

ROMAN TOMBSTONES AND THE DATIVE CASE – Teacher’s Notes

This worksheet focuses on the dative singular in the 1st and 2nd declension only.

Exercise 1:

Each of these is prefaced by the words ‘To the spirits of the departed’.

- 1) Cornelia set this up for Tiberius
- 2) Decimus set this up for Quintus
- 3) Livia set this up for Arria
- 4) Lucius set this up for Marcia and Julia
- 5) Septimus (set this up) for Fausta
- 6) Paulus set this up for Claudia

Exercise 2:

The words may appear in any order, but most often *fecit* appears at the end

- 1) Romulus Remo fecit
- 2) Octavianus Octaviae fecit
- 3) Tertia Manio fecit
- 4) Aulus Quartae fecit
- 5) Faustus Plautillae fecit
- 6) Quintus Caecilio fecit

Extension Exercise:

Consolidate the students’ understanding of the nominative and dative case by using other verbs:

e.g. *Marcus Rufo dixit* – ‘Marcus said (it) to Rufus’

ancilla dominae cantavit - ‘the slave-girl sang to her mistress’

If your students are already familiar with the accusative case, they should be able to build more complicated sentences (with both a *direct* (acc.) and *indirect* (dat.) object):

e.g. *Agrippina rosam amico dedit* – ‘Agrippina gave a rose to her friend’

Augustus epistulam Liviae scripsit – ‘Augustus wrote a letter to Livia’