Tria nomina

Typical Roman names for citizens of the late Republic had three parts (the "*tria nomina*"). Example: *Gaius Iulius Caesar* where:

- *Gaius* is a *praenomen* ("given name", plural *praenomina*),
- *Iulius* is a *nomen* ("*gens* or clan name", plural *nomina*), and
- *Caesar* is a *cognomen* ("family name within a *gens*", plural *cognomina*).

Some names had no *cognomen*, but in other cases a second *cognomen*, (called an *agnomen*), was added. Female names could follow similar conventions, with a few differences. Additional elements such as tribal affiliation and "filiation" (parentage), were also sometimes used.

After reading through the following instructions, write your carefully thought-out name here and show it to the election official (me).

praenomen	nomen	cognomen

Mihi nomen est: _____   _____   _____

Praenomen

A *praenomen*, the first part of a [Roman name](), is a personal name which distinguishes an individual from other members of the same family. The *praenomen* is not normally used on its own: normally only close relatives or very close friends call each other by their *praenomen*. There are only a small number of *praenomina* in ordinary use, please pick one of these. (see table below)

List of Standard *Praenomina*
These are the standard *praenomina*,
from most common to least common.

Abbreviation	Male Form	Female Form
C.	Gaius	Gaia
L.	Lucius	Lucia
M.	Marcus	Marca
P.	Publius	Publia
Q.	Quintus	Quinta
T.	Titus	Tita
Ti.	Tiberius	Tiberia
Sex.	Sextus	Sexta
A.	Aulus	Aula
D.	Decimus	Decima
Cn.	Gnaeus	Gnaea
Sp.	Spurius	Spuria
M'.	Manius	Mania
Ser.	Servius	Servia
Ap.	Appius	Appia
N.	Numerius	Numeria
V.	Vibius	Vibia

Nomen

A *nomen* indicates which *gens* a Roman belongs to. A *gens* is a loose collection of families sharing the same *nomen*. It is the middle part of the *tria nomina*, i.e., the three-part Roman name.

In ancient times a new citizen would join an existing *gens* so please pick one of the following;

Acilius Aebutius Aelius Aemilius	Furius Gabinius Galerius Geganius	Pontius Popillius Porcius Postumius

Albius	Gellius	Quinctilius
Amatius	Geminius	Quinctius
Annaeus	Genucius	Rubellius
Anneius	Gratius	Rufius
Annius	Herennius	Rutilius
Antonius	Hirtius	Sallustius
Arrius	Horatius	Salonius
Artorius	Hortensius	Salvius
Asinius	Hostilius	Scribonius
Atilius	Iulius	Seius
Atius	Iunius	Sempronius
Aurelius	Iuventius	Sentius
Autronius	Laelius	Sergius
Caecilius	Lartius	Sertorius
Caedicius	Licinius	Servilius
Caelius	Livius	Sextius
Calidius	Lucilius	Sicinius
Calpurnius	Lucretius	Suetonius
Cassius	Manlius	Sulpicius
Claudius	Marcius	Tarpeius
Cloelius	Marius	Tarquitius
Cocceius	Memmius	Terentius
Cominius	Menenius	Titinius
Cornelius	Minicius	Titurius
Coruncanius	Minius	Tuccius
Curiatius	Minucius	Tullius
Curius	Modius	Ulpius
Curtius	Mucius	Valerius
Decius	Naevius	Vedius
Didius	Nautius	Velleius
Domitius	Numerius	Vergilius
Duilius	Numicius	Verginius
Durmius	Octavius	Vibius
Equitius	Ovidius	Villius
Fabius	Papirius	Vipsanius
Fabricius	Petronius	Vitellius
Fannius	Pinarius	**More on Back**
Flavius	Pompeius	Vitruvius
Fulvius	Pompilius	Volumnius

Cognomen

A *cognomen* is a family name which would be shared by a group of blood relatives. *Cognomina* often, but not always, referred to a person's appearance or other characteristics. It was also common to have a *cognomen* referring to a place of birth, a job, or some other thing which distinguished the person (usually an ancestor) who first bore that *cognomen*. Often it can be insulting or comical in nature like Cicero=

"chickpea" for an ancestor of Cicero's whose nose looked like a chickpea. See the other list for suggestions.

<u>Latinizing your own name</u>

Often when a foreigner became a Roman citizen in ancient times he would keep his old name as a *cognomen*, adjusting it to make it easier for Latin-speakers to say and giving it a Latin ending. If you choose this option, you can use either your first name or your surname. An example would be Robert -> Robertus.

Please see [this list](#) of Cognomina to see common Roman Congnomina to choose from.

Modified from NovaRoma.org