

Romanian

An Essential Grammar

Ramona Gönczöl-Davies

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Romanian

An Essential Grammar

Romanian: An Essential Grammar is a concise, user-friendly guide to the language.

This book is suitable for independent and classroom learners, and ideal for the beginner to intermediate student. *Romanian: An Essential Grammar* takes the student through the essentials of the language, explaining each concept clearly and providing many examples of contemporary Romanian usage.

The book contains:

- a short chapter on each of the most common grammatical areas with Romanian and English examples
- extensive examples of the more difficult areas of the grammar
- an appendix listing relevant websites for further information on the Romanian language.

Ramona Gönczöl-Davies is a lecturer in Romanian language at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College London. She is co-author, with Dennis Deletant, of *Colloquial Romanian*, 3rd edition (Routledge, 2002). Her research interests include ethnography, cultural identities, sociolinguistics and psycholinguistics.

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Romanian

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 **Ramona Gönczöl-Davies**

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To Richard with all my love

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Foreword

This book is a basic tool for understanding and acquiring Romanian grammar for beginners and intermediate learners. It is also useful for the more advanced learners who will find it a quick reference book to refresh their memory on certain points. The main target audience is the general reader who wants to understand the structure of the language. It is not an academic book for specialists and does not claim to cover exhaustively all aspects of Romanian grammar.

I originally wrote this grammar book in 2005, one year before the publication of the latest version of the official Romanian Academy Grammar, which introduced a number of changes. On revising this grammar in 2006, I rewrote the Verb chapter entirely to align with the introduction of eleven conjugations in place of the four that were in the old official grammar. I have also updated all the other chapters in accordance with the new grammar.

The explanations are short and clear but without being too specialized, as this would be the aim of a more advanced grammar. It is also a descriptive grammar rather than a practical one and therefore is not accompanied by a book of exercises. It is my intention to produce a book of exercises in the near future, dedicated to practising Romanian grammar for English-speaking learners.

I have tested the book on my students in the first year of university as well as adult learners in the evening classes I teach and hope that all my future readers will enjoy it and find it as useful as my students do.

All comments are welcome. Any errors in the book are entirely the fault of the author.

London, 2006

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Abbreviations

A	accusative
coll.	colloquial
D	dative
f.	feminine
G	genitive
m.	masculine
n.	neuter
N	nominative
pl.	plural
prep.	preposition
sing.	singular
V	vocative

Part I

Grammar

Sounds and letters

1.1 The Romanian alphabet

<i>Letter</i>	<i>Romanian sound</i>	<i>Approximate English sound equivalent</i>
A	atlas (atlas)	after
Ă	ăla (that)	under
Â	câine (dog)	no equivalent
B	bunică (grandma)	bag
C	carte (book)	class
D	drag (dear)	dear
E	elefant (elephant)	elephant
F	formă (form)	form
G	gras (fat)	grey
H	haină (coat)	hey
I	inel (ring)	Nick
Î	în (in)	no equivalent
J	joc (game)	genre
K	kilogram	kilogram
L	lac (lake)	lake
M	mamă (mother)	mum
N	nepot (nephew)	nephew
O	oră (hour)	sport
P	pace (peace)	peace
R	rapid (rapid)	rapid (rolled r)
Q	Quintilian (quintillion)	quick
S	sare (salt)	salt
Ș	șarpe (snake)	shame
T	tată (daddy)	tough
Ț	țară (country)	cats
U	ușă (door)	moon
V	verde (green)	vase

Letter	Romanian sound	Approximate English sound equivalent
X	xilofon (xylophone)	mix
W	watt (watt)	watt
Y	yoga (yoga)	yoga
Z	zebră (zebra)	zebra

1.2 Vowels

A a

Similar to the Standard English vowel in *bud* or *come*.

Ana	arc	acum
Ann	bow	now

Ă ă

Similar to the English vowel sound in *nurse* or *under*.

ăsta	cană	mărime
this (coll.)	mug	size

Â â and Î î

These cannot be equated with any English vowel sound. Both letters represent the same sound. In writing, **Â â** is used if the sound appears anywhere inside the word, whilst **Î î** is used if the word starts or ends with this sound. In the case of compound words where the second word originally started with **Î î**, this letter will be preserved: **bineînțeleș** (of course). A sound relatively close to this in English is **eugh!** (used to express disgust), but this is only an approximation. The Romanian sound represented by these two letters is very guttural.

E e

Similar to the vowels in *egg* or *pen*.

eclipsă	etern	elegant
eclipse	eternal	elegant

Note: The only exceptions are personal pronouns (**eu, el, ea, ei, ele**) and the forms of the verb **a fi** (to be) in the present and imperfect tenses that start with this letter (**ești, este**) and (**eram, erai, era, eram, erați, erau**), in which the **e** is pronounced as a soft **e** similar to the English **yellow**.

I i

Can be pronounced in two distinct ways. Either as a similar sound to the English vowels in *keen* or *seen* but shorter in length.

lin	spin	in
slowly	thorn	linen

Or it can be pronounced as a very soft, almost silent sound if it appears at the end of words after the following consonants:

p	capi (leaders)	b	arabi (Arabs)
f	pantofi (shoes)	v	sclavi (slaves)
ç	colçi (fangs)	z	englezi (English men)
j	coji (peels)	m	dormi (you sleep)
n	americani (Americans)	l	soli (messengers)
r	croitori (tailors)		

However, if *i* appears after a pair of consonants where the latter is *l* or *r*, it is pronounced as a full *i*.

cr + i	sacri (sacred-pl.)	dr + i	codri (woods)
tr + i	metri (metres)	fl + i	afli (you find out)
pl + i	umpli (you fill up)	bl + i	umbli (you walk)
rl + i	urli (you howl)		

O o

This is a very round vowel, similar to the English *mock* or *soft*.

om	pom	somn
man, being	fruit tree	sleep

U u

Similar to the English *put* or *soot*.

unde	nu	fum
where	no	smoke

1.3 Consonants**P p**

Similar to the English consonant.

parc	capac	cap
park	lid	head

B b

Similar to the English consonant.

bou ox	ban coin	arab Arab
------------------	--------------------	---------------------

T t

Similar to the English consonant, but more muted.

tare hard	etaj floor	atent careful
---------------------	----------------------	-------------------------

D d

Similar to the English consonant, but more muted.

dar gift, but	adevăr truth	mod mode
-------------------------	------------------------	--------------------

C c

Similar to the English hard consonants **c** or **k** (as in the words *copper* or *king*) when followed by a consonant or the vowels **a**, **o**, **u**, **ă** and **î**.

cameră room	ecou echo	act document
-----------------------	---------------------	------------------------

However, when followed by the vowels **e** and **i**, it is pronounced as in *chess* or *cheese*. A hard **c** followed by the vowels **e** and **i** is marked in writing by **che** and **chi** and pronounced as in *cat* or *kiss*.

c + e	cerere (application)	as in <i>chess</i>
c + i	cină (dinner)	<i>cheese</i>
ch + e	chelner (waiter)	<i>cat</i>
ch + i	chibrit (match)	<i>kiss</i>

G g

Similar to the English hard consonant **g** (as in *grey*) when followed by a consonant or the vowels **a**, **o**, **u**, **ă** and **î**.

gata ready	gând thought	grădină garden
----------------------	------------------------	--------------------------

However, when followed by the vowels **e** and **i**, it is pronounced as in *generous* or *gym*. A hard **g** followed by the vowels **e** and **i** is marked in writing by **ghe** and **ghi** and pronounced as in *get* or *gear*.

g + e	generos	as in generous
g + i	ginere (son-in-law)	gym
gh + e	ghete (boots)	get
gh + i	ghinion (bad luck)	gear

Ț ț

Pronounced like 'ts' in *cats*, *mats*.

țap	maț	ață
billy-goat	gut	thread

F f

Similar to the English consonant.

fată	afară	jaf
girl	outside	robbery

V v

Similar to the English consonant.

vară	vecin	vis
summer	neighbour	dream

S s

Similar to the English consonant.

soare	vas	casă
sun	boat	house

Z z

Similar to the English consonant.

zi	ziar	orez
day	newspaper	rice

Ș ș

Similar to the English sound in *shell*, *shame*.

șase	șah	caș
six	chess	fresh cheese

J j

Similar to the English sound in *pleasure* or *genre*.

joc
game

ajutor
help

curaj
courage

H h

Similar to the English sound in *heap* or *beal*.

haină
coat

hartă
map

pahar
glass

M m

Similar to the English consonant.

mamă
mother

mașină
car

om
being, man

N n

Similar to the English consonant.

nume
name

nervos
angry

nimic
nothing

L l

Similar to the English consonant.

lac
lake

lume
world

lemn
wood

R r

Similar to the English consonant, but always rolled.

rus
Russian

ramură
branch

urs
bear

1.4 Diphthongs and triphthongs

1.4.1 Diphthongs

They represent two vowels pronounced as a single syllable.

ea

dimineață
morning

șosea
road

greață
sickness

eo

vreodată
ever

aoleo!
oh, God!

vreo
any

ia

iarbă
grass

fiară
beast

băiat
boy

ie

ieri
yesterday

miere
honey

femeie
woman

io

lordania
Jordan

iodură
iodine

creion
pencil

iu

iute
fast, spicy

iunie
June

preludiu
prelude

oa

școală
school

noapte
night

oameni
people

ua

ploua
to rain

cafeaua
the coffee

ziua
the day

uă

ouă
eggs

nouă
nine

două
two (f.)

ai

mai
May

scai
thorn

tramvai
tram

ăi

văi
valleys

răi
bad (m. pl.)

tăi
your (pl.)

âi

câine
dog

pâine
bread

mâine
tomorrow

ei

lei
lions

ulei
oil

trei
three

ii

copii
children

fotolii
armchairs

colocvii
seminars

oi

doi
two

noi
we

ploi
rains

ui

pui
chickens

cuib
nest

spui
you say

au

adaug
I add

dau
I give

august
August

ău

rău
bad

tău
your (m. sing.)

său
his

âu

râu
river

brâu
belt

molâu
indolent

eu

mereu
constantly

leu
lion

greu
heavy

iu

știu
I know

fiu
son

viu
alive

ou

bou
ox

cadou
present

stilou
fountain pen

1.4.2 *Vowels in hiatus*

They appear in adjacent syllables and are pronounced separately.

i-e

filozofie
philosophy

psihologie
psychology

antropologie
anthropology

i-a

dialog
dialogue

diamant
diamond

dialoga
to debate

i-i

știință
science

ființă
being

miime
thousandth

i-o

miopie
myopia

dioptrie
dioptre

diodă
diode

e-a

reacție
reaction

creație
creation

realizare
realization

e-e

alee
alley

pusee
fits

moschee
mosque

e-u

european
European

Europa
Europe

euforie
euphoria

a-i

aici
here

cais
apricot tree

hain
mean

a-u

autor
author

autograf
autograph

autogară
bus station

ă-i

făină
floor

străină
foreign (f.)

găină
hen

o-i

voință
will

foiță
thin leaf

troiță
triptych

u-u

continuu
continuous

ambiguu
ambiguous

asiduu
relentless

o-o

alcool
alcohol

zoologie
zoology

cooperare
cooperation

1.4.3 *Triphthongs*

They represent three successive vowels pronounced as one syllable.

eau**vreau**
I want**apăreau**
they were appearing**tăceau**
they were silent**eai****stăteai**
you were staying**spuneai**
you were saying**păreai**
you were seeming**oai****englezoaică**
English woman**turcoaică**
Turkish woman**spanioloaică**
Spanish woman**iai****trăiai**
you were living**construiai**
you were building**sui ai**
you were climbing**iau****miau**
miaow!**iau**
I take**trăiau**
they were living**iei****miei**
lambs**piei**
skins**iei**
you take**ioa****creioane**
pencils**inimioară**
little heart**aripioară**
little wing**1.5 Stress and intonation**

In Romanian the stress can fall on any syllable of the word. This has been affected by contact with and the influence of other languages on Romanian. The stress can express the difference between words with the same spelling from a grammatical or a semantic point of view: *veselă* (happy, adj.) and *veselă* (dishes, noun) or *intră* (he enters, present tense) and *intră* (he entered, simple past tense).

In sentences, the intonation is quite similar to English, i.e. it tends to fall in pitch in normal statements as well as in interrogative statements where the answer is implied in the questions, while rising in open interrogative statements.

Nouns

2.1 Gender

Romanian retains all the three genders of Latin (masculine, feminine and neuter). The gender of a noun can usually be determined by its ending or its meaning. However, it is advisable to learn new words together with their genders.

From the point of view of form, nouns can be divided into simple (one noun) and compound (two or more nouns linked together). This will be presented in more detail in Chapter 12.

2.1.1 Masculine nouns

Masculine nouns have the following endings in the singular:

-consonant	bărbat	(man)	inginer (engineer)
	pantof	(shoe)	portocal (orange tree)
	cal (horse)	struț (ostrich)	
-u	ministru (minister)	codru (forest)	
	metru (metre)		
-eu	Dumnezeu (God)	zmeu (dragon)	
	cimpanzeu (chimpanzee)		
-ău	călău (executioner)	flăcău (young man)	
-ou	bou (ox)	erou (hero)	
-iu	fiu (son)	vizitiu (coachman)	
	camionagiu (truck driver)		

-e	nasture (button) rege (king) câine (dog)	dinte (tooth) mire (groom) iepure (rabbit)
-i	ochi (eye) unchi (uncle) usturoi (garlic)	genunchi (knee) lămâi (lemon tree) pui (chicken)
-ă	tată (father) papă (pope)	popă (priest) bulibașă (gypsy baron)

The gender of masculine nouns can be natural or grammatical. Nouns that have a natural masculine gender denote male human beings, professions (there is also a corresponding female equivalent) and male animals.

băiat (boy)	bărbat (man)	inginer (engineer)
constructor (builder)	medic (doctor)	traducător (translator)
tigru (tiger)	leu (lion)	cocoș (rooster)
bou (ox)	câine (dog)	arici (hedgehog)

The following nouns are considered masculine:

- *months of the year*: **ianuarie, februarie, martie, aprilie, mai, iunie, iulie, august, septembrie, octombrie, noiembrie, decembrie**
- *numbers and letters*: **un doi, un trei, un patru, un A, un C, un Z**
- *most names of trees*: **păr** (pear), **nuc** (walnut), **prun** (plum), **cais** (apricot), **cireș** (cherry), **brad** (fir), **stejar** (oak), **mesteacăn** (birch), **fag** (beech).
- *names of certain plants and flowers*: **ardei** (pepper), **bostan** (pumpkin), **cartof** (potato), **bujor** (peony), **crin** (lily), **nufăr** (water lily).
- *musical notes*: **do, re, mi, fa, sol, la, si, do**
- *some names of towns and areas*: **București, Iași, Ploiești, Cluj, Ardeal, Maramureș**
- *names of most mountains and mountain ranges*: **Carpați, Apuseni, Bucegi, Semenic**
- *certain general objects*: **pantof** (shoe), **pantaloni** (trousers), **sac** (sack), **clește** (pliers), **perete** (wall).

2.1.2 Neuter nouns

Neuter nouns have the same endings in the singular as masculine nouns, but they are generally inanimate and neologisms. The endings are as follows:

-consonant	dulap (wardrobe) scaun (chair) pod (bridge)	caiet (notebook) drum (road) apartament (apartment)
-u	timbru (stamp)	teatru (theatre) lucru (thing)
-eu	eseu (essay) curcubeu (rainbow)	muzeu (museum) jubileu (jubilee)
-ău	ferăstrău (see-saw)	tămbălău (scandal)
-ou	stilou (fountain pen) tablou (picture) tricou (t-shirt)	ou (egg) birou (office) cadou (present)
-iu	exercițiu (exercise) concediu (holiday) jurii (jury)	deceniu (decade) sacrificiu (sacrifice) salariu (wages)
-e	nume (name) renume (fame) pântece (womb)	prenume (first name) spate (back) foarfece (scissors)
-i	ulei (oil) ghiveci (flowerpot) tramvai (tram) obicei (habit)	meci (match) bici (whip) taxi (taxi) ceai (tea)
-o	video (video) zero (zero)	radio (radio) chimonos (kimono)

Neuter nouns are generally inanimate:

- *general objects*: **stilou** (fountain pen), **caiet** (notebook), **dulap** (wardrobe), **scaun** (chair), **frigider** (fridge), **ciocan** (hammer), **foarfece** (scissors), **birou** (desk)
- *some materials and matters*: **coniac** (cognac), **lapte** (milk), **salam** (salami), **unt** (butter), **ulei** (oil), **pământ** (earth), **sânge** (blood)
- *most sports*: **baschet** (basketball), **fotbal** (football), **volei** (volleyball), **handbal** (handball), **atletism** (athletics)
- *some abstract nouns*: **adevăr** (truth), **auz** (hearing), **câștig** (gain), **sacrificiu** (sacrifice)

- *colours*: **roșu** (red), **verde** (green), **maro** (brown), **albastru** (blue), **galben** (yellow), **negru** (black), **alb** (white)
- *nouns derived from verbs in the supine mood*: **tuns** (haircut), **ras** (shave), **reparat** (repair), **spălat** (washing), **fumat** (smoking), **vopsit** (painting), **plâns** (crying), **râs** (laughter)

There are a few animates which belong to the neuter gender: **personaj** (character), **mamifer** (mammal), **animal** (animal), **planton** (guard).

2.1.3 Feminine nouns

Feminine nouns have the following endings in the singular:

-ă	casă (house) fată (girl) găină (hen) brânză (cheese) mașină (car)	masă (table) mână (hand) broască (frog) ceapă (onion) vacanță (holiday)
-e	carte (book) minge (ball)	floare (flower) scrisoare (letter)
-vowel + ie	femeie (woman) baie (bath)	ploaie (rain) tigaie (frying pan)
-consonant + ie	familie (family) memorie (memory)	istorie (history) rochie (dress)
-ee	idee (idea) alee (alley)	diaree (diarrhoea)
-a	basma (head scarf) pijama (pyjamas) macara (crane)	sarma (stuffed cabbage leaf) haimana (tramp) mahala (suburb)
-ea / ia	cafea (coffee) chiftea (meatball) nuia (stick)	șosea (road) saltea (mattress) boia (paprika)
-i	luni (Monday) tanti (auntie)	marți (Tuesday) zi (day)

Feminine nouns denote female beings and the professions in which they work:

- *female beings*: **fată** (girl), **femeie** (woman), **mamă** (mother), **fiică** (daughter), **mătușă** (aunt)

- *female jobs*: **profesoară** (female teacher), **croitoreasă** (seamstress), **ingineră** (female engineer), **contabilă** (female accountant), **muncitoare** (female worker), **actriță** (actress)

There is also a variety of other words that are feminine:

- *some animals*: **iapă** (mare), **gâscă** (goose), **vulpe** (fox), **leoaică** (lioness), **pisică** (cat)
- *certain general objects*: **carte** (book), **ușă** (door), **clădire** (building), **bancă** (bank), **ferastră** (window)
- *some plants*: **mazăre** (pea), **fasole** (bean), **pătlăgea** (tomato), **ceapă** (onion)
- *most flowers*: **garoafă** (carnation), **pansea** (pansy), **crizantemă** (chrysanthemum), **azalee** (azalea)
- *most fruit*: **caisă** (apricot), **piersică** (peach), **pară** (pear), **căpșună** (strawberry), **cireașă** (cherry)
- *names of days, times of the day and seasons*: **luni** (Monday), **marți** (Tuesday), **miercuri** (Wednesday) etc., **seară** (evening), **zi** (day), **după-amiază** (afternoon), **iarnă** (winter), **vară** (summer) etc.
- *some names of towns and areas*: **Timișoara**, **Oradea**, **Baia Mare**, **Sighișoara**, **Craiova**, **Transilvania**, **Moldova**
- *most countries and continents*: **România** (Romania), **Anglia** (England), **Scotia** (Scotland), **Irlanda** (Ireland), **Canada** (Canada), **Franța** (France), **Belgia** (Belgium), **Australia** (Australia), **America** (America) etc.
- *certain abstract words*: **iubire** (love), **teamă** (fear), **ură** (hatred), **milă** (mercy), **dorință** (desire)
- *some actions*: **lucrare** (work), **cântare** (singing), **alergare** (running), **dezbateri** (debate)
- *most names of sciences and arts*: **istorie** (history), **biologie** (biology), **matematică** (mathematics), **fizică** (physics), **arhitectură** (architecture), **artă** (art), **pictură** (painting), **poezie** (poetry)

2.2 Forming the feminine from a masculine noun

Masculine nouns ending in	Add	Change to
-consonant	-ă	
-u		-ă
-ian/-ean	-că	
-or/-ar/-ăr/-er	-iță	
-consonant	-easă/-esă	
-tor		-toare

It is possible to generate a feminine form of many masculine nouns ending in a consonant by adding -ă to their ending:

un prieten	male friend	o prietenă	female friend
un secretar	male secretary	o secretară	female secretary
un șef	male boss	o șefă	female boss

Masculine nouns ending in -u will change this ending into -ă:

un socru	father-in-law	o soacră	mother-in-law
un membru	male family member	o membră	female member

Nouns that refer to the place of birth or to some nationalities, and which end in -ian/-ean will add -că in order to form the feminine:

un timișorean	someone from Timișoara	o timișoreancă
un ardelean	someone from Transylvania	o ardeleancă
un belgian	someone from Belgium	o belgiancă
un scoțian	someone from Scotland	o scoțiancă

When a masculine noun shows nationality or membership of an ethnic group, quite often the ending -oaică is added to the noun:

un rus	male Russian	o rusoaică	female Russian
un englez	male English	o englezoaică	female English
un francez	male French	o franțuzoaică	female French

-oaică can be added to some masculine names of animals:

un lup	male wolf	o lupoaică	female wolf
un urs	male bear	o ursoaică	female bear

Most nouns ending in -or/-ar/-ăr/-er and denoting names of professions will take the ending -iță to form the feminine:

un doctor	male doctor	o doctoriță	female doctor
un actor	actor	o actriță	actress
un șofer	male driver	o șoferiță	female driver

Some nouns ending in a consonant denoting professions or male roles will add -easă/-esă to form the feminine:

un preot	male priest	o preoteasă	female priest, or wife
un mire	groom	o mireasă	bride
un bucătar	male cook	o bucătăreasă	female cook

Nouns ending in **-tor** denoting male beings will change the ending to **-toare** to form the feminine:

un muncitor	male worker	o muncitoare	female worker
un vânzător	male shop assistant	o vânzătoare	shop assistant

Exception:

un croitor	tailor	o croitoreasă	seamstress
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There are masculine nouns that derive from feminine nouns. They take the endings **-an** or **-oi** in the masculine:

o găscă	goose	un găscan	gander
o curcă	turkey hen	un curcan	turkey cock
o rață	duck	un rățoi	drake

Some nouns have different forms for the masculine and the feminine pairs when the meaning requires it:

un bărbat	o femeie	man	woman
un băiat	o fată	boy	girl
un tată	o mamă	father	mother
un fiu	o fiică	son	daughter
un soț	o soție	husband	wife
un țap	o capră	billy-goat	nanny-goat
un câine	o cățea	dog	bitch
un bou	o vacă	bull	cow
un cocoș	o găină	rooster	hen
un ginere	o noră	son-in-law	daughter-in-law
un frate	o soră	brother	sister

2.3 Number

2.3.1 Masculine nouns

<i>Nouns ending in</i>	<i>Add</i>	<i>Change to</i>
consonant	-i	
-e		-i
-u		-i
-l		-i
-ă		-i
-i	remain the same	

Nouns ending in a consonant add **-i** to form the plural:

profesor	profesori	teacher(s)/professor(s)
inginer	ingineri	engineer(s)
cocoș	cocoși	cockerel(s)
vecin	vecini	neighbour(s)

When the nouns end in the following consonants, several spelling and phonetic changes occur:

brad	brazi	d/z	fir tree(s)
linx	lincși	x/ș	lynx(s)
bărbat	bărbați	t/ț	man/men
violonist	violoniști	st/șt	violonist(s)
obraz	obraji	z/j	cheek(s)
ins	inși	s/ș	chap(s)
fotbalist	fotbaliști	st/șt	footballer(s)
ministru	miniștri	str/ștr	minister(s)
belgian	belgieni	ian/ien	Belgian(s)
măr	meri	ă/e	apple(s)
tână	tineri	â/i + ă/e	young person(s)

When the nouns end in **-e**, **-u**, **-ă**, these vowels are replaced by **-i** in the plural:

leu	lei	lion	lions
fiu	fii	son	sons
frate	frați	brother	brothers
câine	câini	dog	dogs
tată	tați	father	fathers
popă	popi	priest	priests

For the following nouns only ending in **-l**, the **-l** is replaced with **-i** in the plural. Other nouns ending in **-l** take an **-i** in the plural, as normal (**coral**–**corali**, coral; **vandal**–**vandali**, vandal; **papagal**–**papagali**, parrot).

copil	copii	child	children
șoricel	șoricei	mouse	mice
cal	cai	horse	horses
miel	miei	lamb	lambs
vițel	viței	calf	calves
cățel	căței	puppy	puppies
porumbel	porumbei	dove	doves

Nouns ending in **-i** in the singular remain unchanged in the plural:

lămâi	lămâi	lemon tree	lemon trees
pui	pui	chicken	chickens
ardei	ardei	pepper	peppers
ochi	ochi	eye	eyes
rinichi	rinichi	kidney	kidneys
genunchi	genunchi	knee	knees

The following nouns are considered irregular:

om	oameni	man	men
popă	popi	priest	priests
tată	tați	father	fathers

pașă	pași	pasha	pashas
papă	papi	pope	popes

2.3.2 Feminine nouns

Nouns ending in	Add	Change to
-ă		-i
-ă		-e
-ă		-uri
-e		-i
-le		-i
vowel + ie		vowel + i
consonant + ie		consonant + ii
-oare		remains the same
-a		-ale
-ea		-ele

Note: Nouns ending in **-ă** can form the plural in **-e**, in **-i** or in **-uri**. There is no precise rule governing which nouns form the plural in **-e**, **-i** or **-uri**. It is therefore advisable to learn the plural of the feminine nouns whenever you learn a new feminine word. (NB: You will note in the examples below that other changes can also take place within the word when it is declined. See below for more examples, and section 2.3.4 regarding vowel and consonant shifts.)

Some nouns replace **-ă** with **-i** in the plural:

păpușă	păpuși	doll	dolls
cană	căni	mug	mugs
sală	săli	hall	halls

Some nouns replace **-ă** with **-e**:

studentă	studente	student	students
profesoară	profesoare	teacher	teachers
casă	case	house	houses

Some nouns replace **-ă** with **-uri**:

treabă	treburi	task	tasks
marfă	mărfuri	product	goods

ceartă	certuri	quarrel	quarrels
vreme	vremuri	time	times

Some nouns replace -e with -i in the plural:

carte	cărți	book	books
misiune	misiuni	mission	missions
pâine	pâini	bread	loaves of bread
idee	idei	idea	ideas

Nouns ending in -le replace this with -i:

vale	văi	valley	valleys
cale	căi	path	paths

Nouns ending in -ie preceded by a vowel replace -ie with -i:

femeie	femei	woman	women
cheie	chei	key	keys
lămâie	lămâi	lemon	lemons

Nouns ending in -ie preceded by a consonant will replace -ie with -ii:

familie	familii	family	families
cofetărie	cofetării	patisserie	patisseries
pălărie	pălării	hat	hats

Nouns ending in -oare, usually describing jobs, remain unchanged in the plural:

muncitoare	muncitoare	worker	workers
vânzătoare	vânzătoare	saleswoman	saleswomen

Nouns ending in -a replace this with -ale:

pijama	pijemale	pyjamas	pyjamas
basma	basmale	scarf	scarves
macara	macarale	crane	cranes

Nouns ending in *-ea* replace this with *-ele*:

cafea	cafele	coffee	coffees
lalea	lalele	tulip	tulips
stea	stele	star	stars

When feminine nouns form the plural, several spelling and phonetic changes can occur:

cană	căni	a/ă	mug(s)
fată	fete	a/e	girl(s)
iarnă	ierni	ia/ie	winter(s)
școală	școli	oa/o	school(s)
fereastră	ferestre	ea/e	window(s)
stradă	străzi	d/z	street(s)
carte	cărți	t/ț	book(s)

Irregular feminine nouns:

soră	surori	sister	sisters
noră	nurori	daughter-in-law	daughters-in-law
zi	zile	day	days
mână	mâini	hand	hands

2.3.3 Neuter nouns

<i>Nouns ending in</i>	<i>Add</i>	<i>Change to</i>
consonant	-e	
consonant	-uri	
-i	-e	
-i	-uri	
-u		-e
-u		-uri
-iu		-ii
-o	-uri	
-e	unchanged	

Note: Neuter nouns, just like feminine nouns, can have different endings for the plural. There is no precise rule as to which form the plural in **-uri** and which in **-e**. It is therefore advisable to learn the plural form every time you learn a new neuter noun.

