Genitive Plural First Declension Nouns

Look at the Latin Vocabulary sheets found on Volume 3 of the *Mothers' Companion* Volume 5. They can be found under *Latin Without Tears* Part 1: Latin Vocabulary Sheets. Look at "cases of singulr nouns of the first declension" and "plural nouns of the first declension." The sheets use the noun *rana,* "frog" as an example. All nouns in the group called "First Declension" follow this same pattern. Learn to "chant" the noun through all the cases in both singular and plural forms. Chant the nouns you have learnt so far following the same pattern of endings. On the *Mothers' Companion* Volume 5 under "listen to noun and verb 'chants'" you will find recorded examples using the word *rana.* You should learn to do this so that you can "chant" from memory any noun you know.

Here are three more nouns in the nominative case to learn from the IGCSE vocabulary list.
tunica, tunicae   tunic
Bible example:
*Israhel autem diligebat Ioseph super omnes filios suos eo quod in senectute genuisset eum fecitque ei **tunicam** polymitam.* Genesis 37:3
You might guess *super* and *omnes* as well as the names Israel (=Jacob) and Joseph. *...que* on the end of a Latin word just means and so rather than "he made" (*fecit*) it is "and he made." Jerome's *Polymitam* means "woven with many threads or damasked," which seems less exciting than many colours!

via, viae   street, road
Bible example:
*eiecitque Adam et conlocavit ante paradisum voluptatis cherubin et flammeum gladium atque versatilem ad custodiendam **viam** ligni vitae.* Genesis 6:12
Notice the *...que p\ttern again.* You will guess *paradisum, cherubin, flammeum, custodiendam* and perhaps *ligni.*

pecunia, pecuniae   money
***pecunia** tua tecum sit in perditionem quoniam donum Dei existimasti **pecuniā** possideri* Acts8:20.

Add your new words to your vocabulary notebook. Think of English words that are related to them. Did yo know "impecunious" means "poor"? Remember: the more you play with the words the better you will understand the grammar so make up some sentences of your own.

All Latin nouns are either masculine, feminine or neuter. This is a strange concept to English speakers. We generally only think of things as masculine or feminine if they *are* physically masculine or feminine. A girl is feminine and so is an actress. A man is masculine and so is a

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1   Money does not grow on trees. Anon.

policeman. There are a few instances in English where we consider an inanimate object to have gender. A ship, for instance, is often referred to as "she" but to us a table or a chair is neuter. Not so in Latin. A table in Latin is feminine! Latin nouns of the first declension are almost all feminine. Some of them are obviously feminine: *ancilla, filia, puella, dea* for instance. Others are not so but were feminine in the Roman mind.