

# HOW TO USE THE DICTIONARY

## Numbers before words

A number before a word means the word appears in the **Vocabulary for learning** list for that chapter.

For example: 33 **avis, avis, f.** *bird*

means that **avis** appears in the Chapter 33 **Vocabulary for learning** list.

## Nouns

The information given is: nominative, genitive, gender.

For example: **gēns, gentis, f.** *people, race, family, tribe*

- **gēns** is the nominative form (used for the subject of the sentence);
- **gentis** is the genitive form (meaning 'of the people');
- **gēns** is a feminine word.

*m.* stands for masculine; *f.* stands for feminine; *n.* stands for neuter.

*m.f.* is used for a word which can sometimes be masculine, sometimes feminine. For example, the word **īnfāns** (*baby*) can be either masculine or feminine, depending on the gender of the baby.

## Verbs

The forms given are: 1st person present tense, infinitive, 1st person perfect tense, perfect passive participle.

You might prefer to think of this as: *I do something, to do something, I did/have done something, having been somethinged.*

For example: **laudō, laudāre, laudāvī, laudātus** *praise, admire*

- **laudō** means *I praise*
- **laudāre** means *to praise*
- **laudāvī** means *I (have) praised*
- **laudātus** means *having been praised*

## Adjectives

Most adjectives are given with the following forms: masculine, feminine, neuter (all nominative singular).

For example: **plēnus, plēna, plēnum** *full*  
**trīstis, trīstis, trīste** *sad*

Some third declension adjectives, such as **ferōx** and **vetus**, change their stems. For these adjectives, the forms given are: nominative, genitive.

For example: **vetus, gen. veteris** *old*

See page 248 of the Reference, and pages 157 and 160 of Book 1 for more information on adjectives.

## Alternate forms

Parentheses around a letter in a word indicate that the word can be found with or without that letter.

For example: **saec(u)lum** (*generation*) shows that the word can be written **saeculum** or **saeculum**.

## Additional abbreviations

In addition to the abbreviations used throughout the book, the following are used in the dictionary:

- adv. = adverb;
- indic. = indicative;
- prep. = preposition;
- subj. = subjunctive.