Some nouns ending in a consonant add **-e** in the plural:

oraş	oraşe	town	towns
dicţionar	dicţionare	dictionary	dictionaries
moment	momente	moment	moments

Some nouns ending in a consonant add **-uri** to form the plural:

joc	jocuri	game	games
săpun	săpunuri	soap	soaps

Some nouns ending in **-i** add **-e** for the plural:

tramvai	tramvaie	tram	trams
evantai	evantaie	fan	fans
cui	cuie	nail	nails
călcâi	călcâie	heel	heels

Some nouns ending in **-i** add **-uri** in the plural:

taxi	taxiuri	taxi	taxis
meci	meciuri	match	matches

Some nouns ending in **-u** replace this with **-e**:

teatru	teatre	theatre	theatres
muzeu	muzee	museum	museums

Some nouns ending in **-u** replace this with **-uri**:

râu	râuri	river	rivers
stilou	stilouri	pen	pens

Some nouns ending in **-iu** replace this with **-ii**:

fotoliu	fotolii	armchair	armchairs
studiu	studii	study	studies

Some nouns ending in -o, add -uri in the plural:

radio	radiouri	radio	radios
zero	zerouri	zero	zeros

When neuter nouns take an ending to form the plural, several spelling and phonetic changes can occur:

creion	creioane	o/oa	pencil(s)
motor	motoare	or/oare	engine(s)
război	războaie	oi/oaie	war(s)
cuvânt	cuvinte	â/i	word(s)

Irregular plurals for neuter nouns:

ou	ouă	egg	eggs
cap	capete	head	heads
seminar	seminarii	seminary	seminaries
chipiu	chipie	cap	caps
sicriu	sicrie	coffin	coffins
nume	nume	name	names
prenume	prenume	first name	first names
pronume	pronume	pronoun	pronouns
spate	spate	back	backs
foarfece	foarfece	scissors	scissors

2.3.4 *Vowel and consonant shifts*

When a noun is put in the plural, little changes can occur in the root, called shifts. Here is a list of the shifts:

2.3.4.1 Vowel shifts

a/ă	sală-săli, stradă-străzi	hall(s), street(s)
a/e	fată/fete, masă/mese	girl(s), table(s)
ă/e	umăr/umeri, măr/meri	shoulder(s), apple tree(s)
â/i	cuvânt/cuvinte, tânăr/tineri	word(s), young person(s)

ea/e	cafea/cafele, ceapă/cepe	coffee(s), onion(s)
ia/ie	iarnă/ierni, iapă/iepe	winter(s), mare(s)
oa/o	școală/școli, noapte/nopti	school(s), night(s)
o/oa	popor/popoare, creion/creioane	people(s), pencil(s)

2.3.4.2 Consonant shifts

d/z	zăpadă/zăpezi, brad/brazi	snow, fir tree(s)
s/ș	pas/pași, urs/urși	step(s), bear(s)
st/șt	specialist/specialiști, artist/artiști	specialist(s), artist(s)
str/ștr	ministru/miniștri	minister(s)
t/ț	băiat/băieți, student/studenti	boy(s), student(s)
c/ci/ce	nucă/nuci, amică/amice	nut(s), friend(s) (f.)
g/gi/ge	coleg/colegi, colegă/colege	colleague(s) (m.), colleague(s) (f.)
z/lj	obraz/obraji	cheek(s)

2.4 Case

Romanian has five cases: nominative (N), accusative (A), genitive (G), dative (D) and vocative (V).

For nouns accompanied by the indefinite article, it is the indefinite article that changes during declension. (*Note:* There is an exception to this rule for feminine nouns in the genitive and dative, where most feminine nouns also take the plural form both in the singular and in the plural.)

For nouns that have a definite article, the case ending is added to the noun itself. (*Note:* Most feminine nouns in the genitive and dative take the plural form both in the singular and in the plural.)

2.4.1 Nouns with an indefinite article

un inginer	o ingineră	a male engineer	a female engineer
niște ingineri	niște inginere	some male engineers	some female engineers

	M (sing.)	F (sing.)	M (pl.)	F (pl.)
N	un inginer	o ingineră	niște ingineri	niște inginere
A	un inginer	o ingineră	niște ingineri	niște inginere
G	unui inginer	unei inginere	unor ingineri	unor inginere
D	unui inginer	unei inginere	unor ingineri	unor inginere
V	—	—	—	—

Please note that in the singular, feminine nouns, in the genitive and dative cases, besides the article **unei**, take the same form as the plural (i.e. **inginere**).

2.4.2 Nouns with a definite article

inginerul inginera the male engineer the female engineer
inginerii inginerele the male engineers the female engineers

	M (sing.)	F (sing.)	M (pl.)	F (pl.)
N	inginerul	inginera	inginerii	inginerele
A	inginerul	inginera	inginerii	inginerele
G	inginerului	inginerei	inginerilor	inginereilor
D	inginerului	inginerei	inginerilor	inginereilor
V	Inginerule!	Inginero!	Inginerilor!	Inginereilor!

Please note that in the singular, feminine nouns, in the genitive and dative cases, besides the ending **-i**, take the same form as the plural.

Neuter nouns take the same articles as masculine nouns in the singular, and as feminine nouns in the plural.

	N (sing.) Indef. art.	N (sing.) Def. art.	N (pl.) Indef. art.	N (pl.) Def. art.
N	un oraș	orașul	niște orașe	orașele
A	un oraș	orașul	niște orașe	orașele
G	unui oraș	orașului	unor orașe	orașelor
D	unui oraș	orașului	unor orașe	orașelor
V	—	—	—	—

2.4.2.1 Proper names of people and declension

Male names receive **lui** before the name:

Iulian **lui Iulian**
Radu **lui Radu**
Marcel **lui Marcel**

In the genitive and dative cases, *female names* behave like any other feminine noun. They take a plural form and the ending -i:

Nina	Ninei
Andreea	Andreei
Ema	Emei
Dana	Danei

Note: When female names end in -ca, this becomes -căi in the genitive and dative cases:

Monica	Monicăi
Florica	Floricăi

If we have to put a foreign female name or a female name which does not end in -a in the genitive or in the dative, we add **lui** in front of the name, just as with male names:

Lili	lui Lili
Carmen	lui Carmen
Hayley	lui Hayley
Julie	lui Julie

2.4.2.2 Names of towns, rivers, places

According to their ending, these names are considered feminine (if they end in -a) or masculine (if they end in a consonant, -e, -i-, -u or -o). Consequently, they decline as feminine or masculine.

Arad	Aradului	Sibiu	Sibiului
Cluj	Clujului	Egipt	Egiptului
Mureș	Mureșului	București	Bucureștiului
Paște	Paștelui	Monaco	Monacoului
Marte	Martelui	Ploiești	Ploieștiului
Timișoara	Timișoarei	Sighișoara	Sighișoarei
România	României	Ungaria	Ungariei
Anglia	Angliei	Spania	Spaniei

Some proper nouns are grammatically in the plural and consequently are declined as a plural noun. Some can have double forms:

Carpați	Carpaților	București	Bucureștilor
Apuseni	Apusenilor	Iași	Iașilor

2.4.3 The vocative case

Nouns are expressed in the vocative case (V) when we address someone directly. See the Glossary of grammatical terms at the end of this book.

Most nouns do not have a different form in the vocative. The singular feminine nouns without an article and most proper nouns remain unchanged.

Doamnă, veniți aici vă rog! **Madam, please come here!**
Andrei, taci din gură! **Andrei, shut up!**

In all three genders, nouns in the plural use the genitive/dative forms to form the vocative:

Doamnelor, domnișoarelor și domnilor! Ladies, young ladies
and gentlemen!

For some feminine singular nouns, the following endings can be used:

-o	Vecino!	Neighbour!
	Rodico!	Rodica!
-ă	Ană!	Ana!
-e	Marie!	Maria!

Note: The use of the vocative endings -e and -ă with female proper names carries a regional undertone.

Masculine singular nouns and some male names take the ending -le in the vocative:

Băiatule! Boy!
Radule! Radu!

2.5 Compound nouns

Romanian has many compound nouns which can be spelled as one or two words. When we decline the compound nouns, they behave like any noun if they are spelled as one word. If they are spelled as two words, they normally change the first part, both parts or neither part.

2.5.1 *Compound nouns spelled as one word*

un radiocasetofon	două radiocasetofoane	tape recorder(s)
o videocameră	două videocamere	videocamera(s)
un răufăcător	doi răufăcători	offender(s)

2.5.2 *Compound nouns spelled as two words, with or without a hyphen:*

un papă lapte	doi papă lapte	milksoap(s)
un pierde-vară	doi pierde-vară	loser(s)
un ardei gras	doi ardei grași	red pepper(s)
un făt-frumos	doi feți-frumoși	prince charming(s)
un vagon de dormit	două vagoane de dormit	sleeping car(s)
o mamă-eroină	două mame-eroine	heroic mother(s)
un oraș-târg	două orașe-târg	market town(s)
o floare de nu-mă-uita	două flori de nu-mă-uita	forget-me-not(s)
o turtă dulce	două turte dulci	gingerbread(s)

Articles

3.1 Indefinite article

	<i>Singular</i>			<i>Plural</i>		
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>N.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>N.</i>
<i>N</i>	un	o	un	niște	niște	niște
<i>A</i>	un	o	un	niște	niște	niște
<i>G</i>	unui	unei	unui	unor	unor	unor
<i>D</i>	unui	unei	unui	unor	unor	unor

Examples:

N/A, m. sing.	un copac
N/A, m. pl.	niște copaci
G/D, m. sing.	unui copac
G/D, m. pl.	unor copaci
N/A, f. sing.	o casă
N/A, f. pl.	niște case
G/D, f. sing.	unei case
G/D, f. pl.	unor case
N/A, n. sing.	un tramvai
N/A, n. pl.	niște tramvaie
G/D, n. sing.	unui tramvai
G/D, n. pl.	unor tramvaie

3.1.1 Uses of the indefinite article

The indefinite article, which corresponds to the English forms ‘a’, ‘an’ and ‘some’, is used to designate non-specific nouns, with which it agrees in gender, number and case. It is always placed in front of the noun, just as in English.

The definite article has a number of uses and contexts:

- 1 To designate non-specific nouns:

Azi am cumpărat o carte de filosofie și un album de fotografii vechi.

Today I bought a book of philosophy and an album of old photographs.

- 2 To precede proper names, especially of personalities, and use them as simple nouns:

Un Eminescu nu se naște în fiecare zi.

An Eminescu is not born every day.

Îmi amintesc o Românie frumoasă.

I remember a beautiful Romania.

- 3 To indicate someone we do not know very well:

Te caută un Popescu

Someone called Popescu is looking for you.

- 4 To be used with other parts of speech that behave like nouns:

Mi-ai făcut un rău mare. (*rău* is an adverb)

You did me a great wrong.

Am auzit un țâr-țâr la ușă. (*țâr-țâr* is an interjection)

I heard a ring at the door.

- 5 To indicate a piece of work by a famous artist:

Acesta este un Țuculescu original.

This is an original Țuculescu.

- 6 When it has the meaning of ‘a pair’ or ‘some’:

Țache poartă niște pantaloni roșii.

Țache is wearing a pair of red trousers.

Simona are niște idei originale.

Simona has some original ideas.

- 7 When the noun expressing the nationality or the occupation of a person is modified by an adjective:

Mihai este un român bun.

Mihai is a good Romanian.

Laura este o actriță talentată.

Laura is a talented actress.

3.2 Definite article

The definite article in Romanian has multiple forms, according to the gender, the number and the ending of the noun.

3.2.1 Masculine nouns

<i>Examples</i>	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
băiat boy	băiatul the boy	băieții the boys
munte mountain	muntele the mountain	munții the mountains
unchi uncle	unchiul the uncle	unchii the uncles
membru member	membrul the member	membrii the members
popă priest	popa the priest	popii the priests

Note: The definite articles for masculine nouns in the singular are **-l**, **-ul**, **-le** or **-a**. For the masculine nouns in the plural, the invariable definite article is **-i**.

3.2.2 Feminine nouns

<i>Examples</i>	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
fată girl	fata the girl	fetele the girls
cană mug	cana the mug	cănille the mugs

blană fur	blana the fur	blănurile the furs
parte part	partea the part	părțile the parts
prăjitură cake	prăjitura the cake	prăjiturile the cakes
prăvălie shop	prăvălia the shop	prăvăliile the shops
cheie key	cheia the key	cheile the keys
sarma stuffed cabbage leaf	sarmaua the stuffed cabbage leaf	sarmalele the stuffed cabbage leaves
cafea coffee	cafeaua the coffee	cafelele the coffees

Note: The definite article for feminine nouns in the singular is **-a** or **-ua**. The definite article for feminine nouns in the plural is always **-le**.

3.2.3 Neuter nouns

<i>Examples</i>	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
vin wine	vinul the wine	vinurile the wines
pahar glass	paharul the glass	paharele the glasses
tricou t-shirt	tricoul the t-shirt	tricourile the t-shirts
ou egg	oul the egg	ouăle the eggs
nume name	numele the name	numele the names
studiu study	studiul the study	studiile the studies

Note: The definite articles for neuter nouns in the singular are **-ul**, **-l** or **-le**. The definite article for neuter nouns in the plural is always **-le**.

3.2.4 Uses of the definite article

- 1 To accompany nouns that describe unique things:

Soarele răsare de la est.

The sun rises in the East.

- 2 To accompany nouns that are known to the speaker because of their proximity to the speaker:

Dă-mi cana!

Give me the mug.

- 3 To accompany names of places, towns or people:

Bucureștiul interbelic era foarte pitoresc.

Bucharest between the two world wars was very picturesque.

Crișul curge în vestul țării.

The river Criș runs through the west of the country.

Președintele Băsescu a vizitat Spania.

President Băsescu visited Spain.

- 4 To accompany adjectives that are either placed before the nouns (inversion) or behave like nouns:

Frumosul prinț a căzut de pe cal.

The beautiful prince has fallen off his horse.

Frumoșii și deșteptii sunt rari în ziua de azi.

The handsome and the clever are rare nowadays.

- 5 To accompany other parts of speech that behave like nouns – prepositions, pronouns, numerals, adverbs:

Dânsul este vecinul nostru. (dânsul is a polite form of the pronoun el)

He is our neighbour.

Împrejurul casei este o pajiște verde.

Around the house there is a green meadow.

Primul este Dragoș, al doilea este Călin.

Dragoș is the first one, Călin is the second one.

Seara citesc un roman bun.

In the evening I read a good novel.

- 6 With names of countries, continents, rivers:

România este țara mea.

Romania is my country.

America este departe.

America is far.

- 7 With titles:

Domnul Borza locuiește la Paris.

Mr. Borza lives in Paris.

Domnișoara Irina lucrează la Cluj.

Miss Irina works in Cluj.

- 8 With days of the week, as adverbs when referring to habitual or repeated actions.

Lunea merg la dans, marțea merg la piață.

On Mondays I go to dance and on Tuesdays I go to the market.

- 9 When making a statement that expresses a generality:

Îmi plac mult cactușii.

I love cacti.

Femeile merg des la cosmetică.

Women often go to the beauty salon.

- 10 With the preposition **cu**, even if the noun is not qualified, when the noun denotes a means of transport or an instrument (compare with 3.2.5).

Mănânc supa cu lingura.

I eat soup with a spoon.

Carmen merge la universitate cu metrourl.

Carmen goes to university by underground.

3.2.5 *Omission of article*

- 1 With nouns expressing an indefinite number:

La piață sunt cumpărători și vânzători.

There are buyers and sellers at the market.

- 2 When the noun is preceded by a preposition but is not qualified.
(Exception is the preposition **cu**. See (3) below.)

Taxiul te așteaptă lângă casă.

The taxi is waiting for you near the house.

Pe masă este o carte.

There is a book on the table.

- 3 When the noun is preceded by the preposition **cu** but it denotes matter:

Îmi place să mănânc pâine cu unt.

I like eating bread and butter.

- 4 When the noun is preceded by an indefinite or an interrogative adjective, numeral or certain demonstrative pronouns:

Orice om vrea să fie iubit.

Everybody wants to be loved.

Cât timp stai la mare?

How long are you staying at the seaside?

Emma are trei copii.

Emma has three children.

Acest oraș este capitala țării.

This town is the capital of the country.

- 5 When we refer to matter:

Aveți pâine ?

Do you have bread?

- 6 When the noun indicates the profession, rank or nationality of a person:

William este prinț.

William is a prince.

Mama este profesoară de matematică.

Mother is a maths teacher.

Eu sunt româncă.

I am a Romanian.

3.3 Demonstrative or adjectival article

This article is used before adjectives. It is derived from the forms of the demonstrative adjective *acela* 'that', hence the name.

	Singular		Plural	
	M./N.	F.	M.	F./N.
N/A	cel	cea	cei	cele
G/D	celui	celeii	celor	celor

3.3.1 Uses of the demonstrative article

- 1 Used as an article for an adjective acting as a noun:

Cea dulce e pe masă, cea sărată e în frigider.

The sweet one is on the table, the salty one is in the fridge.

- 2 Links an adjective to a noun emphasizing it:

Mircea cel Bătrân a fost un domnitor faimos.

Mircea the Old was a famous ruler.

- 3 Forms the superlative for adjectives and adverbs:

Cel mai bun elev e Mihai.

The best pupil is Mihai.

El scrie cel mai corect.

He writes the most correctly.

- 4 Used to replace nouns and numerals, especially when referring to previously mentioned nouns:

Cele două (cărți) sunt foarte scumpe.

The two (books) are very expensive.

Cei din dulap (pantofii) sunt ai tăi.

The ones in the wardrobe (the shoes) are yours.

- 5 Before relative clauses:

Cea care a intrat e Raluca.

The one who came in is Raluca.

- 6 Used in conjunction with the interrogative pronoun *care*:

Care cameră e pentru oaspeți? Cea din spate.

Which room is for guests? The one at the back.

- 7 To replace names such as:

Cel de Sus = Dumnezeu (God)
cel cu coarne = dracul (devil)

3.4 Possessive article

The possessive article is used to form possessive pronouns and ordinal numbers as well as to accompany nouns acting as possessors.

M./N.	<i>Singular</i>	M.	<i>Plural</i>	F./N.
	F.		F./N.	
al	a	ai	ale	

3.4.1 Uses of the possessive article:

- 1 It forms the genitive form of the pronouns **cine** and **care**.

A cui e geanta asta?

Whose is this bag?

Fata, al cărei frate a sunat, nu este aici.

The girl, whose brother called, is not here.

- 2 It forms possessive pronouns (see section 5.3):

Geanta este a mea.

The bag is mine.

- 3 It forms ordinal numerals (see section 6.2):

Al treilea e fiul meu.

The third one is my son.

- 4 It is used when the possessed object does not directly precede the possessor:

Biroul este al kolegei mele, Simona.

This is my colleague Simona's office.

- 5 After nouns accompanied by indefinite adjectives:

Fiecare carte a mea a fost un success.

Each of my books was a success.

Orice poezie a lui este frumoasă.

Any of his poems is beautiful.

- 6 When the possessive article follows an indefinite noun, **de** must be inserted between the noun and the possessive article:

Un prieten de-al meu vine la masă.

A friend of mine is coming to dinner.

Adjectives

4.1 Types of adjective

In Romanian, adjectives can be divided into four types, according to the number of forms they have that correspond to the numbers and genders.

The majority of the adjectives in Romanian have four forms:

<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>	
alb	albă	albi	albe	white
frumos	frumoasă	frumoși	frumoase	beautiful
urât	urâtă	urâți	urâte	ugly
deștept	deșteaptă	deștepți	deștepte	clever
albastru	albastră	albaștri	albastre	blue
bătrân	bătrână	bătrâni	bătrâne	old (people)
perpetuu	perpetuă	perpetui	perpetue	perpetual

The endings for the adjectives with four forms are: masculine singular (generally a consonant, but also **-u** or **-uu**); feminine singular **-ă**, **-uă**; masculine plural **-i**; and feminine plural **-e**, **-ue**.

A smaller number of adjectives have only three forms. For these adjectives, the masculine plural and feminine plural forms are the same:

<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>	
mic	mică	mici	mici	small
lung	lungă	lungi	lungi	long
nou	nouă	noi	noi	new

For adjectives that end in *-iu* or in *-u* in the masculine singular, again the masculine plural and feminine plural forms are the same. Here the feminine singular ends in *-ie* and not in *-ă*.

<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>	
argintiu	argintie	argintii	argintii	silver
auriu	aurie	aurii	aurii	golden
roșu	roșie	roșii	roșii	red

For adjectives ending in *-or* in the masculine singular, the feminine singular and feminine plural forms are the same, both having the ending *-oare*.

<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>	
muncitor	muncitoare	muncitori	muncitoare	hard-working
silitor	silitoare	silitori	silitoare	diligent

An even smaller number of adjectives have only two forms: one for all the singular forms and one for all the plural forms. Most of them end in *-e* in the masculine singular:

<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>	
rece	rece	reci	reci	cold
verde	verde	verzi	verzi	green
tare	tare	tari	tari	hard, strong
repede	repede	repezi	repezi	quick
subțire	subțire	subțiri	subțiri	thin
moale	moale	moi	moi	soft
mare	mare	mari	mari	big
dulce	dulce	dulci	dulci	sweet
cuminte	cuminte	cuminți	cuminți	well-behaved

Note that the adjective **vechi** (old) has one form for the masculine singular and masculine and feminine plural, and one form for the feminine singular:

<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>	
vechi	veche	vechi	vechi	old (things)

A very small number of adjectives have just one form for the numbers and genders. Here are some examples:

<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>	
gri	gri	gri	gri	grey
roz	roz	roz	roz	pink
bej	bej	bej	bej	beige
maro	maro	maro	maro	brown
oranj	oranj	oranj	oranj	orange
anume	anume	anume	anume	certain
eficace	eficace	eficace	eficace	effective
ferice	ferice	ferice	ferice	happy
vivace	vivace	vivace	vivace	lively
cumsecade	cumsecade	cumsecade	cumsecade	kind, nice
asemenea	asemenea	asemenea	asemenea	such

4.2 Comparison

Adjectives have two degrees of comparison: the comparative and the superlative. The comparative degree can show superiority, inferiority or equality in relation to a second term of comparison. When it shows superiority, the adjective receives the word **mai** in front of it and **decât** or **ca** after it when the meaning requires it:

frumos	mai frumos decât	beautiful	more beautiful than
deștept	mai deștept ca	clever	cleverer than
bun	mai bun decât	good	better than
rău	mai rău ca	bad	worse than

When it shows inferiority, the adjective receives the words **mai puțin** in front of it and **decât** or **ca** after it:

frumos	mai puțin frumos decât	beautiful	less beautiful than
urât	mai puțin urât ca	ugly	less ugly than

When it shows equality with a second term of comparison, the words **la fel de** or **tot așa de** or **tot atât de** are added in front of it and **ca** after it:

la fel de frumos ca	as beautiful as
tot așa de urât ca	as ugly as
tot atât de bun ca	as good as

The second degree is the superlative degree. This can be expressed in two ways: with the help of the word **foarte** or **grozav de**, **extraordinar de**, **excepțional de**, etc.

frumos	foarte frumos	very beautiful
urât	extraordinar de urât	exceptionally ugly
bun	grozav de bun	terribly good
rău	teribil de rău	terribly bad

Or it can be expressed with the help of **cel mai/cea mai/cei mai/cele mai**, according to the gender of the nouns the adjectives modifies:

frumos (m./n. sing.)	cel mai frumos	the most beautiful (m. sing.)
urâtă (f. sing.)	cea mai urâtă	the ugliest (f. sing.)
buni (m. pl.)	cei mai buni	the best (m. pl.)
rele (f./n. pl.)	cele mai rele	the worst (f. pl.)

There are adjectives which cannot receive a degree of comparison because of their meaning:

complet	complete	mort	dead
deplin	thorough, absolute	optim	optimum
enorm	enormous	parțial	partial
excelent	excellent	perfect	perfect
exterior	exterior	prim	first
extraordinar	extraordinary	sublim	sublime
final	final	superior	superior
inferior	inferior	total	total
inițial	initial	ultim	last
interior	interior	viu	alive
maxim	maximum	original	original
minim	minimum	unic	unique

4.3 Agreement

Adjectives will always agree in gender and in number (as well as in case, see 2.4.) with the nouns they qualify.

Adjectives with four forms:

<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
băiat frumos handsome boy	fată frumoasă beautiful girl	băieți frumoși handsome boys	fete frumoase beautiful girls
pictor bun good artist (m.)	pictoriță bună good artist (f.)	pictori buni good artists (m.)	pictorițe bune good artists (f.)
domn plăcut pleasant gentleman	doamnă plăcută pleasant lady	domni plăcuți pleasant gentlemen	doamne plăcute pleasant ladies

Adjectives with three forms:

<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
băiat mic little boy	fată mică little girl	băieți mici little boys	fete mici little girls
om drag dear man	femeie dragă dear woman	oameni dragi dear men	femei dragi dear women
pantof argintiu silver shoe	rochie argintie silver dress	pantofi argintii silver shoes	rochii argintii silver dresses
student silitor diligent student (m.)	studentă silitoare diligent student (f.)	studenți silitori diligent students (m.)	studente silitoare diligent students (f.)

Adjectives with two forms:

<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
copac mare big tree	plantă mare big plant	copaci mari big trees	plante mari big plants
prieten vechi old friend (m.)	prietenă veche old friend (f.)	prieteni vechi old friends (m.)	prietene vechi old friends (f.)

Adjectives with one form:

<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
bărbat vivace vivacious man	femeie vivace vivacious woman	bărbați vivace vivacious men	femei vivace vivacious women

4.4 Case

Adjectives agree in case with the nouns they qualify.

4.4.1 Definite form adjectives and nouns

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
<i>N</i>	băiatul	fata	băieții	fetele
	deștept	deșteaptă	deștepți	deștepte
<i>A</i>	băiatul	fata	băieții	fetele
	deștept	deșteaptă	deștepți	deștepte
<i>G</i>	băiatului	fetei	băieților	fetelor
	deștept	deștepte	deștepți	deștepte
<i>D</i>	băiatului	fetei	băieților	fetelor
	deștept	deștepte	deștepți	deștepte
<i>V</i>	băiatule	fată	băieților	fetelor
	deștept!	deșteaptă!	deștepți!	deștepte!

4.4.2 Adjectives and nouns in the indefinite form

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
<i>N</i>	un băiat	o fată	niște băieți	niște fete
	deștept	deșteaptă	deștepți	deștepte
<i>A</i>	un băiat	o fată	niște băieți	niște fete
	deștept	deșteaptă	deștepți	deștepte
<i>G</i>	unui băiat	unei fete	unor băieți	unor fete
	deștept	deștepte	deștepți	deștepte
<i>D</i>	unui băiat	unei fete	unor băieți	unor fete
	deștept	deștepte	deștepți	deștepte
<i>V</i>	—	—	—	—

Note: Feminine nouns take a plural form in the genitive and dative singular.

If there are several nouns of different genders in one sentence which are qualified by one adjective, the adjective takes a masculine form:

o fată și un băiat frumoși a beautiful boy and girl

If there are several nouns in different numbers in one sentence which are modified by one adjective, the adjective takes a plural form:

mâncarea și băuturile oferite the food and the drinks offered

4.5 Position

Adjectives in Romanian normally follow the noun:

soț iubitor loving husband	soție iubitoare loving wife	soți iubitori loving husbands	soții iubitoare loving wives
fiu inteligent smart son	fiică inteligentă smart daughter	fii inteligenți smart sons	fiice inteligente smart daughters

There are a number of nouns and adjectives which form fixed phrases in which the adjective precedes the noun:

micul ecran	the small screen
mica publicitate	small ads
fostul șef	former boss

Adjectives can precede the noun if special emphasis is placed on the adjective. In this case, the adjective will take over the definite article and any other changes that the nouns would normally undergo.

Adjectives + nouns in the indefinite form:

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N	un frumos băiat	o frumoasă fată	niște frumoși copii	niște frumoase fete
A	un frumos băiat	o frumoasă fată	niște frumoși băieți	niște frumoase fete
G	unui frumos băiat	unei frumoase fete	unor frumoși băieți	unor frumoase fete
D	unui frumos băiat	unei frumoase fete	unor frumoși băieți	unor frumoase fete
V	—	—	—	—

Adjectives + nouns in the definite form:

	<i>M./N sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N pl.</i>
N	frumosul băiat	frumoasa fată	frumoșii băieți	frumoasele fete
A	frumosul băiat	frumoasa fată	frumoșii băieți	frumoasele fete
G	frumosului băiat	frumoasei fete	frumoșilor băieți	frumoaselor fete
D	frumosului băiat	frumoasei fete	frumoșilor băieți	frumoaselor fete
V	frumosule băiat!	frumoasă fată!	frumoșilor băieți!	frumoaselor fete!

Adjectives can be used in the vocative without a noun:

Frumoaso!	Beautiful!
Prostule!	Stupid!
Dragule!	Dear!
Scumpo!	Sweetie!

Adjectives can also qualify pronouns:

ceva frumos	something beautiful
cineva frumos	someone beautiful
alt prost	another stupid one
cealaltă deșteaptă	the other clever one
acel deștept	that clever one

Adjectives can also precede pronouns:

frumosul celălalt	the other beautiful one
deșteapta aceea	that clever one

4.6 Other types of adjective

All the adjectives presented here can also be pronouns. They will be explained extensively in Chapter 5.

4.6.1 Possessive adjectives

These are always used in conjunction with a noun. See the examples below. They have a form for each gender, which refers to the ‘possessed’ object or person. They agree in gender and number with the ‘possessed’ object.

