

## Grammatical Terms

Before we begin delving into Latin it might be useful to illustrate some grammatical concepts in English. Some of these concepts correspond to Latin, others don't. In any event, Latin is very complex and it is therefore important that we are familiar with the terms below as we go through the lessons. The basic definitions - where applicable - are taken from [usingenglish.com](http://usingenglish.com) and printed in quotes and *Italics*.

**Adjectives** (also see Agreement / Case / Declensions / Gender / Nouns)

*“An adjective modifies a noun. It describes the quality, state or action that a noun refers to.”* Examples are *green, blue, heavy* and *light*. In English they don't follow changes of the noun: One *brown* dog - two *brown* dogs (instead of twos browns dogs).

In Latin they do. Adjectives agree with the nouns they describe in number (singular = one, or plural = more than one), gender (masculine, feminine, neuter) and case.

**Adverbs** (also see Declensions / Inflection)

*“An adverb is a word that modifies the meaning of a Verb; an Adjective; another adverb; a Noun or Noun Phrase; Determiner; a Numeral; a Pronoun; or a Prepositional Phrase and can sometimes be used as a Complement.”* Examples are *well, quickly, or not*.

Adverbs in Latin never change their ending. They are what we call “indeclinable”, they are not inflected.

**Agreement** (also see Gender / Declensions)

is a term which describes the fact that words which belong together match each other in a grammatical sense. Let's look at an example:

The tall young girl gives a big green apple to her tired older brother.

In English the word order makes it clear which adjective describes which noun. We know that the girl is tall and young, we know that the apple is big and green, and so on.

In Latin each noun has an assigned gender. The girl is feminine, the brother is masculine, and the apple is neuter. This has serious consequences because the adjectives have to have an ending which matches the gender. Besides the gender, we have also consider the function of the noun:

The girl is the person who is doing something, she is the subject, the apple is a direct object because it receives the action expressed in the verb directly, the older brother receiving the apple is an indirect object. These functions in Latin are expressed by cases. The examples below will illustrate this.

girl - subject, feminine

apple - direct object, neuter

brother - indirect object, masculine

Nominative Case

Accusative Case

Dative Case

“Agreement” now means that the adjectives describing the girl have to be Feminine and Nominative, the adjectives for the apple have to be Neuter and Accusative, and the adjectives for the brother have to be Masculine and Dative. I will try and illustrate this by attaching the Latin endings to the English words:

*Thea talla younga girla gives aum bigum greenum appleum to hero tiredo oldero brothero.*

This is more complicated than English, but since all words which belong together “agree” with each other, we can mix up the word order and still identify the pieces:

*aum bigum to hero tiredo oldero brothero thea girla younga talla greenum appleum gives.*

Without the agreement we would completely misunderstand the sentence:

*a big to her tired older brother the girl young tall green apple gives.*

Common sense will enable us to still decipher this mess, but depending on the particular style of a Latin author, sentences can be really complicated, especially in poetry.

## Articles

English has two types of Articles. The definite article (the) and the indefinite article (a / an). As the name suggests, the definite article points to something that is definite, or defined. When we speak about *the* Lord, we know it is not just any Lord. We have a definite concept of Him even though we cannot fully grasp him. But when we talk about someone as being *a* saint, we talk about a general quality. When we say that Eve took a fruit from the tree, we want to express that it was just one of the fruits in the tree. When we say that Adam took *the* fruit, we want refer to a fruit which has already been introduced and defined as the fruit which Eve had given him.

## Assimilation

*“When sounds change because of the sound that comes after them, it is assimilation. For instance, the ten in ten pounds can sound like tem because the final consonant m is pronounced with the same lip position as p. This is often done in connected speech, where the words are run together rather than being pronounced individually.”*

Some of these assimilations are preserved in written form where the term “Assimilation” describes the contraction or amalgamation of two sounds which are hard to pronounce separately. Assimilation often results in a doubling of consonants.

