

CHAPTER 2
ROMAN HEROES



CW Chapter 2: Introduction

Heroes



FIGURE 2.1 The Farnese Hercules

This statue is a 3rd century AD Roman copy of a 4th century BC Greek bronze original and is yet another example of the Greek influence on Roman religion and culture. Sculptors of the 4th century BC liked to humanise gods and heroes: notice how tired Hercules looks after his labours.

The Latin verb *laboravi* means *I worked*. What are *labours*?

In **Greek myths**, the gods were often interested in the things that people did. **People who were special enough to capture the gods’ attention were thought of as heroes**. You may already know some of the stories told about Greek heroes who went on incredible quests and faced strange monsters. We know that the Romans also enjoyed stories about the heroes from Greek mythology. Many of these stories were re-told by Roman writers such as Ovid and Livy, and archaeologists digging in Roman ruins have found statues and paintings relating to Greek heroes like Perseus, who cut off the head of the snake-haired Medusa, and Theseus, who killed the Minotaur in the labyrinth.

The Romans also had their own heroes. **To the Romans, a hero was someone who did something extraordinary, usually for the sake of Rome**. While stories of Greek heroes tell of fantastic journeys and fearsome creatures, stories of Roman heroes tend to focus on the history of Rome. Greek heroes were often seen as semi-divine, but most of the heroes of Rome were men and women who showed qualities that were particularly important to the Romans, such as **excellence in fighting, bravery, endurance** and, most importantly, **commitment to Rome**.

Hercules and Cacus

Hercules was a Greek hero who was famous for the twelve remarkable displays of strength and bravery which he had to complete as a punishment for killing his own wife and children. He played an important part too, however, in stories of Rome’s history. In Rome’s most famous epic poem, the *Aeneid*, the 1st century BC Roman poet Virgil includes a section of the Hercules story which highlights the connection between Hercules and Rome.

For the tenth of Hercules’ labours, he had to travel to the ends of the earth to steal cattle that belonged to a three-headed giant, Geryon. **When Hercules was on his way back through Italy with the cattle, he stopped to let them graze and, while they were grazing, he fell asleep**. Although the place he chose was at that time a field of fresh grass, **it would one day be part of the city of Rome**.

Hercules did not know that a **fire-breathing giant named Cacus** lived in a cave nearby. Cacus lived on human flesh and nailed the heads of his victims to the door of his cave. While Hercules was asleep, Cacus stole some of the cattle. **When Hercules woke up, the remaining cows were mooing, calling to those who had been stolen**. Hercules heard an answering ‘moo’ coming from the stolen cattle in Cacus’ cave.

Hercules charged towards the cave: he found that Cacus had blocked the entrance with a huge rock. Enraged, Hercules began to tear away at the top of the mountain to reach Cacus. Cacus responded by breathing fire and smoke. Eventually, **Hercules strangled Cacus** with so much strength that Cacus’ eyes popped right out of his head.

The local people were so grateful that they set up an altar to Hercules as if he were a god. The area where Hercules had grazed his cattle became the **Forum Boarium**, the large open public space which included, among other things, the cattle market of Rome. In the 2nd century BC a round temple dedicated to Hercules was built there.

Hercules was a hero because of his incredible strength. He used that strength to perform tasks no one else could do.

forum is the Latin word for *market place*

Aeneas

Though his name may be less familiar to us than heroes like Hercules, one of the greatest Roman heroes was Aeneas. The Romans believed that **Aeneas was the founding father of the Roman race**; his story is told by the poet Virgil and the historian Livy.

Aeneas was the son of a mortal man and the goddess Venus. He was brought up in the city of Troy and fought in the **Trojan War**. Aeneas fought bravely as Troy was falling around him, but the gods commanded him to flee the city. The gods told Aeneas of a prophecy that one day his descendants would become the citizens of new and powerful city. The name of this city would be Rome.

As we shall see in Exercise 2.5, **Aeneas endured a long and difficult journey from Troy to Italy**. The goddess Juno made things very difficult for him. Juno was angry with Aeneas because she had heard another prophecy that the future Romans would one day destroy her favourite city of Carthage in north Africa. The story of his travels, as told by Virgil, describes how terribly Aeneas suffered. Aeneas lost his homeland, his wife and his father and he had to make many personal sacrifices. When he fell in love with Dido, Queen of Carthage, Aeneas had to leave her and continue his journey because it was his destiny to settle in Italy.

When Aeneas finally arrived in Italy, he was at first welcomed by the local king, **Latinus**. There had been a prophecy that Latinus’ only child, his daughter **Lavinia**, would marry someone from another land. Latinus decided that Aeneas must be the one destined to marry his daughter. Unfortunately, **Turnus**, son of a neighbouring king, was also determined to marry Lavinia. This meant **war**. Aeneas, who had already suffered so much and escaped from war in Troy, had to lead his men into battle again. After much blood had been spilled, Aeneas and Turnus fought against each other in single combat. Aeneas killed Turnus and married Lavinia. Many years later, **Aeneas’ descendants went on to found the city of Rome** and to build a great empire.



FIGURE 2.2 Wounded Aeneas

This Roman fresco from the town of Pompeii dates from the 1st century AD. It is probably based on Virgil’s account of the battles Aeneas had to fight in Italy. Here Aeneas stands with his wounded leg slightly bent, leaning against a spear. He gazes towards his mother Venus, who brings him medicinal plants. At the right hand side of the fresco, Aeneas’ son Ascanius is crying. On the left hand side a doctor, with a long beard and a tunic, tries to remove an arrow from Aeneas’ leg. The soldiers behind them indicate that the battle is not yet over and Aeneas will be called on to fight again.

Aeneas was a hero to the Romans because he put **duty to Rome and obedience to the gods** first, in spite of his personal feelings. He did his duty even when he lost things that were important to him. The Romans thought this was so important a virtue that they had a special label for it: *pietas*.

