

Faliscan

Noun declensions

There are no complete paradigms for nouns.

Nouns

Faliscan seems to have the same declension classes as Latin, albeit with slightly different endings.

First declension

	nom.	acc.	gen.	dat.	abl.	voc.
sg.	filea	urnam	titias	karai	(sententiad)	—
pl.	—	—	—	—	—	sociali

The endings of nominative singular, accusative singular, dative singular, and vocative plural are as in Latin. The nominative, accusative, and dative singular continue inherited endings. The vocative plural, as in Latin, continues the endings of pronouns; the original ending was $-aH_2as > -\bar{a}s$, cf. Oscan nominative plural **aasas** ‘altars’.

The genitive singular differs from classical Latin, which has $-ae < -\bar{a}i$, i.e. the *o*-stem ending has been added. Early Latin also has the inherited ending $-\bar{a}s$, which Faliscan has preserved:

atque escas habeamus mentionem (Liv. Andr. Odusia 7)

Giacomelli thinks that **pola** (Ve 277a) could be a genitive, in which case final $-s$ is left out; very uncertain.

sententiad comes from Ve 320, an inscription which is essentially Latin, but which has some Faliscan elements. The form is normal Latin.

Second declension

	nom.	acc.	gen.	dat.	abl.	voc.
sg.	cauios, duenom	uinom, uino	kaisiosio, marci	titoi	—	uoltene
pl.	(falesce)	—	—	—	—	—

The nominative singular continues inherited forms, $-os$ for the masculine and $-om$ for the neuter; these are also the forms of archaic Latin. In later inscriptions the final consonants are lost. The accusative singular also continues the inherited ending, and again loss of final $-m$ can be seen. The vocative continues the inherited ending, as in Latin. The dative ending goes back to $-\bar{o}i$; cf. also *Numasioi* on the fibula from Praeneste. Latin $-\bar{o}$ is presumably a sandhi-variant in origin.

The nominative plural is in a Latin inscription (Ve 320A); it is essentially a Latin form, *-oi* > closed *-ē* > *-ī*.

The genitive singular in *-osio* is attested from the 7th to the 5th century, while *-ī* occurs from the 4th c. onwards.

-osio: inherited, cf. Sanskrit *vrk-asya* ‘of the wolf’, Homeric Greek Πριάμου ‘of Priam’

Latin *Popliosio Valesiosio suodales* ‘the comrades of Publius Valerius’ (Lapis Satricanus, 6th c.); Ve 364 **titoio** = Latin from Ardea, probably 3rd c., with *-sy-* > *-yy-*; Metioeoque Fufetioeo Enn. *ann.* 129 = archaic, or deliberately taken from Homeric Greek? Is the latter what Quintilian means by *barbarismus* (*inst. orat.* 1. 5. 12)?

-ī cannot be derived from *-osio*

-ī: Latin; Celtic: Old Irish Ogam *maqqi* ‘of the son’

Faliscan: *-ī* is not simply a Latinism because it spreads too early; probably co-existence of both forms inherited in Latin and Faliscan, but in Latin *-ī* ousts the other form more quickly; no semantic rationale for the distribution in Faliscan discernible.

Venetic: a number of genitives in *-i*: *CEVTINI* (Pa 19), *ENONI* (Bl 1), **vilkeni** (*Pa 31); not all of them are equally certain, but on the whole the evidence is in favour of a thematic genitive ending in *-i*. There is also the inscription Od 7: a) **kaialoiso**, b) **padros.pompētugaios**; this was found in Oderzo, which is the main reason for classifying it as Venetic, and it apparently has the genitive ending *-oiso*. Perhaps the inscription is in Lepontic (Celtic), which has several genitives like that; at least the name Pompētugaios looks Celtic as well, and Celtic patronymics are often in *-alos*.

Oscan and Umbrian have the genitive ending *-eis* of the *i*-stems, cf. Oscan **sakarakleís** ‘sacrarii’.

Third declension, consonant stems

	nom.	acc.	gen.	dat.	abl.	voc.
sg.	apolo, uxor	—	apolonos, loifirtato	(plenese)	—	—

The most interesting form is the genitive singular. Classical Latin has *-is* < *-es*. The genitive in *-os* occurs in Greek and just differs in the Ablaut grade. Faliscan also has *-os*, sometimes without the final *-s*. This may be an archaism, as Latin sometimes also has a genitive in *-os* / *-us*. The genitive in *-os* has sometimes been classified as dialectal, but this seems untenable; cf. *Bacas. vir. nequis. adiese. uelet. ceiuis. Romanus. neue. nominus. Latini. neue. socium*; this is from the SC de Bacchanalibus, written in Rome.

plenese is from a Latin inscription (Ve 321) and is regarded as the dative of a Faliscan personal name. *-e* comes from *-ei*.

Third declension, i-stems

	nom.	acc.	gen.	dat.	abl.	voc.
sg.	ortecese, efile (?)	—	felicinate	(abelese)	—	—
pl.	efiles	—	—	—	—	—

ortecese, a nomen gentiliicum has been regarded as an ethnic name in origin, **Horticensis* ‘from Horta’. Giacomelli points out a number of difficulties: the absence of *h-* would be odd, in Latin the ethnic is *Hortanus*, *Hortinus*, or *Hortensis*, and finally the *-ec-* in the suffix has no parallels. Giacomelli suggests an original meaning ‘from **Orteca*’. The ending reflects **-is*, as in Latin; final *-s* is lost or weakened and *-ǰ-* is rendered as *-e*. **efile** in Ve 264 b could be singular or plural.

The nominative plural is the same as in Latin and comes from **-eyes*.

felicinate belongs to a nomen gentiliicum **Feliginatis*, cf. Latin *Fulginates* and in Pliny (N.H. 3. 114) *Feliginates*. The ending attests e-vocalism, as in Latin *-is* < *-es*.

abelese seems to be a feminine dative; perhaps it is an ethnicon which has become a nomen gentiliicum (*Abellensis*). The dative is actually on a Latin inscription and the spelling *-e* is slightly old-fashioned for *-i*; *-ei* became closed *-ē* and then *-ī*.

Fourth declension

	nom.	acc.	gen.	dat.	abl.	voc.
sg.	—	—	(zenatuo)	mercui	—	—

The oldest Latin dative ending is *-ū* rather than *-uī*. It corresponds to Umbrian **trifo** = Latin ‘tribui’. Thus it seems that in Proto-Italic inherited **-ew-ey* was replaced by **-ow*. Latin *-uī* has added the ending of the third declension, and Faliscan does the same, though it is unclear if it does so independently.

zenatuo is from Ve 320, a late inscription written in Faliscan script, but essentially Latin language. The author tries to include some Faliscan elements, *z-* being one of them. The ending *-uo(s)* could be Faliscan, but also Latin; following the third declension, Latin has genitives such as *anuis* (Ter. *Haut.* 287) or *senatuos* (cf. SC de Bacchanalibus).

Fifth declension

foied < *hōd-diēd*, with the same innovated ablative ending *-ēd* as Latin.

Pronouns

The attested forms are **eqo**, **med** accusative, **ues** ‘you’ pl. The first form is /ego/ phonologically and corresponds exactly to Latin. The accusative has the ablative ending, again as in Latin, but unlike in Oscan and Umbrian. This is a peculiar innovation of Latino-Faliscan. **ues** has an ablaut grade different from Latin **uos**.