

*Nec scire fas est omnia.*¹

Adjectives



On page 67 of *Latin Without Tears* we meet adjectives for the first time.² As it says “adjectives must agree with [be the same as] their substantives [the nouns or pronouns they qualify] in gender, number and case.” In other words if the noun is masculine, plural and genitive the adjective that goes with it must be masculine, plural and genitive too. Many adjectives follow the pattern shown on the following pages of *Latin Without Tears* with feminine forms like first declension nouns and neuter forms like second declension neuter nouns and masculine forms like second declension masculine nouns in their ending patterns. Listen to the recordings of these pages to get the correct pronunciation for your chanting, and always include the vocative even when it is the same as the nominative.

bonus good

ego sum pastor bonus, bonus pastor animam suam dat pro ovibus John 10:11

These are some of Jesus' most well known words. You know *ego* and *dat* and can guess *pastor* from the English words “pastor” “pastoral” and “pasture.” You can put *pro* in your notebook. It is another one of those useful little words and it means “for” or “on behalf of.” The noun that follows *pro* (showing who or what is having something done for them or on their behalf) is always in the ablative case. *Ovibus* means sheep. *Animam*³ means “life,” “soul” or “spirit.” Related to it in English are “animated” and “animation.” Notice the different word order *pastor bonus, bonus pastor*. The word order does not affect the meaning of a sentence in the way it does in English. This gives Latin authors and poets much more freedom to arrange words for emphasis or special effect.

Malus evil

bonus homo de bono thesauro cordis sui profert bonum et malus homo de malo profert malum ex abundantia enim cordis os loquitur Ephesians 4:29.

You get both this lesson's adjectives in the nominative masculine singular, ablative masculine singular and accusative masculine singular this verse! You can add *de* to your notebook. It is followed by the ablative (as here) and means “down from,” “out of” or “concerning.” There are some easy words to guess here: *homo* you will know from the scientific term *homo sapiens*; change the *h* in *thesauro* to an *r* and remove the *a* and the *o* to get the meaning; *cordis* is related to “cordial” (which means either “heartly” or “a drink that stimulates your heart!) and *profert* is related to “proffer.” *Enim* is another little word for your vocabulary list: it means “for” and the text is easier to translate if you move it back and place it before *ex* which as you can probably guess means “out of.” We have encountered *loquitur* “speaks” before and *os* is “mouth.” Now you can probably translate this text, especially if you already know it! Check your answer by looking it up.

¹ *Nor are we permitted to know all things.* Horace.

² If you can't remember what adjectives are you will need to do some revision of Term 1 Week 1 Day 2.

³ See Term 3 Week 2 Day 3.