Person	M./N. sing.	F. sing.	M. pl.	F./N. pl.	
Eu	meu	mea	mei	mele	my
Tu	tău	ta	tăi	tale	your
El	său	sa	săi	sale	his
Ea	său	sa	săi	sale	her
Noi	nostru	noastră	noștri	noastre	our
Voi	vostru	voastră	voștri	voastre	your
Ei	lor	lor	lor	lor	their
Ele	lor	lor	lor	lor	their

cartea mea (f. sing.)	cărțile mele (f. pl.)	my book(s)
creionul meu (n. sing.)	creioanele mele (n. pl.)	my pencil(s)
prietenul meu (m. sing.)	prietenii mei (m. pl.)	my friend(s)
mașina ta (f. sing.)	mașinile tale (f. pl.)	your car (s)
musafirul tău (m. sing.)	musafirii tăi (m. pl.)	your guest(s)
pixul tău (n. sing.)	pixurile tale (n. pl.)	your biro(s)
camera sa (f. sing.)	camerele sale (f. pl.)	your room(s)
televizorul său (n. sing.)	televizoarele sale (n. pl.)	his/her TV(s)
câinele său (m. sing.)	câinii săi (m. pl.)	his/her dog(s)

All the forms for the third person feminine (său, sa, săi, sale) can be replaced by the form **ei**. This form is preferred in colloquial speech. The other four forms are used more when the possessor is the same person as the subject of the statement.

păpușa sa (f. sing.) = păpușa ei	păpușile sale (f. pl.) = păpușile ei
fratele său (m. sing.) = fratele ei	frații săi (m. pl.) = frații ei
orașul său (n. sing.) = orașul ei	orașele sale (n. pl.) = orașele ei

All the forms for the third person masculine (său, sa, săi, sale), can be replaced with **lui**.

sora sa (f. sing.) = **sora lui**

surorile sale (f. pl.) = **surorile
lui**

socrul său (m. sing.) = **socrul
lui**

socrii săi (m. pl.) = **socrii lui**

blocul său (n. sing.) = **blocul
lui**

blocurile sale (n. pl.) = **blocurile
lui**

4.6.2 **Demonstrative adjectives**

Demonstrative adjectives agree in gender, number and case with the nouns they modify. Therefore, they have a form for each gender, number and case.

4.6.2.1 Adjective: 'this'

The Romanian word for 'this' can precede or follow the noun. When it precedes the noun, 'this' has a shorter form. When it follows the noun, 'this' has the same form as the corresponding pronoun, explained in Chapter 5.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
<i>N/A</i>	acest copil	această fată	acești copii	aceste fete
	copilul acesta	fata aceasta	copiii aceștia	fetele acestea
<i>G/D</i>	acestui copil	acestei fete	acestor copii	acestor fete
	copilului	fetei	copiilor	fetelor
	acestuia	acesteia	acestora	acestora

In spoken Romanian there are other alternative forms in use. The colloquial forms given here always follow the noun.

**acesta =
ăsta**

**aceasta =
asta**

**aceștia =
ăștia**

**acestea =
ăstea**

copilul ăsta
this child

fata asta
this girl

copiiiăștia
these children

fetele astea
these girls

4.6.2.2 Adjective: 'that'

The Romanian for 'that' can precede or follow the noun. When it precedes the noun, 'that' has a shorter form. When it follows the noun, 'that' has the same form as the corresponding pronoun, explained in Chapter 5.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	acel copil copilul acela	acea fată fata aceea	acei copii copiii aceea	acele fete fetele aceea
G/D	acelui copil copilului aceluia	acelei fete fetei aceleia	acelor copii copiilor acelora	acelor fete fetelor acelora

In spoken Romanian there are other alternative forms in use. The colloquial forms given here always follow the noun:

acela = ăla	aceea = aia	aceia = ăia	acelea = alea
copilul ăla that child	fata aia that girl	copiii ăia those children	fetele alea those girls

4.6.2.3. Adjective: 'the same'

This adjective can only be placed before the noun, never after the noun. It has the same forms with the corresponding pronoun, explained in Chapter 5.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	același copil	aceeași fată	aceiași copii	aceleași fete
G/D	aceluiași copil	aceleiași fete	acelorași copii	acelorași fete

4.6.2.4 Adjective: 'the other'

This adjective can be placed both before and after the noun.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	celălalt copil copilul celălalt	cealaltă fată fata cealaltă	ceialți copii copiii ceialți	celelalte fete fetele celelalte
G/D	celuilalt copil copilului celuilalt	celeilalte fete fetei celeilalte	celorlalți copii copiilor celorlalți	celorlalte fete fetelor celorlalte

4.6.3 **Relative-interrogative adjectives**

These are *ce* = what, *care* = which, *cât* = how much

4.6.3.1 Care

Care precedes the noun when it has an interrogative role. In the nominative/accusative forms, **care** is invariable. It only changes its form in the genitive/dative forms.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	care băiat	care fată	care băieți	care fete
G/D	cărui băiat	cărei fete	căror băieți	căror fete

4.6.3.2 Ce

Ce always precedes the noun. **Ce** has nominative/accusative forms only and is invariable.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	ce băiat	ce fată	ce băieți	ce fete

4.6.3.3 Cât

Cât has two meanings. In the singular, **cât** and **câtă** are used with nouns expressing quantity to denote ‘how much’. In the plural, **câți** and **câte** are used with nouns expressing ‘a number of’. It means ‘how many’. Only the plural forms take genitive/dative forms.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	cât zahăr	câtă cafea	câți băieți	câte fete
G/D	—	—	cător băieți	cător fete

4.6.4 Negative adjectives**4.6.4.1 Niciun/nicio**

This adjective has a feminine, singular form but it does not have plural forms in the nominative and accusative. However, there are plural forms in the genitive and dative cases.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	niciun băiat	nicio fată	—	—
G/D	niciunui băiat	niciunei fete	niciunor băieți	niciunor fete

4.6.5 Indefinite adjectives

4.6.5.1 Adjectives: **un, o**

These adjectives are usually used in opposition with the following two adjectives: **alt** and **celălalt**. The adjective has two forms for the singular and two forms for the plural.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
<i>N/A</i>	un băiat	o fată	unii băieți	unele fete
<i>G/D</i>	unui băiat	unei fete	unor băieți	unor fete

Examples:

Un băiat vrea ceai, alt băiat vrea lapte.

One boy wants tea, the other boy milk.

Unii băieți joacă fotbal, alți băieți joacă volei.

Some boys play football, other boys volleyball.

Unor băieți le place școala, altor băieți nu le place.

Some boys like school, other boys don't.

O fată face sport, cealaltă fată nu face.

One girl does sport, the other girl doesn't.

Unele fete iubesc muzica, celelalte fete nu.

Some girls love music, the other girls don't.

Unor fete le dau premii, celorlalte fete nu.

I give prizes to some girls, I don't to the other girls.

4.6.5.2 Adjectives: **alt**

This adjective always precedes the noun.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
<i>N/A</i>	alt băiat	altă fată	alți băieți	alte fete
<i>G/D</i>	altui băiat	altei fete	altor băieți	altor fete

4.6.5.3 Adjective: **tot**

Tot behaves in the same way as **cât**. In the singular it has a feminine form and is used with nouns denoting quantity. In the plural it is used with nouns that denote 'a number of'.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	tot zahărul	toată cafeaua	toți băieții	toate fetele
G/D	—	—	tuturor băieților	tuturor fetelor

4.6.5.4 Adjectives: **mult**, **puțin**

Mult and **puțin** also behave in the same way as **cât** and **tot**. In the singular they are used with uncountable nouns; **mult** means ‘much’ and **puțin** means ‘little’. In the plural they are used with countable nouns; **mulți** means ‘many’ and **puțini** means ‘few’. They do not take genitive/dative forms in the singular, unless they are used as proper adjectives and not as indefinite adjectives. However, they do have genitive/dative forms in the plural. These adjectives can either precede or follow the noun.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	zahăr mult	cafea multă	băieți mulți	fete multe
	mult zahăr	multă cafea	mulți băieți	multe fete
G/D	—	—	băieților mulți	fetelor multe
	—	—	mulților băieți	multelor fete

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	zahăr puțin	cafea puțină	băieți puțini	fete puține
	puțin zahăr	puțină cafea	puțini băieți	puține fete
G/D	—	—	băieților puțini	fetelor puține
	—	—	puținilor băieți	puținelor fete

4.6.5.5 Adjective: **atât**

Atât behaves in the same way as **cât**, **tot** and **mult**. In the singular it is used with nouns designating quantity and it means ‘that much’. In the plural it is used with nouns that express ‘a number of’ and it means that many. The singular forms do not have genitive/dative forms. This adjective only precedes the noun.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	atât zahăr	atâta cafea	atâția băieți	atâtea fete
G/D	—	—	atâtor băieți	atâtor fete

4.6.5.6 Adjective: **vreun**

Vreun has four forms in the nominative/accusative and four forms in the genitive/dative. **Vreun** always precedes the noun. The meaning is ‘some’.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	vreun băiat	vreo fată	vreunii băieți	vreunele fete
G/D	vreunii băiat	vreunei fete	vreunor băieți	vreunor fete

4.6.5.7 Adjectives: **oricare, fiecare**

These adjectives are invariable in the nominative/accusative cases but decline according to gender and number in the genitive/dative. They always appear before the noun. *Oricare* means ‘any’; *fiecare* means ‘each’.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	oricare băiat	oricare fată	oricare băieți	oricare fete
	fiecare băiat	fiecare fată	—	—
G/D	oricărui băiat	oricărei fete	oricăror băieți	oricăror fete
	fiicărui băiat	fiicărei fete	—	—

4.6.5.8 Adjectives: **orice, ceva**

The adjective *orice* is invariable in the nominative/accusative cases but declines according to gender and number in the genitive/dative by using the same forms with *oricare*. It always appears before the noun. *Orice* means ‘any’. *Ceva* as an adjective means ‘some’ or ‘little’ and is used only with nouns expressing quantity. It is invariable and always precedes the noun.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	orice băiat	orice fată	orice băieți	orice fete
	ceva zahăr	ceva cafea	—	—
G/D	oricărui băiat	oricărei fete	oricăror băieți	oricăror fete
	—	—	—	—

4.6.5.9 Adjectives: **oricât, câtva**

These adjectives have four forms. They follow the same regime as *cât*, *tot*, *mult* and *atât*. In the singular they are used with nouns designating quantity. *Oricât* means ‘no matter how much’, *câtva* means ‘some’. In the plural they are used with nouns designating ‘a number of’. *Oricâți* means ‘no matter how many’, *câțiva* means ‘some’. They always appear before the noun. Both have genitive/dative forms only in the plural.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	oricât zahăr	oricătă cafea	oricâți băieți	oricâte fete
	—	—	oricător băieți	oricător fete
G/D	câtva zahăr	câtăva cafea	cățiva băieți	câteva fete
	—	—	cătorva băieți	cătorva fete

Pronouns

5.1 Personal pronouns

5.1.1 Forms of personal pronouns

Personal pronouns have nominative, accusative, genitive and dative forms. The genitive/dative forms have stressed forms (marked as SF), unstressed forms and shortened forms, the third category being linked by hyphen to a preceding word. The shortened forms are used when the pronoun is linked to an auxiliary (such as in the past tense), to a gerund or to an imperative, or to forms like *să* or *nu* in informal Romanian. See the examples after the table.

N	eu (I)	tu (you, sing.)	el (he)	ea (she)	noi (we)	voi (you, pl.)	ei (they, m.)	ele (they, f.)
A	mă m- —	te te- —	îl l- —	o — -o	ne ne- —	vă v- —	îi i- —	le le- —
SF	prep + mine	prep + tine	prep + el	prep. + ea	prep. + noi	prep. + voi	prep. + ei	prep. + ele
G	al meu a mea ai mei ale mele	al tău a ta ai tăi ale tale	al său/lui a sa/lui ai săi/lui ale sale/lui	al său/ei a sa/ei ai săi/ei ale sale/ei	al nostru a noastră ai noștri ale noastre	al vostru a voastră ai voștri ale voastre	al lor a lor ai lor ale lor	al lor a lor ai lor ale lor
D	îmi mi- -mi -mi-	îți ți- -ți -ți-	îi i- -i -i-	îi i- -i -i-	ne ne- -ne -ni-	vă v- -vă -vi-	le le- -le -li-	le le- -le -li-
SF	mie	ție	lui	ei	nouă	vouă	lor	lor
V	—	tu!	—	—	—	voi!	—	—

Please note that for the third person singular masculine and feminine in the genitive case there are two alternative forms. The **ei** and **lui** forms are used in more informal speech.

Examples of the various cases are given below.

5.1.1.1 Nominative forms

Eu gătesc. **Ea gătește.**
I cook She cooks

5.1.1.2 Accusative forms

Tu mă suni. You call me.	Tu o suni. You call her.
Tu mă suni pe mine You call <i>me</i> .	Tu o suni pe ea. You call <i>her</i> .
Tu m-ai sunat. You called me.	Tu ai sunat-o. You called her.

5.1.1.3 Genitive forms

Cărțile sunt ale mele. The books are mine.	Cărțile sunt ale ei. The books are hers.
	<i>or</i>
	Cărțile sunt ale sale. The books are hers.

5.1.1.4 Dative forms

Îmi dai cărțile. You give me the books.	Îi dai cărțile. You give her/him the books.
Mi-ai dat cărțile. You gave me the books.	I-ai dat cărțile. You gave her/him the books.
Dă-mi cărțile! Give me the books!	Dă-i cărțile! Give her/him the books!
Dă-mi-le! Give them to me!	Dă-i-le! Give them to her/him!
Dă-mi mie cărțile! Give <i>me</i> the books!	Dă-i ei cărțile! Give <i>her</i> the books!

5.1.2 Stressed Accusative and Dative forms

The stressed forms of the accusative and dative pronouns are mostly used when emphasis needs to be put on the pronouns. This is optional and is decided by the speaker.

Dă-mi și mie o ciocolată.

Give *me* a chocolate too.

Spune-i ei asta, nu mie.

Tell *her* this, not *me*.

They are also used in sentences without a verb, especially in answers:

Cui trebuie să-i dau cartea? Mie.

Whom do I have to give the book to? *To me*.

Cui îi scrii scisoarea? Ei.

Whom are you writing to? *To her*.

The stressed forms can also be used after prepositions. In the case of the stressed dative forms, it is compulsory to use them after the following prepositions: **datorită** (because of), **mulțumită** (thanks to) and **grație** (thanks to).

Cu cine vrei să mergi în excursie?

With whom do you want to go on the trip? With me or with him?

Cu mine sau cu el?

(Accusative)

Mulțumită ție, am reușit. (Dative)

Thanks to you, I/we made it.

5.1.3 Unstressed Dative and Accusative forms

The unstressed dative and accusative forms are used in the same sentence with another dative or accusative pronoun or noun as a double dative or accusative in the following situations:

- 1 Optionally, when we place emphasis on the dative or accusative pronoun, as explained above:

Lor nu le-a trimis nici un cadou.

He did not send *them* any presents.

- 2 Compulsorily, when the second sentence starts with **care**:

Băiatul căruia i-am dat telefon, e vecinul tău.

The boy I telephoned is your neighbour.

Cartea pe care o citești, e foarte bună.

The book you are reading is very good.

- 3 If the first sentence starts with a direct object:

Florile roșii, le-am primit de la Mihai.

The red flowers, I got them from Mihai.

- 4 If the dative and accusative refer to people, we also have to use the direct object and the indirect object by using the unstressed forms of the dative and accusative pronouns.

O iubesc pe Carla. (direct object)
I love Carla.

Îi scriu Carlei. (indirect object)
I write to Carla.

Îl vizitez pe Mihai. (direct object)

I visit Mihai.

Îi explic ceva lui Mihai. (indirect object)

I explain something to Mihai.

Îi felicit pe copiii. (direct object)

I congratulate the children.

Le dau cadouri copiilor. (indirect object)

I give presents to the children.

5.1.4 Dative and dative reflexive pronouns expressing possession

The unstressed dative forms of the personal pronouns can have a possessive meaning and can be used in the place of the possessive adjectives.

The dative reflexive pronouns are almost identical to the dative forms given in the table, except for the third person singular and plural, where the forms *îi* and *le* will be replaced with *își*.

Unstressed dative pronouns with a possessive meaning: *îmi, îți, îi, ne, vă, le* are used in the following contexts:

- 1 With interrogative words such as *unde, care, când* etc.

Unde îți sunt pantofii? = Unde sunt pantofii tăi.

Where are your shoes?

Care ne sunt locurile? = Care sunt locurile noastre?

Which are our seats?

- 2 They can replace direct objects in the accusative and the accompanying possessive adjectives.

Când îți vizitează părinții? = Când îi vizitează pe părinții tăi.

When does he/she visit your parents?

Noi îi laudăm prietenii. = Noi îi laudăm pe prietenii ei.

We praise her friends.

- 3 With prepositions that require a genitive. These forms are obsolete or poetic.

În juru-*i* este numai pădure. = În jurul *lui* este numai pădure.
Around it there is only forest.

Dative reflexive pronouns *îmi, îți, își, ne, vă, își* are used in the following contexts:

- 1 They are compulsory to express a situation in which the doer carries out an action on an object in his/her possession. The dative reflexive pronouns are placed next to the verb, not next to the noun, as the possessive adjectives are.

Îmi spăl mașina. = mașina mea
I wash my car.

Ne rezolvăm problemele.
We solve our problems.

Își laudă prietenii. = prietenii lui
He praises his friends.

Vă reparați televizorul.
They repair their TV.

Îți cumperi o mașină nouă.
You buy a new car.

- 2 They are optional when they replace direct object pronouns used together with the possessive adjective when they refer to people.

Ema își sună soțul. = Ema îl sună pe soțul său.
Emma is calling her husband.

Îmi iubesc bunica. = O iubesc pe bunica mea.
I love my grandma.

- 3 Several verbs are used together with dative reflexive pronouns: *a-și imagina* (to imagine), *a-și închipui* (to imagine), *a-și aminti* (to remember), etc. See Section 5.9 for reflexive pronouns.
- 4 Direct and indirect object pronouns together:

<i>o</i>	<i>îl</i>	<i>le</i>	<i>îi</i>
mi-o	mi-l	mi le	mi-i
ți-o	ți-l	ți le	ți-i
i-o	i-l	i le	i-i
ne-o	ni-l	ni le	ni-i
v-o	vi-l	vi le	vi-i
le-o	li-l	li le	li-i

Examples:

Mi-o trimit anual.

They send it to me annually.

I-l spală chiar acum.

He/she washes it for him/her now.

Vi-l dăm mâine.

We will give it to you tomorrow.

Ni-i pregătește repede.

He/she prepares them for us quickly.

5.1.5 Pronouns: *dânsul, dânsa, dâșii, dânselle*

These four pronouns are alternative forms for the personal pronouns *el, ea, ei, ele*. They tend to be used as personal pronouns in the place of *el, ea, ei, ele* in the East of Romania, in the Moldova region and as polite pronouns in the rest of Romania when we want to refer to a third party in a respectful way.

	<i>M. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F. pl.</i>
N/A	dânsul	dânsa	dâșii	dânselle
G/D	dânsului	dânsei	dâșilor	dânelor

5.2 Polite form pronouns

5.2.1 *Dumneavoastră, dumneata, dumnealui*

Dumneavoastră is used instead of *tu* and *voi* when we address people older than us, more senior in rank or complete strangers. *Dumneavoastră* will always be used with the second person plural form, even if it replaces the form of *tu*. *Dumneavoastră* can be abbreviated to *dvs* or *dv* in writing.

Dumneavoastră has forms for the third person singular and plural: *dumnealui* and *dumneaei* is used with the third person singular form of verbs; *dumnealor* is used with the third person plural form of verbs. As in the case of the personal pronoun *dânsul*, the *dumnealui* forms can also be used to refer to a third party in a respectful way.

	Singular	Plural
N/A	dumneavoastră (you) dumnealui (he) dumneaei (she)	dumneavoastră (you) dumnealor (they)
G/D	dumneavoastră dumnealui dumneaei	dumneavoastră dumnealor

Singular

Dumneavoastră vreți un bilet la film?

or

Dvs vreți un bilet la film?
Do you want a cinema ticket?

Dumneavoastră vă trimit un bilet la film.

or

Dvs vă trimit un bilet la film.
I am sending you a cinema ticket.

Dumnealui vrea un bilet la film.
He wants a cinema ticket.

Dumneaei vrea un bilet la film.
She wants a cinema ticket.

Plural

Dumneavoastră vreți un bilet la film?

or

Dvs vreți un bilet la film?
Do you want a cinema ticket?

Dumneavoastră vă trimit un bilet la film.

or

Dvs vă trimit un bilet la film.
I am sending you a cinema ticket.

Dumnealor vor bilete la film.
They want cinema tickets.

Dumnealor vor bilete la film.
They want cinema tickets.

Dumneata is used instead of *tu* only when addressing people older than us or people we want to show respect to, but this form implies a greater degree of familiarity with the people we address than is the case for *dumneavoastră*, such as grandparents or elderly relatives or elderly neighbours. *Dumneata* will always be used with the second person singular of the verb. *Dumitale* is the genitive/dative form of *dumneata*. *Dumneata* can be abbreviated to *d-ta* in writing, while *dumitale* can be abbreviated to *d-tale*, e.g.

Dumneata vrei un bilet la film?

Do you want a cinema ticket?

Dumitale îți trimit un bilet la film.

I am sending you a cinema ticket.

D-ta vrei un bilet la film?

Do you want a cinema ticket?

5.3 Possessive pronouns

The possessive pronouns are formed with the help of the possessive adjectives preceded by the possessive articles *al, a, ai, ale*.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
<i>Eu</i>	al meu	a mea	ai mei	ale mele
<i>Tu</i>	al tău	a ta	ai tăi	ale tale
<i>El</i>	al său or al	a sa or a	ai săi or ai	ale sale or ale
	lui	lui	lui	lui
<i>Ea</i>	al său or al ei	a sa or a ei	ai săi or ai ei	ale sale or ale ei
<i>Noi</i>	al nostru	a noastră	ai noștri	ale noastre
<i>Voi</i>	al vostru	a voastră	ai voștri	ale voastre
<i>Ei/Ele</i>	al lor	a lor	ai lor	ale lor

Acest roman este *al meu*.

This novel is mine.

Florile sunt *ale ei/ale sale*.

The flowers are hers.

Meritul este *al tău*.

The merit is yours.

Casele sunt *ale lui/ale sale*.

The houses are his.

5.4 Demonstrative pronouns

Demonstrative pronouns are similar to the demonstrative adjectives in form, but they replace the noun.

5.4.1 Pronoun: 'this'

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
<i>N/A</i>	acesta	aceasta	aceștia	acestea
<i>G/D</i>	acestuia	acesteia	acestora	acestora

5.4.2 Pronoun: 'that'

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
<i>N/A</i>	acela	aceea	aceia	acelea
<i>G/D</i>	aceluia	aceleia	acelora	acelora

5.4.3 Pronoun: 'the same one'

	M./N. sing.	F. sing.	M. pl.	F./N. pl.
N/A	același	aceeași	aceiași	aceleași
G/D	aceluiași	aceleiași	acelorași	acelorași

5.4.4 Pronoun: 'the other one'

	M./N. sing.	F. sing.	M. pl.	F./N. pl.
N/A	celălalt	cealaltă	ceilalți	celelalte
G/D	celuilalt	celeilalte	celorlați	celorlalte

5.5 Negative pronouns

They are **nimeni**, **nimic**, **niciunul**. The verb of the negative sentence has to be accompanied by **nu**, despite the use of the negative pronouns.

5.5.1 **Nimeni**

Nimeni refers to people only. It has only one form for all the genders and the numbers. It agrees with the verb in the singular.

N/A	nimeni
G/D	nimănu

Nimeni nu vrea să citească tare.

Nobody wants to read out loud.

Nimănu nu-i place zgomotul.

Nobody likes noise.

5.5.2 **Nimic**

Nimic refers to inanimate objects only. It is completely invariable.

Nimic nu contează acum. Nu vreau nimic.

Nothing matters now.

I don't want anything.

5.5.3 Niciunul

Niciunul has feminine, neuter and masculine forms and genitive and dative forms.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	niciunul	niciuna	niciunii	niciunele
G/D	niciunuia	niciuneia	niciunora	niciunora

Masculine

Feminine

Niciunul nu e atent.

Not one of them pays attention.

Niciuna nu e atentă.

Not one of them pays attention.

5.6 Indefinite pronouns

They are similar to the indefinite adjectives. (See 4.6.5 for comparison.)

5.6.1 Unul

This pronoun has feminine, neuter and masculine forms and genitive and dative forms.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	unul	una	unii	unele
G/D	unuia	uneia	unora	unora

Masculine

Feminine

Unul vrea să meargă, altul nu vrea

One wants to go, another one doesn't.

Una mănâncă brânză, cealaltă nu.

One eats cheese, the other one doesn't.

Unuia îi place laptele, celuiilalt nu.

One likes milk, the other doesn't.

Uneia îi scriu lunar, celeilalte săptămânal.

I write monthly to one and weekly to the other.

5.6.2 Altul

This pronoun is often used in connection with **unul**. It has feminine, neuter and masculine forms as well as genitive and dative forms.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	altul	alta	alții	altele
G/D	altuia	alteia	altora	altora

Masculine

Feminine

Unul merge, altul vine.

One goes, another one comes.

Una merge, alta vine.

One goes, another one comes.

Unuia îi place vinul, altuia nu.

One likes wine, another doesn't.

Uneia îi place vinul, alteia nu.

One likes wine, another doesn't.

5.6.3 Tot, toți

Tot has a feminine form, **toată**. Tot and **toată** are used with nouns in the singular; **toți**, **toate** with nouns in the plural.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	tot	toată	toți	toate
G/D	—	—	tuturor	tuturor

Masculine

Feminine

Știm tot pentru examen.

We know everything for the exam.

Nu mai e cafea, s-a consumat toată.

There is no more coffee, all has been consumed.

Toți au ajuns la timp.

Everyone has arrived on time.

Toate au ajuns la timp.

Everyone has arrived on time.

Le-am dat cadouri tuturor.

I gave presents to all/everybody.

Le-am dat cadouri tuturor.

I gave presents to all/everybody.

5.6.4 **Mult, mulți**

Mult and **mulți** follow the same pattern as **tot** and **toți**. **Mult** is used with nouns in the singular and **mulți** with nouns in the plural.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	mult	multă	mulți	multe
G/D	—	—	multora	multora

Masculine

Feminine

Consumi mult zahăr? Da, mult.

Do you take much sugar?

Yes, I do.

Bei multă cafea? Da, multă.

Do you drink much coffee?

Yes, I do.

Mulți au vizitat Bucureștiul.

Many have visited Bucharest.

Multe au vizitat Bucureștiul.

Many have visited Bucharest.

Multora le-a plăcut excursia.

Many liked the trip.

Multora le-a plăcut excursia.

Many liked the trip.

5.6.5 **Atât, atâția**

Atâta and **atâția** behave in a similar way to **tot** and **mult**. **Atât** has genitive/dative forms only in the plural.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl.</i>
N/A	atât	atâta	atâția	atâtea
G/D	—	—	atâtoră	atâtoră

Atât vreau.

I want that much.

Atâta imi doresc.

That's all I want.

Atâția vin la mare în fiecare vară.

So many come to the seaside every summer.

Atâtea vin la mare în fiecare vară.

So many come to the seaside every summer.

Atâtoră le place marea.

So many like the sea.

5.6.6 Vreunul

Vreunul has four forms as well as genitive/dative forms.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl</i>
<i>N/A</i>	vreunul	vreuna	vreunii	vreunele
<i>G/D</i>	vreunuia	vreunea	vreunora	vreunora

Masculine

Feminine

Vreunul trebuie să știe adresa.

Someone must know the address.

Vreuna trebuie să știe adresa.

Someone must know the address.

Îi știi pe vreunii de aici?

Do you know anyone from here?

Le știi pe vreunele de aici?

Do you know anyone from here?

Pixul acesta este al vreunuia dintre voi?

Does this pen belong to any of you?

5.6.7 Oricine, oricare, orice, cineva, careva, ceva, altcineva, altcareva, altceva, fiecare

Oricine (anyone), cineva (someone) and altcineva (someone else) are pronouns and are derived from the pronoun cine.

<i>N/A</i>	oricine	cineva	altcineva
<i>G/D</i>	oricui	cuiva	altcuiva

Oricare (anyone), careva (someone) and fiecare (each) can be both pronouns and adjectives. They are derived from the pronoun care. See section 5.7.2.

<i>N/A</i>	oricare	careva	altcareva	fiecare
<i>G/D.m.</i>	oricăruia	căruiva	altcăruiva	fiecăruia
<i>G/D.f.</i>	oricăreia	căreiva	altcăreiva	fiecăreia

Oricare vrea, poate să vină la petrecere.

Anyone who wants can come to the party.

Poți să-i dai asta oricărui.

You can give this to anyone.

Careva trebuie să știe soluția.

Someone must know the answer.

Altcareva poate știe răspunsul.

Someone else might know the answer.

Fiecare a fost întrebat.

Each one has been asked.

I-am spus orarul fiecăruia.

I told each of them the timetable.

Orice can be both a pronoun and an adjective. **Orice**, **altceva** and **ceva** are derived from the pronoun **ce**. All these are invariable and do not have genitive/dative forms.

Poți să faci orice.

You can do anything.

Vrei altceva?

Do you want something?

Ceva îmi spune că nu e bine.

Something tells me that it is not good.

5.6.8 Câtva, oricât

Câtva and **oricât** are variable and are derived from the pronoun **cât**. In the singular they are used with uncountables and in the plural with countables.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl</i>
<i>N/A</i>	câtva	cătăva	cățiva	câteva
	oricât	oricătă	oricățî	oricâte
<i>G/D</i>	—	—	cătorva	cătorva
	—	—	oricătora	oricătora

Cât timp vei sta în țară? Câtva.

How long will you be staying? For some time.

Câți bani să-ți împrumut? Cățiva.

How much money should I lend you? Some.

Dacă vrei cafea, ia oricătă.

If you want coffee, take as much as you like.

Poți sta oricât.

You can stay as long as you wish.

Oricătora le-am spus adevărul, nu m-au crezut.

No matter how many people I told the truth to, they did not believe me.

Le voi scrie cătorva.

I will write to some of them.