Romulus and Remus

Although Aeneas was considered to be the original father of the Roman people, the foundation of the city of Rome itself was traced back to another hero, **Romulus**. Many Roman authors, including Livy and Ovid, told the story of Romulus and Remus, who were the twin sons of the princess Rhea Silvia and the god Mars. In one version of this story, an Italian king feared that one day his great-nephews Romulus and Remus would take his throne. He ordered the boys to be left in a basket by the river Tiber to die. Remarkably, a she-wolf found the baby boys and saved them.

The she-wolf cared for Romulus and Remus until a shepherd found the twins and raised them as his own. When they were grown up, the brothers wanted to create their own city. The twins chose the place where Rome is located today, but each brother wanted to place the city on a different hill. Remus thought the city should be on the Aventine Hill. Romulus preferred the Palatine Hill and began building a wall around it. However, Remus made fun of Romulus' unfinished wall, jumping over it and laughing to show Romulus how easy it was to cross. **This made Romulus angry and he killed Remus.** Romulus continued to build his city and later Romans believed that he officially founded it in 753 BC. **Romulus made himself king and named the city Rome after himself.**

The Latin noun *locus* means *place*. Explain the meaning of *located*.



FIGURE 2.3 Capitoline Wolf
This famous bronze statue shows the she-wolf nursing Romulus and Remus. It is often shown as a symbol of Classical Rome, but it is not the work of Roman artists. Some experts believe that the wolf was created in the 5th century BC by the Etruscans, a neighbouring Italian tribe who were conquered by the Romans, and that the twins were added in the 15th century. Other experts suggest that the wolf itself was created in the 13th century.

Romulus was a hero because he was truly exceptional: he was the son of a god and the founder of a remarkably successful city. He killed his own brother, but this did not diminish his status as a hero. Unlike today, **a hero for the Romans did not need to be someone morally good** or without great flaws. A hero simply had to be an extraordinary Roman.

Heroes of the early Roman Republic

Hercules, Aeneas and Romulus were all heroes to the Romans in a way that the ancient Greeks would have understood. Hercules, Aeneas and Romulus each had one parent who was a god. Each of these heroes accomplished great deeds or conquered monsters. However the Romans also told stories of Roman heroes who were **everyday people who did exceptional things**. Three of these heroes were **Horatius Cocles, Mucius Scaevola** and **Cloelia**, all of whom did remarkable things in the wars that took place against Rome's Etruscan neighbours in the early history of the Roman Republic.

As explained on p2, in 509 BC Rome went through a major political revolution. **The Romans expelled the last of their kings, Tarquinius Superbus**, in order to set up a new system of government in which power was shared between two elected leaders who changed every year. Tarquinius Superbus went to the nearby Etruscan city of Clusium and asked their leader, **Lars Porsena**, to help him get his throne back.

Lars Porsena agreed. His Etruscan army attacked Rome by surprise. The people who lived near Rome ran to find safety in the city across a wooden bridge over the river Tiber. Lars Porsena and his army were right behind them. The bridge had to be destroyed because if the enemy crossed the bridge, they would attack the city itself. As you will read in Exercise 2.8, the Romans started to work on destroying the bridge, but because the army of Lars Porsena was so close, most of the soldiers of the Roman army ran off in fear. One soldier, **Horatius Cocles**, remained to face the oncoming army. Two of his comrades, inspired by his courage, stayed by his side. The three of them fought bravely and managed to hold off the entire Etruscan army until the bridge fell. Horatius Cocles was left on the wrong side of the river, so he jumped into the Tiber in full armour and swam back to his men.

At this point, the Romans decided they needed to deal with Lars Porsena once and for all. They agreed that a young Roman named **Mucius Scaevola** should sneak into Porsena's camp and try to murder him. Unfortunately, he did not recognise the Etruscan king and killed the wrong man by mistake. When Mucius Scaevola was captured, he told Porsena that he was only one of many Roman youths willing to endure pain or death in order to kill him. To prove how serious he was, Mucius Scaevola put his right hand into a fire.

The Latin adjective *minor* means *smaller*. Explain the meaning of *diminish*.



FIGURE 2.4 Mucius Scaevola
This statue of Mucius Scaevola placing his hand in a fire looks like a piece of classical art, but it was sculpted in Paris in 1791 by Louis-Pierre Deseine. Notice how the artist has positioned Mucius Scaevola: he plunges his hand in the flames but stares straight ahead with a defiant expression. It is currently held in the Louvre.

The Latin verb *pressi* means *I pressed*. Explain the meaning of *impressed*.

He continued to hold his hand there without flinching. Porsena was so impressed with Mucius Scaevola's bravery that he sent him back to Rome. Porsena also sent ambassadors to offer peace with Rome.

As part of the peace treaty which ended the war between the Romans and Etruscans in 508 BC, ten daughters and ten sons were sent by Rome's noble families as hostages to Lars Porsena. One was a young woman named **Cloelia**, whom you will read about in Exercise 2.9. Cloelia managed to escape to Rome by crossing the Tiber, persuading her female companions to swim after her. The Romans wanted to keep the peace treaty and so they sent the young women back but Porsena admired Cloelia's courage and set her free. He also offered to release any other hostages she chose. The Romans, like Porsena, admired her courage and set up a statue of Cloelia on horseback. This was an honour no other Roman woman had ever been awarded.



FIGURE 2.5 Cloelia crossing the Tiber

This Renaissance painting was created by the 16th century Italian painter Cristofano Gherardi. Here we see Cloelia escaping from the Etruscan camp by crossing the river Tiber to Rome. It is currently held in the Capitoline Museum in Rome.

CHAPTER 2: SOURCES TO STUDY

Source 2.1: Hercules and Cacus

This passage is taken from Virgil's account of the fight between Hercules and the fire-breathing monster Cacus which took place on the site of what would one day be the city of Rome. As detailed earlier in this chapter, Hercules was enraged because Cacus had stolen some of the cattle Hercules had captured as one of his twelve labours. In terror at Hercules' fury, Cacus had shut himself inside his cave and blocked the entrance with a boulder. Using his incredible strength, Hercules tore the top of the mountain away.

