LATIN GRAMMAR I
Wheelock 9: Demonstratives, Special -īus Adjs
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1. Demonstrative Words: Form

1.1. English, Latin, and other languages have words that 'point out' other people or things
with references to proximity to the speaker. We call these words *demonstratives* (derived
from dēmōnstrāre, 'to point out'). In English, our NEAR demonstratives are *this/these*, and
our FAR demonstratives are *that/those*.

1.2. The forms of the Latin demonstratives: Generally, demonstratives in Latin follow the
pattern of normal 2-1-2 adjectives like *magnus, magna, magnum*. However, in a handful of
places they depart from the normal pattern of case endings (they are shaded below to draw
attention to them). Note: In order to see those similarities and departures more clearly, the
normal 2-1-2 case endings are provided next to the demonstrative chart.

1.2.1. Near demonstratives: **hic** *this, these*. (Forms with final –c are due to a demonstrative
enclitic –ce that was added but dropped the final vowel –e.)

	2	1	2		2	1	2
Sing.	Masc	Fem	Neut	Gloss	Masc	Fem	Neut
Nom	hic	haec	hoc	this	–us	–a	–um
Gen	huius	huius	huius	of this	–ī	–ae	–ī
Dat	huic	huic	huic	to this	–ō	–ae	–ō
Acc	hunc	hanc	hoc	this	–um	–am	–um
Abl	hōc	hāc	hōc	by this	–ō	–ā	–ō
Pl.							
Nom	hī	hae	haec	these	–ī	–ae	–a
Gen	hōrum	hārum	hōrum	of these	–ōrum	–ārum	–ōrum
Dat	hīs	hīs	hīs	to these	–īs	–īs	–īs
Acc	hōs	hās	haec	these	–ōs	–ās	–a
Abl	hīs	hīs	hīs	by these	–īs	–īs	–īs

Note: The forms hunc/hanc (Acc ms/fs) are really normal (trust me!) and should have been
hum/ham (see the normal case endings). BUT, when the final –c was added, the m
assimilated and became an n before the c: hum + c > hunc; ham + c > hanc.

1.2.2. Far demonstratives: **ille** *that, those* and **iste** *that, those (near you)*. Both of these sets are
far (with reference to the speaker, hence the rendering 'that/those'), but they differ from

each other in that **iste** is used for what pertains to the addressee (you, so *that of yours*), and **ille** is used for what pertains to 3ʳᵈ person entities (still far, but not pertaining to you or me).

	2	1	2		2	1	2
Sing.	**Masc**	**Fem**	**Neut**	**Gloss**	**Masc**	**Fem**	**Neut**
Nom	ille	illa	illud	that	–us	–a	–um
Gen	illīus	illīus	illīus	of that	–ī	–ae	–ī
Dat	illī	illī	illī	to that	–ō	–ae	–ō
Acc	illum	illam	illud	that	–um	–am	–um
Abl	illō	illā	illō	by that	–ō	–ā	–ō
Pl.							
Nom	illī	illae	illa	those	–ī	–ae	–a
Gen	illōrum	illārum	illōrum	of those	–ōrum	–ārum	–ōrum
Dat	illīs	illīs	illīs	to those	–īs	–īs	–īs
Acc	illōs	illās	illa	those	–ōs	–ās	–a
Abl	illīs	illīs	illīs	by those	–īs	–īs	–īs

	2	1	2		2	1	2
Sing.	**Masc**	**Fem**	**Neut**	**Gloss**	**Masc**	**Fem**	**Neut**
Nom	iste	ista	istud	that (of yours)	–us	–a	–um
Gen	istīus	istīus	istīus	of that	–ī	–ae	–ī
Dat	istī	istī	istī	to that	–ō	–ae	–ō
Acc	istum	istam	istud	that	–um	–am	–um
Abl	istō	istā	istō	by that	–ō	–ā	–ō
Pl.							
Nom	istī	istae	ista	those	–ī	–ae	–a
Gen	istōrum	istārum	istōrum	of those	–ōrum	–ārum	–ōrum
Dat	istīs	istīs	istīs	to those	–īs	–īs	–īs
Acc	istōs	istās	ista	those	–ōs	–ās	–a
Abl	istīs	istīs	istīs	by those	–īs	–īs	–īs

Let's now think about how demonstratives function.

2. Demonstrative Words: Function

2.1. The "Pronoun" function of Demonstratives:
2.1.1. Demonstrative words can function as either pronouns or adjectives. When the demonstrative functions as a pronoun, there is no noun that it accompanies and agrees with

in case/gender/number; it functions itself as a noun does (which, traditionally, is what a pronoun does—it stands in for a noun).