5.7 Interrogative-relative pronouns

They are *cine*, *care*, *ce* and *cât*.

5.7.1 *Cine*

Cine is a pronoun only and it is invariable. The dative form is *cui*. *Cui* together with the possessive articles (*al*, *ai*, *a*, *ale*) form the genitive forms of *cine*.

N	cine
A	pe cine
G	al cui, a cui, ai cui, ale cui
D	cui

Cine vine deseară?

Who comes tonight?

Cui îi scrii?

To whom are you writing?

Pe cine cauți?

Who are you looking for?

Ale cui sunt cărțile acestea?

Whose are these books?

5.7.2 *Care*

Care is both a pronoun and an adjective. *Care* is invariable in the nominative/accusative forms and variable in the genitive/dative forms. As a relative pronoun, *care* links clauses. When the subject of the first clause becomes the direct object in the second clause, the form *pe care* is required.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl</i>
N/A	care	care	care	care
G/D	căruia	căreia	cărora	cărora

Care vine deseară?

Which one comes tonight?

Căruia i-ai trimis cecul?

Which one did you send the cheque to?

Prietenul căruia i-am scris vederea, e aici.

My friend, to whom I wrote the postcard, is here.

Ți-am adus cartea pe care mi-ai împrumutat-o.

I brought back the book you lent me.

5.7.3 Ce

Ce is invariable and does not have genitive/dative forms.

Ce vrei?

What do you want?

Cu ce bei cafeaua?

What are you drinking your coffee with?

5.7.4 Cât

Cât is both a pronoun and an adjective. In the singular it is used with uncountables and in the plural with countables, just like **mult**, **atât** and **tot**.

	<i>M./N. sing.</i>	<i>F. sing.</i>	<i>M. pl.</i>	<i>F./N. pl</i>
<i>N/A</i>	cât	câtă	câți	câte
<i>G/D</i>	—	—	câtoră	câtoră

Masculine

Feminine

Cât vrei?

How much do you want?

Câte vin la petrecere?

How many are coming to the party?

Câți au răspuns corect?

How many have answered correctly?

Câtoră le trimiți invitații ?

How many do you send invitations to?

5.8 Emphatic pronouns

These pronouns accompany personal pronouns and are used in this way purely to emphasize them. The first table shows the masculine forms. The second table shows the feminine forms.

Masculine forms

<i>N</i>	eu însumi	tu însuți	el însuși	noi înșine	voi înșivă	ei înșiși
<i>A</i>	pe mine	pe tine	pe el	pe noi	pe voi	pe ei
	însumi	însuți	însuși	înșine	înșivă	înșiși
<i>G</i>	însumi	însuți	însuși	înșine	înșivă	înșiși
<i>D</i>	mie	ție	lui	nouă	vouă	lor
	însumi	însuți	însuși	înșine	înșivă	înșiși

Feminine forms

N	eu însămi	tu însăți	ea însăși	noi însene	voi însevă	ele înseși or ele însele
A	pe mine însămi	pe tine însăți	pe ea însăși	pe noi însene	pe voi însevă	pe ele înseși or pe ele însele
G	însămi	însăți	însăși	însene	însevă	înseși/ însele
D	mie însemi	ție înseți	ei înseși	nouă însene	vouă însevă	lor înseși or lor însele

Masculine

I-au spus asta chiar lui însuși.

They said that to him (himself).

Ați auzit chiar voi înșivă?

Did you hear this yourselves?

Feminine

I-au spus asta chiar ei înseși.

They said that to her (herself).

Ați auzit chiar voi însevă?

Did you hear this yourselves?

5.9 Reflexive pronouns

Romanian has two sets of reflexive pronouns, a set similar to the direct object pronouns (also called reflexive accusative pronouns), and a set similar to the indirect object pronouns (also called reflexive dative pronouns). This can make things a bit confusing. In order to establish if we are dealing with a reflexive pronoun, we have to check that the person of the verb is the same as the person of the pronoun. If the two persons do not coincide, it means that we are dealing with an accusative pronoun (direct object) or a dative pronoun (indirect object). In the table below, you are given both the accusative and dative reflexive pronouns, both with their stressed, unstressed and hyphenated forms. The hyphenated forms are used when we link the reflexive pronouns to an auxiliary to form the past tense (compulsory), or to **nu** (negation) or to **să** (subjunctive forms), which are optional and informal. The stressed forms are used to emphasize the reflexive pronouns. This is at the discretion of the speaker.

<i>Personal pronouns</i>	eu	tu	el	ea	noi	voi	ei	ele
<i>Accusative reflexives (unstressed and hyphenated forms)</i>	mă -m-	te -te-	se -s-	se -s-	ne -ne-	vă -v-	se -s-	se -s-
<i>(stressed forms)</i>	pe mine	pe tine	pe sine	pe sine	pe noi	pe voi	pe ei	pe ele
<i>Dative reflexives (unstressed and hyphenated forms)</i>	îmi -mi-	îți -ți-	își -și-	își -și-	ne -ne-	vă -v-	își -și-	își -și-
<i>Dative (stressed forms)</i>	mie	ție	sieși	sieși	nouă	vouă	lor	lor

Accusative reflexive pronouns are used together with reflexive verbs. Examples of reflexive verbs with accusative reflexive pronouns: a se spăla (to wash oneself), a se bărbieri (to shave), a se scula (to get up), a se trezi (to wake up), a se îmbrăca (to get dressed), a se dezbrăca (to get undressed), a se încălța (to put one's shoes on), a se descălța (to take one's shoes off), a se pieptăna (to comb one's hair), a se culca (to go to bed), a se întoarce (to come back), a se grăbi (to hurry), a se duce (to go), a se uita (to watch), a se distra (to have fun), a se bucura (to be glad), a se întrista (to become sad), a se întâlni (to meet), a se plimba (to take a walk), a se așeza (to sit down), a se pregăti (to get ready), a se gândi (to think).

Mă spăl pe față.

I wash my face.

M-am spălat pe față.

I washed my face.

Dimineața vă treziți singuri?

In the morning do you wake up by yourselves?

Dimineața v-ați trezit singuri?

In the morning did you wake up by yourselves?

Mă spăl pe mine nu pe tine.

I wash myself, not you.

Te culci la ora 10.

You go to bed at 10 o'clock.

Te-ai culcat la ora 10.

You went to bed at 10 o'clock.

Ne plimbăm în parc.

We walk in the park.

Ne-am plimbat în parc.

We walked in the park.

El totdeauna se laudă pe sine și niciodată pe alții.

He always praises himself and never other people.

Examples of reflexive verbs used with dative reflexive pronouns: **a-și imagina** (to imagine), **a-și închipui** (to imagine), **a-și aminti** (to remember), **a-și cumpăra** (to buy oneself), **a-și dori** (to wish for oneself), **a-și lua rămas bun** (to take one's leave), **a-și da seama** (to realize). See 5.1.4 for more on dative reflexives.

Îmi amintesc de copilăria noastră.

I remember our childhood.

Mi-am amintit de copilăria noastră.

I remembered our childhood.

Îmi doresc o casă nouă.

I wish for a new house.

Mi-am dorit o casă nouă.

I wished for a new house.

Își amintește sieși cu voce tare ce trebuie să facă azi.

He reminds himself out loud what he needs to do today.

Vă imaginați o lume nouă.

You imagine a new world.

V-ați imaginat o lume nouă.

You imagined a new world.

Îți cumperi o mașină nouă.

You buy yourself a new car.

Ți-ai cumpărat o mașină nouă.

You bought yourself a new car.

Numerals

6.1 Cardinal numerals

6.1.1 Numbers

Numbers can be simple or compound. The simple numerals are numbers from 0 to 10 as well as all the multiples of 100:

1 unu	6 șase	100 o sută
2 doi	7 șapte	1.000 o mie
3 trei	8 opt	1.000.000 un milion
4 patru	9 nouă	1.000.000.000 un miliard
5 cinci	10 zece	

The compound numerals are all the other numbers:

Examples:

19 nouăsprezece	209 două sute nouă
20 douăzeci	4.890 patru mii opt sute nouăzeci
45 patruzeci și cinci	52.367 cincizeci și două de mii trei sute șaizeci și șapte

All the numbers above 19 (including the compound ones where the last part of the number is above 19) will be followed by the preposition **de** before the noun following:

40 de mere (40 apples)	576 de lei (576 Romanian lei)
3.879 de oameni (3,879 people)	4.800.035 de cărți (4,800,035 books)

but

18 mere (18 apples)

516 lei (516 Romanian lei)

3.805 oameni (3,805 people)

4.800.019 cărți (4,800,019 books)

The numerals **unu** (1) and **doi** (2) have a feminine and a masculine/neuter form, according to the nouns with which they are used. **Unu** is **un** for masculine and neuter objects in the singular and **o** for feminine objects in the singular:

un copil

(a child, m. sing.)

o fată

(a girl, f. sing.)

un creion

(a pencil, n. sing.)

Doi will have the forms **două** for feminine and neuter plural nouns and **doi** for masculine plural nouns, including for the numeral 12 (**doisprezece/douăsprezece**):

două creioane (two pencils, n. pl.)

două fete (two girls, f. pl.)

doi copii

(two children, m. pl.)

douăsprezece creioane

(twelve pencils, n. pl.)

doisprezece băieți

(twelve boys, m. pl.)

douăsprezece fete

(twelve girls, f. pl.)

The cardinal numeral agrees in gender and in case with the accompanying noun. Therefore, the numeral has genitive and dative forms. The genitive form is preceded by the particle **a**, the dative form by the particle **la**:

	<i>Genitive forms</i>	<i>Dative forms</i>
M.	casele a opt vecini the houses of eight neighbours	Am sunat la opt vecini. I telephoned eight neighbours.
F.	casele a șase kolege the houses of six female colleagues	Am sunat la șase kolege. I telephoned six female colleagues.
N.	parcurile a două sute de orașe the parks of 200 towns	la două sute de orașe to 200 towns

The numerals **sută** (hundred), **mie** (thousand), **milion** (million) and **miliard** (billion) follow the same rule as above, except when they take the definite article. Then they will form the genitive/dative forms like any other noun:

Genitive*Indefinite forms:***conducătorul a o mie de luptători**

the leader of a thousand fighters

*Definite forms:***conducătorul miei de luptători**

the leader of the thousand fighters

Dative**conducătorul se adresează la o mie de luptători**

the leader addresses a thousand fighters

conducătorul se adresează miei de luptători

the leader addresses the thousand fighters

6.1.2 Collective numerals

Collective numerals are used to express the idea of two or more objects or people together. **Amândoi** is followed by a noun with a definite article, while **ambii** is followed by a noun without an article.

amândoi

both of them (m.)

amândouă

both of them (f.)

ambii

both of them (m.)

ambele

both of them (f.)

toți trei

all three (m.)

toate trei

all three (f.)

*Examples:***Amândoi băieții merg la școală.**

Both boys go to school.

Ambii băieți merg la școală.

Both boys go to school.

They also have genitive/dative forms:

	<i>Genitive</i>	<i>Dative</i>
M.	amândurora	amândurora
F.	amândurora	amândurora
M.	ambilor	ambilor
F.	ambelor	ambelor
M.	la toți trei	la toți trei
F.	la toate trei	la toate trei

6.1.3 *Multiplying and repetitive numerals*

There is just one form for all the genders. The most commonly used is formed by the preposition **de** followed by the numeral, followed by the word **ori**.

de două ori (twice)**de zece ori** (ten times)**de douăsprezece ori** (twelve times)

The other form is formed by the prefix **în-** followed by the numeral and by the ending **-(i)t**

întreit (tripled)**însutit** (one hundred times more)**6.1.4** *Fractional numerals* $\frac{1}{4}$ **o pătrime** (a quarter) $\frac{1}{100}$ **o sutime** (a hundredth) $\frac{1}{5}$ **o cincime** (a fifth) $\frac{1}{10}$ **o zecime** (a tenth) $\frac{3}{4}$ **trei pătrimi** (three-quarters) $\frac{2}{3}$ **două treimi** (two-thirds)**6.1.5** *Distributive numerals*

They express the distribution of objects or people:

Câte patru (four at a time)**doi câte doi** (two by two)**6.2** **Ordinal numerals**

Ordinal numerals express order. They have a feminine and a masculine form.

	<i>Masculine</i>	<i>Feminine</i>
1st	primul	prima
2nd	al doilea	a doua
3rd	al treilea	a treia
4th	al patrulea	a patra
5th	al cincilea	a cincea
6th	al șaselea	a șasea

7th	al șaptelea	a șaptea
8th	al optulea	a opta
9th	al nouălea	a noua
10th	al zecelea	a zecea
11th	al unsprezecelea	a unsprezecea
100th	al o sutălea	a o suta
1000th	al o mielea	a o mia
815th	al optsutecincisprezecelea	a optsutecincisprezecea
2309th	al două mii trei sute nouălea	a două mii trei sute noua

The numeral ‘first’ has two genders and two forms: when it follows the noun it will be **întâi** for both masculine and feminine nouns. When it precedes the noun it will be **primul** (m.) **prima** (f.) and means ‘the first’ (compare with adjective **prim** meaning ‘first’).

Phrases where ordinal numerals are used:

clasa întâi (first class or first grade in school)

clasa a doua (second class or second grade in school)

de prima clasă (top class)

pe primul loc (in first place)

vocea întâi (first voice in an orchestra)

în linia întâi (front line)

la a doua mână (second hand)

în primul rând (firstly)

în al doilea rând (secondly)

Verbs

7.1 Moods and tenses

7.1.1 Moods

Romanian verbs have five finite moods, which change their form according to the person of the speaker, and four non-finite moods, which do not change their form. The finite moods are: indicative, subjunctive, presumptive, conditional and imperative. The non-finite moods are: infinitive, gerund or present participle, past participle and supine. All the moods will be dealt with later in this chapter.

7.1.2 Tenses

The Romanian verb has three main tenses in the indicative, i.e. the present tense, the past tense (compound past, simple past tense, past continuous tense and past perfect) and the future tense (with three forms and a future in the past tense). In the subjunctive, the presumptive and the conditional it has a present and a past tense. The imperative has only a present tense. In the non-finite moods only the participle has a present tense and a past tense. The other non-finite moods have only one form.

7.2 Indicative

7.2.1 The present tense

7.2.1.1 Types of verb

According to the new Romanian Grammar published by the Romanian Academy in 2006, Romanian has 11 conjugations. Traditionally, it used to have only four. (See the table below.)

Present indicative tense of the II conjugations

	(1) -a (Ø)	(2) -a (ez)	(3) -î (Ø)	(4) -i (Ø)	(5) -i (Ø)	(6) -i (esc)
	a pleca (to go)	a vira (to turn)	a coborî (to go down)	a diferi (to differ)	a fugi (to run)	a iubi (to love)
eu	plec	virez	cobor	difer	fug	iubesc
tu	pleci	virezi	cobori	diferi	fugi	iubești
el/ea	pleacă	virează	coboară	diferă	fuge	iubește
noi	plecăm	virăm	coborâm	diferim	fugim	iubim
voi	plecați	virăți	coborâți	diferiți	fugiți	iubiți
ei/ele	pleacă	virează	coboară	diferă	fug	iubesc

	(7) -î (ăsc)	(8) -ea (Ø)	(9) -e (Ø)	(10) -e (Ø)	(11) -e (Ø)
	a urî (to hate)	a plăcea (to like)	a face (to do, make)	a merge (to go)	a frige (to fry)
eu	urăsc	plac	fac	merg	frig
tu	urăști	placi	faci	mergi	frigi
el/ea	urăște	place	face	merge	frige
noi	urâm	placem	facem	mergem	frigem
voi	urâți	placeți	faceți	mergeți	frigeți
ei/ele	urăsc	plac	fac	merg	frig

7.2.1.2 Conjugation I

As illustrated in the table, verbs belonging to conjugation 1 end in *-a* in the infinitive. They are called zero suffix (Ø) verbs, i.e. there is no suffix attached to the root. (Compare with suffixes *-esc*, *-ăsc* and *-ez*.) This is common to several other conjugations as well. There are endings for each person, which are highlighted in italic bold in the table.

Many verbs in Romanian belong to this conjugation: *a căra* (to carry), *a spăla* (to wash), *a aduna* (to add), *a asculta* (to listen), *a termina* (to finish), *a cânta* (to sing), *a întreba* (to ask), *a discuta* (to discuss), *a accepta* (to accept), *a ierta* (to forgive), *a supăra* (to upset), *a se muta* (to move), etc.

a asculta
(to listen)

a aduna
(to add)

ascult
asculți
ascultă
ascultăm

adun
aduni
adună
adunăm

ascultați
ascultă

adunați
adună

Here are some verbs that have some irregularities in the conjugation, i.e. the first two forms are identical and sometimes the third person ends in *-e* rather than *-ă*:

a întârzia (to be late) **a încuia** (to lock) **a continua** (to continue)

întârzii	încui	continui
întârzii	încui	continui
întârzie	încuie	continuă
întârziem	încuie	continuăm
întârziați	încuiați	continuați
întârzie	încuie	continuă

Below we have listed more verbs that follow one of the three examples above:

- **a întârzia**: a **apropia** (to bring closer), a **împrăștia** (to scatter), a **înfuria** (to anger), a **învia** (to resurrect), a **mânia** (to anger), a **peria** (to brush), a **speria** (to scare), a **zgâria** (to scratch).
- **a încuia**: a **descuia** (to lock), a **descheia** (to unbutton), a **încheia** (to complete, button up), a **înmuia** (to soften), a **mângâia** (to caress), a **tăia** (to cut).

Note: Verbs that have the root ending in *-bl-*, *-fl-*, *-pl-*, *-rl-*, *-cr-*, *-tr-* will take the letter *-u* in the first person singular, as shown here:

<i>Infinitive</i>	<i>First person sing.</i>
a umbla	umblu
a sufla	suflu
a contempla	contemplu
a urla	urlu
a consacra	consacru
a intra	intru

7.2.1.3 Conjugation 2

Verbs belonging to conjugation 2 end in *-a* in the infinitive just like conjugation 1 verbs, but they also receive the verbal suffix *-ez*. All persons retain the suffix *-ez* as well as the endings for each person, except for the first and second person plural.

Here are some of the most common -ez verbs: *a cerceta* (to search), *a cina* (to dine), *a cita* (to quote), *a dansa* (to dance), *a deranja* (to disturb), *a dezarma* (to disarm), *a dicta* (to dictate), *a dura* (to last), *a examina* (to examine), *a exagera* (to exaggerate), *a exersa* (to exercise), *a forma* (to form), *a fuma* (to smoke), *a îmbrățișa* (to hug), *a înainta* (to go forward), *a înapoia* (to return), *a întrista* (to upset), *a lumina* (to lighten), *a micșora* (to reduce), *a nota* (to take notes), *a ofta* (to sigh), *a păstra* (to keep), *a păta* (to spot), *a reglementa* (to regulate), *a reproșa* (to reproach), *a salva* (to save), *a săra* (to add salt), *a scurta* (to shorten), *a semna* (to sign), *a telefona* (to telephone), *a trata* (to treat), *a traversa* (to cross), *a trișa* (to cheat), *a ura* (to wish), *a urma* (to follow), *a visa* (to dream).

<i>a cerceta</i> (to search)	<i>a cina</i> (to dine)
--	-----------------------------------

cercetez	cinez
cercetezi	cinezi
cercetează	cinează
cercetăm	cinăm
cercetați	cinați
cercetează	cinează

Here are three verbs which have several irregularities in their conjugation dictated by orthographic rules for Romanian:

<i>a fotografia</i> (to take photos)	<i>a supraveghea</i> (to supervise)	<i>a parca</i> (to park)
--	---	------------------------------------

fotografiez	supraveghez	parchez
fotografiezi	supraveghezi	parchezi
fotografiează	supraveghează	parchează
fotografiem	supraveghem	parcăm
fotografiați	supravegheați	parcați
fotografiează	supraveghează	parchează

Below we have listed more verbs that follow the examples above:

- *a fotografia*: *a abrevia* (to abbreviate), *a aprecia* (to appreciate), *a beneficia* (to benefit), *a copia* (to copy), *a expedia* (to send), *a iniția* (to initiate), *a închiria* (to let), *a negocia* (to negotiate), *a studia* (to study), *a sublinia* (to underline).
- *a supraveghea*: *a desperechea* (to separate, i.e. a pair), *a împerechea* (to pair up), *a îngenunchea* (to kneel), *a veghea* (to guard, to keep vigil).

- *a parca*: a dialoga (to debate), a bloca (to block), a diagnostica (to diagnose), a marca (to mark), a masca (to mask), a șoca (to shock), a droga (to drug), a interoga (to interrogate), a investiga (to investigate), a monologa (to give a monologue).

7.2.1.4 Conjugation 3

The verbs belonging to conjugation 3 end in -î in the infinitive and have the Ø suffix when conjugated.

There are very few verbs belonging to this conjugation. Here are some more examples: a vâri (to thrust), a pogori (to descend), a doborî (to knock down), a omori (to kill).

a vâri (to thrust) **a pogori** (to descend)

vâr	pogor
vâri	pogori
vâră	pogoară
vârâm	pogorâm
vârâți	pogorâți
vâră	pogoară

7.2.1.5 Conjugation 4

Verbs belonging to conjugation 4 end in -i in the infinitive and are Ø suffix verbs. In conjugation 4, the third person singular and plural take the same form. (Compare this to conjugation 5, where the first person singular and the third person plural take the same form.)

More examples of such verbs: a acoperi (to cover), a descoperi (to discover), a referi (to refer), a suferi (to suffer), a oferi (to offer).

a acoperi (to cover) **a suferi** (to suffer)

acopăr	sufăr
acoperi	suferi
acoperă	suferă
acoperim	suferim
acoperiți	suferiți
acoperă	suferă

Remember that all the conjugation 4 verbs ending in -ăi, -îi and -ui in the infinitive will have the same form for the first person singular (**eu**) and the second person singular (**tu**).

a pipăi (to touch)	a mârâi (to snarl)	a hurui (to rattle)
pipăi	mârâi	hurui
pipăi	mârâi	hurui
pipăie	mârâie	huruie
pipăim	mârâim	huruim
pipăiți	mârâiți	huruiți
pipăie	mârâie	huruie

More examples of verbs that follow these patterns:

- **a pipăi**: a **molfăi** (to chew), a **mormăi** (to grumble), a **năzări** (to loom up), a **plescăi** (to smack), a **pufăi** (to puff), a **ronțăi** (to crunch), a **șovăi** (to hesitate).
- **a mârâi**: a **se bâlbăi** (to stutter), a **pâlpăi** (to flicker), a **pârâi** (to crackle), a **râgăi** (to belch), a **scârțai** (to squeak), a **țârâi** (to ring).
- **a hurui**: a **contribui** (to contribute), a **mântui** (to save from), a **se năruie** (to collapse), a **reconstitui** (to reconstruct), a **sui** (to climb), a **zgudui** (to shake).

7.2.1.6 Conjugation 5

Verbs belonging to conjugation 5 end in **-i** in the infinitive and are \emptyset suffix verbs. In conjugation 5, the first person singular and the third person plural take the same form. (Compare this to conjugation 4, where the third person singular and plural take the same form.)

Here are some more verbs belonging to this conjugation: a **ascuți** (to sharpen), a **auzi** (to hear), a **deveni** (to become), a **dormi** (to sleep), a **fugi** (to run), a **ieși** (to exit), a **împărți** (to share), a **înghiți** (to swallow), a **minți** (to tell a lie), a **mirosi** (to smell), a **muri** (to die), a **presimți** (to have a premonition), a **preveni** (to prevent), a **răsări** (to rise), a **repezi** (to rush s.o.), a **reveni** (to return), a **sări** (to jump), a **simți** (to feel), a **ști** (to know), a **veni** (to come).

a ascuți (to sharpen)	a auzi (to hear)
ascut	aud
ascuți	auzi
ascute	aude
ascuțim	auzim
ascuțiți	auziți
ascut	aud

7.2.1.7 Conjugation 6

Verbs belonging to conjugation 6 end in *-i* in the infinitive and take the verbal suffix *-esc*.

More examples of verbs belonging to this conjugation: **a înăbuși** (to steam), **a îngrămădi** (to cram), **a tuși** (to cough), **a învălui** (to veil), **a citi** (to read), **a fugări** (to chase), **a isprăvi** (to complete), **a mări** (to enlarge), **a nimeri** (to guess).

a înăbuși (to steam)	a îngrămădi (to cram)
înăbușesc	îngrămădesc
înăbușești	îngrămădești
înăbușește	îngrămădește
înăbușim	îngrămădim
înăbușiți	îngrămădiți
înăbușesc	îngrămădesc

7.2.1.8 Conjugation 7

Verbs belonging to conjugation 7 end in *-î* in the infinitive and take the verbal suffix *-ăsc*. There are very few verbs in this conjugation.

More examples of verbs from this conjugation: **a pârî** (to tell on someone), **a hotărî** (to decide), **a zăvorî** (to lock).

a pârî (to tell on)	a hotărî (to decide)
pârăsc	hotărăsc
pârăști	hotărăști
pârăște	hotărăște
pârâm	hotărâm
pârâți	hotărâți
pârăsc	hotărăsc

7.2.1.9 Conjugation 8

Verbs belonging to conjugation 8 end in *-ea* in the infinitive and are \emptyset suffix verbs. Here are some examples of verbs from this conjugation: **a vedea** (to see), **a părea** (to seem), **a apărea** (to appear), **a zăcea** (to lie down), **a tăcea** (to keep quiet).

a vedea (to see)	a părea (to seem)
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văd	par
vezi	pari
vede	pare
vedem	părem
vedeți	păreți
văd	par

7.2.1.10 Conjugation 9

Verbs belonging to conjugation 9 end in *-e* in the infinitive and differ from verbs in conjugations 10 and 11 because of the way they form the past participle. Verbs in this conjugation have past participles that end in *-ut*. See section 7.8 on past participles.

More verbs belonging to this conjugation are: **a începe** (to start), **a concepe** (to conceive), **a așterne** (to lay), **a trece** (to pass), **a vinde** (to sell), **a străbate** (to ramble), **a aparține** (to belong), **a ține** (to keep).

a începe (to start)	a așterne (to lay)
-------------------------------	------------------------------

încep	aștern
începi	așterni
începe	așterne
începem	așternem
începeți	așterneți
încep	aștern

7.2.1.11 Conjugation 10

Verbs belonging to conjugation 10 end in *-e* in the infinitive and differ from verbs in conjugations 9 and 11 because of the way they form their past participles. Verbs in this conjugation have past participles that end in *-s*. See section 7.2.2 on past participles.

Other verbs belonging to this conjugation: **a arde** (to burn), **a prinde** (to catch), **a șterge** (to wipe), **a trage** (to pull), **a răspunde** (to answer), **a plânge** (to cry), **a râde** (to laugh), **a scrie** (to write), **a zice** (to say), **a deschide** (to open), **a închide** (to close).

a arde **a răspunde**
(to burn) (to answer)

ard **răspund**
arzi **răspunzi**
arde **răspunde**
ardem **răspundem**
ardeți **răspundeți**
ard **răspund**

7.2.1.12 Conjugation 11

Verbs belonging to conjugation 11 end in -e in the infinitive and differ from verbs in conjugations 9 and 10 because of the way they form the past participle. Verbs in this conjugation have past participles that end in -t. See section 7.2.2 on past participles.

Other verbs belonging to this conjugation: **a coace** (to bake), **a fierbe** (to boil), **a frânge** (to break), **a înfige** (to stick), **a rupe** (to tear), **a sparge** (to break), **a suge** (to suck).

a coace **a fierbe**
(to bake) (to boil)

coc **fierb**
coci **fierbi**
coace **fierbe**
coacem **fierbem**
coaceți **fierbeți**
coc **fierb**

7.2.1.13 The negative present tense

The negative form in the present is formed by placing the word **nu** in front of the verb: **nu mănânc** (I don't eat), **nu bei** (you don't drink), **nu visează** (he doesn't dream), **nu iubim** (we don't love), **nu urâți** (you don't hate), **nu pleacă** (they don't go).

7.2.1.14 Irregular verbs

There are a number of irregular verbs which are listed below.

Irregular verbs

a fi (to be)	a avea (to have)	a vrea (to want)	a da (to give)	a sta (to stay)
sunt	am	vreau	dau	stau
ești	ai	vrei	dai	stai
este	are	vrea	dă	stă
suntem	avem	vrem	dăm	stăm
sunteți	aveți	vreți	dați	stați
sunt	au	vor	dau	stau

a lua (to take)	a bea (to drink)	a mânca (to eat)	a ști (to know)
iau	beau	mănânc	știu
iei	bei	mănânci	știi
ia	bea	mănâncă	știe
luăm	bem	mâncăm	știm
luați	beți	mâncați	știți
iau	beau	mănâncă	știu

Note: Some verbs ending in -ne or -ni in the infinitive lose the consonant n in the second person singular, e.g.

a ține (to keep)	a veni (to come)
țin	vin
ții	vii
ține	vine
ținem	venim
țineți	veniți
țin	vin

There are other verbs that follow these two examples:

- **a ține:** a reține (to retain), a întreține (to maintain), a susține (to support), a pune (to put), a supune (to comply), a expune (to exhibit), a suprapune (to overlap).
- **a veni:** a preveni (to prevent), a surveni (to happen), a interveni (to intervene), a deveni (to become).

7.2.1.15 Vowel and consonant shifts

When we conjugate a verb, sometimes small changes occur in the root of the verb, which we call vowel and consonant shifts. They are listed below, together with a few examples.