Cacus was caught in the sudden rush of light and trapped in his cavern in the rock, howling as never before, while Hercules bombarded him from above with any missile that came to hand, aiming at him with branches of trees and rocks the size of millstones. There was no escape for Cacus now, but he vomited thick smoke from his monstrous throat and rolled clouds of it all round his den to blot it from sight. Deep in his cave he churned out fumes as black as night and the darkness was shot through with fire.

Hercules was past all patience. He threw himself straight down, leaping through the flames where the smoke spouted thickest and the black cloud boiled in the vast cavern. There, as Cacus vainly belched his fire in the darkness, Hercules caught him in a grip and held him, forcing his eyes out of their sockets and squeezing his throat till the blood was dry in it. Then, tearing out the doors and opening up the dark house of Cacus, he brought out into the light of heaven the stolen cattle whose theft Cacus had denied, and dragged the foul corpse out by the feet. No one could have enough of gazing at his terrible eyes and face, at the coarse bristles on his beastly chest and the throat charred by fires now dead.

Virgil, *Aeneid* Book 8, 233–267 (with omissions)



FIGURE 2.6 Temple of Hercules Victor

The location of this temple, the Forum Boarium, is a large public space which was used for one of Rome's oldest markets. Tradition holds that this was the area in which Hercules killed Cacus. This temple is one of the oldest surviving marble buildings in Rome, dating from about the 2nd century BC. While most Greek and Roman temples are rectangular in shape, the Temple of Hercules Victor is one of the few round temples in Rome.

Source 2.1: Questions

- 1 After Hercules tore open the top of the cave, what did he do to attack Cacus?
- 2 What did Hercules do next and how did he kill Cacus?
- 3 Why do you think the local people were so keen to stare at Cacus' corpse?
- 4 Which do you think is the most dramatic moment in this story and why?
- 5 Figure 2.6 shows the Temple of Hercules Victor. Why do you think a Roman might have visited this temple?

The Latin adjective *patiens* means *enduring*. Explain the meaning of *patience*.

Source 2.2: Romulus and Remus

The Latin verb *dedicavi* means *I offered to the gods*. Explain the meaning of *dedicated*.

This scene was carved upon a marble altar which was made in the 1st century AD and used at Ostia, Rome’s coastal harbour. The altar was *dedicated* to Mars and Venus. On this section, the carvings tell of the founding of the city of Rome. Romulus and Remus, and the she-wolf who saved them, are clearly shown. We can also see the shepherd who later found the twins and brought them up. The male figure lying in the lower right corner is a representation of the spirit of the river Tiber, which flows through Rome.



FIGURE 2.7 Altar depicting origins of Rome

Source 2.2: Questions

- 1 Draw a sketch of this carving and label the different characters.
- 2 How many different animals can you see on this carving? Why do you think the sculptor has included them?
- 3 Based on your reading earlier in this chapter, why do you think this sculptor chose to include Romulus and Remus on an altar dedicated to Mars?
- 4 Consider the details included in this scene: what message do you think the sculptor was trying to give about the Romans?

Source 2.3: Horatius Cocles

Livy was a Roman historian who wrote at the very end of the 1st century BC. In this passage, Livy tells the story of Horatius Cocles’ daring attempt to save Rome from the Etruscan attack led by Porsena. In terror, the Roman troops had fled back to their city in confusion, followed by the Etruscans. When the Etruscan army reached the bridge over the river Tiber, Horatius Cocles made a stand, urging his comrades to demolish the bridge while he held back the Etruscans. For his bravery Horatius received a statue in his honour, a large portion of land, and gifts from many individual Romans. A version of this story is re-told in Latin in Exercise 2.8.

Horatius strode to the head of the bridge. Conspicuous amid those who were clearly fleeing and running from the fight, he brandished his weapons, ready to fight hand to hand, thereby stunning the enemy with amazement at his audacity. A sense of shame kept two men by his side, Spurius Larcius and Titus Herminius, both distinguished for their high birth and their achievements. With them, for a while, he withstood the dangerous first onset and the stormiest part of the battle. Then he forced them also to make for safety, since very little of the bridge remained and those who were cutting it down were calling them to come back. Darting savage and threatening glances at the Etruscan leaders, Horatius now challenged them individually, now taunted them collectively, calling them the slaves of arrogant kings who had come to attack the freedom of others, unmindful of their own. They hesitated for a moment, each looking for another to begin the fight. Then a sense of shame moved the battle line. Raising the battle cry, from all directions they hurled weapons at their solitary opponent. All the spears stuck fast in the shield Horatius held up against them, but, no less resolute, he held the bridge with a mighty stance. Now they were trying to dislodge the hero by a charge, but their assault was checked by the sudden panic caused by the crash of the broken bridge and the simultaneous cry that arose from the Romans at the rapid completion of their task. Then Horatius cried, ‘Father Tiber, I solemnly pray that you might receive these arms and this soldier favourably in your stream.’ With this prayer, he leaped fully armed into the Tiber and, with many missiles falling upon him, swam across to his own men unharmed, a deed of daring that was destined to make him famous amongst future generations, even if they did not quite believe it to be true.

Livy, *The History of Rome*, Book 2.10 (trans. slightly adapted)

The Latin verb *conspexi* means *I caught sight of*. Explain the meaning of *conspicuous*.

The Latin adjective *stans* means *standing*. What does *stance* mean?

The Latin verb *missi* means *I sent, threw*. What is a *missile*?

Source 2.3: Questions

- 1 At the start of this passage how does Horatius show his qualities as a leader?
- 2 Why did Spurius Larcius and Titus Herminius stay with Horatius?
- 3 When and why did Horatius tell Spurius Larcius and Titus Herminius to go?
- 4 What did Horatius do when he was left to face the Etruscan army on his own?
- 5 The Etruscans decided to charge at Horatius: what saved him?
- 6 How did Horatius manage to get back across the Tiber to safety?
- 7 Do you think it matters if the Romans did not believe this story to be true?

Source 2.4: Cloelia

Like Source 2.3, this passage was written by the historian Livy. In it, Livy tells the story of Cloelia, the young woman who was one of the hostages given to the Etruscan king Lars Porsena as part of the peace treaty between the Etruscans and the Romans.

