CHAPTER

WHAT IS A NOUN?

A **NOUN** is a word that can be the name of a person, animal, place, thing, event or idea.

- a person — girl, teacher, god, Minerva, Jupiter
- an animal — bull, Cerberus, Minotaur
- a place — island, city, state, Rome, Italy
- a thing — map, sea, picture, star, lamp
- an event or activity — marriage, divorce, birth, death, robbery the Olympics, shopping, rest, growth
- an idea or concept — democracy, humor, hatred, peace time, love, justice, jealousy, poverty

As you can see, a noun is not only a word that names something that is tangible, i.e., that you can touch, such as a *map* and a *bull,* but it can also be the name of things that are abstract, i.e., that you cannot touch, such as *peace, honor* and *love.*

A noun that does not state the name of a specific person, place, thing, etc. is called a **COMMON NOUN.** A common noun does not begin with a capital letter, unless it is the first word of a sentence. All the nouns above that are not capitalized are common nouns.

A noun that is the name of a specific person, place, thing, etc. is called a **PROPER NOUN.** A proper noun always begins with a capital letter. All the nouns in the list above that are capitalized are proper nouns.

The *king* of *gods* and *men* was *Jupiter.*

common noun	common noun	common noun	proper noun

A noun that is made up of two words is called a **COMPOUND NOUN.** A compound noun can be composed of two common nouns, such as *ice cream.*

IN ENGLISH

To help you learn to recognize nouns, look at the following paragraph where the nouns are in *italics.*

The *Romans,* at the *time* of the *Empire,* imported *goods* from *countries* around the *Mediterranean Sea.*

Fancy inlaid *furniture* manufactured in *Asia Minor* decorated the *rooms* of the wealthy *Romans,* while Greek *statues* and finely painted *vases* decorated the *garden* and *atrium. Spices* for *foods* and *medicines* made up a great *market* in *Rome,* and *marble* in various *colors* was imported to decorate the *villas* and *temples.* The unfavorable *balance* of *trade* was so serious under the *Emperor Vespasian* that he set up a special *investigation* to find out why *Rome* was sending out so much *money* for *imports.*

IN LATIN

Nouns are identified and function in the same way as in English.

TERMS USED TO TALK ABOUT NOUNS

- **GENDER** — In Latin, a noun has a gender; that is, it can be classified according to whether it is masculine, feminine, or neuter (see *What is Meant by Gender?*, p. 10).
- **NUMBER** — A noun has a number; that is, it can be identified according to whether it is singular or plural (see *What is Meant by Number?*, p. 13).
- **FUNCTION** — A noun can have a variety of functions in a sentence; that is, it can be the subject of the sentence (see *What is a Subject?*, p. 30) or an object (see *What are Objects?*, p. 36).
- **CASE** — In Latin, a noun can have a variety of forms depending on its function in the sentence (see *What is Meant by Case?*, p. 22).

✎ REVIEW

Circle the nouns in the following sentences.

1. Diana was the goddess of the moon.
2. Phoebus Apollo, her twin brother, was the god of the sun.
3. Mars was the god of war.
4. Juno was goddess of marriage and childbirth.
5. These deities lived on Mt. Olympus, and thus they were called the Olympians.

CHAPTER

5

WHAT ARE ARTICLES?

An **ARTICLE** is a word placed before a noun to show whether the noun refers to a specific person, animal, place, thing, event, or idea, or whether it refers to an unspecified person, thing, or idea.

I saw *the* boy you spoke about.
a specific boy

I saw *a* boy in the street.
not a specific boy

IN ENGLISH

In English there are two types of articles, **DEFINITE ARTICLES** and **INDEFINITE ARTICLES**.

The definite article *the* is placed before a noun which refers to one or more specific persons, places, animals, things, or ideas.

I read *the* book you recommended.
a specific book

John likes *the* students in his class.
specific persons

The indefinite article *a* or *an* is placed before a noun which does not refer to a specific person, place, animal, thing, or idea (*a* before a noun starting with a consonant, *an* before a noun starting with a vowel).

