**Declining Names**

* Names in Latin are declined like your everyday Latin nouns. The only tricky part about them is recognizing what Declension they belong to. The name will be in 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Declension. Once you do, simply follow the rules of declining for the Declension to which it belongs. Always check a Latin dictionary to see the vocabulary entry for any Latin name so that you know it’s declension.
* When you create names in your Latin compositions, think of if the name should be 1st Declension, 2nd Declension, or 3rd Declension. Females should be kept mostly in 1st Declension.

For example:

1. Your name is LaToya, then this will be 1st Declension.
2. Your name is Brian, then add a -us to its ending to make it *Brianus.* This name would be 2nd Declension.
3. Your name is Deondre. You can keep this as your Nominative and make the Genitive of your name as *Deondris.* This name would be 3rd Declension.

**First declension**

* Names which end in an “a”.

Example: Marcia

* + We assume because Marcia ends in an “a,” then it is a First Declension Latin name. A Latin name should only be declined in its singular form. Exception: If you have a name of a group of people, then, it will have the plural form. Thus, it would be declined as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Singular** | **Translation** |
| **Nominative** | Marcia | Marcia |
| **Genitive** | Marciae | of Marcia |
| **Dative** | Marciae | to/for Marcia |
| **Accusative** | Marciam | Marcia |
| **Ablative** | Marcia | By/with Marcia |
| **Vocative** | Marcia | Marcia! |

* A few men’s names are first declension nouns. For example: *Thomas, -e*(m.) Thomas. For Example:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Singular** | **Translation** |
| **Nominative** | Thomas | Thomas |
| **Genitive** | Thome | of Thomas |
| **Dative** | Thome | to/for Thomas |
| **Accusative** | Thomam | Thomas |
| **Ablative** | Thoma | by/with Thomas |
| **Vocative** | Thoma | Thomas! |

**Second declension**

* Names which end with -us, er, -ir
* Example: Pyrrhus

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Singular** | **Translation** |
| **Nominative** | Pyrrhus | Pyrrhus |
| **Genitive** | Pyrrhi | of Pyrrhus |
| **Dative** | Pyrrho | to/for Pyrrhus |
| **Accusative** | Pyrrhum | Pyrrhus |
| **Ablative** | Pyrrho | by/with Pyrrhus |
| **Vocative** | Pyrrhe | Pyrrhus! |

**Poeni, Poenorum m. (Phoenicians/Carthaginians) – a plural Name**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Plural** | **Translation** |
| **Nominative** | Poeni | Phoenicians |
| **Genitive** | Poenorum | of the Phoenicians |
| **Dative** | Poenis | to/for the Phoenicians |
| **Accusative** | Poenos | Phoenicians |
| **Ablative** | Poenis | by/with the Phoenicians |
| **Vocative** | Poeni | Phoenicians! |

* Some second declension male names decline like *magister*.
* *Example: Alexander, Alexandri*(m.) Alexander

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Singular** | **Translation** |
| **Nominative** | Alexander | Alexander |
| **Genitive** | Alexandri | of Alexander |
| **Dative** | Alexandro | to/for Alexander |
| **Accusative** | Alexandrum | Alexander |
| **Ablative** | Alexandro | by/with Alexander |
| **Vocative** | Alexander | Alexander! |

**Third declension**

* This declension could have a variety of forms, which makes this the catch-all declension for Latin names.
* Example: Hannibal, Hannibalis m.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Singular** | **Translation** |
| **Nominative** | Hannibal | Hannibal |
| **Genitive** | Hannibalis | of Hannibal |
| **Dative** | Hannibali | to/for Hannibal |
| **Accusative** | Hannibalem | Hannibal |
| **Ablative** | Hannibale | by/with Hannibal |
| **Vocative** | Hannibal | Hannibal! |

* Example: Deondre

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Singular** | **Translation** |
| **Nominative** | Deondre | Deondre |
| **Genitive** | Deondris | of Deondre |
| **Dative** | Deondri | to/for Deondre |
| **Accusative** | Deondrem | Deondre |
| **Ablative** | Deondre | by/with Deondre |
| **Vocative** | Deondre | Deondre! |

**Declining Greek Names in Latin**

* There are many Greek names which have to be declined in Latin. Thus, here are the rules for such.

**1st Declension**

* Greek nouns that end in **-e** are feminine
* Greek nouns that end in -**as** and -**es** are masculine
* In the plural, decline them like regular Latin nouns of the first declension.

Example: Aeneas m.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Singular** | **Translation** |
| **Nominative** | Anchises | Anchises |
| **Genitive** | Anchisae | of Anchises |
| **Dative** | Anchisae | to/for Anchises |
| **Accusative** | Anchisam (or Anchisen) | Anchises |
| **Ablative** | Anchisa (or Anchise) | by/with Anchises |
| **Vocative** | Anchisa (or Anchise) | Anchises! |

**2nd Declension**

* Greek nouns end in -**os** are masculine and feminine
* Greek nouns end in -**on** are neuter
* In the plural, decline them like regular Latin nouns of the first declension.
* Example: Athos m.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Singular** | **Translation** |
| **Nominative** | Athos | Athens |
| **Genitive** | Athos (or Athonis) | of Athens |
| **Dative** | Atho | to/for Athens |
| **Accusative** | Athon (or Athonem) | Athens |
| **Ablative** | Atho (or Athone) | by/with Athens |
| **Vocative** | Athos | Athens! |

* Example: Ilion n.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Singular** | **Translation** |
| **Nominative** | Ilion (or Ilium) | Troy |
| **Genitive** | Iliii | Of Troy |
| **Dative** | Ilio | To/for Troy |
| **Accusative** | Ilion (or Ilium) | Troy |
| **Ablative** | Ilio | By/with Troy |
| **Vocative** | Ilion (or Ilium) | Troy! |

**3rd Declension**

* Can have a variety of Nominative singular endings
* End in -es in the nominative plural and -as in the accusative plural.
* Many names in -es have a genitive in -i
* Many pass over into the first declension in the plural
* Example: Paris, Paridis m.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Singular** | **Translation** |
| **Nominative** | Paris | Paris |
| **Genitive** | Paridis | of Paris |
| **Dative** | Paridi | to/for Paris |
| **Accusative** | Paridem (or Paridim or Paridin) | Paris |
| **Ablative** | Paride (or Pari) | by/with Paris |
| **Vocative** | Pari | Paris! |

* Example: Dido, Didonis f.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Singular** | **Translation** |
| **Nominative** | Dido | Dido |
| **Genitive** | Didonis (or Didus) | Of Dido |
| **Dative** | Didoni (or Dido) | To/for Dido |
| **Accusative** | Didonem (or Dido) | Dido |
| **Ablative** | Didone (or Didono) | By/with Dido |
| **Vocative** | Dido | Dido! |