Cloelia decided to escape and she led a group of the other hostages in a daring swim across the river Tiber. For her courage, Cloelia was given an honour no other woman had ever received: a statue of herself on a horse at the top of the Sacred Way, the main road in ancient Rome which led past some of the city’s most important religious sites and temples. A version of this story is re-told in Latin in Exercise 2.9.

Cloelia, an unmarried girl, was one of the hostages held, as it happened, in the Etruscan camp not far from the Tiber; she slipped past the guards and, acting as the leader of a unit of girls, she swam across the river under a hail of enemy missiles and brought her company safe to Rome, where they were all restored to their families. Porsena was furious, and sent to Rome to demand Cloelia’s return, adding that the loss of the other girls did not trouble him. Soon, however, his anger gave way to admiration: he said that her deed was better than those of any old Horatius or Mucius Scaevola, and he made it clear that though he would regard the treaty as broken if she were not returned, he would nevertheless, if the Romans surrendered her, himself restore her safe and sound to her family.

Both sides acted honourably: the Romans, as the terms of the treaty required, sent the hostage back, and Porsena not only protected the brave girl but praised her publicly, and said that in recognition of her courage he would grant her a certain number of the other hostages, to be chosen by herself. Friendly relations were thus restored, and the Romans paid tribute to Cloelia’s courage, unprecedented in a woman, by an equally unprecedented honour: a statue representing her on horseback was set up at the top of the Sacred Way.

Livy, *The History of Rome*, Book 2.13.6–11 (with omissions, trans. adapted)

The Latin verb *cognovi* means *I found out, got to know*. Explain the meaning of *recognition*.

Source 2.4: Questions

- 1 Where was the Etruscan camp?
- 2 How did Cloelia manage to escape back to Rome?
- 3 How did Porsena feel when he heard about Cloelia’s escape?
- 4 How and why did Porsena’s feelings change?
- 5 Who were Horatius and Mucius Scaevola and why did Porsena mention them? You may need to refer back to the introduction to this chapter to answer this question.
- 6 Why did the Romans send Cloelia back to Porsena?
- 7 Do you think a statue was a good reward for Cloelia? Explain your answer.
- 8 What do you think were Cloelia’s main characteristics?
- 9 Imagine you are Cloelia and writing your own version of your escape: what might you write?

CHAPTER 2: QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- 1 What characteristics did a Roman hero need to have?
You might like to consider
 - heroes from myth
 - heroes of the early Roman Republic
 - characteristics a hero did **not** need to have
- 2 From what you have read in this chapter, whom do you consider to be the best hero?
You might like to consider
 - what they did
 - what difficulties they overcame
 - what characteristics they had
 - what others thought about them
- 3 How much do you think has changed between the Roman idea of a hero and our own?
You might like to consider
 - examples of actions which would be considered ‘heroic’ today
 - your own heroes
 - the role of the gods in some of the Roman stories

CW

Chapter 2: Core Language Vocabulary List

You will see several things which are new in this vocabulary list:

- **verbs** are now listed in a slightly different way; this will be explained on p58
- some **nouns** are listed as **n**: this means they are **neuter** in gender; this will be explained on p51
- there is a new type of **adjective**; this will be explained on p52.

mānsī		I remained
īvī		I went
timuī		I feared; I was afraid
cucurrī		I ran
vīcī		I conquered; I was victorious; I defeated
iēcī		I threw
interfēcī		I killed
cēpī		I captured; I took
inquit, inquiunt		he / she said, they said
silva	silv- 1f	wood
hasta	hast- 1f	spear
sagitta	sagitt- 1f	arrow
gladius	gladi- 2m	sword
arma	arm- 2n plural	arms; weapons
bellum	bell- 2n	war
perīculum	perīcul- 2n	danger
corpus	corpor- 3n	body
flūmen	flūmin- 3n	river
Graecus	Graeca, Graecum	Greek
audāx	audāc-	bold; daring
fortis	fort-	brave; strong
ingēns	ingent-	huge
ad	+ accusative	to; towards; at
contrā	+ accusative	against
in	+ accusative	into
per	+ accusative	through; along
prope	+ accusative	near
trāns	+ accusative	across
fortiter		bravely
nōn		not

Heroes

The following feature in the sentences and stories in this chapter.

Aenēas, Aenē- 1m	Aeneas was the mythical Trojan hero who travelled to Italy and became the father of the Roman race.
Rōmulus, Rōmul- 2m	Romulus was possibly the most famous of Rome's heroes: he was the son of Mars and the founder of the city of Rome.
Remus, Rem- 2m	Remus was Romulus' twin brother. He was killed by his own brother in the midst of a furious row.
Horātius, Horāti- 2m	Horatius Cocles was a daring Roman military hero from the early history of Rome.
Cloelia, Cloeli- 1f	Cloelia was a fearless young noblewoman who led a bold escape mission during the early history of Rome.

Nouns: three genders

In Chapter 1 you met **masculine** and **feminine** nouns, but in Latin some nouns are **neuter**.

Each declension contains **masculine** and **feminine** nouns and within a declension masculine and feminine nouns have endings which are spelled the same way.

In the 2nd and 3rd declensions, some nouns are **neuter**. There are no neuter nouns in the 1st declension. Neuter nouns have slightly different endings from the endings used for masculine and feminine nouns. Examples of these are given in the table below.

It is helpful to remember the following principles.

- neuter accusatives are always the **same as the nominative**
- neuter nominative and accusative plurals always end in **-a**

	2nd declension neuter	3rd declension neuter
nominative sg	bell-um	(flūmen)
accusative sg	bell-um	(flūmen)
nominative pl	bell-a	flūmin-a
accusative pl	bell-a	flūmin-a

Note that for most nouns, their gender is not obvious: this is why the gender of each noun is given in vocabulary lists.

Remember: there is no fixed ending for a 3rd declension nominative singular; this applies to neuter nouns too.

EXERCISE 2.1

1. Aenēas **arma** cēpit.

2. Cloelia **perīculum** nōn timuit.

3. **bellum** Horātium nōn terruit.

