

More on Nominals

Part I: Nouns

Part II: The Noun Phrase

a-Stem Nouns (Masculine and Neuter)

masc	sg	pl	neut	sg	pl
<i>Nom.</i>	hestr	hestar	<i>Nom.</i>	barn	børn
<i>Acc.</i>	hest	hesta	<i>Acc.</i>	barn	børn
<i>Gen.</i>	hests	hesta	<i>Gen.</i>	barns	barna
<i>Dat.</i>	hesti	hestum	<i>Dat.</i>	barni	børnum

- ▶ Genitive singular normally *-s*; forms in *-ar* originate as *i-* or *u-*stems (*skógr* “forest” : *skógar*; *hofundr* “chieftain” : *hofundar*)
- ▶ Thematic vowel *a* (masc. nom/acc pl.)
- ▶ Nom/acc pl. in neuters subject to labial mutation

ō-Stem Nouns (Feminine)

	fem	sg	pl
<i>Nom.</i>		þqrf	þarfar
<i>Acc.</i>		þqrf	þarfar
<i>Gen.</i>		þarfar	þarfa
<i>Dat.</i>		þqrf	þqrfum

- ▶ Genitive singular in *-ar*
- ▶ Thematic vowel *a* (nom./acc. plural)
- ▶ Nom, acc., dat. singular subject to labial mutation

Subtypes

1. *a*-stems

- a. Pure: *hestr*, pl. *bestar*
- b. *ja*-stems: *niðr*, pl. *niðjar*
- c. *wa*-stems: *sær*, pl. *sævar*

2. *ō*-stems

- a. Pure: *þorǫf*, pl. *þarfar*
- b. *jō*-stems: *ben*, pl. *benjar*
- c. *wō*-stems: *doǫgg*, pl. *doǫggvar*

Short *ja*-Stems (Masc/Neut) and *jō*-Stems (Fem)

masc	sg	pl
<i>Nom.</i>	niðr	niðjar
<i>Acc.</i>	nið	niðja
<i>Gen.</i>	niðs	niðja
<i>Dat.</i>	nið	niðjum

fem	sg	pl
<i>Nom.</i>	ben	benjar
<i>Acc.</i>	ben	benjar
<i>Gen.</i>	benjar	benja
<i>Dat.</i>	ben	benjum

- ▶ Show *j* before a back vowel

Long *ja*-Stems (Masc/Neut) and *jō*-Stems (Fem)

masc	sg	pl
<i>Nom.</i>	hirðir	hirðar
<i>Acc.</i>	hirði	hirða
<i>Gen.</i>	hirðis	hirða
<i>Dat.</i>	hirði	hirðum

fem	sg	pl
<i>Nom.</i>	ríki	ríki
<i>Acc.</i>	ríki	ríki
<i>Gen.</i>	ríkis	ríkja
<i>Dat.</i>	ríki	ríkjum

- ▶ *j* disappeared following a long vowel, except after *g* or *k*
- ▶ *i* survives across the singular

wa-Stems (Masc/Neut) and *wō*-Stems (Fem)

masc	sg	pl	fem	sg	pl
<i>Nom.</i>	sær	sævar	<i>Nom.</i>	qr	qrvar
<i>Acc.</i>	sæ	sæva	<i>Acc.</i>	qr	qrvar
<i>Gen.</i>	sævar	sæva	<i>Gen.</i>	qrvar	qrva
<i>Dat.</i>	sæ(vi)	sæ(v)um	<i>Dat.</i>	qr(u)	qrvum

- ▶ Stem-final *w* originally survived only where preceded by a short stem or a velar consonant (*g/k*) **and** followed by *i* or *a*.

i-Stem Nouns (Masculine and Feminine)

masc	sg	pl	fem	sg	pl
<i>Nom.</i>	gestr	gestir	<i>Nom.</i>	qxl	axlir
<i>Acc.</i>	gest	gesti	<i>Acc.</i>	qxl	axlir
<i>Gen.</i>	gests	gesta	<i>Gen.</i>	axlar	axla
<i>Dat.</i>	gest	gestum	<i>Dat.</i>	qxl	qxlum

- ▶ Gen. sg. normally *-ar*, but masc. contamination from *a*-stems
- ▶ Thematic vowel *i* (nom./acc. pl.)
- ▶ Feminines have acc. pl. *-ir*, masculines *-i*
- ▶ Dative singular masculine normally a zero ending (but contamination from *a*-stems)
- ▶ Feminines have *u*-mutation in nom., acc., dat. singular (like *ō*-stems)

u-Stem Nouns (Masculine)

masc	sg	pl
<i>Nom.</i>	vǫllr	vellir
<i>Acc.</i>	vǫll	vǫllu
<i>Gen.</i>	vallar	valla
<i>Dat.</i>	velli	vǫllum

masc	sg	pl
<i>Nom.</i>	skjǫldr	skildir
<i>Acc.</i>	skjǫld	skjǫldu
<i>Gen.</i>	skjaldar	skjalda
<i>Dat.</i>	skildi	skjǫldum

- ▶ Gen. sg. *-ar*
- ▶ Thematic vowel *u* (acc. pl.)
- ▶ Breaking:
 - ▶ *e* before *a* > *ja*
 - ▶ *e* before *u* > *jǫ*