Vowel shifts

a/ă	caut/căutăm; bag/băgăm/băgați	ă/e	cumpăr/cumperi
ă/e/a	învăț/înveți/învață	ă/e/a	spăl/speli/spală
e/a	șed/șadă	i/e	vin/venim
e/ea	leg/leagă, plec/pleacă	î/i	vând/vinzi
o/oa/u	scol/scoală/sculăm		

Consonant shifts

t/ț	ajut/ajuți	s/ș	las/lași
d/z	vând/vinzi	st/șt	gust/guști
sc/șt	cresc/crești	g/gi/ge	ajung/ajungi/ajunge
c/ci/ce	tac/tacil/tace		

7.2.2 The past tense

In Romanian there are four different past tenses: the compound past, the imperfect, the simple past and the pluperfect.

7.2.2.1 The compound past

The compound past is constructed with the aid of the auxiliary verb *a avea* (to have) in a shortened form: *am, ai, a, am, ați, au* followed by the past participle.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
a pleca (to leave)	a vira (to turn)	a coborî (to go down)	a diferi (to differ)	a fugi (to run)	a iubi (to love)
am plecat	am virat	am coborât	am diferit	am fugit	am iubit
ai plecat	ai virat	ai coborât	ai diferit	ai fugit	ai iubit
a plecat	a virat	a coborât	a diferit	a fugit	a iubit
am plecat	am virat	am coborât	am diferit	am fugit	am iubit
ați plecat	ați virat	ați coborât	ați diferit	ați fugit	ați iubit
au plecat	au virat	au coborât	au diferit	au fugit	au iubit

(7) <i>a urî</i> (to hate)	(8) <i>a plăcea</i> (to like)	(9) <i>a face</i> (to do, make)	(10) <i>a merge</i> (to go)	(11) <i>a frige</i> (to fry)
am urât	am plăcut	am făcut	am mers	am fript
ai urât	ai plăcut	ai făcut	ai mers	ai fript
a urât	a plăcut	a făcut	a mers	a fript
am urât	am plăcut	am făcut	am mers	am fript
ați urât	ați plăcut	ați făcut	ați mers	ați fript
au urât	au plăcut	au făcut	au mers	au fript

There are six types of past participle, distinguished according to their ending:

-at

For verbs belonging to conjugations 1 and 2 (i.e. that end in *-a* in the infinitive) the past participle ends in *-at*, which is added to the root of the infinitive: a mânca – *mâncat*, a pleca – *plecat*, a intra – *intrat*, a lucra – *lucrat*, a persevera – *perseverat* etc.

-ut

For verbs belonging to conjugations 8 and 9 the past participle ends in *-ut*, which is added to the root of the infinitive: a tăcea – *tăcut*, a cădea – *căzut*, a bea – *băut*, a vedea – *văzut*, a plăcea – *plăcut*, a face – *făcut*, a trece – *trecut*, a ține – *ținut*.

-s

For verbs belonging to conjugation 10, the past participle ends in *-s*: a plânga – *plâns*, a merge – *mers*, a duce – *dus*, a râde – *râs*.

-t

For verbs belonging to conjugation 11, the past participle ends in *-t*: a rupe – *rupt*, a coace – *copt*, a frige – *fript*.

-it

For verbs belonging to conjugations 4, 5 and 6, the past participle ends in *-it*: a acoperi – *acoperit*, a referi – *referit*, a adormi – *adormit*, a fugi – *fugit*, a citi – *citit*, a mări – *mărit*.

For verbs belonging to conjugations 3 and 7, the past participle ends in -ât: a coborî – *coborât*, a omorî – *omorât*, a hotărî – *hotărât*, a pâri – *pârât*. (Please note the transformation of -î into -â as the place of the letter in the word changes.)

The compound past expresses an action that happened in the past and which is now over. In English it mostly corresponds to the simple past. However, the compound past can be translated by a present perfect tense or a present perfect continuous in English, because Romanian does not formally have these two tenses, e.g.

Tudor tocmai a plecat în vizită la un prieten.

Tudor has just left to visit a friend.

Mașina a virat periculos pe autostradă.

The car swerved dangerously on the motorway.

Maria s-a întors acasă de la plajă.

Maria returned home from the beach.

Experiența mea din Anglia a diferit mult de experiența ta.

My experience in England differed a lot from yours.

Când a început ploaia, am coborât de pe munte.

When the rain started, we came down the mountain.

Am iubit-o foarte mult pe profesoara de limba română din școala generală.

I really loved the Romanian language teacher I had at secondary school.

Totdeauna am urât oamenii nesinceri.

I have always hated insincere people.

Mi-a plăcut mult concertul de la Atheneu.

I really enjoyed the concert at the Atheneum concert hall.

Ai făcut multe prăjituri de azi-dimineață?

Have you been making lots of cakes since morning?

El a mers în Belgia să lucreze.

He went to Belgium to work.

Bunica a fript mulți cartofi.

Grandma has fried lots of potatoes.

7.2.2.1.1 The negative compound past

The negative form in the compound past is formed by placing the word **nu** in front of the auxiliary. There are two spelling variants: **nu am mâncat/n-am mâncat** (we didn't eat), **nu ai înțeles/n-ai înțeles** (you didn't understand), **nu au vorbit/n-au vorbit** (they didn't speak).

The hyphenated form is more informal and tends not to be used in formal contexts.

7.2.2.2 Imperfect

For the verbs ending both in **-a** (conjugations 1 and 2) and **-î** (conjugations 3 and 7), we form the imperfect by adding a set of endings to the root of the infinitive – **am, -ai, -a, -am, -ați, -au**.

a spăla (to wash)	a lucra (to work)	a coborî (to go down)	a urî (to hate)
spălam	lucram	coboram	uram
spălai	lucrai	coborai	urai
spăla	lucra	cobora	ura
spălam	lucram	coboram	uram
spălați	lucrați	coborați	urați
spălau	lucrau	coborau	urau

For verbs ending in **-ea** (conjugation 8), **-e** (conjugations 9, 10 and 11) or **-i** (conjugations 4, 5 and 6), a separate set of endings apply: **-eam, -eai, -ea, -eam, -eați, -eau**.

a apărea (to appear)	a face (to do, make)	a merge (to go)	a frige (to fry)	a acoperi (to cover)	a fugi (to run)	a iubi (to love)
apăream	faceam	mergeam	frigeam	acopeream	fugeam	iubeam
apăreai	faceai	mergeai	frigeai	acopereai	fugeai	iubeai
apărea	facea	mergea	frigea	acoperea	fugea	iubea
apăream	faceam	mergeam	frigeam	acopeream	fugeam	iubeam
apăreați	faceați	mergeați	frigeați	acopereți	fugeați	iubeați
apăreau	faceau	mergeau	frigeau	acopereau	fugeau	iubeau

Exception: verbs ending in **-ui** (a bănuî, a sui, a restitui, a sudui, a îngădui) take the endings **-iam, -iai, -ia, -iam, -iați, -iau**.

a locui
(to live)

locuiam
locuiai
locuia

locuiam
locuiați
locuiau

Irregular verbs are fully conjugated here in the imperfect:

a fi (to be)	a avea (to have)	a vrea (to want)	a da (to give)	a sta (to sit, stay)	a scrie (to write)	a ști (to know)
eram	aveam	voiam	dădeam	stăteam	scriam	știam
erai	aveai	voiai	dădeai	stăteai	scriai	știai
era	avea	voia	dădea	stătea	scria	știa
eram	aveam	voiam	dădeam	stăteam	scriam	știam
erați	aveați	voiați	dădeți	stăteți	scriați	știați
erau	aveau	voiau	dădeau	stăteau	scriau	știau

7.2.2.2.1 The negative imperfect

The negative form is expressed by placing the word **nu** in front of the verb: **nu mergeam** (I was not going), **nu veneai** (you were not coming), **nu pleca** (he was not leaving).

7.2.2.2.2 Uses of the imperfect

- 1 The imperfect is a narrative tense used in story-telling. It is translated either by a continuous past or by a simple past.

În vis se făcea că mergeam spre casă când deodată m-am întâlnit cu tine. Tu păraai supărată și eu te-am întrebat ce s-a întâmplat.

In my dream it seemed that I was going towards your house when all of a sudden I bumped into you. You seemed upset and I asked you what had happened.

- 2 The imperfect expresses an action in the past that is regarded as continuous, repetitive or habitual. It is translated in English by a continuous past or by 'used to'.

În fiecare dimineață la ora 10 luam micul dejun.

I used to have breakfast every morning at 10 o'clock.

Când ai sunat la ușă, făceam duș.

When you rang at the door, I was taking a shower.

Mergeam zilnic la tenis.

I used to play tennis every day.

Pe vremuri vorbeam mult la telefon.

In the old days I used to speak a lot on the phone.

Ce mult îmi doream să fac filme!

How much I wanted to make films!

- 3 It is also used in *if* clauses and the past conditional.

Te sunam dacă puteam.

I would have called you if I could.

Dacă te iubea, ți-o spunea.

Had he loved you, he would have told you.

- 4 The imperfect can also be used as a soft imperative.

Voiam să vă cer niște bani împrumut.

I wanted to borrow some money from you.

Mă întrebam dacă m-ați putea ajuta.

I was wondering if you could help me.

- 5 Finally the imperfect is used in statements starting with ‘Did you know ...?’

Știați că Dunărea se varsă în Marea Neagră?

Did you know that the Danube flows into the Black Sea?

Știați că există multe pârtii de schi în România?

Did you know that there are lots of ski slopes in Romania?

7.2.2.3 Simple past

The simple past is used to narrate (hence it is also known as past historic) especially with speech verbs such as **a zice** (to say), **a spune** (to tell), **a povesti** (to narrate), **a răspunde** (to answer), **a întreba** (to ask). It is chiefly used in works of literature. In some regions in the south-west of Romania (in Oltenia and to a lesser extent in Banat) it is also used in speech instead of the compound past. In the rest of the country the use of the simple past carries comic and ironic overtones.

The simple past is formed by adding endings to the stem of the past participle:

Person	Ending
eu	-i
tu	-și
el/ea	-ă / -e/ -se/ Ø (no ending)
noi	-răm
voi	-rați
ei/ele	-ră

Conjugations 1 and 2 (past participle in -at)

a mânca (to eat)	a lucra (to work)
mâncai	lucrai
mâncași	lucrași
mâncă	lucră
mâncarăm	lucrarăm
mâncarăți	lucrarăți
mâncară	lucrară

Conjugations 3 and 7 (past participle in -ât):

a coborî (to go down)	a hotărî (to decide)
coborâi	hotărâi
coborâși	hotărâși
coborî	hotărî
coborărăm	hotărărăm
coborărăți	hotărărăți
coborără	hotărără

Conjugations 4, 5 and 6 (past participle in -it):

a acoperi (to cover)	a fugi (to run)	a iubi (to love)
acoperii	fugii	iubii
acoperși	fugiși	iubiși
acoperi	fugi	iubi
acoperirăm	fugirăm	iubirăm
acoperirăți	fugirăți	iubirăți
acoperiră	fugiră	iubiră

Conjugations 8 and 9 verbs (past participle **-ut**):

a tăcea
(to keep quiet)

a ține
(to keep)

tăcui
tăcuși
tăcu
tăcurăm
tăcurăți
tăcură

ținui
ținuși
ținu
ținurăm
ținurăți
ținură

Conjugation 10 (past participle ending in **-s**) takes the following endings:
-ei, -eși,-e, -erăm, -erăți, -eră.

a merge
(to go)

mersei
merseși
merse
merșerăm
merșerăți
merșeră

Conjugation 11 (past participle in **-t**):

a rupe
(to tear)

rupsei
rupseși
rupse
rupșerăm
rupșerăți
rupșeră

7.2.2.3.1 Irregular verbs in the simple past

a fi* (to be)		a avea* (to have)		a vrea (to want)
fui	fusei	avui	avusei	vru
fuși	fuseși	avuși	avuseși	vruși
fu	fuse	avu	avuse	vr
furăm	fuserăm	avurăm	avuserăm	vrurăm
furăți	fuserăți	avurăți	avuserăți	vrurăți
fură	fuseră	avură	avuseră	vrură
a bea (to drink)	a lua (to take)	a da (to give)	a sta (to sit)	a ști (to know)
băui	luai	dădui	stătui	știui
băuși	luăși	dăduși	stătuși	știuși
bău	luă	dădu	stătu	știu
băurăm	luarăm	dădurăm	stăturăm	știurăm
băurăți	luurăți	dădurăți	stăturăți	știurăți
băură	luură	dădură	stătură	știură

* The verbs *a avea* and *a fi* have two coexisting forms.

7.2.2.3.2 The negative simple past

The negative form consists of the word **nu** before the verb in the simple past: **nu făcui** (I didn't do it), **nu merseși** (you didn't go), etc.

7.2.2.4 Pluperfect

This tense expresses an action which had been completed before another action in the past took place. The English construction is 'had' combined with the past participle of a verb, e.g. 'He had gone.'

Just like the simple past, in Romanian this tense uses a series of endings added to the stem of the past participle:

Person	Ending
eu	-sem
tu	-seși
el/ea	-se
noi	-serăm
voi	-serăți
ei/ele	-seră

Conjugations 1 and 2 (past participle in -at):

a mânca (to eat)	a lucra (to work)
mâncasem	lucrasem
mâncaseși	lucraseși
mâncase	lucrase
mâncaserăm	lucraserăm
mâncaserăți	lucraserăți
mâncaseră	lucraseră

Conjugations 3 and 7 (past participle in -ât):

a coborî (to go down)	a hotărî (to decide)
coborâsem	hotărâsem
coborâseși	hotărâseși
coborâse	hotărâse
coborâserăm	hotărâserăm
coborâserăți	hotărâserăți
coborâseră	hotărâseră

Conjugations 4, 5 and 6 (past participle in -it):

a acoperi (to cover)	a fugi (to run)	a iubi (to love)
acoperisem	fugisem	iubisem
acoperiseși	fugiseși	iubiseși
acoperise	fugise	iubise
acoperiserăm	fugiserăm	iubiserăm
acoperiserăți	fugiserăți	iubiserăți
acoperiseră	fugiseră	iubiseră

Conjugations 8 and 9 (past participle -ut):

a tăcea (to keep quiet)	a ține (to keep)
tăcusem	ținusem
tăcuseși	ținuseși
tăcuse	ținuse
tăcuserăm	ținuserăm
tăcuserăți	ținuserăți
tăcuseră	ținuseră

Conjugation 10 (past participle ending in -s) takes the following endings: -esem, -eseși, -ese, -eserăm, -eserăți, -eseră.

a merge

(to go)

mersesem

merseseși

mersese

merseserăm

merseserăți

merseseră

Conjugation 11 (past participle in -t):

a rupe

(to tear)

rupsesem

rupseseseși

rupsesese

rupseserăm

rupseserăți

rupseseră

7.2.2.4.1 Irregular verbs in the pluperfect

a fi (to be)	a avea (to have)	a vrea (to want)	a bea (to drink)
fusesem	avusesem	vrusesem	băusem
fuseseseși	avuseseseși	vruseseseși	băuseși
fusesese	avusesese	vrusesese	băuse
fuseserăm	avuseserăm	vruseserăm	băuserăm
fuseserăți	avuseserăți	vruseserăți	băuserăți
fuseseră	avuseseră	vruseseră	băuseră
a lua (to take)	a da (to give)	a sta (to sit)	a ști (to know)
luasem	dădusem	stătusem	știusem
luaseși	dăduseși	stătuseși	știuseși
luase	dăduse	stătuse	știuse
luaserăm	dăduserăm	stătuserăm	știuserăm
luaserăți	dăduserăți	stătuserăți	știuserăți
luaseră	dăduseră	stătuseră	știuseră

7.2.2.4.2 The negative pluperfect

The negative form is constructed by adding **nu** in front of the verb form: **nu făcusem** (I had not done it), **nu râsesse** (he had not laughed), e.g.

Înainte să ajungi tu la birou, nu făcusem deja cafeaua.

I had already made the coffee before you arrived at the office.

Până te-am întâlnit pe tine, nu fusesem niciodată așa de fericit.

Before I met you, I had never been so happy.

7.2.5 Future tense

The future in Romanian has three forms and two tenses. The three forms are called: type 1, type 2 and type 3. The two tenses are the simple future and the future perfect.

The formal/literary future or type 1 is formed with the following auxiliaries followed by a short infinitive: **voi, vei, va, vom, veți, vor**. The formal/literary future is used both in spoken and in written formal Romanian.

Type 1 future tense

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
a pleca (to go)	a vira (to turn)	a coborî (to go down)	a diferi (to differ)	a fugi (to run)	a iubi (to love)
voi pleca	voi vira	voi coborî	voi diferi	voi fugi	voi iubi
vei pleca	vei vira	vei coborî	vei diferi	vei fugi	vei iubi
va pleca	va vira	va coborî	va diferi	va fugi	va iubi
vom pleca	vom vira	vom coborî	vom diferi	vom fugi	vom iubi
veți pleca	veți vira	veți coborî	veți diferi	veți fugi	veți iubi
vor pleca	vor vira	vor coborî	vor diferi	vor fugi	vor iubi
(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	
a urî (to hate)	a plăcea (to like)	a face (to do, make)	a merge (to go)	a frige (to fry)	
voi urî	voi plăcea	voi face	voi merge	voi frige	
vei urî	vei plăcea	vei face	vei merge	vei frige	
va urî	va plăcea	va face	va merge	va frige	
vom urî	vom plăcea	vom face	vom merge	vom frige	
veți urî	veți plăcea	veți face	veți merge	veți frige	
vor urî	vor plăcea	vor face	vor merge	vor frige	

The colloquial future or type 2 is used extensively in spoken Romanian and in informal writing, including newspaper articles. It is formed with the subjunctive form of verbs in the present (see section 7.4 for subjunctives) preceded by the letter *o*.

Type 2 future tense

(1) <i>a pleca</i> (to go)	(2) <i>a vira</i> (to turn)	(3) <i>a coborî</i> (to go down)	(4) <i>a diferi</i> (to differ)	(5) <i>a fugi</i> (to run)	(6) <i>a iubi</i> (to love)
<i>o să plec</i>	<i>o să virez</i>	<i>o să cobor</i>	<i>o să difer</i>	<i>o să fug</i>	<i>o să iubesc</i>
<i>o să pleci</i>	<i>o să viреzi</i>	<i>o să cobori</i>	<i>o să diferi</i>	<i>o să fuęi</i>	<i>o să iubești</i>
<i>o să plece</i>	<i>o să viреze</i>	<i>o să coboare</i>	<i>o să difere</i>	<i>o să fuęă</i>	<i>o să iubească</i>
<i>o să plecăm</i>	<i>o să virăm</i>	<i>o să coborăm</i>	<i>o să diferim</i>	<i>o să fugim</i>	<i>o să iubim</i>
<i>o să plecați</i>	<i>o să virați</i>	<i>o să coborați</i>	<i>o să diferiți</i>	<i>o să fuęiți</i>	<i>o să iubiți</i>
<i>o să plece</i>	<i>o să viреze</i>	<i>o să coboare</i>	<i>o să difere</i>	<i>o să fuęă</i>	<i>o să iubească</i>

(7) <i>a urî</i> (to hate)	(8) <i>a plăcea</i> (to like)	(9) <i>a face</i> (to do, make)	(10) <i>a merge</i> (to go)	(11) <i>a frige</i> (to fry)
<i>o să urăsc</i>	<i>o să plac</i>	<i>o să fac</i>	<i>o să merg</i>	<i>o să frig</i>
<i>o să urăști</i>	<i>o să placi</i>	<i>o să faci</i>	<i>o să mergi</i>	<i>o să frigi</i>
<i>o să urască</i>	<i>o să placă</i>	<i>o să facă</i>	<i>o să meargă</i>	<i>o să frigă</i>
<i>o să urăm</i>	<i>o să plăcem</i>	<i>o să facem</i>	<i>o să mergem</i>	<i>o să frigem</i>
<i>o să urâți</i>	<i>o să plăceți</i>	<i>o să faceți</i>	<i>o să mergeți</i>	<i>o să frigeți</i>
<i>o să urască</i>	<i>o să placă</i>	<i>o să facă</i>	<i>o să meargă</i>	<i>o să frigă</i>

The popular future or type 3 is formed with the help of the verb ‘to have’ in the present, which acts as an auxiliary, and the subjunctive form of the verb (see section 7.4 for subjunctives). Again, this type tends to be used more in spoken or informal written Romanian.

Type 3 future tense

(1) <i>a pleca</i> (to go)	(2) <i>a vira</i> (to turn)	(3) <i>a coborî</i> (to go down)	(4) <i>a diferi</i> (to differ)	(5) <i>a fugi</i> (to run)	(6) <i>a iubi</i> (to love)
<i>am să plec</i>	<i>am să virez</i>	<i>am să cobor</i>	<i>am să difer</i>	<i>am să fug</i>	<i>am să iubesc</i>
<i>ai să pleci</i>	<i>ai să viреzi</i>	<i>ai să cobori</i>	<i>ai să diferi</i>	<i>ai să fuęi</i>	<i>ai să iubești</i>
<i>are să plece</i>	<i>are să viреze</i>	<i>are să coboare</i>	<i>are să difere</i>	<i>are să fuęă</i>	<i>are să iubească</i>
<i>avem să plecăm</i>	<i>avem să virăm</i>	<i>avem să coborăm</i>	<i>avem să diferim</i>	<i>avem să fugim</i>	<i>avem să iubim</i>
<i>aveți să plecați</i>	<i>aveți să virați</i>	<i>aveți să coborați</i>	<i>aveți să diferiți</i>	<i>aveți să fuęiți</i>	<i>aveți să iubiți</i>
<i>au să plece</i>	<i>au să viреze</i>	<i>au să coboare</i>	<i>au să difere</i>	<i>au să fuęă</i>	<i>au să iubească</i>

(8) <i>a plăcea</i> (to like)	(9) <i>a face</i> (to do, make)	(10) <i>a merge</i> (to go)	(11) <i>a frige</i> (to fry)
am să plac	am să fac	am să merg	am să frig
ai să placi	ai să faci	ai să mergi	ai să frigi
are să placă	are să facă	are să meargă	are să frigă
avem să plăcem	avem să facem	avem să mergem	avem să frigem
aveți să plăceți	aveți să faceți	aveți să mergeți	aveți să frigeți
au să placă	au să facă	au să meargă	au să frigă

Note: Please read section 7.4.1.1 for more information on irregular verbs in the subjunctive.

7.2.5.1 Future perfect

This tense is equivalent to the English future perfect: **Până vii tu, vom fi terminat masa** (By the time you come, we will have finished the meal). The way we construct it in Romanian is by using the auxiliaries **voi, vei, va, vom, veți, vor** followed by the short infinitive **fi** and by the past participle.

(1) <i>a pleca</i> (to go)	(2) <i>a vira</i> (to turn)	(3) <i>a coborî</i> (to go down)	(4) <i>a diferi</i> (to differ)	(5) <i>a fugi</i> (to run)	(6) <i>a iubi</i> (to love)
voi fi plecat	voi fi virat	voi fi coborât	voi fi diferit	voi fi fugit	voi fi iubit
vei fi plecat	vei fi virat	vei fi coborât	vei fi diferit	vei fi fugit	vei fi iubit
va fi plecat	va fi virat	va fi coborât	va fi diferit	va fi fugit	va fi iubit
vom fi plecat	vom fi virat	vom fi coborât	vom fi diferit	vom fi fugit	vom fi iubit
veți fi plecat	veți fi virat	veți fi coborât	veți fi diferit	veți fi fugit	veți fi iubit
vor fi plecat	vor fi virat	vor fi coborât	vor fi diferit	vor fi fugit	vor fi iubit

(7) <i>a urî</i> (to hate)	(8) <i>a plăcea</i> (to like)	(9) <i>a face</i> (to do)	(10) <i>a merge</i> (to go)	(11) <i>a frige</i> (to fry)
voi fi urât	voi fi plăcut	voi fi făcut	voi fi mers	voi fi fript
vei fi urât	vei fi plăcut	vei fi făcut	vei fi mers	vei fi fript
va fi urât	va fi plăcut	va fi făcut	va fi mers	va fi fript
vom fi urât	vom fi plăcut	vom fi făcut	vom fi mers	vom fi fript
veți fi urât	veți fi plăcut	veți fi făcut	veți fi mers	veți fi fript
vor fi urât	vor fi plăcut	vor fi făcut	vor fi mers	vor fi fript

7.2.5.2 The negative future case

The negative form in all the cases of the future is formed by placing **nu** in front of the future verb forms: **nu voi pleca, nu o să plec** (or **n-o să plec** in

colloquial speech), *nu am să plec* (or *n-am să plec* in colloquial speech), *nu voi fi plecat*.

7.3 Presumptive

The presumptive expresses uncertainty or a hypothesis. It has two tenses, the present and past. It also has two variants in each tense, a literary one and a colloquial one which is also used with a poetic meaning.

7.3.1 Present presumptive

The present presumptive is formed with the same auxiliary as the literary future tense followed by the short infinitive of the verb *a fi* plus the gerund form of the verb. See section 7.8 for more on the gerund.

The present presumptive: (a) literary forms

(1) <i>a pleca</i> (to go)	(2) <i>a vira</i> (to turn)	(3) <i>a cobori</i> (to go down)	(4) <i>a diferi</i> (to differ)	(5) <i>a fugi</i> (to run)	(6) <i>a iubi</i> (to love)
<i>voi fi plecând</i>	<i>voi fi virând</i>	<i>voi fi coborând</i>	<i>voi fi diferind</i>	<i>voi fi fugind</i>	<i>voi fi iubind</i>
<i>vei fi plecând</i>	<i>vei fi virând</i>	<i>vei fi coborând</i>	<i>vei fi diferind</i>	<i>vei fi fugind</i>	<i>vei fi iubind</i>
<i>va fi plecând</i>	<i>va fi virând</i>	<i>va fi coborând</i>	<i>va fi diferind</i>	<i>va fi fugind</i>	<i>va fi iubind</i>
<i>vom fi plecând</i>	<i>vom fi virând</i>	<i>vom fi coborând</i>	<i>vom fi diferind</i>	<i>vom fi fugind</i>	<i>vom fi iubind</i>
<i>veți fi plecând</i>	<i>veți fi virând</i>	<i>veți fi coborând</i>	<i>veți fi diferind</i>	<i>veți fi fugind</i>	<i>veți fi iubind</i>
<i>vor fi plecând</i>	<i>vor fi virând</i>	<i>vor fi coborând</i>	<i>vor fi diferind</i>	<i>vor fi fugind</i>	<i>vor fi iubind</i>

(7) <i>a urî</i> (to hate)	(8) <i>a plăcea</i> (to like)	(9) <i>a face</i> (to do)	(10) <i>a merge</i> (to go)	(11) <i>a frige</i> (to fry)
<i>voi fi urând</i>	<i>voi fi plăcând</i>	<i>voi fi făcând</i>	<i>voi fi mergând</i>	<i>voi fi frigând</i>
<i>vei fi urând</i>	<i>vei fi plăcând</i>	<i>vei fi făcând</i>	<i>vei fi mergând</i>	<i>vei fi frigând</i>
<i>va fi urând</i>	<i>va fi plăcând</i>	<i>va fi făcând</i>	<i>va fi mergând</i>	<i>va fi frigând</i>
<i>vom fi urând</i>	<i>vom fi plăcând</i>	<i>vom fi făcând</i>	<i>vom fi mergând</i>	<i>vom fi frigând</i>
<i>veți fi urând</i>	<i>veți fi plăcând</i>	<i>veți fi făcând</i>	<i>veți fi mergând</i>	<i>veți fi frigând</i>
<i>vor fi urând</i>	<i>vor fi plăcând</i>	<i>vor fi făcând</i>	<i>vor fi mergând</i>	<i>vor fi frigând</i>

The present presumptive: (b) colloquial forms

(1) <i>a pleca</i> (to go)	(2) <i>a vira</i> (to turn)	(3) <i>a cobori</i> (to go down)	(4) <i>a diferi</i> (to differ)	(5) <i>a fugi</i> (to run)	(6) <i>a iubi</i> (to love)
oi fi plecând	oi fi virând	oi fi coborând	oi fi diferind	oi fi fugind	oi fi iubind
ei fi plecând	ei fi virând	ei fi coborând	ei fi diferind	ei fi fugind	ei fi iubind
o fi plecând	o fi virând	o fi coborând	o fi diferind	o fi fugind	o fi iubind
om fi plecând	om fi virând	om fi coborând	om fi diferind	om fi fugind	om fi iubind
eți fi plecând	eți fi virând	eți fi coborând	eți fi diferind	eți fi fugind	eți fi iubind
or fi plecând	or fi virând	or fi coborând	or fi diferind	or fi fugind	or fi iubind

(7) <i>a urî</i> (to hate)	(8) <i>a plăcea</i> (to like)	(9) <i>a face</i> (to do)	(10) <i>a merge</i> (to go)	(11) <i>a frige</i> (to fry)
oi fi urând	oi fi plăcând	oi fi făcând	oi fi mergând	oi fi frigând
ei fi urând	ei fi plăcând	ei fi făcând	ei fi mergând	ei fi frigând
o fi urând	o fi plăcând	o fi făcând	o fi mergând	o fi frigând
om fi urând	om fi plăcând	om fi făcând	om fi mergând	om fi frigând
eți fi urând	eți fi plăcând	eți fi făcând	eți fi mergând	eți fi frigând
or fi urând	or fi plăcând	or fi făcând	or fi mergând	or fi frigând

Examples of the present presumptive mood:

Unde voi fi mergând eu la anul în vacanță?

I wonder where I will go on holiday next year?

Oare cine o fi sunând la ușă?

I wonder who is ringing at the door?

Când s-or fi întorcând din vacanță?

I wonder when they are coming back from their holiday?

7.3.2 Past presumptive

The past presumptive is exactly like the future perfect. See section 7.2.5.1 above.