The very term itself is an Assimilation of the preposition *ad* (*to, towards*) and the noun *similatio* (*imitation, likening*). The complete term would indicate *towards imitation* meaning that a sound moves towards or *assimilates* towards another sound to facilitate pronunciation.

The indicator for ease of pronunciation is the movement of the tongue. When you read the following examples and pay *attention* to the movement of your tongue you will get a good sense of this: *adsimilation* - *assimilation*, *inlegal* - *illegal*, *adtention* - *attention*, *adrogance* - *arrogance*, *subfix* - *suffix*

## Auxiliary Verbs

English verbs need help when they want to express things like I will go or I did go as opposed to I go. In the examples the verb “go” is the main verb. *Will* and *did* are auxiliary (= helping) verbs which are used to express a special aspect of the main verb. *Will* helps the verb to express the future aspect, *did* helps the verb to express the past aspect. Where English uses auxiliary verbs, Latin mostly uses different endings.

He used to be praised = laudabátur      He has praised = laudávit      He will praise = laudábit

As you can see the stem of the Latin verb (lauda...) stays the same but the ending changes.

## Cases (also see Agreement / Declensions / Subject / Object)

Grammatically speaking, nouns in Latin are the same as in English, i.e. they describe a person, place or thing. A noun can have different functions in a sentence. Compare the following:

a) Jesus meets Pilate      b) Pilate meets Jesus.

In sentence a) the noun “Jesus” is the subject and “Pilate” is the object. In sentence b) subject and object are reversed. In English this is achieved by changing the word order, in Latin we change the ending of the noun. English used to have different forms for different cases like *thou* and *thee* but most of those forms are now uncommon. The only ones still in use are pronouns such as I - me, he - him, she - her.

In Latin the different functions of nouns such as subject, object, possession, location, etc. are associated with different cases, and each case has a different ending.

Maybe this will become a little clearer if we compare nouns to ratchets, and the functions of nouns to screws and bolts. A small wood screw has a smaller head than a big bolt for a swing set and accordingly you would chose a different nut from your socket wrench set. That nut would be the “ending” for your ratchet and with the right nut you can have your ratchet perform the correct function.

There are 5 cases with endings for singular and plural. Thus each noun can have up to 10 different forms. Below you find a partial listing of what the cases do.

	<b>Nominative</b>		<b>Accusative</b>
Subject	The <u>man</u> is tall	Direct Object:	He gives <i>a rose</i> to her
Appositives	Caesar, <i>emperor</i> of Rome	Direction:	all roads lead <i>to Rome</i>
Predicate nouns:	The <u>man</u> is my <u>brother</u>	With Prepositions	in, ad, per, trans, inter, post, etc
	<b>Genitive</b>		<b>Dative</b>
Possession:	In the name <i>of the father</i>	Indirect Object:	He gives a rose <i>to her</i>
Partitive:	many <i>of my friends</i>	Purpose:	He sent money <i>for support</i>
		<b>Ablative</b>	
Means:	<i>through the intercession</i> of...	Location:	<i>in Rome, in the hallway</i>
Time:	<i>at that time</i> it came to pass ...	Accompaniment:	<i>(together) with the Father</i> he is worshipped...
Respect:	Hail Mary, full <i>in terms of grace</i>	Agent:	he was sent <i>by the Father</i>
Origin:	<i>out of the Virgin Mary</i>	Separation:	deliver us <i>from evil</i>

### Conjugations (compare Declensions)

Based on their spelling, Latin verbs are organized in 5 groups called conjugations. In English we don't have conjugations, but we can for instance distinguish between strong and weak verbs. Strong verbs form the different tenses by changing an internal vowel as in *drink - drank - drunk* or *sing - sang - sung*. A weak verb just adds *-d* or *-ed* to the present tense as in *love - loved - loved* or *fill - filled - filled*. Most grammar books don't distinguish between strong and weak but instead irregular and regular verbs.