4. Rōmulus **bellum** nōn timuit.

5. Aenēas **arma** amāvit.

6. Horātius **flūmen** nōn timuit.

All the nouns in bold are **neuter**. Are they the **subject** or the **object**? How can you tell?

Different types of adjectives

Latin has two types of adjectives: **2-1-2 adjectives** and **3rd declension adjectives**. Their names explain the adjective’s declension. Like nouns, the declension shows us how to spell the adjective’s endings.

Adjectives like **irātus** are called **2-1-2 adjectives**. This is because

- their **masculine** forms take **2nd** declension endings
- their **feminine** forms take **1st** declension endings
- their **neuter** forms take **2nd** declension endings.

Adjectives like **fortis** and **ingēns** are called **3rd declension adjectives**. This is because they use 3rd declension endings for all their forms.

You can see the endings for these adjectives in the **Reference Grammar**, on p218.

Note that adjectives like *pulcher* use *-er* as their masculine nominative sg ending, but otherwise they are exactly the same as any other 2-1-2 adjective.

Categorising adjectives

You can work out an adjective’s declension from the way it is listed in a vocabulary list.

Here are all the adjectives you have met so far. The **stem** for each adjective is in **bold**.

irātus	irāta , irātum	2-1-2 adjective
laetus	laeta , laetum	2-1-2 adjective
pulcher	pulchra , pulchrum	2-1-2 adjective
Rōmānus	Rōmāna , Rōmānum	2-1-2 adjective
saevus	saeva , saevum	2-1-2 adjective
multus	multa , multum	2-1-2 adjective
Graecus	Graeca , Graecum	2-1-2 adjective
fortis	fort-	3rd declension adjective
ingēns	ingent-	3rd declension adjective
audāx	audāc-	3rd declension adjective

Nouns and adjectives in different declensions

Remember that nouns and adjectives must **agree** in **case, gender** and **number**. This means that:

- if the noun is nominative, the adjective must be nominative
- if the noun is feminine, the adjective must be feminine
- if the noun is singular, the adjective must be singular

If the noun and adjective, however, are in **different declensions** then their endings will be **spelled differently**.

e.g. rex uxōrem laetam laudāvit. The king praised his happy wife.

uxōrem and *laetam* agree because both are accusative feminine sg; their endings are spelled differently because they are in different declensions.

EXERCISE 2.2: PRACTISING ACCUSATIVE ADJECTIVES

1. Aenēas **uxōrem pulchram** amāvit.
2. periculum nōn **multōs Rōmānōs** terruit.
3. Rōmānī **Horātium audācem** laudāvērunt.
4. Aenēas **multās sagittās** iēcīt.
5. Rōmulus **gladium pulchrum** laudāvit.
6. Aenēas **hastam ingentem** iēcīt.
7. Rōmulus **hominēs saevōs** rēxit.
8. Rōmulus **Remum iratum** interfēcīt.
9. fīlius **mātre pulchram** laudāvit.
10. deī **multōs Graecōs** pūnīvērunt.

All the **nouns** and **adjectives** in bold are in the **accusative** case. Which **declension** is each word in?

Noun and adjective endings by case and declension

You have learned that the spelling for a noun or adjective’s ending depends upon the noun or adjective’s **declension**.

The table below summarises the main case endings used by the nouns and adjectives you have met so far.

Remember that the **neuter** endings within a declension are different. There is a larger version of this table on p63 which includes the **neuter** endings.

	1st declension	2nd declension	3rd declension
nominative sg	-a	-us / -er	(—)
accusative sg	-am	-um	-em
nominative pl	-ae	-ī	-ēs
accusative pl	-ās	-ōs	-ēs

Remember that each 3rd declension nominative sg is whatever it is for that word.

Look at each **noun** and **adjective** pair: are the words in the **nominative** or the **accusative** case?

EXERCISE 2.3

1. **multae fēminae** et **multi liberī** Cloeliam laudāvērunt.
2. pater **Horātium audācem** laudāvit.
3. **deae laetae** hominēs nōn pūnīvērunt.
4. Aenēas **hominēs fortēs** interfēcit.
5. Horātius **hastam ingentem** iēcit.
6. **multi hominēs** flūmen timuērunt.
7. Rōmulus **Remum irātum** non laudāvit.
8. Horātius **hominēs multōs** terruit.
9. **deus pulcher** deam amāvit.
10. Rōmānī **Graecōs audācēs** vīcērunt.

Prepositions

A **preposition** is a word such as *through, towards, into, against*. Prepositions are **positioned before** a noun.

Each preposition in Latin has to be followed by a noun in a particular case. The prepositions in this chapter are all followed by nouns in the **accusative** case.

ad	+ accusative	to; towards; at
contrā	+ accusative	against
in	+ accusative	into
per	+ accusative	through; along
prope	+ accusative	near
trāns	+ accusative	across

EXERCISE 2.4

1. Cloelia **in silvam** cucurrit.
2. Horātius hastam **trāns flūmen** iēcit.
3. Aenēas **ad Graecōs** fortiter cucurrit.
4. Rōmulus et Remus **prope silvam** mānsērunt.
5. multi **trāns flūmen ingēns** nōn īvērunt.
6. Rōmānus audāx **per sagittās** hastam iēcit.
7. Aenēas **per periculum ingēns** īvit.
8. periculum erat **prope flūmen**.

All the **prepositional phrases** are in bold. Translate each one.

VOCABULARY HUNT

From Exercise 2.4, can you find the Latin for the following and specify whether each word is a noun, adjective, preposition or verb?

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| 1. she ran | 6. huge |
| 2. he threw | 7. near |
| 3. bold | 8. many |
| 4. river | 9. danger |
| 5. spear | 10. they remained |

CW

EXERCISE 2.5: AENEAS TRAVELS FROM TROY TO ITALY

According to Roman myth, Aeneas was a Trojan prince who fought in the Trojan War against the Greeks. Troy was conquered by the Greeks, but Aeneas was ordered by the gods to take a group of Trojan exiles and flee to Italy. Aeneas and his Trojans joined with the Latin people to create a new race; this race was the beginning of the people who later became known as the Romans.