The past presumptive: (a) literary forms

(1) <i>a pleca</i> (to go)	(2) <i>a vira</i> (to turn)	(3) <i>a coborî</i> (to go down)	(4) <i>a diferi</i> (to differ)	(5) <i>a fugi</i> (to run)	(6) <i>a iubi</i> (to love)
voi fi plecat	voi fi virat	voi fi coborât	voi fi diferit	voi fi fugit	voi fi iubit
vei fi plecat	vei fi virat	vei fi coborât	vei fi diferit	vei fi fugit	vei fi iubit
va fi plecat	va fi virat	va fi coborât	va fi diferit	va fi fugit	va fi iubit
vom fi plecat	vom fi virat	vom fi coborât	vom fi diferit	vom fi fugit	vom fi iubit
veți fi plecat	veți fi virat	veți fi coborât	veți fi diferit	veți fi fugit	veți fi iubit
vor fi plecat	vor fi virat	vor fi coborât	vor fi diferit	vor fi fugit	vor fi iubit

(7) <i>a urî</i> (to hate)	(8) <i>a plăcea</i> (to like)	(9) <i>a face</i> (to do)	(10) <i>a merge</i> (to go)	(11) <i>a frige</i> (to fry)
voi fi urât	voi fi plăcut	voi fi făcut	voi fi mers	voi fi fript
vei fi urât	vei fi plăcut	vei fi făcut	vei fi mers	vei fi fript
va fi urât	va fi plăcut	va fi făcut	va fi mers	va fi fript
vom fi urât	vom fi plăcut	vom fi făcut	vom fi mers	vom fi fript
veți fi urât	veți fi plăcut	veți fi făcut	veți fi mers	veți fi fript
vor fi urât	vor fi plăcut	vor fi făcut	vor fi mers	vor fi fript

The past presumptive: (b) colloquial forms:

(1) <i>a pleca</i> (to go)	(2) <i>a vira</i> (to turn)	(3) <i>a coborî</i> (to go down)	(4) <i>a diferi</i> (to differ)	(5) <i>a fugi</i> (to run)	(6) <i>a iubi</i> (to love)
oi fi plecat	oi fi virat	oi fi coborât	oi fi diferit	oi fi fugit	oi fi iubit
ei fi plecat	ei fi virat	ei fi coborât	ei fi diferit	ei fi fugit	ei fi iubit
o fi plecat	o fi virat	o fi coborât	o fi diferit	o fi fugit	o fi iubit
om fi plecat	om fi virat	om fi coborât	om fi diferit	om fi fugit	om fi iubit
eți fi plecat	eți fi virat	eți fi coborât	eți fi diferit	eți fi fugit	eți fi iubit
or fi plecat	or fi virat	or fi coborât	or fi diferit	or fi fugit	or fi iubit

(7) <i>a urî</i> (to hate)	(8) <i>a plăcea</i> (to like)	(9) <i>a face</i> (to do)	(10) <i>a merge</i> (to go)	(11) <i>a frige</i> (to fry)
oi fi urât	oi fi plăcut	oi fi făcut	oi fi mers	oi fi fript
ei fi urât	ei fi plăcut	ei fi făcut	ei fi mers	ei fi fript
o fi urât	o fi plăcut	o fi făcut	o fi mers	o fi fript
om fi urât	om fi plăcut	om fi făcut	om fi mers	om fi fript
eți fi urât	eți fi plăcut	eți fi făcut	eți fi mers	eți fi fript
or fi urât	or fi plăcut	or fi făcut	or fi mers	or fi fript

Examples of the past presumptive mood:

Carmen va fi pregătit masa.

Carmen must have prepared the meal.

Până acum or fi terminat treaba.

They must have finished their work by now.

7.3.3 The negative presumptive

The negative of the presumptive is formed by placing **nu** in front of the whole construction.

7.4 Subjunctive

The subjunctive has a present and a past tense.

7.4.1 Present subjunctive

The distinctive mark is the conjunction **să** which precedes the verb in the subjunctive. The forms of the verb are the same as the indicative present tense forms with the exception of the third person. Unlike in the indicative present tense, the third person singular and plural are always the same in the subjunctive.

In the table below you can compare the indicative present tense with the subjunctive present tense. Pay attention to the third person endings.

The past presumptive: (a) literary forms

(1) <i>a pleca</i> (to go)	(2) <i>a vira</i> (to turn)	(3) <i>a cobori</i> (to go down)	(4) <i>a diferi</i> (to differ)	(5) <i>a fugi</i> (to run)	(6) <i>a iubi</i> (to love)
să plec	să virez	să cobor	să difer	să fug	să iubesc
să pleci	să virezi	să cobori	să diferi	să fugi	să iubești
să plece	să vireze	să coboare	să difere	să fugă	să iubească
să plecăm	să virăm	să coborâm	să diferim	să fugim	să iubim
să plecați	să virați	să coborâți	să diferiți	să fugiți	să iubiți
să plece	să vireze	să coboare	să difere	să fugă	să iubească

(7) <i>a urî</i> (to hate)	(8) <i>a plăcea</i> (to like)	(9) <i>a face</i> (to do)	(10) <i>a merge</i> (to go)	(11) <i>a frige</i> (to fry)
să urăsc	să plac	să fac	să merg	să frig
să urăști	să placi	să faci	să mergi	să frigi
să urască	să placă	să facă	să meargă	să frigă
să urâm	să plăcem	să facem	să mergem	să frigem
să urăți	să plăceți	să faceți	să mergeți	să frigeți
să urască	să placă	să facă	să meargă	să frigă

As a general rule, if the third person singular ends in *-e* in the present indicative, it will change to *-ă* in the subjunctive. Equally, if the third person singular ends in *-ă* in the present indicative, it will change to *-e* in the subjunctive.

In the case of verbs with the suffix *-ez*, the third person singular form *-ează* in the indicative turns into *-eze* in the subjunctive, whilst verbs ending in the suffix *-esc/-ăsc* will change the third person singular indicative form *-ește/ăște* into *-ească/ască*.

For verbs that end in *-ie* in the third person singular in the indicative present tense, the third person singular and plural remain unchanged in the subjunctive form: *el sperie – să se sperie*; *ea descuie – să descuie*; *el mângâie – să mângâie*; *el contribuie – să contribuie*; *ea scrie – să scrie*.

7.4.1.1 Irregular verbs in the present subjunctive

<i>a fi</i> (to be)	<i>a avea</i> (to have)	<i>a vrea</i> (to want)	<i>a ști</i> (to know)	<i>a bea</i> (to drink)
să fiu	să am	să vreau	să știu	să beau
să fii	să ai	să vrei	să știi	să bei
să fie	să aibă	să vrea	să știe	să bea
să fim	să avem	să vrem	să știm	să bem
să fiți	să aveți	să vreți	să știți	să beți
să fie	să aibă	să vrea	să știe	să bea
<i>a mânca</i> (to eat)	<i>a lua</i> (to take)	<i>a da</i> (to give)	<i>a sta</i> (to sit)	
să mănânc	să iau	să dau	să stau	
să mănânci	să iei	să dai	să stai	
să mănânce	să ia	să dea	să stea	
să mâncăm	să luăm	să dăm	să stăm	
să mâncați	să luați	să dați	să stați	
să mănânce	să ia	să dea	să stea	

7.4.1.2 Uses of the subjunctive

- 1 The subjunctive (also known as the conjunctive) is used mainly as a subordinate verb after a main verb that expresses wish, preference, permission, possibility, request, advice, such as the following: **a vrea** (to want), **a dori** (to wish), **a ști** (to know), **a prefera** (to prefer), **a spune** (to say, tell), **a fi interzis/permis** (to be forbidden/allowed), **a trebui** (to be necessary), **a ruga** (to ask a favour), **a lăsa** (to allow), **a sfătui** (to advise), **a sugera** (to make a suggestion), **a recomanda** (to recommend), **a interzice** (to forbid), **a se teme** (to fear), **a plăcea + dative pronouns** (to like) as well as after the verbs **a ști** (to know) and **a putea** (to be able to, can). After **a putea** it is also possible to use a short infinitive. See the examples below.
- 2 The subjunctive can also be used after verbal structures of the type: **e bine** (it is good), **e rău** (it is bad), **e de așteptat** (it is to be expected), **e recomandabil** (it is advisable), **e inacceptabil** (it is unacceptable), **e de neconceput** (it is inconceivable).
- 3 It can follow compound conjunctions like **fără să** (without), **ca să** (in order to), **înainte să** (before), **pentru ca ... să ..** (in order to) as well as after the adverb **numai/doar** (only).
- 4 The subjunctive is also used in some salutations: **Să crești mare!** (to children after they have stated their age or as a form of **Cu plăcere!** With pleasure!), **Să vă trăiască!** (Long may they live! to parents about their children), **Să vă fie de bine!** (I hope you enjoyed it! – after finishing a meal and in response to **Mulțumesc pentru masă!** Thank you for the meal!)

Examples:

Vreau să scriu un roman de dragoste.

I want to write a romance novel.

Ana poate să facă un film despre România.

Ana can make a film about Romania.

E interzis să fumați.

Smoking is forbidden.

E bine să nu întârzii.

It is a good idea not to be late.

E de neconceput să te porți așa.

It is inconceivable to behave like this.

A venit aici înainte să plece la aeroport.

He came here before going to the airport.

Să trăiți!

I wish you a long life!

Pot să vorbesc limbi străine.

I can speak foreign languages.

Pot vorbi limbi străine.

I can speak foreign languages.

- 5 The subjunctive can also be used by itself when we want to express a demand or a request in a softer way than by using the imperative. Commands that are formed using the subjunctive may be translated as 'Be sure to/ be sure not to':

Să nu întârzi!

Don't be late!

Să nu faci asta!

Don't do that!

- 6 The subjunctive can also be used in questions after interrogatives:

De ce să tac?

Why should I keep quiet?

Cu cine să vorbesc?

To whom can I talk?

Unde să merg?

Where shall I go?

When used independently, it expresses doubt or fear or indecisiveness:

Să mai stau?

Can I stay longer?

Să aștept ?

Should I wait?

7.4.1.3 The negative present subjunctive

The present subjunctive forms its negative form by placing **nu** after the conjunction **să**: **Să nu pleci!** (Don't go!)

7.4.2 Past subjunctive

This tense is little used in Romanian and is often replaced with other past tenses. It expresses anteriority and the idea of necessity or desire in the past that has not been fulfilled. It can also be used with the conditional.

It has one form for all the persons: *să fi* + past participle.

The past subjunctive

(1) <i>a pleca</i> (to go)	(2) <i>a vira</i> (to turn)	(3) <i>a coborî</i> (to go down)	(4) <i>a diferi</i> (to differ)	(5) <i>a fugi</i> (to run)	(6) <i>a iubi</i> (to love)
<i>să fi plecat</i>	<i>să fi virat</i>	<i>să fi coborât</i>	<i>să fi diferit</i>	<i>să fi fugit</i>	<i>să fi iubit</i>
<i>să fi plecat</i>	<i>să fi virat</i>	<i>să fi coborât</i>	<i>să fi diferit</i>	<i>să fi fugit</i>	<i>să fi iubit</i>
<i>să fi plecat</i>	<i>să fi virat</i>	<i>să fi coborât</i>	<i>să fi diferit</i>	<i>să fi fugit</i>	<i>să fi iubit</i>
<i>să fi plecat</i>	<i>să fi virat</i>	<i>să fi coborât</i>	<i>să fi diferit</i>	<i>să fi fugit</i>	<i>să fi iubit</i>
<i>să fi plecat</i>	<i>să fi virat</i>	<i>să fi coborât</i>	<i>să fi diferit</i>	<i>să fi fugit</i>	<i>să fi iubit</i>

The past subjunctive

(7) <i>a urî</i> (to hate)	(8) <i>a plăcea</i> (to like)	(9) <i>a face</i> (to do)	(10) <i>a merge</i> (to go)	(11) <i>a frige</i> (to fry)
<i>să fi urât</i>	<i>să fi plăcut</i>	<i>să fi făcut</i>	<i>să fi mers</i>	<i>să fi fript</i>
<i>să fi urât</i>	<i>să fi plăcut</i>	<i>să fi făcut</i>	<i>să fi mers</i>	<i>să fi fript</i>
<i>să fi urât</i>	<i>să fi plăcut</i>	<i>să fi făcut</i>	<i>să fi mers</i>	<i>să fi fript</i>
<i>să fi urât</i>	<i>să fi plăcut</i>	<i>să fi făcut</i>	<i>să fi mers</i>	<i>să fi fript</i>
<i>să fi urât</i>	<i>să fi plăcut</i>	<i>să fi făcut</i>	<i>să fi mers</i>	<i>să fi fript</i>

Examples:

Să fi ajuns la teatru la timp, aş fi intrat la spectacol.

Had I arrived at the theatre on time, I would have gone into the show.

Nu trebuia să fi cumpărat atâtea roşii.

You shouldn't have bought so many tomatoes.

7.4.2.1 The negative past subjunctive

To make the negative, place **nu** between **să** and **fi**: *să nu fi văzut*, *să nu fi auzit*, *să nu fi înţeles*.

7.5 Conditional

Conditional

This mood has two tenses: a present tense and a perfect tense.

7.5.1 Present conditional

In order to construct this form, you use a set of auxiliaries that correspond to each person – *aş, ai, ar, am, aţi, ar* – followed by the short infinitive.

Present conditional

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
<i>a pleca</i> (to go)	<i>a vira</i> (to turn)	<i>a coborî</i> (to go down)	<i>a diferi</i> (to differ)	<i>a fugi</i> (to run)	<i>a iubi</i> (to love)
<i>aş pleca</i>	<i>aş vira</i>	<i>aş coborî</i>	<i>aş diferi</i>	<i>aş fugi</i>	<i>aş iubi</i>
<i>ai pleca</i>	<i>ai vira</i>	<i>ai coborî</i>	<i>ai diferi</i>	<i>ai fugi</i>	<i>ai iubi</i>
<i>ar pleca</i>	<i>ar vira</i>	<i>ar coborî</i>	<i>ar diferi</i>	<i>ar fugi</i>	<i>ar iubi</i>
<i>am pleca</i>	<i>am vira</i>	<i>am coborî</i>	<i>am diferi</i>	<i>am fugi</i>	<i>am iubi</i>
<i>aţi pleca</i>	<i>aţi vira</i>	<i>aţi coborî</i>	<i>aţi diferi</i>	<i>aţi fugi</i>	<i>aţi iubi</i>
<i>ar pleca</i>	<i>ar vira</i>	<i>ar coborî</i>	<i>ar diferi</i>	<i>ar fugi</i>	<i>ar iubi</i>

(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
<i>a urî</i> (to hate)	<i>a plăcea</i> (to like)	<i>a face</i> (to do)	<i>a merge</i> (to go)	<i>a frige</i> (to fry)
<i>aş urî</i>	<i>aş plăcea</i>	<i>aş face</i>	<i>aş merge</i>	<i>aş frige</i>
<i>ai urî</i>	<i>ai plăcea</i>	<i>ai face</i>	<i>ai merge</i>	<i>ai frige</i>
<i>ar urî</i>	<i>ar plăcea</i>	<i>ar face</i>	<i>ar merge</i>	<i>ar frige</i>
<i>am urî</i>	<i>am plăcea</i>	<i>am face</i>	<i>am merge</i>	<i>am frige</i>
<i>aţi urî</i>	<i>aţi plăcea</i>	<i>aţi face</i>	<i>aţi merge</i>	<i>aţi frige</i>
<i>ar urî</i>	<i>ar plăcea</i>	<i>ar face</i>	<i>ar merge</i>	<i>ar frige</i>

7.5.1.1 Uses of the present conditional

- 1 The conditional is used to express a desire: *Aş bea o bere.* (I would like to drink a beer.)
- 2 To express a wish conditioned by something: *Aş merge la mare dacă aş avea bani.* (I would go to the seaside if I had the money.)
- 3 To express an imaginary comparison with the phrases *de parcă* or *ca şi cum*, as in *Vorbeşti de parcă ai fi filosof.* (You speak as if you were a philosopher.)
- 4 To speak in a more polite, persuasive way: *Te-aş ruga să îmi împrumuţi nişte bani.* (Would you mind lending me some money?)
- 5 In idiomatic structures showing a degree of emotional involvement. There is also an inversion that takes place: *Bătu-te-ar sfinţii!* (May you

be cursed by the saints!), **Mânca-te-ar mama!** (interjection used by parents to children to show love.)

In Romanian, 'if' clauses accept a conditional form both in the 'if' clause with the word **dacă** or **de** and in the second clause:

Dacă aş avea timp, aş dormi mai mult.

If I had more time, I would sleep more.

Ai fi mai bun la şcoală dacă ai munci mai mult.

You would do better at school if you worked harder.

De ar fi un prieten bun, te-ar ajuta.

If he were a good friend, he would help you.

7.5.2 Perfect conditional

Like the present conditional, the perfect conditional expresses an unfulfilled wish in the past. In order to construct the perfect conditional, we use the same set of auxiliaries as for the present conditional (**aş, ai, ar, am, aţi, ar**) followed by the short infinitive **fi**, followed by the past participle.

The perfect conditional

(1) <i>a pleca</i> (to go)	(2) <i>a vira</i> (to turn)	(3) <i>a coborî</i> (to go down)	(4) <i>a diferi</i> (to differ)	(5) <i>a fugi</i> (to run)	(6) <i>a iubi</i> (to love)
aş fi plecat	aş fi virat	aş fi coborât	aş fi diferit	aş fi fugit	aş fi iubit
ai fi plecat	ai fi virat	ai fi coborât	ai fi diferit	ai fi fugit	ai fi iubit
ar fi plecat	ar fi virat	ar fi coborât	ar fi diferit	ar fi fugit	ar fi iubit
am fi plecat	am fi virat	am fi coborât	am fi diferit	am fi fugit	am fi iubit
aţi fi plecat	aţi fi virat	aţi fi coborât	aţi fi diferit	aţi fi fugit	aţi fi iubit
ar fi plecat	ar fi virat	ar fi coborât	ar fi diferit	ar fi fugit	ar fi iubit
(7) <i>a urî</i> (to hate)	(8) <i>a plăcea</i> (to like)	(9) <i>a face</i> (to do)	(10) <i>a merge</i> (to go)	(11) <i>a frige</i> (to fry)	
aş fi urât	aş fi plăcut	aş fi făcut	aş fi mers	aş fi fript	
ai fi urât	ai fi plăcut	ai fi făcut	ai fi mers	ai fi fript	
ar fi urât	ar fi plăcut	ar fi făcut	ar fi mers	ar fi fript	
am fi urât	am fi plăcut	am fi făcut	am fi mers	am fi fript	
aţi fi urât	aţi fi plăcut	aţi fi făcut	aţi fi mers	aţi fi fript	
ar fi urât	ar fi plăcut	ar fi făcut	ar fi mers	ar fi fript	

7.5.2.1 Uses of the perfect conditional

- 1 To express an unfulfilled condition in the past: **Dacă aş fi avut timp, aş fi mers la mare.** (If I had time, I would have gone to the seaside.)
- 2 To express an unfulfilled desire or wish in the past: **Aş fi băut o bere!** (I would have liked a beer.)
- 3 To express oneself in a more polite way: **Te-aş fi rugat să îmi împrumuţi nişte bani.** (I would have asked you to lend me some money.)
- 4 To express annoyance or reproach: **Aş fi aşteptat să îţi ceri scuze!** (I would have expected you to apologize.)
- 5 To express an imaginary comparison with the phrases **ca şi cum** and **de parcă** in the past: **Vorbea de parcă ar fi fost filosof** (He was speaking as if he were a philosopher); **A jucat ca şi cum era chiar Luceafărul** (He played as if he were Luceafărul himself).
- 6 To express an unfulfilled wish without using the whole conditional construction: **De-ar fi reuşit!** (If only he had succeeded!)

Note: When forming an 'if' clause with the imperfect, or the past conditional, the tenses can be used interchangeably, i.e. there is no sequence of tenses as in English or French.

Present conditional 'if' clause:

Dacă aş avea mai mult timp, aş face mai multe lucruri.

If I had more time, I would do more things.

Imperfect/past conditional:

Dacă aveam mai mult timp, făceam mai multe lucruri.

If I had had more time, I would have done more things.

Dacă aveam mai mult timp, aş fi făcut mai multe lucruri.

If I had more time, I would have done more things.

Dacă aş fi avut mai mult timp, făceam mai multe lucruri.

If I had more time, I would have done more things.

Dacă aş fi avut mai mult timp, aş fi făcut mai multe lucruri.

If I had more time, I would have done more things.

7.5.2.2 The negative perfect conditional

The negative is formed by placing **nu** in front of the verb.

7.6 Imperative

The imperative is used when addressing someone directly in order to make a request, give an order or a command. There are only two forms: the second person singular and the second person plural. It can only be used in the present.

7.6.1 Affirmative imperative forms

Affirmative imperatives

	(1) <i>a pleca</i> (to go)	(2) <i>a vira</i> (to turn)	(3) <i>a cobori</i> (to go down)	(4) <i>a acoperi</i> (to cover)	(5) <i>a fugi</i> (to run)	(6) <i>a iubi</i> (to love)
Tu Sing.	Pleacă!	Virează!	Coboară!	Acoperă!	Fugi!	Iubește!
Voi Pl.	Plecați!	Virați!	Coborâți!	Acoperiți!	Fugiți!	Iubiți!

	(7) <i>a urî</i> (to hate)	(8) <i>A cădea</i> (to fall)	(9) <i>a trece</i> (to pass)	(10) <i>a merge</i> (to go)	(11) <i>a frige</i> (to fry)
Tu Sing.	Urăște!	Cazi!	Treci!	Mergi!	Frigi!
Voi Pl.	Urâți!	Cădeți!	Treceți!	Mergeți!	Frigeți!

7.6.2 Imperatives of irregular verbs

Infinitives	Imperative	
	TU (You sing.)	VOI (You pl.)
a da (to give)	Dă!	Dați!
a fi (to be)	Fii!	Fiți!
a veni (to come)	Vino!	Veniți!
a lua (to take)	Ia!	Luați!
a face (to do)	Fă!	Faceți!
a zice (to say)	Zi!	Ziceți!
a bea (to drink)	Bea!	Beți!
a aduce (to bring)	Adu!	Aduceți!
a duce (to take)	Du!	Duceți!

7.6.3 Rules for forming the imperative

- 1 In the plural affirmative form, all verbs in every conjugation form the imperative using the same form as the second person plural of the present indicative.
- 2 In the singular, verbs belonging to conjugations 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 form the imperative by using the same form as the third person singular of the present indicative.
- 3 Verbs ending in **-ia** form the imperative in **-ie** just like the present indicative third person.
- 4 Verbs belonging to conjugations 5, 8, 9, 10 and 11 form the singular imperative by using the same form as the second person singular in the present indicative.

7.6.4 Affirmative imperative with personal pronouns

Direct object pronouns follow the imperative form and are hyphenated as follows:

Uite-!

Look at it!

Mănânc-o!

Eat it!

Dați-le!

Give them!

Indirect object pronouns also follow the imperative form and are hyphenated:

Spune-mi!

Tell me!

Scrie-i!

Write to her/him!

Trimiteți-ne!

Send us!

When there is both a direct object pronoun and an indirect object pronoun in the same sentence, the indirect object pronoun comes first, followed by the direct object pronoun. They are all hyphenated:

Dă-mi-o!

Give it to me!

Trimiteți-ni-le!

Send them to us!

Scrie-i-o!

Write it to her!

7.6.5 The negative imperative

In the negative form, the imperative follows the following rules:

- In the second person singular **nu** is followed by the short infinitive.
- In the second person plural **nu** is followed by the second person plural of the present indicative.

Negative imperatives

	(1) <i>a pleca</i> (to go)	(2) <i>a vira</i> (to turn)	(3) <i>a coborî</i> (to go down)	(4) <i>a acoperi</i> (to cover)	(5) <i>a fugi</i> (to run)	(6) <i>a iubi</i> (to love)
Tu Sing.	Nu pleca!	Nu vira!	Nu coborî!	Nu acoperi!	Nu fugi!	Nu iubi!
Voi Pl.	Nu plecați!	Nu virați!	Nu coborâți!	Nu acoperiți!	Nu fugiți!	Nu iubiți!
	(7) <i>a urî</i> (to hate)	(8) <i>a cădea</i> (to fall)	(9) <i>a trece</i> (to pass)	(10) <i>a merge</i> (to go)	(11) <i>a frige</i> (to fry)	
Tu Sing.	Nu urî!	Nu cădea!	Nu trece!	Nu merge!	Nu frige!	
Voi Pl.	Nu urâți!	Nu cădeți!	Nu treceți!	Nu mergeți!	Nu frigeți!	

7.6.6 Rules for forming the negative imperative with personal pronouns

- The direct object pronoun is inserted between **nu** and the imperative:

Nu o da!
Don't give it!

Nu le mâncați!
Don't eat them!

- The indirect object pronoun is also inserted between **nu** and the imperative:

Nu îmi scrieți!
Don't write to me!

Nu vă supărați!
Don't get upset!

- When there is both a direct object pronoun and an indirect object pronoun in the same sentence, the indirect object pronoun comes first, followed by the direct object pronoun and they are all hyphenated. The negation **nu** is placed in front of everything:

Nu ne-o spuneți!
Don't tell it to us!

Nu li-l trimiteți!
Don't send it to them!

7.7 Infinitive

The infinitive is the basic form of a verb – **a mânca** (to eat), **a plăcea** (to please), **a scrie** (to write), **a iubi** (to love), **a coborî** (to go down), etc. Romanian verbs are categorized into their 11 different conjugations according to their endings in the infinitive, as explained in section 7.2.1.1.

The Romanian infinitive has a short form, in which the **a** is dropped (**mânca**, **plăcea**, **scrie**, **iubi**, **cobori**, etc.) and a long form which is used as a noun: **mâncare** (food), **plăcere** (pleasure), **scriere** (writing), **iubire** (love), **coborâre** (descend), etc.

7.7.1 Uses of the infinitive

- 1 The infinitive can be used as a subject of a sentence: **A iubi este uman** (To love is human).
- 2 It can also be used with various prepositions or prepositional phrases:
 - **înainte de**: **Înainte de a răspunde, gândește-te bine!** (Think very carefully before answering!)
 - **fără**: **Fără a iubi, nu am fi fericiți** (Without love, we wouldn't be happy)
 - **în loc de**: **În loc de a fi trist, gândește pozitiv!** (Instead of being sad, think positively!)
 - **pentru**: **Pentru a reuși, trebuie să perseverezi** (In order to succeed, you have to persevere)
 - **noun + de**: **Dorința de a câștiga este des întâlnită** (The desire to win is widespread)
 - **a avea + ce, cine, unde, când**: **Nu are ce mânca** (He has nothing to eat); **Nu am cu cine vorbi** (I have nobody to talk to); **Nu aveți unde merge în vacanță** (You don't have anywhere to go in the holidays); **Nu avem ce face!** (We have no alternative!)
- 3 The infinitive is also used in directions and interdictions: **a se spăla după folosire** (to be washed after use); **a se desface cu grijă** (to be opened carefully).
- 4 The short infinitive is used in the first type of future tense in the indicative and in the present conditional: **voi pleca** (I will leave), **vei merge** (you will go) or **aș pleca** (I would leave), **ai merge** (you would go).

7.7.2 The negative infinitive

To form the negative form of the infinitive, **nu** is placed between **a** and the verb: **A nu se păstra la cald!** (Not to be kept in warm temperatures); **A nu se fuma!** (No smoking!).

7.7.3 *Infinitive and personal pronouns*

When a verb requires a direct object, indirect object or reflexive pronoun, the pronoun is placed between the *a* and the infinitive form of the verb, and is linked to the *a* by a hyphen: *a-i plăcea* (to like); *a-i fi rău* (to feel sick); *a-i fi bine* (to feel good); *a-și aminti* (to remember); *a-și da seama* (to realize); *a-l durea* (to hurt); *a-l pasiona* (to be passionate about); *a-l ustura* (to smart, itch). Reflexive pronouns in the accusative are not hyphenated: *a se spăla* (to wash), *a se îmbrăca* (to get dressed).

7.8 **Gerund**

This mood is formed from the root of the infinitive, to which the endings *-ind* or *-ând* are added (see below). Very often, the equivalent in English is the ‘-ing’ form of the verb: writing, speaking, etc.

7.8.1 *Rules for the gerund endings*

- 1 Conjugations 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 take the ending *-ând*.
- 2 Verbs that end in *-ghea*, *-chea*, *-ia* take the ending *-ind*: *întârzia – întârziind*, *supraveghea – supraveghind*, *îngenunchea – îngenunchind*.
- 3 Conjugations 4, 5 and 6 (i.e. verbs ending in *-i*) take the ending *-ind*.

Gerunds

(1) <i>a pleca</i> (to go)	(2) <i>a vira</i> (to turn)	(3) <i>a coborî</i> (to go down)	(4) <i>a diferi</i> (to differ)	(5) <i>a fugi</i> (to run)	(6) <i>a iubi</i> (to love)
plecând	virând	coborând	diferind	fugind	iubind
(7) <i>a urî</i> (to hate)	(8) <i>a plăcea</i> (to like)	(9) <i>a face</i> (to do)	(10) <i>a merge</i> (to go)	(11) <i>a frige</i> (to fry)	
urând	plăcând	făcând	mergând	frigând	

7.8.2 *The negative gerund*

The gerund forms its negative form by adding the prefix *ne-*: *ne iubind* (not loving), *ne scriind* (not writing), *ne urând* (not hating).