This formal distinction, based on the spelling of the verb and on how the verb forms different tenses, is more rigorous in Latin, and instead of calling the verbs regular or strong we assign them to different conjugations. Verbs are assigned to only one conjugation and cannot be switched.

There are six "persons" in Latin: 1<sup>st</sup> singular = I, 2<sup>nd</sup> sg. = you, 3<sup>rd</sup> sg. = he / she / it, 1<sup>st</sup> plural = we, 2<sup>nd</sup> pl. = you (ye), 3<sup>rd</sup> pl. = they. Each of these persons has a different ending comparable to I *am*, you *are*, he *is*. When we go through all six endings of a verb we call it "conjugating" a verb.

### Conjunctions

are words which *conjoin* two sentences or ideas as in "The Good and the Bad" or "To be or not to be".

### Declensions (also see Cases)

Nouns in English and also in Latin can look very different: *mass, tree, hat, house*, etc. Some end in a vowel, others end with two vowels, some end with one consonant, others end with two consonants. In English all nouns are treated the same, in Latin because of their different appearance they have been organized into 5 different groups called declensions.

A declension is like a socket wrench set and provides a specific set of endings. It shows us how a noun "moves" through the five cases. If for example a noun belongs to the first declension, the Nominative singular has to end in "-a", the genitive singular ending is "-ae", and so forth. By knowing the gender and declension of a noun, we are able to precisely identify its form in the context.

Declensions are a mere formal distinction and have no effect on the meaning of the word. Nouns belong to only one declension which never changes.

Imagine for instance English would identify an *s-group* for nouns which form the plural by adding "-s" as in *bag - bags, door - doors, computer - computers*, and a *vowel group* for nouns which form the plural through internal vowel change as in *man - men, foot - feet, goose - geese*, and you have some idea what declensions are. We are merely categorizing nouns by appearance, regardless of their meaning.

When we go through all case endings for a noun we call that "declining" the noun.

## Derivatives (also see [Declensions](#))

Derivatives are words which are derived from words of another language. The original words, which in our case are Latin, are called “Root Words”. Take for instance the word “Vocation”. A vocation is a “calling”. *Calling* is of Teutonic origin, and before the Norman conquest English was mostly a Teutonic language. After the conquest which began with the Battle of Hastings in 1066, a large number of Latin and French words were introduced. Ecclesiastical and secular text were written in Latin, and Old English manuscripts were translated into Latin.

English preserved much of the old vocabulary but also added a huge amount of new vocabulary resulting in a large number of synonyms or couplets. *Calling* and *vocation* essentially mean the same thing, but one is of Teutonic and the other of Latin origin.

In this book we are of course mainly concerned with Latin root words. There are a few easy ways to recognize many of them and trace them back. *Vocation* is a good example because it is part of a group of English nouns ending in *-ion* or *-tion*. All one has to do is cut off the “-n” to find the original Latin word.

### Nouns in *-tion*

Examples include *vocatio(n)*, *natio(n)*, *potio(n)*, *educatio(n)*, *formatio(n)*, *administratio(n)*, *conditio(n)*, *renditio(n)*, *ascensio(n)*, *benedictio(n)*, *confessio(n)* and many more.

All of the original Latin nouns of this group belong to the 3<sup>rd</sup> declension and are feminine.

### Nouns in *-ty*

Another group of nouns ending in *-ty* can be traced back to Latin nouns ending in *-tas*. You won't have a problem figuring out the meaning of the following Latin words: *libertas*, *fraternitas*, *humanitas*, *iniquitas*, *maiestas*, *nativitas*, *pietas*, *proprietas*, *singularitas*, *unitas*.

All of these nouns belong to the 3<sup>rd</sup> declension and are feminine.

### Nouns in *-or*

English nouns ending in *-or* are unchanged Latin, interestingly though only in American English: *clamor*, *creator*, *debitor*, *factor*, *monitor*, *educator*, *liberator*, *illustrator*.

All of these nouns belong to the 3<sup>rd</sup> declension and are masculine.

