

Latin Verbs: The Principal Parts of the Verb

When a typical Latin verb is presented to you in vocabulary lists, you will almost always see **four forms of that verb**. These forms are called the **principal parts of the verb**. Knowing them helps you to be able to recognize, understand, and produce all the other forms of the verb.

<i>First Principal Part</i>	<i>Second Principal Part</i>	<i>Third Principal Part</i>	<i>Fourth Principal Part</i>
<p>amô</p> <p>is the present indicative 1st person singular form:</p> <p>I love</p>	<p>amâre</p> <p>is always the present active infinitive:</p> <p>to love</p>	<p>amâvî</p> <p>is the perfect (= present perfect) active 1st person singular form:</p> <p>I have loved</p>	<p>amâtus</p> <p>is the past participle:</p> <p>loved = <i>having been loved</i></p>

Note 1: The third part will not always end in -î, but sometimes in _____-us sum. These belong to a special class of verbs called **deponents**.

Note 2: The fourth part will not always be present. If it ends in -ûrus rather than -us, it is an *active future participle*. For example, **pernoctâtûrus** means "about to spend the night."

Given the principal parts for any verb, be sure that you are able to understand the meanings that go with them. Practice with the list given below.

<i>Typical Definition</i>	<i>1st Principal Part</i>	<i>2d Principal Part</i>	<i>3d Principal Part</i>	<i>4th Principal Part</i>
to give	dô	dare	dedî	datus

<i>Understand as:</i>	I give	to give	I have given	given
1. to think / consider	côgitô	côgitâre	côgitâvî	côgitâtus
2. to preserve	conservô	conservâre	conservâvî	conservâtus
3. to wander / err	errô	errâre	errâvî	errâtus
4. to praise	laudô	laudâre	laudâvî	laudâtus
5. to save	servô	servâre	servâvî	servâtus
6. to call	vocô	vocâre	vocâvî	vocâtus
7. to help	iuvô	iuvâre	iûvî	iûtus
8. to dine	cênô	cênâre	cênâvî	cênâtus
9. to blame	culpô	culpâre	culpâvî	culpâtus
10. to overcome	superô	superâre	superâvî	superâtus
11. to endure	tolerô	tolerâre	tolerâvî	tolerâtus
12. to kill	necô	necâre	necâvî	necâtus
13. to point out	dêmônstrô	dêmônstrâre	dêmônstrâvî	dêmônstrâtus
14. to create	creô	creâre	creâvî	creâtus
15. to change	mûtô	mûtâre	mûtâvî	mûtâtus
16. to name	appellô	appellâre	appellâvî	appellâtus
17. to change	mûtô	mûtâre	mûtâvî	mûtâtus

18. to avoid	vîtô	vîtâre	vîtâvî	vîtâtus
19. to await	exspectô	exspectâre	exspectâvî	exspectâtus
20. to assist	adiuvô	adiuvâre	adiûvî	adiûtus
21. to long for	dêsîderô	dêsîderâre	dêsîderâvî	dêsîderâtus
22. to sail	nâvigô	nâvigâre	nâvigâvî	nâvigâtus
23. to read aloud	recitô	recitâre	recitâvî	recitâtus
24. to delight	dêlectô	dêlectâre	dêlectâvî	dêlectâtus
25. to free	liberô	liberâre	liberâvî	liberâtus
26. to prepare	parô	parâre	parâvî	parâtus
27. to announce	prônûntiô	prônûntiâre	prônûntiâvî	prônûntiâtus
28. to work	labôrô	labôrâre	labôrâvî	labôrâtus
29. to train	êducô	êducâre	êducâvî	êducâtus
30. to tell	narrô	narrâre	narrâvî	narrâtus
31. to deny	negô	negâre	negâvî	negâtus
32. to announce	nûntiô	nûntiâre	nûntiâvî	nûntiâtus
33. to think	putô	putâre	putâvî	putâtus
34. to hope	spêrô	spêrâre	spêrâvî	spêrâtus
35. to invite	invîtô	invîtâre	invîtâvî	invîtâtus
36. to approve	probô	probâre	probâvî	probâtus
37. to dedicate	dêdicô	dêdicâre	dêdicâvî	dêdicâtus
38. to supply / excel	praestô	praestâre	praestîvî	praestîtus
39. to fight	pugnô	pugnâre	pugnâvî	pugnâtus
40. to doubt / hesitate	dubitô	dubitâre	dubitâvî	dubitâtus
41. to ask	rogô	rogâre	rogâvî	rogâtus
42. to refuse	recûsô	recûsâre	recûsâvî	recûsâtus
43. to observe / watch	spectô	spectâre	spectâvî	spectâtus
44. to give an order to	imperô	imperâre	imperâvî	imperâtus
45. to care for / heal	cûrô	cûrâre	cûrâvî	cûrâtus
46. to amuse / delight	oblectô	oblectâre	oblectâvî	oblectâtus
47. to plead / beg	ôrô	ôrâre	ôrâvî	ôrâtus
48. to restore / cheer	recreô	recreâre	recreâvî	recreâtus
49. to brighten / cheer up	serênô	serênâre	serênâvî	serênâtus
50. to walk	ambulô	ambulâre	ambulâvî	ambulâtus
51. to assault	oppugnô	oppugnâre	oppugnâvî	oppugnâtus
52. to equip / adorn	ôrnô	ôrnâre	ôrnâvî	ôrnâtus
53. to unfold / explain	explicô	explicâre	explicâvî	explicâtus
54. to weary	fatîgô	fatîgâre	fatîgâvî	fatîgâtus