

## Translating and Word Order

English word order is typically:

Subject    Verb    Object

The dog chases the cat

Dog=subject

Verb=chases

Object=cat

If you change the word order in English, the meaning of the sentence changes.

- The dog the cat chases
- The cat the dog chases
- The cat chases the dog
- Chases the dog the cat

Some of those sentences make no sense, and one of them completely swaps the subject and direct object.

In Latin, word order is less important.

Why? Because Latin is an inflected language and has endings that tell us the function of words in a sentence.

However, there is a typical Latin word order that will help you if you get stuck when translating.

Subject    Objects    Verb

Marcus Claudiam amat

Marcus=Subject

Claudiam=object

Amat=Verb