## Ending

The ending of a word, be it a verb, noun, adjective or adverb, is the part of the word that changes according to the requirements of context. English has lost most of these endings. One example though would be the “s” we attach to make a word plural as in *cats and dogs*. Yet, there are other plural forms in English: *goose - geese*, *child - children*, *man - men*.

Latin very heavily depends on endings to show what function a word has in a sentence. The endings for Latin nouns and adjectives are organized in groups called “Declensions”, the endings for Latin verbs are categorized in “Conjugations”.

## Genders (also see [Agreement](#))

“A grammatical category found in many languages in which a noun, pronoun, article and adjective is masculine, feminine or neuter, although some languages only distinguish between masculine and feminine. This distinction does not occur in English. The only times that gender is shown in English is when the noun refers to a male or female animal, person, etc.: *lion - lioness*; *waiter - waitress*.”

It is evident that we consider a woman *feminine*, a man *masculine* and a table *neuter* (Latin for *neither*) but except for the usage of pronouns when we refer to *her* or *him* or *it* the gender is grammatically irrelevant.

Not so in Latin. Each noun has an assigned gender. Sometimes we can relate to it because the Latin gender equals the natural gender we know from English. Many times though the gender does not make any sense to us. In Latin for instance the table would be feminine. The gender of a noun is important in Latin because it determines how an adjective will relate to that noun. (See [Agreement](#)).

We have to accept the fact that the gender of Latin nouns is an integral part of the vocabulary.

## Gerund

*“A Gerund is a verb when it acts as a noun; gerunds can act as the subject or object of a main verb.”*

I like swimming but running really hurts my knees.

The verbs are *swim* and *run* and by turning them into the gerund forms *swimming* and *running* I can use the verbs as nouns. I could also say *the act of swimming*.

## Infinitive

*“The infinitive usually occurs with 'To' (for example To go, To come, To wear etc.), except after an auxiliary or modal verb. It is a verb form that shows no person, tense or aspect.”* The infinitive is also a verbal noun. It can actually be used in almost the same manner as the gerund:

I like to swim but to run really hurts my knees.

*“Infinitive”* means *endless*, in grammatical terms, *“ending-less”*, without a *personal* ending, to be precise. Verbs that do have a personal ending are accordingly called *“finite”*. *Personal ending* means that the verb form is limited to or tied down to a particular person as in *he does*.

## Inflection (also see Declensions and Conjugations)

*“Inflection, also spelled 'inflexion', is a system in which word forms are altered by an affix. Nouns in English can be changed to show plurality, the 3rd person singular of most verbs is inflected by the addition of -s, etc.”*

Inflection changes words according to grammatical rules. If there are a lot of those rules, resulting in a lot of endings or affixes, we speak of a *highly inflected* language. Compare the following sentences:

He ran to the store.

I saw him running to the store.

“He” is the subject of the first sentence, but in the second sentence, “he” is the object, the object of my vision. Because of that I change “he” into “him”. English used to be much more highly inflected as in *shall I compare thee to a summer's day, thou art more temperate...* English has become simplified to a high degree which is good for English speakers and learners. The downside is that a highly inflected language such as Latin is harder to learn because many of the grammatical concepts have become alien to us.

## Interjections

*“An interjection is a word or short phrase used in speech to gain attention, to exclaim, protest or command. Interjections can be used to show emotion such as surprise or shock. Interjections are often found at the beginning of a sentence, especially in speech, and are commonly followed by an exclamation mark or a comma.”* Examples are *wow!* or *really?!*

Latin interjections follow the same rules.

## Mode or Mood

*“Mood shows the attitude of the speaker or the writer to the action or state described by the verb.”*

1) *The Indicative is the verb used in ordinary statements and questions:*

*She went home. Has she called yet?*

2) *The Imperative is used to give orders and instructions:*

*Go home. Come and see me.*

3) *The Subjunctive is used to express doubts, wishes, etc. It is not used much in English any more and exists in a few phrases: If I were you, I'd speak to her about it straightaway. Be that as it may.”*

The above description is valid for Latin also. However, there are a number of rules governing the use of the subjunctive which are alien or at least uncommon in English.

