

Language note 1+: Four conjugations

1. Look at the following sentences:

tū in popīnā labōr**ās**.

You work in the bar.

tū in cellā dorm**is**.

You sleep in the room.

Both verbs mean *you* are doing something, so end **-s**. If you look more closely, you'll see that **labōrās** ends **-ās** and **dormīs** ends **-īs**. That's because they are different types of verbs which have very slightly different endings.

2. There are four main types of verbs in Latin and these four types are known as **conjugations**. Notice the difference in their endings:

	1 st Conjugation	2 nd Conjugation	3 rd Conjugation	4 th Conjugation
I	labōr ō	ride ō	leg ō	dormi ō
you (s.)	labōr ās	rid ēs	leg is	dormi īs
he, she, it	labōr at	rid et	leg it	dormi t

3. When reading Latin, the **-ō**, **-s** and **-t** endings are enough to tell us who is carrying out the action. However, when writing Latin, we need to know which conjugation the Latin verb is.

Check ✓

Complete the following translations:

- You are reading in the room.
tū in cellā
- Manius is laughing in the street.
Mānius in viā
- I am working in the bar.
ego in popīnā
- Lucilius is sleeping in the litter.
Lūcīlius in lectīcā