

ADJECTIVES

GENERAL MEDICINE 5

Outline

- Introduction.
- Adjectival attribute.
- Paradigms for all three genders.
- Examples of use.
- Vocabulary.

Introduction

- Adjectives are used to further specify nouns.
- (E.g. *aqua pura* = **pure** water, *aqua destillata* = **distilled** water, *extremitas sinistra* = **left** extremity, *fractura complicata* = **complicated** fracture).
- An adjective in Latin medical terminology is always linked to a noun. Which means that (with few specific exceptions) we never find a lone adjective.
- An adjective depends on grammatical parameters of the noun. And it creates an identical (adjectival) attribute. (Word “identical” means in this case a grammatical conformity.)

- Adjectives are flexible, they use sets of suffixes similar to noun endings to express the relation with specific noun.
- If there are several adjectives in one expression then the system of grammatical cases and suffixes allows us to decide which adjectives are linked to particular nouns.
- Numerals are treated as adjectives in Latin.

Noun – adjective word order

- In English we usually put an adjective first: **long** operation, **dangerous** state, **first** vertebra.
- In Latin adjectives usually follow after their corresponding nouns: *operatio longa, status periculosus, vertebra prima.*

Adjectival attribute

- If we connect two nouns together (area of trachea, fracture of vertebra, lobe of thymus, pharmacist's plaster) we use genitive grammatical case in Latin (*area tracheae, fractura vertebrae, lobus thymi, emplastrum magistri*).
- If we connect a noun and an adjective, then the adjective has to reflect three grammatical parameters of the noun:
 - 1) grammatical case
 - 2) grammatical number
 - 3) gender.

- This means that: *musculus* (which is Nom., Sg., masculine) will be followed by an adjective in corresponding form: *longus*.
- If we change any of the given parameters the adjective will change its form accordingly:
 - *musculi* (Gen., Sg., masc.) *longi*
 - *musculi* (Nom, Pl., masc.) *longi*
 - *musculorum* (Gen., Pl., masc.) *longorum*.
- Note that some cases (Gen. Sg. and Nom. Pl.) have similar endings.

Paradigm

- It is therefore obvious that every adjective has to have specific set of suffixes to express a relation with nouns in all grammatical cases (2), both grammatical numbers (2), and all the genders (3).
- This results in $2 \times 2 \times 3 = 12$ different forms.
- Adjectives do not have their own paradigms, instead they borrow endings from first three declensions of nouns.

- There are two groups of adjectives:
 - adjectives that use endings from the 1st and 2nd declension,
 - adjectives that use endings from the 3rd declension.
- In this lesson only the first group will be explained.
- There are no adjectives which use endings from the 4th or 5th declension.

- An adjective always belongs to one of those groups. For example *novus, a, um* (new) uses only endings from the 1st and 2nd decl. and *mobilis, e* always endings from the 3rd decl.
- The declension of noun **does not** affect declension of the adjective. We often use mixed declensions which result in different suffixes. Example: *musculus mobilis*.

Vocabulary form

- Vocabulary form of an adjective expresses endings available in Nom. Sg. for all three genders. (This is because the adjective does not have its own gender, but can be linked to a masculine, feminine or neutral noun.) Example:
 - **novus, a, um**
 - Here “novus” is full form for masculine gender, “a” is ending for feminine one, and “um” for neutrals.

Paradigm

	singular			plural		
case	M	F	N	M	F	N
Nom.	<i>long -us</i>	<i>long -a</i>	<i>long -um</i>	<i>long -i</i>	<i>long -ae</i>	<i>long -a</i>
Gen.	<i>long -i</i>	<i>long -ae</i>	<i>long -i</i>	<i>long -orum</i>	<i>long -arum</i>	<i>long -orum</i>

Comments

- Please note that, sometimes one ending can be found in various cases. For example the adjective *longa* corresponds with nouns of following parameters:
 - feminine, Nom., Sg.
 - neutral, Nom., Pl.
- Or *longi* can be linked to:
 - masculine, Gen., Sg.
 - masculine, Nom., Pl.
 - neutral, Gen., Sg.

- Limited amount of adjectives has in Nom. Sg. for masculine gender ending *-er* instead of *-us*. Those exceptions have in all the remaining cases and genders similar endings as paradigm *longus, a, um*.
- This group of adjectives has slightly different dictionary form: *dexter, a, um; sinister, a, um*.
- The *-er* ending signifies clearly that the Nom. Sg. ending form masculines is *-er*.

Endings of nouns and their corresponding adjectives can be similar, but in fact they are often different.

- *musculus longus*
- *musculi longi*
- *musculi longi*
- *musculorum longorum*
- *colon longum*
- *coli longi*
- *cola longa*
- *colorum longorum*

- The difference between nominal and adjectival ending becomes more prominent when we have more declensions available.
- We can combine more nouns and adjectives together. Compare those examples:
 - muscle *musculus*
 - muscle of hand *musculus brachii*
 - long muscle of hand *musculus longus brachii*
 - long muscle of left hand *musculus longus brachii sinistri*

Test (10 min)

- Write all the possible forms for adjectives: *nutricius, a, um; urinarius, a, um; aeger, gra, grum; laesus, a, um; sextus, a, um.*
 - Translate:
 - gall bladder
 - acquired illness
 - congenital illnesses
- fracture of the 1st vertebra
rupture of a long muscle
stomachical nerves

Homework ...

- Review older vocabulary.
- Memorize adjectives in their vocabulary forms, pay attention to -er, -a, -um exception.
- Create five expressions using nouns and adjectives, transform them from Nom. to Gen. and from Sg. to Pl.