

Grammar Help: Nouns

To form nouns, this is your **formula**

- **Base plus endings**
- **Base=genitive singular minus ending (ae or i right now)**

You use the **endings** based on the **declension** and **gender** of each noun.

This means you need to know the declension and gender for every noun.

- Tip:
 - First word in dictionary ends in “a”=first declension
 - First word in dictionary ends in “us” or “r”=second declension masculine
 - First word in dictionary ends in “um”=second declension neuter

First Declension: ends in “a”

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	a	ae
Genitive	ae	arum
Dative	ae	is
Accusative	am	as
Ablative	ā	is

Second Declension Masculines: end in “r” or “us”

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	r or us (whichever is on vocab list)	i
Genitive	i	orum
Dative	o	is
Accusative	um	os
Ablative	ō	is

Second Declension Neuters: end in “um”

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	um	a
Genitive	i	orum
Dative	o	is
Accusative	um	a
Ablative	ō	is

Declensions are simply groups that nouns are divided into based on their endings. So think of each declension as a set of endings that you will attach to the **base** of your nouns.

When you **decline** a noun, you attach the endings to the base. Choose the ending set based on the gender and declension of the noun. Choose the specific ending from the **case and number** requested. (Case is the row -nominative, genitive, dative, accusative, ablative-and number is the column-singular or plural)

For example:

- Give the genitive plural for vir
 - Base for vir=viri minus i
 - Vir
 - Vir ends in “r” so it is Second Declension Masculine
 - Alternatively if you learn your genders and declensions of each noun you can skip this step and go straight to the endings set
 - Second Declension Masculine endings:

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	us	i
Genitive	i	orum
Dative	o	is
Accusative	um	os
Ablative	ō	is

- I asked for the Genitive Plural, which is “orum”
- Add “orum” to the base
- **Virorum**

When you **Parse** a noun, you give the case, number, and gender.

For case and number you have to know the gender so that you use the right ending set.

So, you start with **Gender**. You learn this when you learn what each noun means. That is why I ask you to learn the gender when you learn the definitions of each noun.

Once you know the gender you simply look at the endings set and find which **Case** and **Number** that ending is.

For example:

- Parse remedia
 - Remedia comes from remedium
 - “um”=neuter
 - So I will use Second Declension Neuters set

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	um	a
Genitive	i	orum
Dative	o	is
Accusative	um	a
Ablative	ō	is

- An “a” ending can either be nominative plural or accusative plural
- My answer is
 - **Nominative, plural, neuter**
 - **Accusative, plural, neuter**