The first edition of "Systema Naturæ" was published in 1735 and the last (12th) in 1768. Zoologists accept as the starting point for determining the generic and specific names of animals the tenth edition of 1758, while botanists have taken the 1753 edition of the "Species Plantarum", of which the first edition was published in 1737, as their starting point in nome. Jatur.

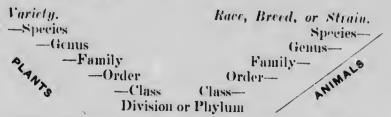
Before Linnæus, the line was described as the "cat with a tuft at the end of the tail," and the tiger as the "yellow cat variegated with long black stripes." Such a method of description was both cumbersome and unsystematic, especially when the number of species became numerous.

Linnæus gave each species a double name, e.g., Felis leo and Felis tigris, the second name being the specific title, the Fe first the genus, a group of more or less similar species. In addition, genera were grouped into Orders, and Cauers into Classes.

With the adoption of the binomial system "certainty and precision were introduced into the art of description."

Batsch in 1780 introduced the term Family between Genus and Order, and Haeckel in 1886 the term Phylum for a grouping of similar classes.

The successive steps are known as Divisions, Classes, Orders, Families, Genera, Species, Varieties which may be arranged as follows:



Thus in time through the efforts of many expert systematists all the known plants and animals have been classified. For example, the Spy apple belongs to the Division Spermaphytes, (seed-bearing plants), to the Class Dicotyledons (with two-seed leaves), to the Order Rocales, to the Family Rosaceæ, to the Genus Pyru to the Species Mali, and finally to the Variety Spy.

Similarly the domestic cat belongs to the Phylum Chordata (back-boned animals), to the Class Mammalia (mammals), to the Order Carnivora (flesh-eaters), to the Family Felidæ (the cat kind), to the Genus Felis, to the Species domesticus.