

*ex nihilo nihil fit*¹

Second Declension Nouns



Work through the sentences in *Latin Without Tears* pages 53 to 55. Try to translate them without looking at the answers printed below each sentence (cover them up with a piece of paper). Then check your answer. Change the word order to the normal English word order and supply any articles that are needed. Remember that the nouns in *Latin Without Tears* are not necessarily ones you will need to memorize for IGCSE although they are interesting words to learn and certainly useful for Latin studies generally. Keep listening to the relevant audio from the *Mothers' Companion* flashdrive to make sure you are getting correct pronunciation.

NB:- the word *puer* which is introduced on p.52 is one of a small group of second declension masculine nouns that have a nominative singular ending in *er*. These words all have a vocative which is the same as the nominative so when chanting it goes *puer, puer, puerum etc.*

Two new (IGCSE) nouns of the second declension for your notebook:

hortus, horti garden

Bible example:

Ornaverant autem plantis Iehova Deus hortum in Hedene ab Oriente: ubi collocavit hominem illum quem finxerat Genesis 2:8 (Tremellius' translation)

You know *ornare*. *Deus* and *Iehova* are nominative so they are the subject of the sentence. You can guess *plantis* – it is an ablative plural noun so “with...” Drop the “H” in *Hedene*. If something is “oriental” where does it come from?

amicus friend (male)

At Jesus dixit ei, Amice, quorsum ades? Tunc accesserunt, et manus iniecerunt in Jesum, et prehenderunt eum. Matthew 26:50 (Beza's translation)

Notice this use of the vocative: *Amice*. By now you may have become used to seeing *dixit*. It means “said.”

¹ Nothing comes from nothing. (Lucretius) The phrase “creation *ex nihilo*” “creation from nothing” is often used to describe how God made the world without any pre-existing material. While Lucretius' remark certainly applies now and is a law of physics, in the beginning God made everything *ex nihilo*!