

Words for Exercise.

Acies, a point; *effigies*, a likeness; *facies*, a face; *fides*, faith; *spēcies*, an appearance; *plēbes*, the commonalty; *spēs*, a hope; *sēries*, a series; *mēridies*, mid-day.

NOTE 1.—All words of this declension are feminine, except *dies*, which, in the singular, is used both as a masculine and as a feminine; but in the plural is masculine only. *Mēridies* is masculine only.

NOTE 2.—The genitive and dative singular ending in *ei* is sometimes contracted into *ē* or *i*, as *diē* = *diēi*; *plēbi* = *plēbei*. Moreover, the *e* preceding the *i* in these two cases is long when preceded by a vowel, but short when preceded by a consonant—hence *diēi*, but *rēi*.

NOTE 3.—There are only a few nouns belonging to this declension, and *res* and *dies* are the only ones that have both the singular and the plural complete; all the rest are used only in the singular, or at most only in the nominative and accusative of the plural.

NOTE 4.—Several nouns of this declension, besides the nominative in *es*, have another ending in *a* and follow the first declension: as *materies* and *materia*, timber; *mollities* and *mollitia*, softness, and a few others.

CHAPTER XI.

PECULIARITIES AND IRREGULARITIES IN THE DECLENSION OF SUBSTANTIVES.

§ 36. 1. Some spurious compound substantives decline both nouns of which they are composed: as *respublica* (a state), genitive *reipublicae*, accusative *rempublicam*, &c.; *jūsjurandum* (an oath), genitive *jūrsjurandi*. The same is the case with some compound pronouns, as *unusquisque* (every-one), genitive *uniuscujusque*, &c. (see § 61, 7).

2. Some substantives are indeclinable: as *fās*, a thing in accordance with divine law; *nēfās*, contrary to divine law; *instar*, resemblance; *pondo*, a pound; the names of the letters of the alphabet, as *alpha*, *beta*, *gamma*; and any words which, without being substantives, are used as such. Verbs, however, when used as substantives, have a complete declension in the singular: as nominative *scribere*, writing; genitive *scribendi*, of writing; dative *scribendo*, to writing; accusative *scribere* or *scribendum*, writing; ablative *scribendo*, from, with, or by writing.

3. Some substantives are used only in the plural: as *arma*, arms; *liberi*, children; *fēriæ*, a holiday; *tēnebræ*, darkness; *nuptiæ*, marriage; *manubiæ*, booty; *moenia*, the walls of a city; *divitiæ*, wealth, and many others.