**Week Four of your Latin Boot Camp**

How did you do on last week’s assignment? Is it starting to come together for you yet?

This week we have two important subjects to cover.

**I. The first is learning to use the verb *is*.**

Let’s conjugate it in the present tense. This is an irregular verb, so memorize it.

The four principal parts of sum are **sūm,** *I am***, esse,** *to be***, fui,** *I have been*or*I was***, futurus,** *about to be*.

**Present Tense**

sū**m** *I am* sū′**mūs** *we are*

e**s** *you are* es′**tis** *you are*

es**t** *is,**he, she, it is* sū**nt** *are,**they are,*

*there is there are*

Do not be confused about using *is* as a helping verb, as in the sentence, *Toby is walking.*No, it stands alone and is not the helping verb that it is in English.

*Is* and *are* really are like equal signs. If you say, Paul is the pastor, you could reverse the order and say, The pastor is Paul. Just like 2 + 3 = 5 and 5 = 2 + 3. With the verbs *is* and *are*, you are making one thing equal to another.

More examples:

1. Judy *is* my friend. My friend *is* Judy.

2. James *is* the soccer coach. The soccer coach *is* James.

3. Moms *are* ladies. The ladies *are* mothers.

4. 3 = 2 + 1. 2 + 1 = 3.

In Latin, you already know that the subject is in the Nominative case. When the subject equals something, then that “something” is also in the nominative case.

Examples.

1. Puella est ancilla. The girl is a handmaiden. Both puella and ancilla are in the nominative case.

2. Ancilla est puella. The handmaiden is a girl. Both ancilla and puella are in the nominative case.

3. Flavia est puella. Flavia is a girl. Both Flavia and puella are in the nominative case.

4. Puella est Flavia. The girl is Flavia. Both are in the nominative case.

5. Poeta sunt propheta. The poets are prophets. Both poetae and prophetae are nominative.

6. Propheta sunt poeta. Prophets are poets. Both prophetae and poetae are nominative case.

When either **est** or **sunt** are the first words of a sentence, then you can often translate them as *there is* or *there are*.

Here are some:

1. Sunt raedae. There are carriages.

2. Est villa. There is a house.

3. Est tunica. There is a tunic.

4. Sunt tunicae. There are tunics.

Easy, isn’t it?

**II. Adjectives.** Adjectives describe a noun or a pronoun. Some are *big, little, great, happy, white, tall, red.* When you learn adjectives, you will learn three forms: masculine, feminine, and neuter forms. Since you have not yet learned the endings for masculine and neuter, we will concentrate on the feminine ones.

Vocabulary listings look like this:

**albus, alba, album**, *white*

**Albus** has “masculine” endings, and **album** has “neuter” endings. But we want feminine endings, which are the ones formed from **alba**. They are declined just like the nouns you have learned so far.

CASES SINGULAR PLURAL

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Nominative | alba | albae |
| Genitive | albae | albarum |
| Dative | albae | albīs |
| Accusative | albam | albas |
| Ablative | albā | albīs |

When you modify a noun, you put its adjective in the same case, number, and gender as the noun. Usually the adjective is written after the noun, but it may be placed before it.

A few are here.

1. **Raeda alba est in viā.**  *A white carriage is on the road.*

2. **Amamus albam villam.** *We like the white house.*

3. **Est alba tunica in feminā.**  *There is a white tunic on the woman.*

**III. Vocabulary of Adjectives.**

**āl′bus, āl′ba, āl′būm,** *white***āl′tūs, āl′ta, āl′tūm,** *high*, *deep, tall*

**amī′cūs, amī′ca, amī′cūm,** *friendly*   
**bō′nūs, bō′na, bō′nūm,** *good, kind*   
**māg′nūs, māg′na, māg′nūm,** *large*, *great, big*   
**nō′vūs, nō′va, nō′vūm,** *new*

*Can you think of any English words that come from these Latin words? How about magnify?*