

LATIN GRAMMAR

Wheelock 22: Fifth Declension, Abl of Place Where, Summary of Abl Uses

1. Fifth Declension

1.1. Today we reach the final declension pattern in Latin: the 5th declension. Here is a quick summary of the *typical gender* of nouns by declension pattern (as well as how the noun stems ends):

DECLENSION	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD	FOURTH	FIFTH
TYPICAL GENDER	Fem	Masc, Neut	All	Masc	Fem
STEM ENDING	-a	-o (weakens to -u)	Cons and -i	-u	-e

1.2. The stem-vowel -e occurs in all forms and is normally a long vowel (ē); in gen/dat sg it alternates between short and long -e depending on whether it is preceded by a consonant or a vowel (see below). In acc sg it's always short. These nouns are fem (except for **diēs** 'day').

Fifth Declension Nouns		Fifth Declension Case Endings (+ stem vowel)	
SING.	rēs <i>thing</i> F	diēs <i>day</i> M	F (M)
NOM	rēs	diēs	-ēs
GEN	reī	diēī	- ēī, - ēī
DAT	reī	diēī	- ēī, - ēī
ACC	rem	diem	-em
ABL	rē	diē	- ē
PL.			
NOM	rēs	diēs	-ēs
GEN	rērum	diērum	-ērum
DAT	rēbus	diēbus	-ēbus
ACC	rēs	diēs	-ēs
ABL	rēbus	diēbus	-ēbus

2. Ablatives of Place Where

2.1. **Ablative of Place Where:** These ablative expressions indicate the location where an action takes place (no motion toward the place: 'he swam *in the sea*' not 'he swam *to the sea*'). These appear as prepositional phrases (PPs) with the prepositions **in** *in/on* and **sub** *under* (with object in ablative case).

In magnā casā vīvunt.

They live in a large house.

Nāvis sub aquā fuit.

The ship was under water.

3. Summary of Ablative Uses: We have learned a number of ablative uses so far; some use a preposition (+ abl case object), and some occur with the noun in ablative case without a prep.

3.1. Ablatives with a Preposition: The ablative is used as a simple object of a preposition:

PREP	TYPE	EXX.	
cum	ACCOMPANI-MENT	Cum amīcō id scripsit.	<i>He wrote it with his friend.</i>
cum	MANNER	Cum cūrā id scripsit. Magnā cum cūrā id scripsit.	<i>He wrote it with care.</i> <i>He wrote it with great care.</i>
in and sub	PLACE WHERE	In urbe id scripsit.	<i>He wrote it in the city.</i>
ab, dē, ex	PLACE FROM WHICH	Ex urbe id mīsit.	<i>He sent it from the city.</i>
ab, dē, ex	SEPARATION	Ab urbe eōs prohibuit.	<i>He kept them from the city.</i>
ab	PERSONAL AGENT	Ab amīcō id scrīptum est.	<i>It was written by his friend.</i>
ex or dē + CARDINAL NUMERALS (Indicate a group of which some part is specified)	PARTITIVE/OF WHOLE	Trēs ex nāvibus discessērunt.	<i>Three of the ships departed.</i>

3.2. Ablatives without a Preposition: The ablative is used without a preposition to indicate the following:

TYPE	EXX.	
MEANS/INSTRUMENT:	Suā manū id scripsit.	<i>He wrote it with his own hand.</i>
MANNER (when an adjective is used)	Magnā cūrā id scripsit.	<i>He wrote it with great care.</i>
TIME WHEN/WITHIN WHICH	Eō tempore OR ūnā hōrā id scripsit.	<i>He wrote it at that time</i> <i>OR in one hour.</i>
SEPARATION, especially with ideas of freeing, lacking, depriving:	Metū eōs līberāvit.	<i>He freed them from fear.</i>