

## THIRD DECLENSION NOUNS

### 1) Masculine and feminine third declension nouns are declined alike:

|      | Masculine |          | Feminine |         |
|------|-----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Nom. | pater     | patrēs   | vox      | vōcēs   |
| Gen. | patris    | patrum   | vōcis    | vōcum   |
| Dat. | patrī     | patribus | vōcī     | vōcibus |
| Acc. | patrem    | patrēs   | vōcem    | vōcēs   |
| Abl. | patre     | patribus | vōce     | vōcibus |

Third declension nouns have a variety of nominative endings, but the genitive singular *always* ends in *-is*.

### 2) Neuter nouns differ only in the accusative singular and nominative and accusative plural.

|      | Neuter  |           |
|------|---------|-----------|
| Nom. | nōmen   | nōmina    |
| Gen. | nōminis | nōminum   |
| Dat. | nōminī  | nōminibus |
| Acc. | nōmen   | nōmina    |
| Abl. | nōmine  | nōminibus |

### 3. I-Stems of the Third Declension:

|      | Masculine & Feminine |          | Neuter |         |
|------|----------------------|----------|--------|---------|
| Nom. | nox                  | noctēs   | mare   | maria   |
| Gen. | noctis               | noctium  | maris  | marium  |
| Dat. | noctī                | noctibus | marī   | maribus |
| Acc. | noctem               | noctēs   | mare   | maria   |
| Abl. | nocte                | noctibus | marī   | maribus |

- Masculine and feminine I-Stems carry the distinctive *i* in the genitive plural.
- Neuter I-Stems carry the *i* in the ablative singular, the nominative, and genitive accusative plural.

I-Stems can be recognized by the following general rules:

1) Parisyllabic nouns (having the same number of syllables in nominative and genitive singular) with the following exceptions:

· *Pater, māter, frāter, senex, iuvenis, canis* have the genitive plural in *-um*.

· *Sēdēs* (seat), *mēnsis* (month), *vātēs* (bard) appear with both *-um* and *-ium*

2) Monosyllabic nouns (having one syllable in the nominative singular) with two consonants before the *-is* of the genitive singular. (*pars, partis, partium*).

3) Neuter nouns in **-e, -al, -ar** (*animal, animālis, animālium*) decline like *mare*.

### Some Common I-Stem Nouns:

*cīvis, cīvīs, cīvium* (m.&f.) citizen

*hostis, hostis, hostium* (m.) enemy

*nāvis, nāvīs, nāvium* (f.) ship

*fīnis, fīnīs, fīnium* (f.) end;

pl. boundaries, territory

*clades, cladīs, cladium* (f.) defeat

*mōlēs, mōlīs, molium* (f.) mass, structure

*ars, artis, artium* (f.) art, skill

*dēns, dentis, dentium* (m.) tooth

*mors, mortis, mortium* (f.) death

*pars, partis, partium* (f.) part, share

*urbs, urbis, urbiūm* (f.) city

*nox, noctis, noctium* (f.) night

*arx, arcis, arcium* (f.) citadel

*mare, maris, marium* (n.) sea

*animal, animalis, animalium* (n.) animal

*exemplar, exemplaris, exemplarium* (n.) copy

Pure I-Stems show the *-i* not only in the genitive plural, but also in the accusative singular, ablative singular, and often in the accusative plural:

Thus: *turris* (f.) tower      *vīs* (f.) force, power

*febris* (f.) fever

*turris*    *turrēs*                      *Tiberis* (m.) Tiber

*turris*    *turrium*                      *puppis* (f.) stern (of a ship)

*turrī*    *turribus*                      *pelvis* (f.) basin,

*turrim*   *turrīs* (or *-ēs*)        *secūris* (f.) axe

*turrī*    *turribus*                      *tussis* (f.) cough

*sitis* (f.) thirst

*restis* (f.) rope