Caput VIII – 3rd Conjugation Verbs

Review "Present System":

3rd Conjugation Verbs:

ex: agō, agere, ēgī, actum

Thematic Vowel: (How will you distinguish this from the 2nd conjugation?)

Present Tense of 3rd Conj. Verbs:

- Combine the stem with the standard **PIE thematic vowels** (o/e/e/e/o) as the tense marker (like we did with the future of *sum*), in the **Basic (e) grade**.
- Add the present system personal endings, the usual vowels undergo weakening
- Helpful mnemonic: "I-O-U a Present"

agō, agere – present active indicative

	sing.	plural
1 st		
2 nd		
3rd		

Imperfect Tense of 3rd Conj. Verbs:

- Combine the stem and "ēbā" as the imperfect tense marker (like we have done for all the conjugations); (eē > ē, an expected contraction)
- Add the present system personal endings, the usual vowels undergo shortening
- Helpful mnemonic for all Impfs.: "Every imperfect has a "bā", they're educated!"

agō, agere – imperfect active indicative

	sing.	plural
1 st		
2 nd		
3rd		

Future Tense of 3rd Conj. Verbs:

- Recall that the future in Latin was originally developed from the PIE Subjunctive, which was "increase one vowel grade" (like we saw with *sum*, which went from Zero to **Basic (e) grade** for the future).
- So, since the 3rd conjugation is already **Basic (e) grade**, it will form the future by lengthening the vowel grade by one, to "Lengthened ē grade."
- The only difficulty is the 1st person singular, which might have just been "-ō," but due to the fact that this would have been homophonous with the present, it instead uses an "ā" as a tense marker. This "ā" is of undetermined origin.
- Add the present system personal endings, the usual vowels undergo shortening
- Helpful mnemonic: "The "A" + 5 "E"s Rule"

agō, agere – future active indicati	ve
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	sing.	plural
1 st		
2 nd		
3 rd		

Present Active Imperative:

- As usual, the present active singular imperative is **simply the verb stem** (with thematic vowel)
- To form the plural imperative, add the usual personal ending "-te", which results in the usual weakening of the thematic vowel
- There were, however, 4 exceptions to this rule in the singular imperative only: $d\bar{c}c\bar{o}$, $d\bar{u}c\bar{o}$, $faci\bar{o}$, and *ferre*, whose singular imperatives dropped the thematic vowel entirely and resulted in a **monosyllabic imperative**: $d\bar{c}c!$, $d\bar{u}c!$, fac!, and fer!

Give the present active IMPERATIVE of the following verbs:

agō, agere: sing._____

dīcō, dīcere: sing._____

plur.			

plur.

Key Terms:
Present System
PIE Theme Vowels

Basic (e) grade Lengthened (ē) grade 3rd Conjugation Verbs Monosyllabic imperatives To help you review the Present System of Verbs, choose a verb and then fill in each of the following paradigms:

Verb:,,,,				
Pers.	PRESENT	FUTURE	IMPERFECT	
	F	Singular		
1 st				
2 nd				
3 rd				
		Plural		
1 st				
2 nd				
3 rd				

Verb:_____, _____, _____, _____,

Pers.	PRESENT	FUTURE	IMPERFECT	
	Singular			
1 st				
2 nd				
3 rd				
		Plural		
1 st				
2 nd				
3 rd				