English uses auxiliary verbs such as *may*, *might*, *would* to express most of these changes, Latin achieves them mostly with endings and internal vowel changes.

## Nouns (see also Declensions)

“A noun is a word used to refer to people, animals, objects, substances, states, events and feelings. Nouns can be a subject or an object of a verb, can be modified by an adjective and can take an article or determiner.” Latin nouns work the same way but they are organized in declensions and inflected.

## Number

There are two grammatical numbers: Singular (only one) and Plural (more than one)

## Participles (also see Adjectives / Nouns)

“There are two participles in English: the present participle and the past participle. They can both be used as adjectives. The **present participle** is formed by adding **-ing** to the base form of a verb. It is used in: i) Continuous or Progressive verb forms - I'm leaving in five minutes. ii) As an adjective: A dying man.

The **past participle** is formed by adding **-ed** to the base form, unless it is an irregular verb. It is used:

i) As an adjective - A tired group ii) With the auxiliary verb 'have' to form the perfect aspect - They've just arrived. iii) with the verb 'be' to form the passive - He was robbed a couple of days ago.”

Latin has 6 participles. All of them are verb forms that can be used as adjectives or even nouns. Like adjectives and nouns they are declined.

When we look at the participles *painting* or *painted* we understand that they are related to the verb *to paint*. Yet in a phrase like “The *painting* man” we can see that this verb form is used like an adjective.

## Prefix

“Prefixes are groups of letters that can be placed before a word to modify its meaning. EG: impossible (the prefix *im-* modifies the meaning to produce a negative sense)” Very often the prefix is a Latin preposition. Some common prepositions used as prefixes are:

*a-* or *ab-* (away from) as in *abrogate*; *ad-* (to, towards) as in *administer*; *ante-* (before) as in *antecedent*; *de-* (down from) as in *depend*, *descend*; *in-* (into, towards) as in *induce*; *in-* is also a prefix in Latin indicating opposite as in *inefficient*, *infidel*, *inanimate*; *inter-* (between) as in *interdependent*, *interdisciplinary*; *pre-* (before) as in *prefix*, *prelude*; *sub-* (under) as in *subpoena*, *submarine*; *trans-* (across, through) as in *transgression*, *transport*, *transfusion*.

## Prepositions

“A preposition is a word that links a noun, pronoun or gerund to other words. They can have a variety of meanings: Direction- He's going **TO** the shops; Location- It's **IN** the box; Time- He left **AFTER** the lesson had finished; Possession- The Government **OF** Italy.” In Latin prepositions require the noun to be either Accusative or Ablative case.

## Principal Parts

are forms of a verb which serve as a guideline for the usage of the verb in different tenses as in *drink -drank - drunk* or *see - saw - seen*. Latin identifies four principal parts.

## Pronouns (also see Declensions)

“A pronoun is a word that substitutes a noun or noun phrase. There are a number of different kinds of pronouns in English. TYPES OF PRONOUN:

*Demonstrative Pronoun* - this, that, these, those

*Negative Pronoun* - nothing, no, nobody, etc.

*Personal Pronoun* - I, you, he, she, etc.

*Reciprocal pronoun* - each other, etc.

*Possessive Pronoun* - mine, yours, his, etc.

*Relative Pronoun* - who, whose, which, that, etc.

*Reflexive Pronoun* - myself, yourself, etc.

*Quantifier* - some, any, something, much, many, little, etc.”

*Interrogative Pronoun* - who, what, where, etc.

In Latin the pronouns are also declined, but their declension follows a pattern which is shared for all pronouns but slightly different from the regular declensions.

## Stem

The stem of a noun or verb is what is left when you cut off any ending. Compare the word to a tree. The unchanging stem of the word is like the unchanging stem of the tree, the endings are like the leaves which change according to the season, i.e. grammatical function.

