## Declensions

- o There are 5 declensions
- To determine a noun's declension, look at the noun's genitive singular ending (2<sup>nd</sup> word in the dictionary entry.
  - $1^{st}$  Declension = ae
  - $2^{\text{nd}}$  Declension =  $\bar{1}$
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Declension = is
  - $4^{th}$  Declension =  $\bar{u}s$
  - $5^{th}$  Declension =  $e\overline{i}$

## Cases

- o There are 5 cases. You must know what they are and how they are used.
  - Nominative = Subject
  - Genitive = Possession, the preposition "of", 's
  - Dative = Indirect Object, the prepositions "to" and "for" (think of "a date for two")
  - Accusative = Direct Object, after many prepositions
  - Ablative = object of some prepositions, used to show "means", "manner", "agent", "time when", "place in which", "place from which", and many more (if in doubt try adding "with", "by", "in" when there is no preposition)

## Number

o This can be singular or plural

## Gender

- This can be masculine, feminine, or neuter
- o Almost all nouns can only have 1 gender
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Declension
    - Almost always feminine
    - nauta, agricola, poēta, āthlēta, pīrāta = masculine
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Declension
    - Can be either masculine or neuter
    - Look at the nominative singular form to determine gender
      - o Words which end in **us** or **r** are masculine
      - o Words which end in **um** are neuter
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Declension
    - Can be masculine, feminine, or neuter
    - Sometimes the gender is logical
    - Often you will need to look up the word's gender
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Declension
    - Most words are masculine or neuter
    - domus, manus = feminine (there are 9 other nouns but they are not that common)

- Look at the nominative singular form to determine gender
  - o Words which end in **us** are masculine
  - O Words which end in **u** are neuter (there are only 6 neuter nouns)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Declension
  - Most words are feminine
  - dies = masculine (but it can be feminine)
  - diēs, rēs = only 5<sup>th</sup> declension words which are used in all cases in the singular and plural