Aenēas erat hērōs fortis. corpus pulchrum habēbat. multa arma et gladium ingentem habēbat. contrā multōs Graecōs pugnāvit et multōs hominēs interfēcit. sed Graecī audācēs erant. Graecī contrā Trōiānōs fortiter pugnāvērunt. Graecī Trōiānōs vīcērunt. Aenēas lacrimāvit.

Iuppiter Trōiānōs nōn amāvit sed Aenēam audācem laudāvīt. ‘Aenēas fortiter pugnāvit,’ inquit Iuppiter. ‘Aenēas fiet pater Rōmānōrum.’

Aenēas per multa perīcula et in Ītaliā īvit. Latīnī nōn laetī erant quod Aenēas aliēnus erat. tum erat bellum ingēns. tandem Aenēas Latīnōs vīcit. Aenēas Lāvīniam, fēminam Latīnam, amāvit. tum Aenēas rēx erat et Lāvīnia rēgīna erat.

Can you find
3 different
prepositions?



hērōs, hērō- 3m	hero
habēbat	‘he had’
pugnāvit	he fought
Trōiānus, Trōiāna, Trōiānum	Trojan
fiet	‘he will become’
Rōmānōrum	‘of the Romans’
Ītalia, Ītali- 1f	Italy
Latīnus, Latīna, Latīnum	Latin
quod	because
aliēnus, aliēna, aliēnum	foreign
tandem	at last
Lāvīnia, Lāvīni- 1f	Lavinia (daughter of King Latinus)

Adjectives used without nouns

It is possible in Latin to use adjectives on their own without a noun to refer to **men**, **women** and **things**. The gender of the ending shows how to translate it.

rēx multōs rēxit.	The king ruled many men .
multae rēgem amāvērunt.	Many women loved the king.
rēx multa nōn timuit.	The king did not fear many things .

EXERCISE 2.6

1. **multae** Rōmulum amāvērunt.
2. Iuppiter **multōs** pūnīvit.
3. patrēs laetī **multa** laudāvērunt.
4. Horātius **multōs** interfēcit.
5. Rōmānī fortēs saepe vīcērunt.

Which of the
adjectives in bold
mean **many men**?

DERIVATION HUNT

Can you find in Exercise 2.5 the Latin words from which the following English words derive? If you do not know the meaning of the English word, try and use the Latin word to help you work it out.

1. pugnacious
2. audacious
3. alienate
4. multitude
5. fortitude
6. patronymic
7. bellicose
8. femininity
9. contradict
10. corpulent

The perfect tense

The **perfect tense** is Latin's most common past tense. A perfect tense verb such as **rēxi** can be translated as **I ruled** or **I have ruled**.

Latin verbs change their endings to show who their **subject** is. We often refer to the different subjects as the different **persons** of the verb.

All Latin verbs in the perfect tense use the following endings. The part of the verb which does not change is called the **stem**.

1st person (sg)	I ruled	rēx- ī
2nd person (sg)	you ruled	rēx- istī
3rd person (sg)	he / she / it ruled	rēx- it
1st person (pl)	we ruled	rēx- imus
2nd person (pl)	you ruled	rēx- istis
3rd person (pl)	they ruled	rēx- ērunt

Irregular verbs: *inquit, inquit*

In this chapter you have also met the verb **inquit, inquit**. This verb has unusual endings: *inquit* (he / she / it said) and *inquit* (they said) are the only forms of this verb which you will meet in *de Romanis*. Because this verb does not use the usual verb endings, it is called an **irregular verb**.

EXERCISE 2.7

- multōs Graecōs **interfēcimus**.
- 'hastam ingentem,' inquit Horātius '**iēcī**'.
- filiās **pūnivistī**.
- ad silvam **cucurristis** et prope flūmen **mānsistis**.
- in Rōmānōs multās sagittās **iēcit**.
- patrem et mātrem **amāvimus**.
- Horātium audācem **laudāvērunt**.
- etiam rēgem fortem **terruistī**.

Look at the **verbs** in bold: which **person** are they?

EXERCISE 2.8: HORATIUS FIGHTS BRAVELY AT THE BRIDGE

In the very early history of Rome Horatius was one of Rome's great heroes: in the 6th century BC he and two comrades bravely stood their ground and defended the bridge over the river Tiber. On their own, these three men held off the enemy attack and saved the city.

In Source 2.3 you can read a translation of Livy's version of this story.

- Horātius erat Rōmānus audāx et fortis. multī hostēs et rēx saevus contrā Rōmānōs pugnāvērunt. hostēs Rōmānōs terruērunt; Horātium tamen hostēs nōn terruērunt. Horātius et duo militēs prope flūmen mānsērunt. hostēs ad pōntem cucurrērunt. Horātius et duo militēs fortiter prope pōntem mānsērunt.
- 5 fortiter contrā hostēs pugnāvērunt. hostēs sagittās ad Horātium iēcērunt sed Horātius fortiter mānsit. hostēs hastās ad Horātium iēcērunt sed etiam tum Horātius fortiter mānsit. Horātius et duo militēs multōs hostēs gladiīs interfēcērunt. Rōmānī pōntem frēgērunt. hostēs trāns flūmen nōn ivērunt. 'hostēs Rōmānōs nōn vīcērunt!' inquit Horātius. Rōmānī laetī erant. Rōmānī
- 10 Horātium laudāvērunt quod mīles erat fortis et audāx.

hostis, host-	3m	enemy
pugnāvī		I fought
tamen		however
duo		two
mīles, mīlit-	3m	soldier
pōns, pōnt-	3m	bridge
gladiīs		'with their swords'
frēgi		I broke
quod		because

Can you find

5 perfect tense verbs: which letters are the ending and which letters are the stem?



CW

EXERCISE 2.9: CLOELIA SWIMS TO SAFETY

Cloelia was one of Rome’s most famous heroes. She was among the hostages taken by the Etruscan king Porsena as part of the peace treaty he made with Rome in the 6th century BC. Undaunted, she made the daring decision to escape and swim back to safety across the river Tiber, taking many of the other young women with her. Porsena was so impressed by her bravery that he granted freedom to her and half the remaining hostages. To commemorate her courageous escape, the Romans later built a statue of Cloelia on horseback.

