LESSON 31

Nouns | 5th Declension & Superlatives

31A. GRAMMAR

Ah, **5th Declension nouns**.... These guys are great! First of all, there aren't many of them. Nonetheless, those few fifth declension nouns do show up often. Nothing new to learn here but new endings. By now the terms nominative, genitive, dative, and so on don't even bug you anymore. You know how Latin nouns behave. Here are the new endings:

	Fifth Declension			
	the endings		**dies - day**	
	Singular	**Plural**	**Singular**	**Plural**
Nominative	***es***	***es***	*di**es***	*di**es***
Genitive	***ei***	***erum***	*di**ei***	*di**erum***
Dative	***ei***	***ebus***	*di**ei***	*di**ebus***
Accusative	***em***	***es***	*di**em***	*di**es***
Ablative	***e***	***ebus***	*di**e***	*di**ebus***

Fifth Declension nouns		
5th declension noun	**Definition**	**Derivatives**
dies, diei	*day*	diary
facies, faciei	*face, shape*	facial
fides, fidei	*faith, trust*	Fido
glacies, glaciei	*ice*	glacier
res, rei	*thing*	republic
spes, spei	*hope*	despair
series, serei	*series, row*	serial
species, speciei	*kind, type*	species, special

Most 5th declension words are feminine. *Dies* may be the only exception. It is masculine. From *dies,* Latin creates several adverbs:

Ho**die**	today
Peren**die**	the day after tomorrow
Coti**die**	daily, every day

LESSON 31

Nouns | 5th Declension & Superlatives

You now know all 5 declensions in Latin!

1st Declension	insul**a**, insul**ae**
2nd Declension	fluvi**us**, fluvi**i**
3rd Declension	oppid**um**, oppid**i**
4th Declension	man**us**, man**ui**
5th Declension	di**es**, die**i**

Superlative Adjectives - These adjectives were mentioned in the last lesson. You know how to use them in English. Remember?

His rock is ***big***.
Her rock is ***bigger***.
My rock, however, is ***biggest***.

In Latin, superlatives follow the same rules as 1st and 2nd declension adjectives. They end in - ***us, a, um***. Before adding those endings, though, Latin adds -is-sim, or - rim, or -lim.

highest - alt**issim**us, a, um
coldest - frigid**issim**us, a, um
hottest - calid**issim**us, a, um
prettiest - pulcher**rim**us, a, um

Sancho Panza called Don Quixote - Quixott**issim**us. Maybe not the best Latin, but it did show that Sancho attempted to pay attention in class.

Adjectives ending in -er in the nominative singular form the superlative by adding -***rimus***, ***a***, ***um***

prettiest - pulcher**rim**us, a, um
sharp - acer**rim**us, a, um

Adjectives ending in -**lis** in the nominative singular end in -***limus***, ***a***, ***um***..

easiest - facil**lim**us, a, um
hardest - dificil**lim**us, a, um

Some superlatives just don't play by the rules. In English, it is improper to say "sour, sourer, sourest". We add *more,* or *most.*

The taste of a cranberry is ***sour***.
The taste of a lemon is ***more*** sour.
The face of an angry headmaster is ***most*** sour.

Nouns | 5th Declension & Superlatives

Latin does this with certain adjectives. *Idoneus* means *suitable.* In English, we do not say *suitable, suitabler, suitablest.* Instead, we use *suitable,* ***more*** *suitable,* ***most*** *suitable.*

We added extra words in English to form the comparative and superlative. We add extra words in Latin too. *Magis* means *more*, and *maxime* means *most.*

idoneus - suitable
magis *idoneus* - more suitable
maxime *idoneus* - most suitable
aureus - golden
magis *aureus* - more golden
maxime *aureus* - most golden

Here is the word *puella* declined with a superlative adjective.

Singular		
nom	puell**a** bellissim**a**	the most beautiful girl
gen	puell**ae** bellissim**ae**	of the most beautiful girl
dat	puell**ae** bellissim**ae**	to the most beautiful girl
acc	puell**am** bellissim**am**	the most beautiful girl
abl	puell**ae** bellissim**ae**	by/with/from the most beautiful girl

Plural		
nom	puell**ae** bellissim**ae**	the most beautiful girls
gen	puell**arum** bellissim**arum**	of the most beautiful girls
dat	puell**is** bellissim**is**	to the most beautiful girls
acc	puell**as** bellissim**as**	the most beautiful girls
abl	puell**is** bellissim**is**	by/with/from the most beautiful girls

Here word *equus* declines with the same word. Now the endings are masculine.