There is a second negative form constructed using the adverb **mai** meaning ‘any more’, which is inserted between the **ne** and the gerund: **nemaifăcând** (not doing any more), **nemaiscriind** (not writing any more).

7.8.3 Gerund and personal pronouns

Both direct and indirect object pronouns, as well as reflexive pronouns, are added at the end of the gerund and are hyphenated:

Văzându-mă, m-a strigat.

Seeing me, he called me.

Dându-mi un cadou, i-am mulțumit.

Giving me a present, I thanked him.

Spălându-mă, mi-am pierdut brățara.

I lost my bracelet while I was washing.

When we have both a direct and an indirect object pronoun together, the indirect one comes first followed by the direct pronoun or by a reflexive pronoun:

Prezentându-mi-l, l-am cunoscut.

As she introduced him to me, I met him.

Amintindu-mi-o, i-am trimis o vedere.

Remembering her, I sent her a postcard.

7.8.4 Uses of the gerund

The gerund is used in a variety of situations in Romanian and can be translated in several ways:

- 1 In temporal clauses:

Nu mânca uitându-te la televizor.

Don't eat whilst you are watching television.

- 2 In clauses of cause:

Împrumutându-mi banii, m-a ajutat mult.

The loan he gave me helped me a lot.

- 3 In conditional clauses:
Studiind mai mult, ai trece examenul.
If you studied more, you would pass the exam.
- 4 In clauses of modality:
Conduce ascultând muzică.
He drives listening to music.
- 5 In relative clauses:
Am văzut soarele apunând peste mare.
We watched the sun setting over the sea.
- 6 As an adjective which agrees with the noun:
Mi-a vorbit cu o voce tremurândă.
His voice shook as he talked to me.
- 7 After verbs:
Îl văd trecând pe lângă casa mea zilnic.
I see him passing my house every day.

7.9 Participles

In Romanian the participle has only one form, equivalent to the past participle in English. It is used to form the compound past. It is constructed by adding endings to the root of the infinitive. (See section 7.2.2.1.)

7.9.1 Negative participles

The (past) participle has a negative form with the prefix **ne** just like the gerund: **nespălat** (unwashed), **negândit** (unthought), **neînțeleș** (misunderstood).

7.9.2 Uses of the past participle

- 1 The past participle is used to form the compound past and the simple past, the latter being formed from the root of the participle. It is also used to form the supine (see section 7.10).

- 2 It is often used as an adjective agreeing with the noun:

Greșeala odată admisă e pe jumătate iertată.

A mistake once admitted is half forgiven.

- 3 It is used in passive constructions with the verb 'to be':

Sunt întrebată dacă vin la petrecere.

I am asked if I am coming to the party.

- 4 It is used after certain verbs, by omitting the auxiliary verb *a fi*. Here it has to agree with the subject of the sentence:

Piesa de teatru merită văzută.

The play is worth seeing.

7.10 Supine

This mood is formed through the use of prepositions like *de*, *la*, *pe*, *de la* followed by the participle: *lecție de învățat* (lesson to learn), *greu de realizat* (hard to achieve).

7.10.1 Uses of the supine

- 1 Verb + supine:

Am de terminat o compunere.

I have to finish a composition.

Ai multe lucruri de făcut azi.

You have a lot of things to do today.

El a mers la furat.

He went out stealing.

- 2 Adverb + supine:

E ușor de zis, dar greu de făcut.

It is easy to say, but hard to do.

E bine de știut regula asta.

It is good to know this rule.

- 3 As a causative clause:

De atâta plâns mă doare capul.

My head hurts because of so much crying.

4 Noun + supine:

mașină de spălat (washing machine)

mașină de scris (typewriter)

fier de călcat (iron)

aparat de ras (shaving kit)

ochelari de citit (reading glasses)

5 In phrases:

pe neanunțate (without any notice)

pe nesimțite (unnoticeably)

pe ascuns (in secret)

7.11 Passive voice

This is formed by using the verb **a fi** in the appropriate tense and the past participle as an adjective. It is often followed by **de** meaning 'by' in order to show the author of the action:

Sunt chemată la telefon de Dana.

Dana called me to the telephone.

Ai fost rugat să vii la timp.

You were asked to come on time.

Veți fi așteptați la gară de Maria.

You will be welcomed at the station by Maria.

Înainte să ajungi, fusesem invitați la cină de mama.

We were invited to have dinner with my mother before you arrived.

Prizonierii erau interogați zilnic.

The prisoners were interrogated daily.

7.11.1 *Passive past participle*

The passive past participle can be used as an adjective after the noun. In this case the verb **a fi** is not used:

Mănăstirile construite de Ștefan cel Mare sunt foarte frumoase.

The monasteries built by Stephen the Great are very beautiful.

Pantofii purtați prea des se strică.

Shoes that are worn too often will fall apart.

7.12 Reflexive verbs

Romanian has a lot of verbs that can be used in a reflexive form by using reflexive pronouns.

7.12.1 Accusative reflexive verbs

See section 5.9 for this type of reflexive pronoun. Many verbs that describe daily activities are employed in their reflexive form. In the infinitive we use the third person singular form *se* to indicate that a verb is used with an accusative reflexive pronoun:

a se trezi (to wake up)

Mă trezesc în fiecare zi la 9.
I get up every day at 9.

a se spăla (to wash oneself)

Când vin din oraș mă spăl de praf pe față.
When I come back from town I wash the dust off my face.

a se relaxa (to relax)

Radu se relaxează ascultând muzică.
Radu relaxes listening to music.

a se certa (to argue with one another)

De ceva timp ne certăm mult.
For a while we have been arguing a lot.

a se uita (to watch)

Copiii se uită la desene animate dimineața.
Children watch cartoons in the morning.

Here is a list of the most common reflexive verbs: **a se pieptăna** (to brush one's hair), **a se trezi** (to wake up), **a se încălța** (to put one's shoes on), **a se descălța** (to take one's shoes off), **a se gândi** (to think), **a se duce** (to go), **a se întoarce** (to return), **a se urca** (to get on, to go up), **a se coborî** (to get off, go down), **a se căsători** (to get married), **a se naște** (to be born), **a se îndrăgosti** (to fall in love), **a se bucura** (to enjoy, be happy), **a se mira** (to be amazed), **a se plimba** (to take a walk), **a se îngrășa** (to put weight on), **a se hotărî** (to make one's mind up), **a se angaja** (to get a job), **a se schimba** (to change oneself), **a se numi** (to be called).

7.12.2 Dative reflexive verbs

See section 5.9 for a list of the dative reflexive pronouns. In the infinitive we use the third person singular reflexive pronoun **își** in the hyphenated form **-și** to indicate that a verb is used with a dative reflexive pronoun:

a-și aminti (to remember)

Îmi amintesc de copilărie.

I remember my childhood.

a-și lua rămas bun
(to take one's leave)

Ne-am luat rămas bun și am plecat.

We took our leave and left.

a-și da seama (to realize)

Nu îți dai seama de greșeală.

You don't realize your mistake.

a-și dori (to desire,
wish for oneself)

Îmi doresc să trec examenele.

I wish to pass the exams.

a-și dărui (to give
oneself a present)

Mi-am dăruit o carte nouă.

I bought myself a new book as a present.

The following examples show how a verb can be used on its own, or together with an accusative or dative reflexive pronoun:

- *a chema* (to call someone): **Te cheamă mama.** (Mother is calling you.)
- *a se chema* (to be called): **Cum se cheamă sora ta?** (What is your sister's name?)
- *a-și chema* (to call with possessive reflexives): **Țara își cheamă soldații la război.** (The country calls its soldiers to war.)
- *a bucura* (to make someone happy): **Îi bucur pe părinți când iau note bune.** (I make my parents happy when I get good marks.)
- *a se bucura* (to be happy): **Mă bucur să văd că ai avut o vacanță frumoasă.** (I am happy to see you had a nice holiday.)
- *a-și bucura* (to make someone happy with possessive reflexives showing possession): **Radu și-a bucurat sora cu o veste bună.** (Radu made his sister happy with a piece of good news.)

7.12.3 Impersonal reflexive

The impersonal reflexive is used in the third person singular and plural with the pronoun **se**. It expresses the idea of impersonal constructions where the authors are unknown:

Conferința se va ține luna viitoare.
The conference will be held next month.

Magazinele se vor deschide luni.
The shops will open on Monday.

S-a aflat cine e vinovatul?
Has the guilty party been found?

7.13 Impersonal, unipersonal and bipersonal verbs

7.13.1 Impersonal verbs

Impersonal verbs occur only in the third person singular and do not have a subject:

Ninge. (It is snowing.)

Plouă! (It is raining!)

7.13.2 Unipersonal and bipersonal verbs

Unipersonal verbs use one form for all persons: **merită** (it is worth it), **trebuie** (it must/should), **ustură** (it smarts/itches), **mănâncă** (it itches), etc.:

Merită să vizitezi lumea.

It is worth seeing the world.

Trebuie să plecați la timp.

You have to leave on time.

Mă mănâncă capul.

My head is itching me.

Mă ustură ochii.

My eyes smart.

Bipersonal verbs have two forms: one for the singular and one for the plural: **a plăcea** (to like), **a dura** (to hurt). They are formed with either direct object or indirect object pronouns. The singular form is used if there is one object that the verb refers to whilst the plural form is used if there are several objects to which the verb refers.

*Singular***îmi place cafeaua**
(I like coffee)**îți placea cafeaua**
îi place cafeaua
ne place cafeaua
vă place cafeaua
le place cafeaua**mă doare piciorul**
(my foot hurts)**te doare piciorul**
îl doare piciorul
ne doare piciorul
vă doare piciorul
îi doare piciorul*Plural***îmi plac florile**
(I like flowers)**îți plac florile**
îi plac florile
ne plac florile
vă plac florile
le plac florile**mă dor brațele**
(my arms hurt)**te dor brațele**
îl dor brațele
ne dor brațele
vă dor brațele
îi dor brațele**7.14** Sequence of tenses

In Romanian the sequence of tenses is free, unlike in English. We can have a future and a past in the same sentence. The sequence of tenses follows the logic of the sentence. In Romanian, reported speech is rendered in the tense the speaker would use when saying it 'live':

Ieri mi-ai spus că vei merge la mare în concediu.

Yesterday you told me that you would go to the seaside on holiday.

Acum trei ani mă mutasem deja din casa undeai vei locui tu.

Three years ago I had already moved from the house where you were going to live.

7.15 Verbal phrases

Verbal phrases are formed with a verb and other parts of speech such as nouns, pronouns, prepositions and adjectives. Here are some examples:

a lua loc (to take a seat)**a ține minte** (to remember)**a avea de gând** (to have the intention to)**a lua la rost** (to scold)**a o lua la fugă** (to run away)**a-și lua zborul** (to take off)

a-și face iluzii (to have false hopes)

a-i fi sete (to be thirsty)

a sta la povești (to chat)

a întoarce foaia
(to turn over a new leaf)

a-și da cu părerea
(to express one's opinion)

a lua sfârșit (to end)

a da ortul popii (to kick the bucket)

a-i fi somn (to be sleepy)

a se lua la ceartă (to argue)

a întoarce spatele (to give up)

a lua pe cineva în râs (to make fun of someone)

a face valuri (to cause a stir)

Adverbs

8.1 Formation

Most adverbs have the same form as their corresponding masculine singular adjectives: **frumos** (nicely), **mult** (a lot), **atent** (carefully), **obraznic** (rudely).

Other adverbs derived from nouns or adjectives take the suffix **-ește**: **românește** (in Romanian), **bărbătește** (like a man), **voinicște** (with strength), or the suffix **-iș** like **morțiș** (by all means), **cruciș** (cross-eyed) or **-âș** as in **târâș** (crawling).

Compound adverbs are formed with prepositions: **dinafară** (outside), **deseară** (tonight); conjunctions **oriunde** (anywhere) **oricând** (any time), **fiecum** (in any way); pronouns **altădată** (some other time), **astăzi** (today); or adverbs **azi-noapte** (last night), **ieri-dimineastră** (yesterday morning).

8.1.1 Adverbial phrases:

fără îndoială	without doubt
din nou	once again
de ajuns	enough
de asemenea	similarly
în vecii vecilor	for all eternity
nici în ruptul capului	not for the love of God
de voie, de nevoie	willy nilly
de jur împrejur	all around
de-a dreptul	really, truly, genuinely
încetul cu încetul	little by little

cât de cât	pretty much
picior peste picior	cross-legged
nas în nas	eye to eye
așa și așa	so-so
când și când	from time to time
de când lumea	since the beginning of time
cine știe când	who knows when
cu chiu cu vai	by hook or by crook
în fel și chip	in various ways
de bine de rău	for better or worse
de-a valma	higgledy-piggledy; all over the place
pe de rost	by heart

8.2 Comparison

Adverbs have the same degrees of comparison as adjectives: the positive degree (the basic form), the comparative degree and the superlative degree.

<i>Positive</i>	<i>Comparative</i>	<i>Superlative</i>
well bine	better mai bine	best cel mai bine
carefully atent	more carefully mai atent	most carefully cel mai atent
quickly repede	more quickly mai repede	most quickly cel mai repede
beautifully frumos	more beautifully mai frumos	most beautifully cel mai frumos

8.2.1 Comparative degree

The comparative degree of equality is formed with the help of phrases such as: *la fel de ... ca* or *tot așa de ... ca* or *tot atât de ... ca*. All these mean 'as ... as ...':

Vorbește la fel de repede ca mama ei.

She speaks as quickly as her mother.

Cântă tot atât de bine ca tine.

He sings as well as you.

Nu mai gândim tot așa de prost ca înainte.

We don't think as badly as we did before.

Superiority is expressed with the help of phrases like **mai ... decât ...** or **mai ... ca ...** meaning 'more ... than'.

Vorbește mai repede ca mama ei.

She speaks more quickly than her mother.

Cântă mai bine decât tine.

He sings better than you.

Inferiority is expressed with the help of phrases like **mai puțin ... decât ...** or **mai puțin ... ca ...**, which means 'less than':

Vorbește mai puțin repede ca mama ei.

She speaks less quickly than her mother.

Cântă mai puțin bine decât tine.

He sings less well than you.

8.2.2 Superlative degree

The superlative degree of superiority is formed with the help of phrases like **cel mai ... din/dintre/de la ...**

Simona locuiește cel mai departe dintre prietenele mele.

Simona lives the furthest away of all my friends.

Matei învață cel mai repede din toată clasa.

Matthew learns the fastest in the whole class.

Bunica gândește cel mai bine dintre noi.

Grandma thinks the best amongst us.

The superlative degree of inferiority is formed with the help of phrases like **cel mai puțin ... din/dintre/de la ...**

Emma îmi scrie cel mai puțin regulat dintre prietenele mele.

Emma writes to me the least regularly of all my friends.

Matei învață cel mai puțin repede din toată clasa.

Matthew learns the slowest in our class.

El gândește cel mai puțin bine dintre noi.

He thinks the worst amongst us.

The absolute superlative is formed with phrases like: *foarte ...*, *grozav de...*, *extraordinar de...*, *nemaipomenit de...*, *incredibil de...*

El scrie foarte frumos.

He writes very beautifully.

El vorbește extraordinar de elocvent.

He speaks unbelievably eloquently.

El se mișcă nemaipomenit de grațios.

He moves incredibly graciously.

8.3 Uses

Adverbs are used in a variety of ways:

- 1 *To express place:* **aici** (here), **acolo** (there), **deasupra** (above), **dedesubt** (under), **dincolo** (beyond, next door), **departe** (far), **aproape** (close), **jos** (down), **sus** (up), **peste tot** (everywhere), **niciunde** (nowhere)
- 2 *To express time:* **acum** (now), **ieri** (yesterday), **mâine** (tomorrow), **poimâine** (the day after tomorrow), **alaltăieri** (the day before yesterday), **atunci** (then), **cândva** (some time), **demult** (a long time ago), **ieri seară** (last night), **zilnic** (daily)
- 3 *To express modality:* **așa** (so), **bine** (well), **rău** (badly), **prost** (badly), **degeaba** (in vain), **la fel** (in the same way), **pe românește** (in Romanian), **deodată** (all of a sudden), **pe furiș** (secretly)
- 4 *To express quantity:* **atât** (that much), **mult** (a lot), **puțin** (a little), **cât** (as much), **cam** (about)
- 5 *To express agreement:* **da** (yes), **ba da** (yes, in response to a negative question), **desigur** (of course), **bineînțeles** (of course), **firește** (naturally)
- 6 *To express negation:* **nu** (no), **niciunde** (nowhere), **niciodată** (never), **nicidecum** (no way), **nici** (no, neither)
- 7 *To express a question* (interrogative adverbs): **când?** (when?), **cum?** (how?), **unde?** (where?), **încotro?** (to where?)
- 8 *To express relativity* (*relative adverbs*): **când** (when), **unde** (where), **cum** (how)

8.4 Mai, și, tot, prea, chiar

These adverbs always precede the word they modify, e.g.:

Mai mergi la înot?

Do you still go swimming?

Nu mai mănânci?

Have you finished eating?

Și eu vreau o cafea.

I want coffee too.

Tot nu vrei să vii?

You still don't want to come?

Vreau tot o prăjitură.

I want a cake as well.

Nu prea vreau să vin la film.

I don't really want to go to the cinema.

E prea dificil să învăț franceza.

It's too difficult to learn French.

Chiar Marius m-a sunat.

Marius himself called me.

Chiar glumești?

Are you really joking?

8.5 Adverbs and the genitive

Some adverbial phrases take the definite article and are followed by a noun in the genitive, forming prepositional phrases (see Chapter 9): **la spatele** (at the back of), **în dosul** (behind), **în fața** (in front of), **înaintea** (before), **în urma** (following), **deasupra** (above), **dedesubtul** (under), **în jurul** (around), **din cauza** (because of), e.g.:

La spatele blocului este o parcare.

At the back of the block of flats there is a car park.

Mătura este în dosul dulapului.

The broom is behind the cupboard.

Stai în fața mea!

Sit in front of me!

Înaintea războiului oamenii erau fericiți.

Before the war people were happy.

În urma atacurilor, oamenii s-au speriat.

Following the attacks, people became frightened.

Deasupra magazinului este o cofetărie.

Above the shop there is a cafe.

Bagă cearșaful dedesubtul saltelei!

Tuck the bedsheet underneath the mattress!

În jurul casei este o livadă de cireși.

Around the house there is a cherry orchard.

Din cauza trenului, am ajuns târziu.

Because of the train we arrived late.

Prepositions

9.1 Formation

Prepositions appear before nouns, pronouns, numerals, verbs and adverbs. They express the idea of place, time, manner, condition, cause, scope, exception. Many prepositions have several meanings. They are used before a noun in the accusative, genitive or dative.

9.1.1 Simple prepositions

<i>Prep. + Accusative</i>	<i>Prep. + Genitive</i>	<i>Prep. + Dative</i>
pe on	asupra on, about	datorită due to
la at, to	contra against	mulțumită thanks to
lângă near	deasupra above	grație thanks to
sub under	dedesubtul under	conform according to
cu with	împotriva against	contrar contrary to
fără without	înaintea before	asemenea similarly to
după after		
spre towards		
în in, from		
din from		
până until		
despre about		
către to		
prin through		
de of, since, for		

9.1.2 Compound prepositions

These are made up of two prepositions or a preposition plus a noun or an adverb: **pe la** (around), **de pe** (from, of), **de lângă** (from near), **de pe la** (from), **de după** (from after), **până la** (up to), **dinspre** (from), **printre** (amongst), **împrejurul** (around), **dinăuntru** (inside), etc.

Uses

9.2 Prepositional phrases

Prepositional phrases can be used before a noun in the accusative or genitive.

Prep. + Accusative

în afară de	besides
în loc de	instead of
o dată cu	at the same time as
față de	in comparison with
legat de	regarding
în curs de	in the process of
privitor la	regarding
în ceea ce privește	regarding

Prep. + Genitive

în fața	in front of
în spatele	behind
în afara	besides
cu ocazia	with the occasion of
în scopul	with the aim of
din cauza	because of
la nivelul	at the level of
de-a lungul	alongside

9.3 Uses

1 Nouns in the accusative preceded by a preposition and not followed by any modifiers take no article:

la mare	at the seaside
la munte	in the mountains
fără rost	pointless (lit. 'without a point')
lângă oraș	near the town
pentru femei	for women

Note: The preposition **cu** has a special regime. If **cu** refers to substance or matter, the noun carries no article: **cafea cu zahăr** (coffee with sugar), **pâine cu unt** (bread and butter). If **cu** refers to an instrument, or to a means of doing something, the noun is used in the definite form: **cu autobuzul** (by bus), **cu stiloul** (with a pen), **cu mașina** (by car), **cu pianul** (with the piano).

- 2 Nouns in the genitive and dative preceded by a preposition or a prepositional phrase are always in the definite form:

cu ocazia sărbătoririi	on the occasion of celebrating
de-a lungul istoriei	throughout history
împotriva guvernului	against the government
datorită întârzierii	due to the delay
asemănător exemplului	just like the example

- 3 Prepositions **în** (in), **din** (from), **prin** (through) followed by a noun in the indefinite form appear as follows:

în un oraș	într-un oraș	in a town
din un oraș	dintr-un oraș	from a town
prin un oraș	printr-un oraș	through a town
în o casă	într-o casă	in a house
din o casă	dintr-o casă	from a house
prin o întâmplare	printr-o întâmplare	by accident

- 4 The preposition **de** followed by a **in** phrases is hyphenated: **de-a lungul** (across its length), **de-a latul** (across its width), **de-a curmezișul** (across).

9.4 Verbs followed by specific prepositions

9.4.1 Verb + cu

a se asemana cu	to be similar to
a se căsători cu	to marry
a (se) certa cu	to quarrel, argue with
a echivala cu	to be equal to
a (se) hrăni cu	to feed on

a înmulți cu	to multiply by
a (se) întâlni cu	to meet
a (se) ocupa cu	to be involved with/in
a vorbi cu	to speak to

9.4.2 *Verb + de*

a aparține de	to belong to
a se bucura de	to enjoy
a (se) convinge de	to convince of
a (se) deosebi de	to differ from
a depinde de	to depend on
a (se) despărți de	to separate from
a fugi de	to run from
a se mira de	to be amazed by
a se plictisi de	to get bored with
a râde de	to laugh at
a se teme de	to fear

9.4.3 *Verb + despre*

a întreba despre	to ask about
a povesti despre	to tell a story about
a ști despre	to know about
a vorbi despre	to speak about

9.4.4 *Verb + la*

a ajuta la	to help with
a asista la	to witness
a se gândi la	to think of
a împărți la	to divide by
a răspunde la	to answer

a reacționa la	to react to
a renunța la	to give up on
a reuși la	to succeed in
a trimite la	to send to

9.4.5 Verb + asupra

a acționa asupra	to act upon
a avea consecințe asupra	to have consequences on
a avea efect asupra	to have an effect on

9.4.6 Verb + contra

a lua măsuri contra	to take measures against
a lupta contra	to fight against

9.4.7 Verb + prin

a se caracteriza prin	to be known for
a începe prin	to start by
a (se) termina prin	to finish by

9.4.8 Verb + în

a lucra în	to work in (a field)
a se specializa în	to specialize in
a crede în ceva	to believe in something
a se transforma în	to change into

9.4.9 Verb + din

a se forma din	to form from
a proveni din	to originate from
a rezulta din	to result from

Conjunctions

Conjunctions link clauses in a complex sentence or words between themselves in a coordinating or subordinating manner.

10.1 Coordinating conjunctions

This type of conjunction links words or clauses of similar value. There are several types:

1 *Copulative conjunctions*

și	and
nici	neither
și ... și ...	both ... and ...
nici ... nici ...	neither ... nor ...
nu numai ... ci și ...	not only ... but also ...
atât ... cât ...	both ... and ...

Și mie și ție ne place vinul roșu.

Both you and I like red wine.

Nici Richard nici Mathew nu sunt aroganți.

Neither Richard nor Matthew is arrogant.

2 *Adversative conjunctions*

dar	but
însă	but, however, while
iar	and, while, whereas
ci	but

Eu vreau să merg la teatru, însă tu vrei să mergi la film.

I want to go to the theatre, while you want to go to the cinema.

Ți-am explicat de ce, dar tu nu înțelegeți.

I told you why, but you don't understand.

3 *Disjunctive conjunctions*

sau	or
ori	or
sau ... sau ...	either ... or ..
fie ... fie ...	either ... or ...
ori ... ori ...	either ... or ...

Sau tu sau el mă enervați.

It's either you or he who annoys me.

Mergem la mare sau la munte?

Shall we go to the seaside or to the mountains?

4 *Conclusive conjunctions*

deci	so
așadar	therefore
prin urmare	consequently
în concluzie	as a conclusion

10.2 Subordinating conjunctions

1 *Of cause*

pentru că	because
fiindcă	because
deoarece	because, since
din cauză că	because of
din pricină că	because of
sub pretext că	under the pretext that
întrucât	given that
căci	as, because

dat fiind că	given (the fact) that
având în vedere că	considering that
din moment ce	given the fact that; ever since

Nu mergi la mare pentru că nu ai bani.

You don't go to the seaside because you don't have any money.

Dat fiind că trenul întârzie, trebuie să-i anunțăm.

Given (the fact) that the train is late, we have to let them know.

2 *Of consequence*

încât	so that
că	that
cât	as
de	so that
să	so that
ca să	so that
încât să	so that

Am citit atât de mult încât mă dor ochii.

I have read so much that my eyes hurt.

Au vorbit de s-au plictisit.

They spoke so much that they got bored.

3 *Of concession*

deși	although
chiar dacă	even if, although
chiar să	even if
cu toate că	despite
în ciuda faptului că	in spite of the fact that

Îl iubesc, deși e departe.

I love him, although he is far away.

Scriu la carte chiar dacă nu am timp.

I am writing the book although I don't have time.

4 *Of condition*

cu condiția să	provided that
în cazul că	if, in the event that
dacă	if
de	if
în ideea că	on the idea that

Vin la petrecere cu condiția să mă duci acasă cu mașina.

I will come to the party provided that you give me a lift home.

În cazul că pleci mai repede, spune-mi.

If you leave earlier, let me know.

5 *Of purpose*

cu scopul ca	with the aim of
pentru ca să	in order to

Îți scriu pentru ca să te invit la nunta mea.

I am writing to you in order to invite you to my wedding.

6 *Of time*

până când	by the time
până să	by the time
după ce	after
în vreme ce	while
imediat ce	immediately after
înainte să	before
o dată ce	once
ori de câte ori	every time

Până să ajung la telefon, nu a mai sunat.

By the time I got to the phone, it had stopped ringing.

Ori de câte ori ne întâlnim, ne simțim bine împreună.

Every time we meet, we have a good time together.

7 *Of manner*

cu cât ... cu atât ...	the more ... the more ...
de câte ori ... de atâtea ori ...	every time
așa cum	as
precum	as, in the way that
de ce ... de aceea ...	the more ... the more ...
pe măsură ce	the more ...

Cu cât mănâncă mai mult cu atât se îngrașă.

The more he eats, the fatter he gets.

Precum știi/așa cum știi, mama nu călătorește niciodată.

As you know, mother never travels.

Trăiește precum știe.

He lives in the way he knows.

8 *Relative*

relativ la faptul că	regarding
cu privire la faptul că	regarding

Te-am sunat cu privire la discuția de ieri.

I called you regarding yesterday's talk.

9 *Of exception*

în afară de faptul că	besides the fact that
în afara faptului că	besides the fact that

Pe lângă faptul că a întârziat, nici nu și-a cerut scuze.

Besides the fact that he was late, he didn't even apologize.

10 *Of opposition*

dar	but
însă	but
în timp ce	while, whilst, whereas
pe când	while, whilst, whereas
în loc să	instead of

Eu beau cafea cu mult zahăr în timp ce tu o bei fără zahăr.

I drink coffee with lots of sugar whereas you drink it without sugar.

11 *Of addition*

pe lângă faptul că besides, moreover

după ce că besides

După ce că ai întârziat, mai ești și dificil.

Besides the fact that you are late, you are also difficult.

Interjections

Interjections express a verbal reaction to physical and mental sensations or impressions.

11.1 Types

- 1 *Physical pain*: **au!** (ouch!), **vai!** (oh goodness!), **aoleo!** (oh my God!), **brrr!** (brrr!), **aș!** (ouch! – when burnt)
- 2 *Mental discomfort*: **vai!** (oh dear!), **vai de mine!** (oh dear (woe is me!)), **oh!** (oh!), **of!** (sigh!), **uf!** (sigh!)
- 3 *Pleasure, agreement*: **mmm!** (mmm! Tastes good!), **vai!** (great!), **ooo!** (wow!), **aaa!** (ahh!), **bravo!** (bravo!), **îhî!** (ok!), **mișto!** (cool! – very colloquial)
- 4 *Displeasure*: **aș!** (bah!), **țî-țî!** (tut-tut!), **pfu!** (yuck!), **nasol!** (bad – very colloquial)
- 5 *Surprise*: **Doamne!** (Oh God!), **ia uite!** (well, well!), **poftim!** (there you go!)
- 6 *Disappointment*: **hm!** (hmm!), **na!** (hmm!) **de!** (well, there you go!), **Păcat!** (That's a shame!)
- 7 *Encouragement*: **hai!** (come on!), **haide!** (come on!), **hopa!** (up you get!), **păi?** (well?)
- 8 *Calling someone*: **hei!** (hey!), **măi!** (oi!), **mă!** (oi!), **bă!** (oi!), **pst!** (psst!)
- 9 *Disagreement*: **măi!** (well ...), **hei!** (hey!), **țțț!** (tut-tut!), **ne-ne!** (no, no!), **da' de unde!** (come off it!), **ei!** (come on now!)
- 10 *Talking to animals*: **cuțu-cuțu!** (here boy!), **pis-pis!** (here kitty-kitty), **pui-pui!** (when calling chickens)
- 11 *Swear words*: **drace!** (Damn it!), **la dracu!** (Damn it!), **la naiba!** (Damn it!)
- 12 *Noises from nature*: **pac!** (bam!), **poc!** (bang!), **buf!** (crash!), **trosc!** (crack!), **pleosc!** (splash!), **zvârr!** (whizz!)
- 13 *Animal sounds*: **ham-ham!** (woof-woof!), **mârr!** (growl!), **miau!** (meow!), **i-ha-ha!** (neigh!), **muu!** (moo!), **guiț-guiț!** (oink-oink!),

- mor-mor!** (roar! (bear)), **cotcodac!** (cluck cluck!), **cucurigu!** (cock a doodle-doo!), **piu-piu!** (cheep-cheep!), **be-e-e!** (baa!)
- 14 *Sounds of instruments, gadgets:* **tic-tac!** (tick-tock!), **țârr!** (ring-ring!), **ding-dong!** (ding-dong!)