## Subject - Direct Object - Indirect Object

“The **subject** of a sentence is the noun, pronoun or noun phrase that precedes and governs the main verb. EG. He is a really nice guy. ('He' is the subject of the sentence, controlling the verb and the complement. My dog attacked the burglar. ('My dog' is the subject, controlling the verb and the rest of the sentence.)

The **direct object** of a verb is created, affected or altered by the action of a verb, or appreciated or sensed by the subject of the verb. EG: She closed the door. ('door' is directly affected by her action.)”

The **indirect object** of a verb is not directly affected by the action, but can either receive the direct object or have the action done for them. EG: She sent James the letter. ('letter' is the direct object as it is directly affected by the action and 'James' is the indirect object as he receives the letter.)

EG: They made him dinner. ('Dinner' is the direct object as it is created by the action and 'him' is the indirect object as the dinner is made for him.) These sentences can also be written as follows: EG: She sent the letter to James. EG: They made dinner for him.”

Subject	Direct Object	Indirect Object
The girl gives	an apple	to her older brother.
<u>Who</u> gives? The <u>girl</u> .	The girl gives <u>what</u> ? An <u>apple</u> .	<u>To whom</u> does she give the apple?
The girl is the subject.	The apple is the DO.	<u>To her brother</u> . He is the IO.
The girl is acting and the verb tells us what she does.	The apple receives the action of the verb. The apple is physically being moved and changes hands.	The brother is the recipient of the apple and <u>not directly</u> affected, he does not move.
In Latin the subject is expressed in the Nominative case.	In Latin the direct object is expressed in the Accusative case.	In Latin the indirect object is expressed in the Dative case.

## Suffix (see also Prefixes)

“Suffixes are groups of letters placed after a word to modify its meaning or change it into a different word group, from an adjective to an adverb, etc. EG: gladly (the suffix -ly changes the word from an adjective to an adverb); approached (the suffix -ed changes the verb from the present.)”

When we speak of *debt* we also understand that the *debtor* is the person who owes. The connection with the original word *debt* is still intact but the aspect of the word has been changed. Other examples are *suit* - *suitor*, *cater* - *catering* - *caterer*, *carcer* - *incarceration*, *memory* - *memorable* - *memorabilia*

## Tenses (also see Auxiliary Verbs)

“Tense is used to show the relation between the action or state described by the verb and the time, which is reflected in the form of the verb.”

The term “tense” is used differently depending on where you read it. Strictly speaking we could say there are only 3 tenses: Present, Past Future.

But in addition to these tenses we have aspects: Incomplete and complete. “Perfect” means “completed” and “Imperfect” means “incomplete”. The term “incomplete” implies that the emphasis is on the fact that something is or was habitual or ongoing instead of happening once and being completed. If you say “We used to stay in Ocean City every summer” the emphasis is on something habitual and recurring as opposed to a completed action as in “We went to Ocean City last year and it was so crowded!”

The chart below sums up some of the similarities and differences of English and Latin tenses:

## Simple Tenses

<b>Present</b>	Describes unchanged, repeated or recurring action that only exists now (= <b>Latin Present</b> )
Examples:	Ice cream <i>is</i> cold. / The ocean <i>is</i> deep. / Every year in autumn the leaves <i>fall</i> .
<b>Past</b>	Describes an action that <i>was begun</i> and <i>ended</i> in the past. (= <b>Latin Perfect</b> )
Examples:	On July 7 <sup>th</sup> 2007 Pope Benedict XVI <i>released</i> the Motu Proprio. / I <i>saw</i> it on the news.
<b>Future</b>	Describes an action which <i>will occur</i> in the future. (= <b>Latin Future</b> )
Examples:	We <i>shall learn</i> Latin. / We <i>are going to</i> enjoy it. / You <i>shall not be</i> disappointed.