Singular		
nom	equ**us** bellissim**us**	the most beautiful horse
gen	equ**i** bellissim**i**	of the most beautiful horse
dat	equ**o** bellissim**o**	to the most beautiful horse
acc	equ**um** bellissim**um**	the most beautiful horse
abl	equ**o** bellissim**o**	by/with/from the most beautiful horse

Nouns | 5th Declension & Superlatives

	Plural	
nom	equ**i** bellissim**i**	the most beautiful horses
gen	equ**orum** bellissim**orum**	of the most beautiful horses
dat	equ**is** bellissim**is**	to the most beautiful horses
acc	equ**os** bellissim**os**	the most beautiful horses
abl	equ**is** bellissim**is**	by/with/from the most beautiful hors-es

31B. SENTENCES

1. Hic fluvius longus est. Ille fluvius longissimus est.
2. Hi fluvii longi sunt. Illi fluvii longissimi sunt.
3. Haec via longa est. Illa via longissima est.
4. Hic mons altus est. Ille mons altissimus est.
5. Sol clarus est. Luna quoque clara est.
6. Sol clarissimus est.
7. Hic equus celer est. Ille equus celerrimus est.
8. Haec puella est brevis. Illa puella brevissima est.
9. Hoc animal bellum est. Illud animal bellissimum est.
10. Hoc oppidum pulchrum est. Illud oppidum pulcherrimum est.
11. Hic vir fortis est. Ille vir fortissimus est.
12. Hoc animal ferox est. Illud animal ferocissimum est.
13. Germanus meus sapientissimus est.

14. Hic mons altissimus est.

15. Puella est fortissima. Ea fortior est quam pueri in illo oppido.

16. Nilus, magnus fluvius in Africa, est fluvius longissimus.

17. Via a villa mea ad oppidum mei amici est via longa, sed non via longissima.

18. Haec vita est brevis.

19. Hic cantus non bellisimus est, sed longissimus est.

20. Gladius meus longus est, sed, gladius amici mei longissimus est.

21. Populi huius oppidi laetissimi sunt.

22. Pueri a puellis laetissimis vocatur.

23. Flores in horto meo pulcherrimi sunt.

24. Hoc opus dificillimum est.

25. Hoc opus non facillimum est.

Nouns | 5th Declension & Superlatives

31C. READING & TRANSLATION

Listen to the reading on the video, then translate the sentences in the space provided using the Latin vocabulary listed below.

Itaque, Isaac Jacob benedicit. Isaac ei omnes bonas res primogeniti dat. Mox, Esau a venatione revenit et parat cibum pro patre. Cui Isaac dicit, "Quis erat ille vir qui mihi cibum modo dat?" Et Esau audit et iratus est. Esau clamat, et implet domum lamentis.

Rebecca vocat Isaac. "Fuge", inquit, "fili mi ab hoc loco. I ad Laban, avunculum tuum. Mane apud eum. Frater tuus est iratissimus."

Jacob relinquit patrem et matrem, et in terram Mesopotamiam it. In itinere longo Jacob fessus est. Jacob in terra iacet. Jacob lapidem sub capite pro pulvino ponit.

LESSON 31

Nouns | 5th Declension & Superlatives

Vocabulary:

avunculus, i m. - uncle

cotidie - daily, every day

dies, ei m. - day

facies, ei f. - face, shape

fessus, a, um - tired, weary

fides, ei f. - faith, loyalty

frater, fratris m. - brother

fugio, fugere - to flee, to run

glacies, ei f. - ice

hodie - today

iaceo, iacere - to lie; to lie down

idoneus, a, um - suitable

iter, itineris n. - journey; road; passage, path; march

lamentum, i n. - wailing, weeping

lapis, lapidis m. - stone

magis - more

maxime - much

Mesopotamia - Mesopotamia, the land between the Tigris and Euphrates

modus, modi m. - mode, manner, way

mox - soon

paro, parare - to prepare, to make ready

perendie - the day after tomorrow

pulvinus, i m. - pillow

primogenitor, -oris m. - firstborn

relinquo, relinquere - leave behind, abandon

res, ei f. - thing

spes, ei f. - hope

series, ei f. - series, row

species, ei f. - kind, type

venatio, venationis f. - hunting, the chase

LESSON 31

Nouns | 5th Declension & Superlatives

Derivatives	
parare	prepare, repair, impair
modus	mode, module
frater	fraternal, fraternity
relinquere	relinquish
iter	itinerate, reiterate
lapis	lapis lazuli, lapidary

VULGATE VERSES. Translate into English.
Gloria in altissimis Deo... - Luke 2:14

Appellavitque Deus lucem diem et tenebras noctem. - Genesis 1:5

New Words	
Gloria	Glory
appellavitque	and he called
tenebras	darkness

CHOOSE THE BEST ANSWER.