I saw *a* boy in the house.
not a specific boy

I ate *an* apple.
not a specific apple

IN LATIN

There are no articles. When translating a Latin sentence into English, your knowledge of English and the meaning of the sentence will help you supply the correct article, or you may omit the article entirely.

CHAPTER

WHAT IS A PRONOUN?

A **PRONOUN** is a word used in place of one or more nouns. It may stand, therefore, for a person, animal, place, thing, event, or idea.

For instance, instead of repeating the proper noun "Midas" in the following sentences, it is more desirable to use a pronoun in the second part of the sentence.

Midas likes gold, and Midas turns everything to gold.
Midas likes gold, and *he* turns everything to gold.
pronoun

A pronoun can only be used to refer to someone (or something) that has already been mentioned. The word that the pronoun replaces or refers to is called the **ANTECEDENT** of the pronoun. In the example above, the pronoun *he* refers to the proper noun *Midas*. *Midas* is the antecedent of the pronoun *he*.

There are different types of pronouns, each serving a different function and following different rules. Listed below are the more important types and the chapters in which they are discussed.

PERSONAL PRONOUNS — These pronouns replace nouns referring to persons or things that have been previously mentioned. A different set of pronouns is often used depending on the pronoun's function in the sentence.

- subject pronouns (see pp. 30, 41-4)

  I go; *they* read; *he* runs; *she* sings.

- direct object pronouns (see pp. 36-7, 44-6)

  Midas loves *it*. Pan saw *her*. Apollo killed *them*.

- indirect object pronouns (see pp. 37, 44-6)

  The goddess gave *him* advice. Send *them* help. Give *her* gifts.

- object of preposition pronouns (pp. 38-9, 44-6)

  Come with *me*. This gift is for *them*. The Lord be with *you*.

REFLEXIVE PRONOUNS — These pronouns refer back to the subject of the sentence (see pp. 151-2).

He saw *himself* in the water. They freed *themselves* from danger.

INTERROGATIVE PRONOUNS — These pronouns are used to ask questions (see pp. 143-8).

Who is coming? *What* did the god say? *Whom* did you see? 40

DEMONSTRATIVE PRONOUNS — These pronouns are used to point out persons or things (see pp. 154-5).

This (one) is beautiful. *That (one)* is ugly.
These can be planted now. *Those* are ruined.

POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS — These pronouns are used to show possession or ownership (see pp. 149-50).

Whose book is that? *Mine. Yours* is on the table.

RELATIVE PRONOUNS — These pronouns are used to introduce relative subordinate clauses (see pp. 156-60). 50

The god *who* came is powerful.
The goddess *whom* you worship listens to your prayers.

INDEFINITE PRONOUNS — These pronouns are used to refer to unidentified persons or things.

One should not do that. *Something* is wrong.

Since Latin indefinite pronouns correspond in usage to their English equivalents, there is no special section devoted to them. 60

IN ENGLISH

Each type of pronoun follows a different set of rules.

IN LATIN

As in English, each type of pronoun follows a different set of rules. Latin pronouns are different from English pronouns in that they always reflect case, gender, and number. The rules of agreement are discussed in the sections devoted to the various types of pronouns.

CHAPTER

WHAT IS A PREPOSITION?

A **PREPOSITION** is a word that shows the relationship of one word (a noun or pronoun) to another word in the sentence. Prepositions may indicate location, direction, time, manner, or agent.

Paul has an appointment *after* school.
preposition

IN ENGLISH

The noun or pronoun following the preposition is called the **OBJECT OF THE PREPOSITION**. The preposition plus its object form a **PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE**. Prepositions are used to introduce a variety of information:

- to show location

prepositional phrase
Danae was imprisoned ***in a dungeon.***
preposition object of preposition

- to show direction

Jupiter came ***to her*** in a shower of gold.

- to show time

Perseus lived ***for many years*** on the island.

- to show manner

Danae reacted ***with disgust.***

- to show means

Perseus killed Medusa ***with a sword.***

- to show agent

Perseus was given winged sandals ***by the god Mercury.***

To help you recognize prepositional phrases, here is a story where the prepositional phrases are in *italics* and the preposition which introduces each phrase is in ***boldface***.

