

Illustration of the Idea of Case in Latin

Case is usually a matter of **nouns, pronouns**, and the **adjectives** that describe those nouns and pronouns. Latin uses **different cases** to indicate **different functions** within a sentence.

Latin uses **different word-endings** to indicate different cases. **Brutus** is the **nominative**-case form. **Brute** is the **vocative** case form. **Brutum** is the **accusative**-case form. Thus:

Brutus venit. = Brutus is coming. Et tu, Brute! = You too, Brutus! Brutum video. = I see Brutus.

	1		1		2		3		4		5		6
	Marcus	and	Julia,	the	carpenter	made	us	a new	door	in the	house's	back	room.
	↑		↑		↑		↑		↑		↑		↑
CASE:	Vocative		Vocative		Nominative		Dative		Accusative		Genitive		Ablative

- 1 **Marcus** and **Julia** are the people who are being directly addressed. These names would be put into the **VOCATIVE** CASE.
 - 2 **Carpenter** is the **subject**, the agent that performs the action of the verb. It would be in the **NOMINATIVE** CASE.
 - 3 **Us** is an **indirect object** here. Indirect objects tend to be put into the **DATIVE** CASE.
 - 4 **Door** is the **direct object**, the DIRECT receiver of the action of the verb. Latin tends to use the **ACCUSATIVE** CASE for direct objects, although some verbs govern other cases.
 - 5 **House's** is a noun indicating **possession**. We are speaking about the door that belongs to the house. Possession is frequently indicated by the **GENITIVE** CASE.
 - 6 **Room** is a noun that is used as an **object of the preposition in** (Ask "In where?" "In the back room."). This preposition in would take an object in the **ABLATIVE** CASE to indicate place where.
- The **LOCATIVE** CASE, not illustrated here, is used to indicate place, e.g., "at Rome."