1. Most Latin nouns are 5th declension nouns. A) true B) false
2. 5th declension nouns have no nominative forms. A) true B) false
3. Most 5th declension nouns are feminine. A) true B) false
4. All 5th declension nouns are feminine. A) true B) false
5. *Longest* is a superlative adjective. A) true B) false
6. *Longissimus* is a superlative adjective. A) true B) false
7. Which one is superlative? A) high B) higher C) highest D) Super duper high
8. Which one is superlative? A) cold B) colder C) coldest
9. Which one is superlative? A) nice B) nicer C) nicest
10. Which one is superlative? A) full B) fuller C) fullest
11. *Hic vir fortissimus est.* A) This man is the strong. B) This man is stronger. C) This man is strongest. D) This old man came rolling home.
12. *Luna non clarior est quam sol.* A) The moon is not brighter than the sun. B) The stars are not brighter than the sun. C) The sun is not brighter than the night light.
13. *Luna non clarissima est.* A) The moon is not bright. B) The moon is not brighter. C) The moon is not brightest.
14. *Montes altiores sunt.* A) The mountains are high. B) The mountains are higher. C) The mountains are highest.
15. *Montes altissimi sunt.* A) The mountains are high. B) The mountains are higher. C) The mountains are highest.
16. *Illa via longior est.* A) That road is long. B) That road is longer. C) That road is longest.
17. *Illa via longissima est.* A) That road is long. B) That road is longer. C) That road is longest.
18. *Hic mons altus est.* A) This mountain is short. B) This mountain is high. C) This road is high.
19. *Ille mons altior est.* A) That mountain is short. B) That mountain is high. C) That mountain is higher.
20. *Ille mons altissimus est.* A) That mountain is short. B) That mountain is high. C) That mountain is highest.
21. *Lux clara est.* A) The light is bright. B) This light is brighter. C) These lights are brighter.
22. *Haec lux clarissima est.* A) The light is brightest. B) This light is brightest. C) That light is brightest.
23. *Illa lux clarissima est.* A) The light is brightest. B) This light is brightest. C) That light is brightest.
24. The horse is *fast*. A) celer B) celerior C) celerrimus

25. This horse is *faster*. A) celer B) celerior C) celerrimus
26. That horse is *fastest*. A) celer B) celerior C) celerrimus
27. The road is *long*. A) longus B) longa C) longior D) longissima
28. This road is *longer*. A) longus B) longa C) longior D) longissima
29. That road is *longest*. A) longus B) longa C) longior D) longissima
30. The light is *bright*. A) clara B) clarior C) clarissima
31. This light is *brighter*. A) clara B) clarior C) clarissima
32. That light is *brightest*. A) clara B) clarior C) clarissima
33. *To think* A) cogitare B) cantare C) credere D) monstrare
34. *Avunculus* A) uncle B) aunt C) mother D) father
35. *Apple* A) nimbus B) num C) malum D) duo
36. *Donkey* A) equus B) lupus C) asinus D) ovis
37. *Avis* A) bold B) field C) bird D) cow
38. *Cras* A) yesterday B) today C) tomorrow D) whenever
39. *Defendere* A) to believe B) to see C) to hear D) to defend
40. *Tomorrow* A) quando B) cras C) heri D) finis
41. *Hic puer* amat hanc puellam. A) this boy B) this man C) these boys D) those boys
42. Hic puer amat *hanc puellam*. A) this girl B) this woman C) these girls D) those girls
43. *Hae puellae* in fluvio natant. A) this girl B) this woman C) these girls D) those girls
44. Hae puellae *in fluvio natant*. A) fly through the air B) swim in the sea C) swim in the river
45. *Mater a filio suo vocatur*. A) Mom calls her son. B) Mom is called by her son.
46. Terrence did not join a *fraternity* in college. A) cooking class B) a brotherhood C) a sisterhood D) a choir
47. A *glacier* is a slow moving river of A) water B) coffee C) ice cream D) ice
48. Mom planned the *itinerary.* A) party B) evening C) dinner D) journey
49. The king abdicated, *relinquishing* all of his power. A) seizing B) enjoying C) leaving
50. *Fido* was once a common name for a _____ dog. A) faithful B) cute C) large D) vicious