Because it was foretold that his grandson would kill him, the king ***of Argos*** imprisoned his daughter Danae ***in a dungeon*** so that she would not bear a child. Jupiter, the king ***of the gods***, fell ***in love with her*** and came ***to her in her prison in a shower of gold***. She bore

the hero Perseus, but both mother and child were set adrift ***in a chest on*** *water*. The chest drifted ***to an island*** where the two were rescued and taken ***to the king***. That king fell ***in love with*** *Danae* and wanted to marry her. When grown-up Perseus objected, the king sent him to bring back the head ***of*** *Medusa*. Eventually Perseus did kill his grandfather ***by*** *accident*.

IN LATIN

Prepositions themselves never change form. However, for each preposition, you must learn if it takes an object in the accusative or ablative case.

The chest was carried ***toward an island.***
Arca **ad īnsulam** portāta est.
acc. fem. sing.
ad *(toward)* always requires an accusative object

The chest was found ***by a fisherman.***
Arca **ā piscātōre** inventa est.
abl. masc. sing.
ā or **ab** *(by)* requires an ablative object (**ā** before a word beginning with a consonant, **ab** before a word beginning with a vowel)

Some prepositions can take either the accusative or the ablative depending on the way the preposition is used. The preposition **in** *(in, on)*, for instance, is followed by the accusative when motion is indicated by the verb and the ablative when there is no motion.

The chest was thrown ***into the water.***
Arca **in aquam** iacta est.
acc. fem. sing.
motion in the verb *thrown*

Danae remained ***on the island.***
Danaē **in īnsulā** mānsit.
abl. fem. sing.
no motion in the verb *remained*

N. B. When learning Latin prepositions, there are several important rules to remember.

1. Do not assume that the same preposition is used in Latin as in English, or even that one is used at all (see pp. 39-40). The Latin case system makes many prepositions which must be used in English unnecessary in Latin (see *What is Meant by Case?*, p. 22).

- *of* (possessive) → genitive (no preposition, see p. 24)

  *The mother **of the boy** is here.*
  Mater **puerī** adest.

- *with* (by means of) → ablative (no preposition, see p. 91)

  *Perseus killed Medusa **with a sword**.*
  Perseus **gladiō** Medūsam necāvit.

- *on, at* (location) → locative (no preposition, see p. 25)

  *They live **at home**.*
  Domī habitant.

2. In English, be sure to distinguish between prepositional phrases introduced by *to* indicating the indirect object and *to* indicating direction toward a location.

- *to* indicating an indirect object → dative

  The action of the verb is done *to* or *for* someone or something. The prepositional phrase answers the question *to what?* or *to whom?* (see p. 37).

  *He gave a theater **to the city**.*
  *He gave **the city** a theater.*
  He gave the theater *to what*? To the city.
  The city is the indirect object.
  Urbī theātrum dōnāvit.
  |
  indirect object → dat. fem. sing.

- *to* indicating direction toward a location → **ad** + accusative

  The preposition *to* is used in a phrase of direction towards a location. It answers the question *to where?*

  *He was walking **to the city**.*
  He was walking *to where*? To the city.
  The city is the object of the preposition *to*. **Ad** *(to)* is followed by the location or destination in the accusative case.
  Ad urbem ambulābat.
  |
  object of preposition **ad** → acc. fem. sing.

3. In an English sentence or question, remember to restructure dangling prepositions so that you can find the preposition's object and put it in its proper case (see *Dangling prepositions*, pp. 144-5).

   Who are you giving the book *to*?
   RESTRUCTURED: *To whom* are you giving the book?

   Who are you going to play *with*?
   RESTRUCTURED: *With whom* are you going to play?

REVIEW

Underline the prepositional phrases in the sentences below.

- Indicate what each prepositional phrase would be in Latin: a prepositional phrase (PP), dative indirect object (IO), or a genitive case showing possession (G).

