



### 3. Other manifestations

- a) Concordial case  
When articles and adjectives ‘agree’ with nouns
- b) Vocative  
Not dependent on construction, but paranthetical
- c) Ungoverned case  
*me miserum, Oh unhappy me*  
Developed from governed expressions?
- d) Analytic case markers e.g. Japanese

### 4. How many cases?

- Latin has 6 cases: nominative, vocative, accusative, genitive, dative, ablative
- But never 6 different case forms in each paradigm
- “minimum number of syntactically-relevant distinctions with which it is possible to state rules of selection valid for all declensions in both the singular and the plural”  
Lyons
- Locative also a case?
- Location usually expressed by *in* + abl.
- But certain words have special locative forms
- No particular case form, but syncretic with other cases:  
dative in the first and third declension (*Rom-ae, Karthāginī*)  
genitive in the second declension (*hum-ī*)
- Locative = non-autonomous case
- BUT does not govern concord:

*Archias poeta Antiochae natus est,*  
Archias poet A-LOC born is.3sg

*celebri quondam urbe et copiosā*  
thronging-ABL once city-ABL and wealthy-ABL

*urbe* in apposition with *Antiochae* –ablative forms homophonous with locative?  
Expect *copiosae* (dative)

## 5. Case usage in Latin and Greek

### 5.1 Nominative

- a) Grammatical subject
- b) Predicative: *Marcus agricola est*
- c) Topic: *ecce homo*
- d) Address even where it is not syncretic with the vocative.  
Normally only when the address is marked already, either by a pronoun or by another vocative: *audi tu, populus Albanus* (Livy)  
*Ζεῦ πάτερ... Ἡέλιός τε* (Homer, Iliad 3.276)
- e) No peripheral functions

### 5.2 Accusative

- a) Direct object in instances of maximum transitivity: *Cornelia canem necabat*
- b) Subject under special circumstances: *credimus Iovem regnare*
- c) Adverbial usage:  
Direction:  
Latin: only with names of towns or small islands  
Greek only in poetry, otherwise reinforced by prepositions or other markers:  
*Romam ire, ἔρχεσθον κλισίην*  
Extension in distance or time: *tria milia ambulat, τρεῖς μῆνας ἔμμενειν*
- d) Latin only, topic case: *me miserum*
- e) Greek only: accusative of respect  
An adnominal case (dependent on nouns or adjectives)  
*καθαρός τὸ σῶμα; Εὐφράτης ποταμὸς ὧν τὸ εὖρος τεττων σταδίων*  
Spatial? = semantic = optional  
Same usage occasionally in Latin, even in prose as in Tacitus' *nudus lacertos*  
but this is an imitation of Greek usage.

### 5.3 Genitive

- a) The adnominal case, normally indicating the possessor
- b) Partitive, indicating an entity that is partially affected
- c) In both Latin and Greek, the genitive can encode the complements of verbs but this is much more frequent in Greek: *ἄκουω, λαμβανομαι*
- d) Adnominal equivalent of an adverbial complement = syntactic  
Subject: *Catilina adversus rem publicum coniurat* > *coniuratio Catilinae*  
Object: *metuit mortem* > *metus mortis*
- e) Greek: local  
Spatial extension: *νυκτός, οὐδαμοῦ*  
Source or origin: *νεῶν ἐχώρησαν*  
Limited to early poetry, except genitive of comparison, frequent at all times  
*μέλιτος ἡδίων* 'sweeter from the point of view of honey'  
Partitive: *ἔρχονται πεδίοιο* (P 801), *λελουμένος Ὠκεανοῖο* (E6)

### 5.4 Dative

- a) 'indirect object' of 3-place verbs: *Cornelia magistro librum dat*
- b) Non-subject complement of certain intransitive verbs  
βοηθεῖν, πείθεσθαι, πιστεύειν, *auxiliari, parere, fidere*  
= target of an activity or emotion?  
Also patient  
Arbitrary - *videre/ὄρᾱν* and *amare/φιλεῖν* take the accusative  
Some verbs take either: *moderor equum meum; moderor orationi meae*  
Dative encodes a lesser degree of transitivity
- c) Personal closeness – alternative possessor.  
*illi sunt duae filiae*
- d) Ethic dative:  
*quid mihi Celsus agit* 'What on earth is Celsus doing?'  
μή μοι θορυβήσητε 'Please, don't start making a noise'  
Personal closeness or indirect affection.
- e) Agent in the passive.  
Person indirectly involved:  
*haec provincia Caesari erat defendenda* 'It was up to Caesar to defend'  
Usually restricted to the perfect in Latin and Greek and the gerundive in Latin.
- f) Greek only: instrumental: ξίφωι κτενειν
- g) Greek only: locative  
αἰθερι ναίων *vel sim* frequently found in early poetry  
Later, restricted to some place names: ἡ Μαραθῶνι μάχη.  
Otherwise reinforced with prepositions (governing the dative) like ἐν.

### 5.5 Ablative

- a) Source or origin: *Athenis redire*.  
Normally reinforced with a preposition (*de, e, ex, a, ab, abs*).  
Causal ablative: *gaudio lacrimare* frequent at all times:  
Ablative of comparison: *melle dulcius*
- b) Locative: *Caesar idoneo loco castra posuit*.  
Normally reinforced with a prepositions (*in*)  
In classical times is restricted to expressions containing *locus* and *totus*
- c) Ablative of sphere, the area in which something happens = local:  
*Galli lingua, institutis, legibus inter se differunt*  
*Agesilaus altero pede claudus erat*  
This corresponds to the Greek accusative of respect
- d) Instrumental – very frequent at all times:  
*naufragi piscibus et ovis avium vivebant*  
*pedibus ire*
- e) As complement to a few deponents: *uti, frui, fungi, potiri*  
*potiri aliqua re* 'to become master through or by means of something'  
These govern the accusative in older Latin.  
This another semantic extension of the ablative

#### Reading

Lyons J, 1969, *Introduction to Theoretical Linguistics*, chapter 5

Blake B J, 1994, *Case*