Consonant Stems (Masculine and Feminine)

masc	sg	pl
<i>Nom.</i>	fótr	fœtr
<i>Acc.</i>	fót	fœtr
<i>Gen.</i>	fótar	fóta
<i>Dat.</i>	fœti	fótum

fem	sg	pl
<i>Nom.</i>	bók	bœkr
<i>Acc.</i>	bók	bœkr
<i>Gen.</i>	bókar	bóka
<i>Dat.</i>	bók	bókum

- ▶ Gen. sg. *-ar*
- ▶ No thematic vowel

r-Stem Nouns (Masculine and Feminine)

masc	sg	pl	fem	sg	pl
<i>Nom.</i>	bróðir	brœðr	<i>Nom.</i>	systir	systur
<i>Acc.</i>	bróður	brœðr	<i>Acc.</i>	systur	systur
<i>Gen.</i>	bróður	brœðra	<i>Gen.</i>	systur	systra
<i>Dat.</i>	brœðr	brœðrum	<i>Dat.</i>	systur	systurum

- ▶ (Singular) forms highly variable and interchangeable
- ▶ No thematic vowel
- ▶ Comprises *faðir*, *móðir*, *bróðir*, *systir*, *dóttir* (*sonr* being a *u*-stem)

nd-Stems (Masculine)

masc	sg	pl	masc	sg	pl
<i>Nom.</i>	gefandi	gefendr	<i>Nom.</i>	bónði	bœndr
<i>Acc.</i>	gefanda	gefendr	<i>Acc.</i>	bónða	bœndr
<i>Gen.</i>	gefanda	gefanda	<i>Gen.</i>	bónða	bónða
<i>Dat.</i>	gefanda	geföndum	<i>Dat.</i>	bónða	bóndum

- ▶ Originate as masculine present participles
- ▶ Singular inflection reflects this

Weak Nouns (All Genders)

masc	sg	pl
<i>Nom.</i>	bogi	bogar
<i>Acc.</i>	boga	boga
<i>Gen.</i>	boga	boga
<i>Dat.</i>	boga	bogum

fem	sg	pl
<i>Nom.</i>	saga	sogur
<i>Acc.</i>	sogu	sogur
<i>Gen.</i>	sogu	sagna
<i>Dat.</i>	sogu	sogum

- ▶ Plurals largely like strong forms (but neut./fem. gen. pl. *-na*)
- ▶ Masc./fem. singulars have one nominative form, one oblique form
- ▶ Cf. weak adjective declension

Weak Nouns (All Genders)

	neut	sg	pl
<i>Nom.</i>		hjarta	hjörtu
<i>Acc.</i>		hjarta	hjörtu
<i>Gen.</i>		hjarta	hjartna
<i>Dat.</i>		hjarta	hjörtum

- ▶ Neuter singulars indeclinable, in *-a*
- ▶ Neuter plurals subject to labial mutation except in the genitive

Part I: Nouns

Part II: The Noun Phrase

(Definite) Article

sg	fem	sg	masc	sg	neut
<i>Nom.</i>	þorfin	<i>Nom.</i>	hestinn	<i>Nom.</i>	barnit
<i>Acc.</i>	þorfina	<i>Acc.</i>	hestinn	<i>Acc.</i>	barnit
<i>Gen.</i>	þarfarinnar	<i>Gen.</i>	hestsins	<i>Gen.</i>	barnsins
<i>Dat.</i>	þorfinni	<i>Dat.</i>	hestinum	<i>Dat.</i>	barninu
pl		pl		pl	
<i>Nom.</i>	þarfarnar	<i>Nom.</i>	hestarnir	<i>Nom.</i>	þorðin
<i>Acc.</i>	þarfarnar	<i>Acc.</i>	hestana	<i>Acc.</i>	þorðin
<i>Gen.</i>	þarfanna	<i>Gen.</i>	hestanna	<i>Gen.</i>	barnanna
<i>Dat.</i>	þorfunum	<i>Dat.</i>	hestunum	<i>Dat.</i>	þorðunum

- ! Freestanding article (*h*)inn; demonstrative pronoun *hinn*.
h appears in the article from the early 13th century onwards.

Adjectives

Strong

	masc	singular	plural
<i>Nom.</i>		djarfr víkingr	djarfir víkingar
<i>Acc.</i>		djarfan víking	djarfa víkinga
<i>Gen.</i>		djarfs víkings	djarfra víkinga
<i>Dat.</i>		djǫrfum víkingi	djǫrfum víkingum

Weak

	masc	singular	plural
<i>Nom.</i>	inn	djarfi víkingr	inir djǫrfu víkingar
<i>Acc.</i>	inn	djarfa víking	ina djǫrfu víkinga
<i>Gen.</i>	ins	djarfa víkings	inna djǫrfu víkinga
<i>Dat.</i>	inum	djarfa víkingi	inum djǫrfum víkingum

Article Placement

1. Default: suffixed
Maðrinn var venn sýnum.
2. With an attributive adjective: before the adjective
inn vitrasti maðr
3. Sometimes both!
maðrinn inn sköruligsti
4. Article and adjective may occur before or after the noun
Sá er maðr inn sami.

Some Sentences

1. Þá tekr sveinn inn ellri til orða.
2. Nú var lokit vinfengi þeira konunganna.
3. Vildi Ásgrímr láta út bera barnit.
4. Lá þar dauðr hestr ok á hestinum einn dauðr ormr.
5. Bragnar heita þeir, er fylgðu Braga konungi inum gamla.