1. Mercury gave winged sandals to Perseus. PP IO G
2. Perseus flew to Gorgon country. PP IO G
3. Perseus cut off the head of Medusa. PP IO G
4. Perseus returned with the Gorgon head. PP IO G
5. Perseus gave the head to the king. PP IO G
6. Perseus freed Danae from the power PP IO G
   of the evil king. PP IO G

CHAPTER

14

WHAT IS A VERB?

1 A **VERB** is a word that expresses the "action" of the sentence. "Action" is used in the broadest sense, not necessarily physical action.

Let us look at different types of words that are verbs:

- a physical activity — to run, to hit, to talk, to walk
- a mental activity — to hope, to believe, to imagine, to dream, to think
- a state or condition — to be, to feel, to have, to sleep

10 Many verbs, however, do not fall neatly into one of the above three categories. They are verbs, nevertheless, because they represent the "action" of the sentence.

The book *costs* only $5.00.
The students *seem* tired.

The verb is the most important word in a sentence. You usually cannot write a **COMPLETE SENTENCE**, that is, express a complete thought, without a verb.

It is important to identify verbs because the function of the other words in a sentence often depends on their rela-
20 tionship to the verb. For instance, the subject of a sentence is the word doing the action of the verb, and the object is the word receiving the action of the verb (see *What is a Subject?*, p. 30, and *What are Objects?*, p. 36).

IN ENGLISH

To help you learn to recognize verbs, look at the paragraph below where the verbs are in *italics*. Some verbs are single words, and some are verb phrases, that is, a group of words that make up a single verb idea.

30 The myth about Jupiter who *came* to earth in the form of a human being *is* familiar to most people. Jupiter, king of the gods, *tested* the hospitality of the people in a certain village. He *had taken* his son Mercury with him, and when the two *had entered* the village and *had sought* refuge for the night in many homes, every home *was closed* to them. The villagers *stoned* the strangers and *set* their dogs on them. Only the old Philemon and his wife Baucis *welcomed* the strangers in their humble cottage. Although they

thought that the strangers *were* poor wanderers, they *set* their best table for them. The gods *thanked* the old couple. Jupiter *transformed* their cottage into a temple and *made* Philemon and Baucis custodians. At their death they *were* both *turned* into trees. The trees still *stand* on either side of the entrance to the temple.

There are two types of verbs depending on whether or not the verb can take a direct object.

- a **TRANSITIVE VERB** is a verb which takes a direct object. It is indicated in the dictionary by the abbreviation *v.t. (verb transitive)*.

  The old couple *welcomed* the strangers.
  v.t. direct object

- an **INTRANSITIVE VERB** is a verb that does not take a direct object. It is indicated in the dictionary by the abbreviation *v.i. (verb intransitive)*.

  The trees still *stand* on either side of the entrance.
  v.i. (no direct object)

Many verbs can be used both transitively and intransitively, depending on whether or not they have a direct object in the sentence.

The gods *entered* the house.
v.t. direct object

The gods *entered* and all stood amazed.
v.i. (no direct object)

IN LATIN

As in English, a verb is a word that shows physical action, a mental activity, or a state or condition.

TERMS TO TALK ABOUT VERBS

- **INFINITIVE OR DICTIONARY FORM** — The verb form that is the name of the verb is called an infinitive: *to eat, to sleep, to drink* (see *What is the Infinitive?*, p. 53). In the English dictionary a verb is listed without the "to": *eat, sleep, drink*.
- **CONJUGATION** — A verb is conjugated or changes in form to agree with its subject: *I do, he does* (see *What is a Verb Conjugation?*, p. 56).
- **TENSE** — A verb indicates tense, that is, the time (present, past, or future) of the action: *I am, I was, I will be* (see *What is Meant by Tense?*, p. 61).

