

*Quae est domestica sede iucundior?*¹

First Conjugation Verbs



Latin Without Tears pages 18 and 19 show the verb *cantare* to sing. You have already learned a number of first conjugation verbs. Here you can see set the pattern of endings in the present tense (something happening now) for the various persons: I, thou, he/she/it, we, you, they. We no longer use “thou” in everyday speech although it is useful to understand where it fits in. Today we would use you although we need to remember when translating the difference between you singular (“You gave it to me, Susan.”) and you plural (“You both have red hair.”) You must learn to chant the verb *canto, cantas, cantat* etc. Listen to the recorded example on the *Mothers' Companion* Flashdrive. The recorded example carries on with the next two tenses but you should ignore that for the moment and concentrate on learning the present tense. Now here are some verbs you have met already:

amare to love
excitare to rouse, to stir up
salutare to greet
vulnerare to wound
deliberare to deliberate, to consider seriously
aedificare to build
occupare to seize, to occupy, to attack
putare to think
culpare to find fault with, to blame
desperare to give up hope, to despair
vulnerare to wound
ambulare to walk
liberare to free
negare to deny, to say that ... not
pugnare to fight

Learn to chant all these verbs in the same way as *canto*. How would you say “they love”? What about “we fight”? (answers on the next page.)

¹ What is more pleasant than home? Cicero.

Play around with the verbs and make different one word Latin sentences like these. Then when you are confident you can put in different subjects instead of he/she/it and they. For instance: *femina ambulat* or *ancillae desperant*. If you feel confident with that then try adding an object to your sentence, if the verb is one where you can do this,² for instance, you might make *femina ancillam vulnerat*. Notice the word order in Latin. In English “the boy hit the ball” means something quite different to “the ball hit the boy” and “The boy the ball hit” is not a sentence at all. In Latin the difference is in the **noun endings** not the order of the words. There are some quiz sheets on the *Mothers' Companion* flashdrive (*Mothers' Companion* Volume 5, Latin Without Tears Part 1, Latin quizzes and tests.) You can try the first part of Quiz 1 and all of Test 1 now. The answers are on the next page.) If you enjoy video lessons you might like this: <https://youtu.be/E5Ozln5-o0U> which although it is based on a different textbook has a clear explanation of what we are covering in this lesson.

2 Such verbs are called transitive verbs.

They love: *amabant*
We fight: *pugnamus*

Quiz 1

amo ranam. I love the frog.
Saltas. You dance.
poeta castigat servas. The poet chastises the slaves.

Test 1

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| <i>vocat</i> | he/she/it calls |
| <i>delecto</i> | I charm |
| <i>volamus</i> | we fly |
| <i>clamas</i> | you (singular) call out, cry |
| <i>aratis</i> | you (plural) plough |
| <i>laudant</i> | they praise |
| <i>saltat</i> | he/she/it dances |
| <i>monstro</i> | I show |
| <i>regnamus</i> | we rule |
| <i>devoratis</i> | you (plural) devour |
| <i>navigat</i> | he/she/it sails |