In Source 2.4 you can read a translation of Livy’s version of this story.

Porsena contrā Rōmānōs pugnāvit. Porsena multōs Rōmānōs interfēcit. Porsena multās puellās cēpit. Porsena laetus erat. ‘multōs Rōmānōs interfēcī,’ inquit, ‘et multās puellās cēpī. Rōmānōs terruī. rēx fortis sum.’

Cloelia erat puella audāx. Porsena Cloeliam nōn terruit. ‘Porsena mē cēpit,’ inquit Cloelia, ‘et Porsena multōs interfēcit. sed fortis sum. effugiam!’

Cloelia effūgit; multae puellae aliae effūgērunt. Cloelia et puellae per silvās ad flūmen cucurrērunt. Cloelia in flūmen fortiter cucurrit; puellae aliae in flūmen cucurrērunt. Cloelia et puellae trāns flūmen natāvērunt. Cloelia et puellae ad urbem cucurrērunt. Cloelia ad patrem et mātrem cucurrit. ‘perīculum nōn timuī,’ inquit, ‘Porsenam nōn timuī. Porsena mē cēpit sed effūgī!’ māter et pater laetī erant. ‘fortiter effūgistī,’ inquirunt, ‘et trāns flūmen fortiter natāvistī.’

pater et māter Cloeliam laudāvērunt. Rōmānī Cloeliam laudāvērunt. etiam Porsena Cloeliam laudāvit: ‘Cloelia,’ inquit, ‘mē nōn timuit. fortiter effūgit. Cloelia fortis et audāx erat.’

Can you find
4 different adjectives?



Porsena, Porsen- 1m
pugnāvī
puella, puell- 1f
sum
me (accusative)
effugiam
effūgī
aliae (feminine nominative pl)
natāvi
urbs, urb- 3f
iterum

Porsena (an Etruscan king)
I fought
girl; young woman
‘I am’
‘me’
‘I shall escape’
I escaped
other
I swam
city
again

Chapter 2: Additional Language

SECTION A2: CHAPTER 2 VOCABULARY

Exercise A2.1: Derivations

Find the Latin word from which the English words below derive, then explain the meaning of the English word.

	English word	Latin word	explanation
e.g.	gladiator	gladius	a gladiator was a fighter who carried a sword
1	armour		
2	perilous		
3	transfer		
4	audacity		
5	victory		

Exercise A2.2: Prepositions

Unscramble the anagrams to find the Latin preposition and then translate each preposition into English.

	anagram	preposition	translation
e.g.	actron	contrā	against
1	reppo		
2	erp		
3	ni		
4	da		
5	ranst		

Exercise A2.3: Parts of speech

Sort these Latin words into groups of nouns, adjectives, prepositions and verbs, and then write the meaning for each Latin word next to it.

ingēns audāx bellum contrā cucurrī
fortis corpus ad perīculum īvī interfēcī

noun	adjective	preposition	verb
	ingēns - huge		

SECTION B2: WORD ENDINGS

Exercise B2.1: Nouns in different genders: masculine, feminine and neuter

This exercise practises nouns from the vocabulary lists for Chapter 1 and Chapter 2.

Here are all the nominative and accusative singular and plural noun endings:

	1st declension	2nd declension	3rd declension	2nd declension neuter	3rd declension neuter
nominative sg	fēmin-a	de-us	(rēx)	bell-um	(flūmen)
accusative sg	fēmin-am	de-um	rēg-em	bell-um	(flūmen)
nominative pl	fēmin-ae	de-ī	rēg-ēs	bell-a	flūmin-a
accusative pl	fēmin-ās	de-ōs	rēg-ēs	bell-a	flūmin-a

Put the following nouns into the nominative plural. Remember that within each declension, the nominative plural endings are different for neuter nouns.

	noun	meaning	nominative pl
e.g.	bellum, bell- 2n	war	bella
1	homō, homin- 3m		
2	perīculum, perīcul- 2n		
3	flūmen, flūmin- 3n		
4	sagitta, sagitt- 1f		
5	corpus, corpor- 3n		
6	uxor, uxōr- 3f		
7	gladius, gladi- 2m		
8	arma, arm- 2n pl		

Exercise B2.2: Nouns and adjectives across 3 declensions

Here are all the nominative and accusative endings used by nouns and adjectives.

Remember that within a declension, masculine and feminine endings are the same; the neuter endings are different.

	1st declension masc / fem	2nd declension masc / fem	3rd declension masc / fem	2nd declension neuter	3rd declension neuter
nominative sg	-a	-us / -er	(—) / (-is)	-um	(—) / (-e)
accusative sg	-am	-um	-em / -em	-um	(—) / (-e)
nominative pl	-ae	-ī	-ēs / -ēs	-a	-a / -ia
accusative pl	-ās	-ōs	-ēs / -ēs	-a	-a / -ia
For the 3rd declension, the endings in blue are used by nouns and the endings in red are typically used by adjectives. The exceptions to this rule are listed in on p77.					

Note that the **-is** and **-e** endings are in brackets because they are only used for adjectives like *fortis*.

Use the table above to work out the spelling of the ending needed for each of the examples below.

- e.g. A nominative masculine **sg** adjective in the 2nd declension -us
1. An accusative feminine **sg** noun in the 1st declension
 2. A nominative masculine **pl** adjective in the 2nd declension
 3. A nominative neuter **pl** adjective in the 3rd declension
 4. An accusative feminine **pl** noun in the 1st declension
 5. A nominative masculine **pl** adjective in the the 3rd declension
 6. An accusative neuter **pl** noun in the 2nd declension
 7. A nominative neuter **pl** adjective in the 2nd declension
 8. An accusative feminine **sg** adjective in the 1st declension
 9. An accusative feminine **sg** adjective in the 3rd declension
 10. A nominative neuter **pl** noun in the 3rd declension

Exercise B2.3: 3rd declension adjectives

The nouns and adjectives in this exercise are from the vocabulary lists for Chapter 1 and Chapter 2.