- **MOOD** — A verb shows mood, that is the speaker's attitude toward what he or she is saying (see *What is Meant by Mood?*, p. 93).
- **VOICE** — A verb shows voice, that is, the relation between the subject and the action of the verb (see *What is Meant by Active and Passive Voice?*, p. 89).
- **PARTICIPLE** — A verb may be used to form a participle: *writing, written; singing, sung* (see *What is a Participle?*, p. 78).
- 90 **TRANSITIVE OR INTRANSITIVE** — A verb can be classified as transitive or intransitive depending on whether or not the verb can take a direct object (see p. 49).

REVIEW

Underline the verbs or verb phrases in the following sentences.

- Circle whether the verb is transitive (V.T.) or intransitive (V.I.)

1. Niobe praises her children. V.T. V.I.
2. Juno is watching her husband. V.T. V.I.
3. Daphne was running fast. V.T. V.I.
4. Jupiter loved many females. V.T. V.I.
5. Diana kills all of Niobe's children. V.T. V.I.

CHAPTER

43

WHAT IS AN ADVERB?

An **ADVERB** is a word that describes a verb, an adjective, or another adverb. Adverbs indicate manner, quantity, intensity, time, or place.

Theseus fights *well.*
verb adverb

The labyrinth was *very* complicated.
adverb adjective

Ariadne fell in love *too easily.*
adverb adverb

IN ENGLISH

There are different types of adverbs:

- **ADVERBS OF MANNER** answer the question *how.* These are the most common adverbs, and they are easy to recognize because they often end with *-ly.*

  Theseus escaped *cleverly.*

  Cleverly describes the verb *escaped;* it tells how Theseus escaped.

- **ADVERBS OF QUANTITY, INTENSITY** answer the question *how much.*

  Theseus feared *greatly.*

- **ADVERBS OF TIME** answer the question *when.*

  Theseus will come *soon.*

- **ADVERBS OF PLACE** answer the question *where.*

  The ship landed *there.*

Some words can function as an adverb or an adjective.

Theseus ran *fast.* — adverb, modifies verb *ran*

Theseus escaped in a *fast* ship. — adjective, modifies noun *ship*

IN LATIN

Latin adverbs are **UNINFLECTED**; that is, they never change form. Some adverbs are formed from the adjective stem + the ending **-iter**, **-ē** or **-e** to indicate that the word is an adverb. Many adverbs, however, are different from their adjective counterparts, and you will have to learn them as vocabulary.

Just like adjectives, adverbs can have degrees of comparison: positive, comparative, and superlative. The meaning and formation of these degrees of comparison are very similar to the meaning and the formation of the comparative of adjectives (see *What is Meant by Comparison of Adjectives?*, p. 127); however, since adverbs do not change form, there is only one form for each degree. The most common adverbs have irregular comparisons similar to those of the adjectives which have irregular comparisons.

ADJECTIVE	bonus, -a, -um *good*	melior, melius *better*	optimus, -a, -um *best*
ADVERB	bene *well*	melius *better*	optimē *very well*

N.B. In English, some adverbs are identical in form with the corresponding adjective. It is important that you differentiate between the two parts of speech so that you will know which Latin form to use: the uninflected adverb or the adjective which agrees in case, gender, and number with the noun it modifies.

*Theseus ran **fast**.*	*Theseus escaped in a **fast** ship.*
Thēseus **celeriter** cucurrit.	Thēseus nāve **celerī** effūgit.
uninflected adverb modifies verb **cucurrit** *(ran)*	adjective fem. abl. sing. modifies noun **nāve** (*ship*)

REVIEW

I. Circle the adverbs in the sentences below.

- Draw an arrow from the adverb to the word it modifies.
- Circle the part of speech the adverb modifies: verb (V), adjective (ADJ), adverb (ADV).

1. Theseus fought bravely. V ADJ ADV
2. Ariadne loved him well, but not wisely. V ADJ ADV
   V ADJ ADV
3. Theseus was too cruel to her. V ADJ ADV
4. He abandoned her very carelessly. V ADJ ADV
   V ADJ ADV

II. Circle whether the word in *italics* is an adjective (ADJ) or an adverb (ADV).

1. This is a *hard* surface. ADJ ADV
2. He worked very *hard*. ADJ ADV
3. You have *hardly* touched your food. ADJ ADV