## Progressive Tenses (verb ends in -ing)

<b>Present</b>	Describes an action which <i>is happening</i> at the same time of the statement. (= <b>Latin Present</b> )
Examples:	<i>I am eating</i> lunch right now. / <i>It is raining</i> hard outside. / I hope you <i>are driving</i> carefully.
<b>Past</b>	Describes an action which <i>was happening</i> simultaneously to another action in the past. In Latin you would use the <b>Imperfect</b> for ongoing or repeated action in the past. It does not have to be simultaneous to another action. That would be expressed with a participle.
Examples:	Just when I <i>was washing</i> the car the rain started. / The phone rang just when I <i>was leaving</i> .
<b>Future</b>	Describes continuous or ongoing action in the future. (= <b>Latin Future</b> )
Examples:	I <i>will be leaving</i> at noon. / I <i>will be traveling</i> for 14 hours.

## Perfect Tenses

<b>Present</b>	Describes an action that <i>has occurred</i> at an indefinite time in the past or an action which <i>has started</i> in the past and continues into the present. (= <b>Latin Perfect</b> )
Examples:	Many people <i>have suffered</i> for their faith / History <i>has</i> always <i>fascinated</i> mankind.
<b>Past</b>	Describes an action which preceded another action in the past (= <b>Latin Past Perfect</b> )
Examples:	I <i>had</i> just <i>gone</i> to sleep when the phone rang. / He said that before the council <i>had ended</i> .
<b>Future</b>	Describes an action which is anterior to another action in the future (= <b>Latin Future Perfect</b> )
Example:	By the time I graduate I <i>shall have passed</i> the final exams.

## Perfect Progressive Tenses

<b>Present</b>	Describes an action that began in the past, continues in the present, and may continue into the future. (= <b>Latin Present and / or Present Active Participle</b> )
Examples:	The teacher has been considering a switch to another textbook which would be easier to use.
<b>Past</b>	Describes a past, ongoing action that was completed before some other past action. (= <b>Latin Past Perfect</b> )
Examples:	Before the Motu Proprio the Tridentine Mass had been celebrated only with special dispense.
<b>Future</b>	Describes a future, ongoing action that will occur before some specified future time. (= <b>Latin Future Perfect and / or various uses of the Perfect Passive Participle</b> )
Example:	By the year 2076 Americans will have been celebrating their independence for 300 years. (= <b>Latin Future Perfect</b> )

The usage especially of the English simple past and present perfect does not correspond to Latin.

Latin accommodates most of the different aspects of the verb with endings instead of auxiliary verbs.

The English progressive tenses have no direct equivalent in Latin. Latin uses participles to express simultaneous, anterior and posterior action in either tense.

### Latin Tenses and their translations

<i>Praesens</i>	<i>Imperfectum / Perfectum</i>	<i>Futurum</i>	<i>Perfectum</i>	<i>Plusquam-perfectum</i>	<i>Perfectum Futurum</i>
video	videbam	videbo	vidi	videram	videro
I see, I am seeing	I used to see, I was seeing	I shall see	I have seen, I saw	I had seen	I shall have seen

### Verbs

*“Verbs are one of the major grammatical groups, and all sentences must contain one. Verbs refer to an action (do, break, walk, etc.) or a state (be, like, own). The verb tense shows the time of the action or state. Aspect shows whether the action or state is completed or not.”*

Verbs in Latin *do* the same as in English, they *express* an action, *to be* more precise, they *express* what the subject of a sentence *does* as in *Jesus meets Pilate*. A “sentence” is defined as “...a group of words beginning with a capital letter and ending with a full-stop, exclamation or question mark in written language, containing a main verb.” If you sing “Glory to God in the Highest and on Earth Peace to People of Good Will” there is no verb. Therefore, according to the definition, this is not a sentence.

### Voices

There are two voices in English and Latin: Active and Passive. In the Active, the subject acts. In the Passive, the subject is acted upon, it receives the action.

E.g.: I have painted the car - the car has been painted by me.

In English we use auxiliary verbs to express this, in Latin again we have different endings.