

The Dative Case In English

So far in this class, we have talked about:

1. Subjects/Complements
2. Direct Objects
3. Verbs (Present, Imperfect, Future)
4. Prepositional Phrases (SID P SPACE & Regular)

Here they are in the following sentence:

Optimus Prime **sent** **Bumblebee** **with help**.

In both English and Latin, words can also be **indirect objects**.

Optimus Prime sent **us** Bumblebee.

Indirect Objects & The Dative Case

An indirect object is any word that **indirectly** receives or interacts with the action of the verb. In Latin, we show the indirect object by using the **dative case**.

The word *dative* comes from the Latin *dō, dāre* (to give) because the dative case is often used with verbs of **giving, showing, and telling**.

You can often capture the dative case by using English word order:

villam feminae dō.
virō falsum dicēbās.

I am giving the woman the house.
You were telling the man a lie.

BUT it is often best and **easiest** to translate the dative case as **to/for** _____.

villam feminae dō.
virō falsum dicēbās.

I am giving the house to the woman.
You were telling a lie to the man.

WHENEVER YOU SEE THE DATIVE CASE, always first translate it with **to/for**. This works 99% of the time in any Latin context.

Complete Noun Paradigm

	1st Declension puella, puellae <i>f.</i> : girl		2nd Declension gladius, gladiī <i>m.</i> : sword		3rd Declension homō, hominis, c.: person
	Singular		Singular		Singular
Nominative	puell a		gladi us		homō
Genitive	puell ae		gladi ī		hominis
Dative	puell ae		gladi ō		homin ī
Accusative	puell am		gladi um		homin em
Ablative	puell ā		gladi ō		homin e
	Plural		Plural		Plural
Nominative	puell ae		gladi ī		homin ēs
Genitive	puell ārum		gladi ōrum		homin um
Dative	puell īs *		gladi īs *		homin ibus *
Accusative	puell ās		gladi ōs		homin ēs
Ablative	puell īs *		gladi īs *		homin ibus *

*note that the dative plural and ablative plural endings are **identical** to each other, so we really only have new endings in the singular.