

only when governed by a preposition ; in all other cases the infinitive supplies the accusative.

The following table shows the declension of a verb by examples :—

- N. *Scribere difficile est*, writing or to write is difficult.  
 G. *Ars scribendi*, the art of writing.  
 D. *Puer operam dat scribendo*, the boy studies writing.  
 A. { *Puer cupit scribere*, the boy wishes to write.  
       *Puer paratus est ad scribendum*, the boy is ready to write.  
 Ab. *Puer fatigatus est scribendo*, the boy is tired from writing.

NOTE 1.—Sometimes we find an infinitive, where we might expect the genitive of the gerund, especially after the expressions *tempus est*, *consilium capio*, and a few others ; but in such cases *tempus est* is equivalent to “it is necessary,” and *consilium capio* to “I resolve,” as : *tempus est abire*, it is time (or necessary) to depart ; *consilium capio pugnare*, he resolved to fight. The genitive of the gerund in these cases would slightly alter the meaning, and *tempus* and *consilium* would retain their full force.

NOTE 2.—The dative of the gerund is less frequently used than the other cases, and is generally changed into the gerundive. Examples : *agua utilis est bibendo*, water is useful to drink ; *intentus venando*, bent upon hunting ; *solvendo non esse*, to be insolvent ; *consul placandis diis* (for *placando deos*) *dat operam*, the consul devotes himself to appeasing the gods.

NOTE 3.—The accusative of the gerund is used only with the prepositions *ad*, *ob*, *ante*, *inter*, *circa*, and *in*. There are a few instances in which *inter* is found with an infinitive, as *Aristo et Pyrrho inter optime vivere et gravissime negotiare nihil prorsus interesse dicebant*, Aristo and Pyrrho used to say that there was no difference at all between living in the best manner, and being most severely ill.

NOTE 4.—The ablative of the gerund is generally an ablative of the instrument or manner, and the gerundive is but rarely used in the construction called the ablative absolute.

§ 252. The gerundive is a passive participle, generally implying the idea of necessity or possibility, and has the agent by whom the action is to be done in the dative instead of the ablative with the preposition *a* or *ab*, as :

*Pater amandus est.*

The father is to be loved, must be loved, or deserves to be loved.

*Ut religio propaganda est, sic superstitionis stirpes omnes ejiciendae.*

As religion deserves to be propagated, so all the roots of superstition ought to be extirpated.

*Mihi scribendum est.*

Writing must be done by me, or I must write.

*Bellum mihi gerendum est.*

War must be carried on by me.