translating and then checking your answer. The English word order in *Latin Without Tears* will need to be changed to normal English usage: the words are given in the order of the Latin to help you understand what word goes with which but they do not make good English sentences and phrases. Take care with the tenses of the verbs. You should have no problem recognising which are present, which are imperfect, and which are future simple if you have been chanting them out daily for practice.

Here are two more first conjugation verbs for your indexed note book:

*dare* to give

Bible example:

*qui dat nivem sicut lanam nebulam sicut cinerem spargit* Psalm 147:5

Have you ever seen (or even used!) Nivea Creme? I think the manufacturers derived its name from *nivem* because of the colour of the cosmetic.<sup>2</sup> *Lanam* is related to the word lanolin (which is wool fat) and *cinerem* “ashes” is related to the words “cinders” and “incinerate.” *Sicut* is another one of those useful little words that can go in your notebook. It means “as”, “just as” or “like.” You may guess *nebulam* if you know that “nebula” is the word for a cloud of stars. By now you will remember that *qu* usually becomes “wh.” *Qui* means “who” and it is the subject of the verbs *dat* (which you now know) and the lovely word *spargit* which means “(he/she/it) scatters” or “sprinkles.” You might be able to translate the whole sentence now. Check your answer by looking it up.

*lacrimare* to weep, to cry

The Vulgate mostly uses another Latin word for weeping so I can't find you a good Bible example for this word. We do have an English word “lachrymose” which means sad, doleful or tearful. The Latin word for a tear *lacrima* is a first declension noun related to this verb. The English composer John Dowland (1563-1626) was famous for his *Lacrimae Pavan*. It is a beautiful piece of music and you can hear it played on the lute in this video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z7mOevjEK7I>. Have a listen and then you will always remember what the verb *lacrimare* means. Think of Dowland crying as he plays his sad piece: *Dowland lacrimat*.

<sup>1</sup> What we seek is here or nowhere. Horace. This quotation from the Epistles of Horace has been applied to the Bible. “If truth is the object sought, it is only to be found in one place, the Bible. Every other writing must be subject to the fallibility of its author; but the Bible, being the word of God, is truth.” says my old book of quotations.

<sup>2</sup> The picture is a clue if you are still stuck!

