

Nouns-Basic Declension

Each noun has a stem, which carries the basic meaning of noun, and an ending indicating the role that it plays (subjects/nominative or the object / accusative of the verb--Case) and the number (singular or plural). This morphing of noun forms is called 'declension'.

Noun stems can be grouped by gender (masculine, neuter or feminine) or by the letter the noun stem ends a, ā, i, ī, u, ū

	Masculine				Neuter				Feminine				Notes		
	Singular		Plural		Singular		Plural		Singular		Plural		<p>All nouns have a gender.</p> <p>Most nouns end in vowels</p> <p>Noun stems ending with a - short i and short u can belong to all 3 genders. - short a – masculine and neuter - long ū either masculine or feminine. - long ā only found in the feminine.</p> <p>Noun Endings-masculine Singular-similar to the ending of the stem--the exception is short 'a' which take an 'o' for the nominative and in accusative aṃ</p> <p>Plurals-nominative endings are same as the noun stem but made long and if long stays long. - accusative case is almost the same as the nominative in the plural except for stems ending in a short a take 'e'</p>		
	Nom	Acc	Nom	Acc	Nom	Acc	Nom	Acc	Nom	Acc	Nom	Acc			
a	loka	o	aṃ	ā	e	rūpa	aṃ	aṃ	āni	āni					
ā											kathā	ā	aṃ	ā	ā
i	muni	i	iṃ	ī	ī	akkhi	iṃ	iṃ	īni	īni	jati	i	iṃ	ī	ī
ī											nadī	ī	īṃ	īyo	īyo
u	bhikkhu	u	uṃ	ū	ū	vatthu	uṃ	uṃ	ūni	ūni	Dhatu	u	uṃ	ū	ū
ū	viññū	ū	uṃ	ū	ū						vadhū	ū	ūṃ	ū	ū

Examples...

male ending with 'a' vowel,
 neuter ending with 'i' vowel, and
 female ending with ī vowel

		Singular		Plural			Singular		Plural	
		Nom	Acc	Nom	Acc		Nom	Acc	Nom	acc
Male	nara	o	aṃ	ā	e		naro	naraṃ	narā	nare
Neuter	akkhi	īṃ	īṃ	ī, īni	ī, īni		akkhīṃ	akkhiṃ	akkhīni	akkhīni
Female	nārī	ī	īṃ	ī, iyo	ī, iyo		nārī	nārīṃ	nārīyo	nārīyo

In Pali, verbs must match their subject noun in both person (1st, 2nd or 3rd) and number (singular or plural). The changing of verb ending is known as Conjugation

Person	Sin	Plu	
1 st —I	mi	ma	
2 nd – you	si	tha	
3 rd —he, she, it, a place	ti	nti	

	Singular		Plural	
1 st – I / we	bhavāmi		Bhavāma	
2 nd – you	bhavasi		bhavantha	
3 rd -he, she/ they	bhavati		bhavanti	
1 st – I / we	ahaṃ passāmi	I see	mayāṃ passaāma	We see
2 nd – you	tvaṃ passasi	You see	tumhe passatha	You see
3 rd -he, she/ they	So passata	He sees	te passanti	They see