    <u>This</u> really stinks!   I love <u>those</u>, but <u>these</u> are unattractive.

2.1.2. When demonstratives function as pronouns, their gender and number is determined by their referent/antecedent (what they stand for). Their case is determined by their grammatical function within their clause. When translating a demonstrative pronoun, sometimes it will be useful to add an additional word to clarify the gender and number of the pronoun (since in English our demonstratives are not marked for gender).

    <u>Hoc</u> est corpus meum.   <u>Hic</u> est pater meus; amō <u>hunc</u>.
    <u>This</u> (thing) is my body.   <u>This</u> (man) is my father; I love <u>this</u> (man/one).

2.2. The "Adjective" function of the Demonstratives: Demonstrative words can also function as a kind of attributive adjective.
2.2.1. When the demonstrative functions as an adjective, then there will be an overt noun that it accompanies and agrees with in case/gender/number—just as we saw with normal attributive adjectives. Typically, the demonstrative adjective precedes the noun.

    <u>This</u> foot really stinks!   I love <u>those</u> toes, but <u>these</u> toes are unattractive.

    <u>Hoc</u> corpus est meum.   <u>Hic</u> pater amat <u>hunc</u> fīlium.
    <u>This</u> body is mine.   <u>This</u> father loves <u>this</u> son.

    Videō <u>istud</u> corpus.   <u>Illa</u> māter amat <u>illam</u> fīliam.
    I see <u>that</u> body (of yours).   <u>That</u> mother loves <u>that</u> daughter.

3. Special -īus Adjectives:

3.1. Nine adjectives in Latin have genitive sg (-īus) and dative sg (-ī) forms that diverge from regular 2-1-2 adjectives and instead follow the pattern of ille, illa, illud that we saw above. Elsewhere in the paradigm, these special -īus adjectives are normal and follow the 2-1-2 pattern of *magnus, magna, magnum*. The only exception to this regularity is that alius, alia, aliud ('another, other') also varies from the norm in Nom/Acc n s (aliud instead of *alium), and in borrowing the adjective alter, altera, alterum for the Gen s forms (so using alterīus instead of *alīus).

3.2. Below are the paradigms of two of the nine adjectives.

	sōlus, *alone, only*			alius, *other, another*			Normal Case Endings		
	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	1	2
Sing.	Masc	Fem	Neut	Masc	Fem	Neut	Masc	Fem	Neut
Nom	sōlus	sōla	sōlum	alius	alia	aliud	–us	–a	–um
Gen	sōlīus	sōlīus	sōlīus	alterīus	alterīus	alterīus	–ī	–ae	–ī
Dat	sōlī	sōlī	sōlī	aliī	aliī	aliī	–ō	–ae	–ō
Acc	sōlum	sōlam	sōlum	alium	aliam	aliud	–um	–am	–um
Abl	sōlō	sōlā	sōlō	aliō	aliā	aliō	–ō	–ā	–ō
Pl.									
Nom	sōlī	sōlae	sōla	aliī	aliae	alia	–ī	–ae	–a
Gen	sōlōrum	sōlārum	sōlōrum	aliōrum	aliārum	aliōrum	–ōrum	–ārum	–ōrum
Dat	sōlīs	sōlīs	sōlīs	aliīs	aliīs	aliīs	–īs	–īs	–īs
Acc	sōlōs	sōlās	sōla	aliōs	aliās	alia	–ōs	–ās	–a
Abl	sōlīs	sōlīs	sōlīs	aliīs	aliīs	aliīs	–īs	–īs	–īs

3.3. The list of the nine special –īus adjectives: Mnemonic help UNUS NAUTA

U	ūnus, –a, –um (gen. sg. ūnīus)	*one*
N	nūllus, –a, –um (gen. sg. nūllīus)	*no, none*
U	ūllus, –a, –um (gen. sg. ūllīus)	*any*
S	sōlus, –a, –um (gen. sg. sōlīus)	*alone, only*
N	neuter, neutra, neutrum (gen. sg. neutrīus)	*neither*
A	alius, –a, –ud (gen. sg. alterīus)	*another, other*
U	uter, utra, utrum (gen. sg. utrīus)	*either, which (of two)*
T	tōtus, –a, –um (gen. sg. tōtīus)	*whole, entire*
A	alter, altera, alterum (gen. sg. alterīus)	*the other (of two)*