Remember that if a noun and its adjective are in different declensions, their case endings will be spelled differently.

For each noun listed below, select the right version of the 3rd declension adjective so that it is in the same case as its noun. Then, translate each phrase.

It might be helpful to refer to the case endings table printed on p63.

e.g. silva (ingēns / ingentem) silva ingens - the huge wood

- 1. filium (audāces / audācem)
- 2. hastās (ingentēs / ingentem)
- 3. deōs (audāx / audācēs)
- 4. rēgīna (fortis / fortem)
- 5. corpora (fortia / fortis)

Exercise B2.4: 2-1-2 and 3rd declension adjectives

The nouns and adjectives in this exercise are from the vocabulary lists for Chapter 1 and Chapter 2.

This exercise practises agreement using nouns from all three declensions and both types of adjective. It may be helpful to use the summary of case endings below. Remember that for an adjective to agree with its noun, it needs to be the same case, gender and number as its noun. 2-1-2 adjectives use endings from different declensions, depending on the gender of the noun they describe.

Note that the **-is** and **-e** endings are in brackets because they are only used for adjectives like *fortis*.

	1st declension masc / fem	2nd declension masc / fem	3rd declension masc / fem	2nd declension neuter	3rd declension neuter
nominative sg	-a	-us / -er	(—) / (-is)	-um	(—) / (-e)
accusative sg	-am	-um	-em / -em	-um	(—) / (-e)
nominative pl	-ae	-ī	-ēs / -ēs	-a	-a / -ia
accusative pl	-ās	-ōs	-ēs / -ēs	-a	-a / -ia
For the 3rd declension, the endings in blue are used by nouns and the endings in red are typically used by adjectives. The exceptions to this rule are listed in on p217.					

Select the correct form of the adjective to agree with its noun in case, gender and number. Then translate the phrase.

e.g. arma (ingēns / ingentia) arma ingentia - huge weapons

- 1. sagittās (multam / multās)
- 2. filiōs (audācem / audācēs)
- 3. fēmīnae (fortis / fortēs)
- 4. corpora (multa / multae)
- 5. flūmen (ingentēs / ingēns)
- 6. deōs (fortem / fortēs)
- 7. hominēs (īrātī / īrātus)
- 8. filiī (audāx / audācēs)
- 9. rēx (Graecum / Graecus)
- 10. rēgīna (audāx / audācem)

Exercise B2.5: Chapter 1 verbs in the perfect tense

Translate the following verbs from the Chapter 1 vocabulary list. Remember that you will need to use the ending to work out who is the subject; for each verb, the ending is highlighted in purple.

	verb	meaning
e.g.	amāv it	he / she / it loved
1	rēx imus	
2	lacrimāv i	
3	laudāv istis	
4	terru imus	
5	rēx erunt	
6	pūnīv istī	
7	laudāv i	
8	terru erunt	
9	amāv istī	
10	lacrimāv it	

Exercise B2.6: Chapter 2 verbs in the perfect tense

Fill in the meaning of each of these verbs from the Chapter 2 vocabulary list.

perfect tense	meaning
mānsī	
īvī	
timuī	
cucurrī	
vīcī	
iēcī	
interfēcī	
cēpī	
inquit, inquitunt	

Now translate the English verbs below into Latin. You will need to change the ending of each verb in order to show who the subject is.

Remember that *inquit, inquitunt* is an irregular verb: it does not use the same endings as the other verbs.

e.g. they threw *iēcērunt*

- 1. we captured
- 2. it remained
- 3. he ran
- 4. you (pl) killed
- 5. you (sg) conquered
- 6. she feared
- 7. they went
- 8. I went
- 9. you (sg) threw
- 10. she said

SECTION C2: ENGLISH TO LATIN SENTENCES

Exercise C2.1: Nominative and accusative nouns

In each of the following sentences, either the subject or the object is in **purple**. Look at the Latin words in brackets and choose the right one to translate this noun: if the noun is the subject, you need a noun in the nominative case; if the noun is the object, you need a noun in the accusative case.

Remember to check whether the noun is singular or plural.

- e.g. The **king** praised his son. ((rēx)/ rēgem)
1. The daring Greek threw the **spear**. (hasta / hastam)

2. The brave woman took the **arrows**. (sagittae / sagittās)

3. The **sword** was huge. (gladius / gladiī)

4. The **bodies** were near the river. (corpus / corpora)

5. The children feared the **danger**. (perīculum / perīcula)

6. The Greek **spears** remained near the river. (hastās / hastae)

7. We feared **war**. (bella / bellum)

8. The **wood** was not huge. (silva / silvam)

9. The **river** was near the wood. (flūmen / flūmina)

10. There was **danger** near the arrows. (perīculum / perīcula)

Exercise C2.2: Prepositions

Each of the prepositions you have met in Chapter 2 is followed by a noun in the accusative case.

Translate into Latin each of the phrases in **purple** in the sentences below.

To find the right ending for the noun, you need to check which declension it is in, and whether or not it is neuter. You can look up these endings on p54.

- e.g. We remained **near the Greeks**. *prope Graecōs*
1. He ran **towards the weapons**.

2. They went **into danger**.

3. I threw the spear **into the river**.

4. He went **through the wood**.

5. We remained **near the weapons**.

6. You ran **across the river**.

7. They threw arrows **towards the Greeks**.

8. You went **into the wood**.

9. We ran **through the spears**.

10. She ran **against the Romans**.

Exercise C2.3: Sentences to translate into Latin

Translate the following sentences into Latin.

Remember to think about the case for each noun, and to make sure that adjectives agree with their nouns in case, gender and number.

1. The children feared Greek wars.
2. The king killed the handsome men.
3. The daring sons conquered their fathers.
4. The mother praised the brave daughter.
5. A strong god threw the huge spear across the river.
6. We captured the savage men near the wood.
7. You (sg) loved but I feared the bold children.
8. The angry mother often wept.
9. You (pl) ran bravely through huge danger.
10. The sons and daughters feared a savage war.