THIRD CONJUGATION VERBS

Third Conjugation Verbs have the infinitive ending in -**ere.** (Note the difference from the -ere of the 2d conjugation).

1. Present tense has the characteristic vowel -i:

-**o**	-**imus**	Thus:	**peto**	**petimus**
-**is**	-**itis**		**petis**	**petitis**
-**it**	-**unt**		**petit**	**petunt**

Note that the characteristic vowel -**i**- of the third conjugation in the present tense changes to -**unt** in the 3rd person plural.

2. The Imperfect tense is completely regular (with the short -**e**- of the infinitive lengthening to -**e**- before the characteristic -**ba**- ending):

petebam	**petebamus**
petebas	**petebatis**
petebat	**petebant**

3. The Future tense differs significantly from what we have seen in the first and second conjugations. There the characteristic symbol was -bi-, inserted before the personal ending. For the Third Conjugation the characteristic vowel is -**e**- (with -**am** in the first personal singular):

petam	**petemus**
petes	**petetis**
petet	**petent**

4. The Perfect tenses (Perfect, Pluperfect and Future Perfect) are regular, forming normally from the stem of the third principal part. The Perfect Stem, however, varies widely. Note the following:

bibo, -ere, bibi, bibitum, *to drink*

claudo, -ere, clausi, clausum, *to close*

cresco, -ere, crevi, cretum, *to grow*

desisto, -ere, -stiti, -stitum, *to desist, stop*

dico, -ere, dixi, dictum, *to say, speak*

figo, -ere, fixi, fixum, *to fasten, affix, transfix*

lego, -ere, legi, lectum*, to read; gather; choose*

mitto, -ere, misi, missum, *to send*

pono, -ere, posui, positum, *to put, place*

peto, -ere, petivi, petitum, *to seek, ask*

quaero, -ere, quaesivi, quaesitum, *to seek, inquire*

quaeso, -ere, *to beg, ask*

relinquo, -ere, reliqui, relictum, *to leave behind*

traho, -ere, traxi, tractum, *to draw, drag*

A few verbs show reduplication in the Perfect Stem:

cado, -ere, cecidi, casum, *to fall*
caedo, -ere, cecidi, caesum, *to cut*
curro, -ere, cucurri, cursum, *to run*
disco, -ere, didici, *to learn*
fallo, -ere, fefelli, falsum, *to deceive*

parco, -ere, peperci, parsum, *to spare*
pello, -ere, pepuli, pulsum, *to drive*
tango, -ere, tetigi, tactum, *to touch*
tendo, -ere, tetendi, tentum or tensum, *to stretch*

5. Third -**io verbs:** Some 3rd conjugation verbs end in -**io** in the 1st pers. sing., present tense. They show -**iunt** in the 3rd pers. pl., present tense. The -**i**- also appears throughout the imperfect and the future tenses. The perfect tenses are regular, formed from the stem of the third principal part. Note the paradigm for **facio, facere, feci, factum**, to make, do:

Present	Imperfect	Future	Perfect	Pluperfect	Fut. Perf.
facio	faciebam	faciam	feci	feceram	fecero
facis	faciebas	facies	fecisti	feceras	feceris
facit	faciebat	faciet	fecit	fecerat	fecerit
facimus	faciebamus	faciemus	fecimus	feceramus	fecerimus
facitis	faciebatis	facietis	fecistis	feceratis	feceritis
faciunt	faciebant	facient	fecerunt	fecerant	fecerint

Note the following common third conjugation -io verbs:

facio, -ere, feci, factum, *to make, do*
fugio, -ere, fugi, fugitum, *to flee*

rapio, -ere, rapui, raptum, *to seize, carry off*