Note: **Poftim!** is an interjection with multiple uses:

- when offering someone a seat or a present or something to eat or drink. (Here you are!)
- when one does not understand something said and asks for repetition. (Sorry?)
- **Ei poftim!** is used to express surprise or indignation. (Oh, well!)

Word formation

New words can be derived using prefixes, suffixes or compounds. Often the same prefix or suffix can serve several parts of speech. To simplify things, we have listed the prefixes and the suffixes under the grammatical classes with which they are most likely to be used.

12.1 Suffixes

12.1.1 Nouns

- ar: **bucătar** (cook), **ceasornicar** (watchmaker)
- tor: **muncitor** (worker), **jucător** (player)
- giu: **geamgiu** (glazier), **cafegiu** (coffee seller)
- easă: **croitoreasă** (seamstress), **bucătăreasă** (female cook)
- iță: **actriță** (actress), **doctoriță** (female doctor)
- oaică: **englezoiacă** (Englishwoman), **chinezoaică** (Chinese woman)
- ez: **englez** (English man), **chinez** (Chinese man)
- ime: **mulțime** (crowd), **pătrime** (a fourth)
- et: **brădet** (fir tree grove), **tineret** (youth)
- iș: **frunziș** (foliage), **pietriș** (gravel)
- ătate: **bunăătate** (kindness), **străinăătate** (abroad)
- itate: **sinceritate** (sincerity), **posibilitate** (possibility)
- enie: **cetățenie** (citizenship), **curățenie** (cleanness)
- ie: **prietenie** (friendship), **jucărie** (toy)
- ism: **truism** (truism), **altruism** (altruism)

- re: **mâncare** (food), **scriere** (writing)
- ură: **băutură** (drink), **prăjitură** (cake)

12.1.2 Diminutive suffixes for nouns

Diminutives often express terms of endearment, e.g.:

- aş: **îngeruş** (little angel), **copilaş** (little child)
- el: **băieţel** (little boy), **căţel** (puppy)
- ic: **bunic** (grandad), **pupic** (little kiss)
- ică: **bunică** (grandma), **păsărică** (little bird)
- iţă: **fetiţă** (little girl), **linguriţă** (teaspoon)
- ior: **frăţior** (little brother), **pantofior** (little shoe)
- ioară: **surioară** (little sister), **inimioară** (little heart)
- uc: **năsuc** (little nose), **sătuc** (little village)
- uţ: **căluţ** (little horse), **bănuţ** (little coin)
- uţă: **căsuţă** (little house), **măsuţă** (little table)
- uleţ: **ursuleţ** (little bear), **coşuleţ** (little basket)

12.1.3 Augmentative suffixes for nouns

- oi: **băieţoi** (big lad), **cărţoi** (big book)
- oaie: **căsoaie** (big house), **cărţoaie** (big book)

12.1.4 Adjectives

- al: **anual** (yearly), **săptămânal** (weekly)
- ar: **lunar** (monthly), **familiar** (familiar)
- aş: **fruntaş** (top worker), **pătimaş** (passionate)
- at: **bucălat** (chubby), **catifelat** (velvety)
- bil: **capabil** (capable), **amabil** (amiable)
- esc: **bărbătesc** (masculine), **femeiesc** (feminine)
- eţ: **băgăreţ** (daring), **iubăreţ** (loving)

- os: **prietenos** (friendly), **mâncăcios** (gluttonous)
- iu: **argintiu** (silvery), **auriu** (golden)
- ist: **imperialist** (imperialist), **regalist** (royalist)
- nic: **fățarnic** (two-faced), **puternic** (powerful)
- tor: **iubitor** (loving), **muncitor** (hard-working)
- ui: **verzui** (greenish), **gălbui** (yellowish)

12.1.5 Adverbs

- ește: **românește** (in Romanian), **englezește** (in English)
- iș: **cruciș** (crossways), **furiș** (furtively)
- mente: **eminamente** (eminently), **realmente** (really)

12.2 Prefixes

12.2.1 Nouns

- anti-, ante-:* **anticameră** (antechamber), **antevorbitor** (previous speaker)
- aero-:* **aeronaut** (aeronaut), **aerogară** (airport)
- auto-:* **autoturism** (vehicle), **autobiografie** (autobiography)
- contra-:* **contraindicație** (contraindication), **contradicție** (contradiction)
- hiper-:* **hipertensiune** (high blood pressure), **hipersensibilitate** (hypersensitivity)
- hipo-:* **hipoglicemie** (hypoglycemia), **hipodrom** (race course)
- inter-:* **interacțiune** (interaction), **interdicție** (interdiction)
- non-:* **nonsens** (nonsense), **nonvaloare** (zero value)
- post-:* **postimpresionism** (post-impressionism), **postproducție** (post production)
- pseudo-:* **pseudovaloare** (pseudo-value), **pseudonim** (pseudonym)
- supra-:* **suprerealism** (surrealism), **supralicităție** (overestimation)

12.2.2 Adjectives

<i>arhi-</i>	arhitectural (architectural)
<i>ne-</i>	neobișnuit (unusual), necon condiționat (unconditional)
<i>anti-</i>	antinevralgic (painkiller)
<i>bi-</i>	bicefal (bicephalous), bipolar (bipolar)
<i>mono-</i>	monocrom (monochrome), monogam (monogamous)
<i>poli-</i>	policrom (polychrome)
<i>extra-</i>	extraordinar (extraordinary), extraconjugal (extramarital)
<i>pre-</i>	prespălat (prewashed), preconceput (preconceived)
<i>ultra-</i>	ultramodern (ultramodern), ultracunoscut (very well known)

12.2.3 Verbs

<i>de-, des-, dez-</i>	decoji (peel), descălța (take one's shoes off), dezbina (divide)
<i>în-, îm-</i>	îmbina (combine), încălța (put one's shoes on)
<i>răș-, răz-</i>	răsfăța (spoil), răzgândi (change one's mind)
<i>re-</i>	reuni (reunite), rescrie (rewrite)
<i>auto-</i>	autoservi (self-service), autosuține (self-sustain)
<i>co-, con-</i>	conlucra (collaborate), cofinanța (co-fund)
<i>sub-</i>	subjuga (subjugate), subestima (underestimate)
<i>supra-</i>	supraestima (overestimate), supraalimenta (overfeed)

12.3 Compound words

12.3.1 *Hyphenated words*

floarea-soarelui (sunflower), bloc-turn (tower block), câine-lup (German shepherd), redactor-șef (chief editor), prim-ministru (prime minister), nu-mă-uita (forget-me-not), dus-întors (return ticket/round trip ticket), papă-lapte (softy).

12.3.2 *Non-hyphenated words*

binefăcător (benefactor), bunăstare (welfare), atoateștiutor (omniscient), atotputernic (almighty), bunvenit (welcome, noun).

Part 2

Language functions

Socializing

13.1 General greetings

13.1.1 Meeting someone

13.1.1.1 Informal

Bună!	Hi!
Ciao!	Ciao! (regional!)
Servus!	Hello! (regional)
Noroc!	Hello! (regional)
Salut!	Hi!

Frequently used with friends, close family and colleagues. Use the same greeting in reply.

13.1.1.2 Formal

Salutări!	Greetings!
Respectele mele!	My respects! (for men to men or men to women)
Să trăiți!	May you live long! (for men to men, or in the army)
Sărut mâna!	Kiss your hand!

Sărut mâna is used only by men addressing women or by younger people addressing older people, especially older ladies.

The reply to the formal greetings is normally the same greeting, apart from Sărut mâna where the lady will reply by saying simply **Bună ziua** (see section 13.1.3).

13.1.2 Taking leave**13.1.2.1 Informal**

Pa!	Bye!
Ciao!	Bye!
Te pup!	Kisses!
Servus!	Bye!
Pe mai târziu!	See you later!
Pe mâine!	See you tomorrow!
Mai vorbim!	Speak later!
Ne mai vedem!	See you later!
Ne auzim!	Speak later! (especially on the phone)

13.1.2.2 Formal

Salutări!	Greetings!
Toate cele bune!	All the best!
Numai bine!	All the best!
La revedere!	Goodbye!
Respectele mele!	My respects! (men to men or men to women)
O zi plăcută!	Have a nice day!

In more formal situations, when someone announces their departure, they would say:

Vreau să-mi iau la revedere.

I want to say goodbye.

13.1.3 Greetings according to the time of day

Bună dimineața!	Good morning!
'Neața!	Morning! (v. informal)
Bună ziua!	Good afternoon!
Bună seara!	Good evening!
Noapte bună!	Good night!

13.1.4 Welcoming

Bine ați venit!

Welcome! (The reply to this greeting is: **Bine v-am găsit!**)

Bun-venit!

Welcome!

Ne face plăcere să vă revedem!

It is a pleasure to see you again!

Simțiți-vă ca acasă!

Make yourselves at home!

Faceți-vă comozi!

Make yourselves at home!

Ne bucurăm să vă avem ca oaspeți!

It is a pleasure for us to have you as our guests!

E o onoare să vă revedem!

It is an honour to see you again.

13.1.5 Attracting attention

If one needs to attract someone's attention in the street or in a shop, the following can be used:

Scuzați-mă!	Excuse me!
Mă scuzați!	Excuse me!
Scuzați!	Excuse me!
Nu vă supărați!	Sorry to bother you!
Fiți amabil/ă!	Sorry to bother you!
Se poate?	May I?
Dacă se poate?	If I may?
Deranjez?	I hope I am not bothering you.
Îmi dați voie?	May I?
Îmi permiteți?	May I?
Vă rog!	Please!
Domnule!	Sir!
Doamnă!	Madam!

Domnișoară!	Miss!
Pot să vă pun o întrebare?	May I ask you a question?

13.1.6 *Warning*

Atenție!	Attention!
Interzis!	Forbidden!
Intrarea oprită!	No entry!
Accesul oprit!	No access!
Stop!	Stop!
Păstrați liniștea!	Keep quiet!
Avertisment!	Warning!
Parcarea interzisă!	No parking!
Fumatul interzis!	No smoking!
Nu călcați iarba!	Do not walk on the grass!
Oprirea interzisă!	No stopping!
Lift defect!	Lift out of order!
Pericol de moarte!	Danger of death!
Atenție! Câine rău!	Beware of the dog!

13.2 *Seasonal greetings*

Paște fericit!	Happy Easter!
Crăciun fericit!	Merry Christmas!
Felicitări!	Congratulations!
Urări de bine!	Best wishes!
Toate cele bune!	All the best!
La mulți ani!	Happy Birthday!/Happy New Year!
Hristos a înviat!	Easter greeting meaning: Christ has risen!
Adevărat a înviat!	Answer to the above, meaning: He is risen indeed!

13.3 *Good wishes and congratulations*

Multă sănătate!	May you be healthy!
Noroc!	Good luck!
Baftă!	Good luck!
Succes!	Good luck!
Casă de piatră!	May you have a successful marriage!
Să fie într-un ceas bun!	Hope it goes well for you!
Să trăiască!	May he/she live long!
Să fie fericit(ă)!	May he/she be happy!
Să crească mare!	May he/she grow strong!
Să fie sănătos(ă)!	May he/she be healthy!
Să aibă noroc!	May he/she be lucky!
Să vi se împlinească toate dorințele!	May all your wishes come true!
Mult noroc și fericire!	Lots of luck and happiness!
Drum bun!	Safe journey!
Călătorie plăcută!	Have a nice trip!
Să aveți o vacanță plăcută!	Have a nice holiday!
Să aveți grijă de voi!	Take care of yourselves!
Să vă simțiți bine!	Have a good time!
Să aveți parte numai de bine!	Have a great time!
Să vă păzească Dumnezeu!	God be with you!
Domnul să aibă grijă de voi!	God be with you!
Mergeți cu Dumnezeu!	God be with you!
Condoleanțe!	My condolences!
Sunt alături de tine.	I am thinking of you.
Toate cele bune!	All the best!

Good wishes and congratulations

13.4 Introductions

a face cunoștință	to meet someone
a prezenta pe cineva altcuiva	to introduce some to someone else
a se prezenta	to introduce oneself

13.4.1 Presenting someone

Vă prezint studenții de la engleză!

Let me introduce the students of English to you!

V-o prezint pe mama mea!

Let me introduce my mother to you!

Dați-mi voie să mă prezint!

May I introduce myself?

Am onoarea să vi-l prezint pe Domnul director Popescu!

I have the pleasure to introduce Mr Popescu, the manager, to you.

13.4.2 Replies

Încântat!

Nice to meet you.

Și mie!

Nice to meet you too!

Îmi pare bine!

Nice meeting you!

Onorat!

Honoured!

Îmi face plăcere să vă cunosc!

It is a pleasure to meet you!

Mă bucur să vă cunosc!

I am happy to meet you!

13.5 Forms of address

13.5.1 Informal

tu	you (sing.)
voi	you (pl.)
dumneata	you (informal, but respectful)
mata	you (informal, but respectful)
Dragă!	Dear!

Dragilor!	My dears!
Scumpo!	Sweetheart! (f.)
Scumpule!	Sweetheart! (m.)
Fraților!	Friends!/Guys!/Buddies!
Copii!	Kids!
Frate!	My friend!

13.5.2 Formal

Dumneavoastră!	You (very formal)
Doamnă!	Madam!
Domnule!	Sir!
Domnișoară!	Miss!
Doamnelor și domnilor!	Ladies and Gentlemen!
Domnule președinte!	Mr President!
Domnule doctor!	Doctor!
Domnule profesor!	Professor!
Doamnă avocat!	Madam lawyer!
Doamnă profesoară!	Miss! (with teachers)

13.5.3 Very formal

Exzellența voastră!	Your excellency! (high government official)
Sfinția voastră!	Your holiness! (clergyman)
Eminența voastră!	Your eminence! (bishop)
Alteța voastră!	Your highness! (royal)
Maiestatea voastră!	Your Majesty! (king/queen)
Domnia voastră!	Your highness! (very formal)
Domniile voastre!	Your highnesses! (very formal)

13.5.4 Titles

Doamna Popescu	Mrs Popescu
D-na Popescu	Mrs Popescu (in writing)
Domnul Popescu	Mr Popescu
D-I Popescu	Mr Popescu (in writing)
Domnișoara Popescu	Miss Popescu
D-ra Popescu	Miss Popescu (in writing)
Domnul inginer Ionescu	Mr Ionescu (an engineer)
Doamna avocat Ionescu	Mrs Ionescu (a lawyer)
Domnul ministru de externe	Foreign affairs minister
Doamna ministru al culturii	Madam minister of culture

13.5.5 Family

Mama!	Mum/Mother!
Mămico!	Mummy!
Mămicuțo!	Mummy!
Mami!	Mummy!
Tata!	Dad/Father!
Tăticule!	Daddy!
Tăticuțule!	Daddy!
Tati!	Daddy!
Mătușo!	Aunt!
Mătușico!	Auntie!
Unchiule!	Uncle!
Bunico!	Grandmother/Grandma!
Mamaie!	Grandma!
Bunicule!	Grandfather/Grandad!
Tataie!	Grandpa!
Buno!	Granny!
Bunule!	Grandad!

Bunicuțo! Granny!
Bunicuțele! Grandad!

13.6 Talking about one's health

13.6.1 General conversation

13.6.1.1 Questions

Cum te simți?	How are you? (informal)
Cum vă simțiți?	How are you? (plural)
Cum stai cu sănătatea?	How is your health? (informal)
Te mai doare ... ?	Is ... still hurting you? (informal)
Vă mai doare ... ?	Is ... still hurting you? (plural)
Cum merge?	How is it going?
Ce e nou?	What's the latest?

13.6.1.2 Answers

Mă simt bine.	I feel all right.
Mă simt rău.	I feel sick.
Nu mă simt prea bine/grozav.	I don't feel very well.

13.6.2 At the surgery

13.6.2.1 Questions

Ce probleme aveți?	What is the problem?
Ce vă doare?	Where is the pain?
Aveți grețuri/dureri de cap/amețeli?	Do you have nausea/headaches/dizzy spells?

13.6.2.2 Answers

Mă doare capul.	I have a headache.
Mă dor picioarele.	My feet hurt.
Nu pot să respir bine.	I can't breathe.
Mă sufoc.	I can't breathe/I'm suffocating.
Am temperatură.	I have a temperature.
Mă simt rău.	I feel sick.

13.6.3 Doctor's orders

Dezbrăcați-vă!	Get undressed!
Respirați adânc!	Breathe deeply!
Deschideți gura!	Open your mouth!
Întindeți-vă!	Lie down!
Vă rog să vă relaxați!	Relax!
Trebuie să vă iau tensiunea.	I have to take your blood pressure.
Trebuie să faceți analize de sânge.	You have to take blood tests.
Vă prescriu o medicație.	I will prescribe medication.
Luați ...	Take ...
... două tablete de trei ori pe zi.	... two tablets three times a day.
... trei lingurițe de sirop la patru ore.	... three teaspoons of syrup every four hours.
... o tabletă numai când vă simțiți rău.	... one tablet only when you don't feel well.
Odihniți-vă cât mai mult!	Rest as much as possible!
Țineți o dietă!	Go on a diet!
Faceți sport	Exercise!

13.7 Talking about the weather

Vremea e bună.	The weather is good.
Va ploua.	It will rain.
Va ninge.	It will snow.
Va fi vânt puternic.	There will be strong winds.
Așteptăm o furtună.	We are expecting a storm.
Timpul se va strica în următoarele zile.	The weather will get worse in the next few days.
E frig.	It is cold.
E cald.	It is hot.
E zăpușeală.	It is sticky.
E răcoare.	It is cool.
Plouă.	It is raining.
Va fi însorit.	It will be sunny.
Va fi înorat.	It will be cloudy.
Vremea se va încălzi.	The weather will get warmer.
Vremea se va răci.	The weather will get colder.
Sunt inundații.	There are floods.
Plouă cu găleata.	It's raining cats and dogs./It's pouring!
Picură.	It is spitting/drizzling.
Toarnă.	It is pouring down.

13.8 Directions**13.8.1 Questions and answers**

Cum ajung la ...?	How do I get to ... ?
Unde este ...?	Where is ... ?
Luați un autobuz!	Take a bus!
Mergeți drept înainte!	Go straight ahead!
Luați-o la dreapta/stânga!	Go right/left

După colț.

Teatrul e la 200 de metri.

**Traversați podul/
strada/piața.**

**Mergeți până la semafor/
la intersecție.**

Faceți a doua la stânga.

**Hotelul este între piață
și pod.**

**Magazinul este după
blocuri.**

**Cinematograful este
pe dreapta/pe stânga.**

Round the corner.

The theatre is 200 metres away.

Cross over the bridge/the road/the square.

Go as far as the traffic lights/ the junction.

Take the second road on the left.

The hotel is between the square and the bridge.

The shop is behind the blocks of flats.

The cinema is on the right/the left.

13.8.2 General conversation

De unde ești/sunteți?

Unde mergi/mergeți?

Unde locuiești/locuiți?

**Care e adresa ta/
voastră/dumneavoastră?**

La ce număr locuiești?

Pe ce stradă locuiești?

Unde se află București?

Unde lucrezi/lucreați?

**Unde mergi/mergeți în
vacanță?**

Veniți des aici?

**Sunteți pentru prima
oară aici?**

Where are you from?

Where are you going?

Where do you live?

What is your address?

What is your street number?

What street do you live on?

Where is Bucharest?

Where do you work?

Where do you go on holiday?

Do you come here often?

Are you here for the first time?

13.9 Making excuses

Îmi pare rău!	I am sorry!
Îmi cer scuze!	I apologize!
Îmi pare foarte rău!	I am really sorry!
Regret.	I regret.
Sunt dezolat.	I am terribly sorry.
Sunt dezamăgit.	I am disappointed.

13.10 At the table

Poftă bună!	Enjoy your meal!
Mulțumesc/mulțumim pentru masă.	Thank you for the meal.
Să vă fie de bine!	I hope you enjoyed it.
Vă rog, serviți!	Please, help yourselves!

At the end of the meal, if you want to charm the hostess, you can say the following rhyme.

Mulțumim pentru masă	Thank you for the meal
C-a fost bună și gustoasă	As it was delicious
Și bucătăreasa frumoasă!	And the cook beautiful!

Exchanging factual information

14.1 Identifying people

14.1.1 Identity

Cine e?	Who is it?
Cum se numește el/ea?	What is his/her name?
Cine e domnul/doamna?	Who is the lady/the gentleman?
Cine sunt ...?	Who are ...?
Care e ...?	Which one is ...?
Care sunt ...?	Which ones are ...?
Cum e ...?	What is ... like?
E ...	He/she is ...
Ce fel de persoană e ...?	What sort of person is ...?

14.1.2 Ownership

A cui e haina asta?	Whose is this coat?
Ale cui sunt gețile de acolo?	Whose are these bags?
Al cui e pardesiul?	Whose is this coat?
Ai cui sunt ochelarii de aici?	Whose are these glasses?
Cui aparține ...?	To whom does ... belong?
E a lui/ a ei.	It is his/hers.
Sunt ai lui/ale ei.	They are his/hers.

Haina e a domnului Popescu.

The coat is Mr Popescu's.

Pălăria e a domnei Popescu.

The hat is Mrs Popescu's.

14.1.3 Profession, occupation

Ce faceți dumneavoastră?	What do you do for a living?
Cu ce vă ocupați?	What is your job?
Unde lucrați?	Where do you work?
Pentru cine lucrați?	Who do you work for?
La ce companie/firmă lucrați?	Which company do you work for?
Unde sunteți angajat?	Where do you work?
Ce profesie aveți?	What is your profession?
Ce meserie aveți?	What is your trade?
În ce sunteți specializat?	What do you specialize in?
Ce post aveți?	What is your position?
Lucrez la firma Orange.	I work for Orange.
Sunt inginer.	I am an engineer.
Sunt pensionar/pensionară.	I am retired.
Sunt student/studentă la facultatea de filologie.	I am a student in philology.
Sunt elev/elevă la liceul de matematică.	I am a pupil at the mathematics high school.

14.2 Identifying things

Ce e asta/aia? (informal)	What is this/that? (f.)
Ce e ăsta/ăla? (informal)	What is this/that? (m.)
Ce sunt astea/alea? (informal)	What are these/those? (f.)
Ce sunt ăștia/ăia? (informal)	What are these/those? (m.)
Ce carte e asta?	What book is this?

Ce muzeu e acela?

What museum is that?

Cum e prăjitura?

How is the cake?

E bună/rea.

It is good/bad.

Din ce e făcută?

What is it made of?

Ce are în ea?

What does it have in it?

Cum e făcută?

How is it made?

Cum se face asta?

How is this made?

Vreau florile acelea.

I'd like those flowers.

Vreau casa aceasta.

I'd like that house.

Vreau pantofii aceia.

I'd like those shoes.

Vreau ghidul acesta.

I'd like that guide.

14.2.1 Expressing the time

Cât e ceasul?

What is the time?

Cât e ora?

What is the time?

Ce oră e?

What is the time?

**La ce oră mergem la
cinema?**

What time do we go to the
cinema?

La cât începe spectacolul?

What time does the show start?

Când ne întâlnim?

What time are we meeting?

E ora cinci fix.

It is 5 o'clock sharp.

E ora șase și jumătate.

It is half past six.

E ora unu fără un sfert.

It is a quarter to one.

E ora două și un sfert.

It is a quarter past two.

**E ora unsprezece și
cinci minute.**

It is five past eleven.

E ora trei fără zece.

It is ten to three.

dimineața

a.m./in the morning

după masa

p.m./in the afternoon

seara

p.m./in the evening

noaptea	p.m./in the night
la ...	at
de la ... la ...	from ... to ... /between

De la cinci la șase mergem la sala de sport.

We go to the gym between 5 and 6.

14.3 Asking for information

Nu vă supărați, la ce oră pleacă trenul de București?

Would you mind telling me when the train to Bucharest leaves?

De la care peron pleacă?

From which platform does it leave?

La ce oră ajunge?

What time does it arrive?

Știți la care stație trebuie să cobor pentru Casa Poporului?

Do you know which station I need to get off at for the People's Palace?

Puteți să-mi oferiți informații legate de vizitarea muzeelor din România?

Could you give me information on museums in Romania?

Vreau un bilet dus-întors la Constanța.

I would like a return/round trip ticket to Constanța.

Vreau zece călătorii de autobuz.

I would like ten single tickets for the bus.

Cât costă camera la hotel?

How much is a hotel room?

Unde pot să iau micul dejun?

Where can I have breakfast?

Unde este un magazin de discuri?

Is there a record shop near here?

Cât durează călătoria până la mare?

How long does it take to get to the seaside?

Cât de departe e stația?

How far is the station?

14.4 Offering information**Pot să vă ajut cu ceva?**

Can I help you?

Ce doriți?

How can I help you?

Unde vreți să ajungeți?

Where would you like to go?

Ce doriți să luați la micul dejun?

What would you like for breakfast?

La ce oră doriți să fiți trezit?

What time would you like to be woken?

Dacă doriți, putem să vă ajutăm să găsiți adresa.

If you like, we can help you find the address.

Veniți cu mine!

Come with me!

Pot să vă arăt unde este.

I can show you where it is.

14.5 Reporting, narrating

In Romanian the verbal tense does not change in indirect speech as the examples below show. The verbs below are the most common verbs used in indirect speech.

a nara (to tell a story, to narrate)**Am narat evenimentul exact cum s-a întâmplat.**

I told the story exactly as it happened.

a povesti (to tell)**Mi-a povestit despre vacanța de vară!**

She/he told me about her/his summer holiday.

a spune (to say)**A spus că trenul va întârzia.**

He/she told me that the train would be late.

a raporta (to report)**Soldatul a raportat mai departe ordinele superiorului.**

The soldier reported further the orders of his superior.

a declara (to declare)

Ieri martorul accidentului a declarat că mașina mergea cu viteză ilegală.

The witness to the accident declared yesterday that the car was going at an illegal speed.

a critica (to criticize)

Ministrul a criticat în ziare atitudinea delăsătoare a personalului medical.

The minister criticized in the newspapers the attitude of the medical staff.

a adăuga (to add)

Șeful poliției a adăugat că ordinea va fi reinstaurată.

The head of the police added that the order would be reinstated.

a întreba (to ask)

Reporterul a întrebat când va avea loc ședința.

The journalist asked when the meeting would take place.

a comenta (to comment)

Ieri ziarele au comentat în legătură cu noile alegeri.

The newspapers commented yesterday on the new elections.

a afirma (to affirm)

Într-un interviu dat publicității, domnul ministru a afirmat că economia este în creștere.

The minister declared in a published interview that the economy is growing.

a informa (to inform)

Agenția de știri ne-a informat că vom avea alegeri anticipate.

The news agency informed us that we would have early elections.

a transmite (to transmit)

Correspondentul de la Londra a transmis știrile legate de exploziile din metrou.

The London correspondent sent us the news regarding the explosions in the underground.

a asigura (to assure)

Am fost asigurați că vacanța va fi foarte plăcută.

We have been assured that the holiday will be very pleasant.

14.6 Letter writing**14.6.1 Opening phrases****14.6.1.1 Informal**

Dragă Ema,	Dear Emma,
Dragă Claudiu,	Dear Claude,
Dragii mei,	My dears, (m.)
Dragele mele,	My dears, (f.)
Draga mea prietenă,	My dear friend, (f.)
Dragul meu frate,	My dear brother,
Salut, Cătălina!	Hi, Cătălina!
Bună, Teodor!	Hi, Theodore!
Dragostea mea,	My love,
Iubirea mea,	My love,

14.6.1.2 Formal

Stimate domnule Popescu,	Dear Mr Popescu,
Stimată Doamnă Popescu,	Dear Mrs Popescu,
Stimați colegi,	Dear colleagues, (m. or mixed)
Stimate colege,	Dear colleagues, (f.)
Stimate cliente,	Dear customers, (f.)
Stimați clienți,	Dear customers, (m. or mixed)
Stimate domnule,	Dear Sir,
Stimați domni,	Dear Sirs,

14.6.2 *Closing phrases*

14.6.2.1 Informal

Te pup.	Kisses.
Sărutări!	Kisses!
Îmbrățișări!	Hugs!
Cu drag, Ivona	Love, Ivona
Pe curând!	See you soon!
Abia aștept să te văd.	I am looking forward to seeing you!
Cu dragoste,	With all my love,

14.6.2.2 Formal

Cu stimă,	Sincerely/faithfully,
Cu respect,	Respectfully,
Cu considerație,	Respectfully,

14.6.3 *Examples of letters*

14.6.3.1 Formal

6 martie 2006

Stimate domnule Lupu,

Vă scriu în legătură cu rezervarea camerei la hotel pe care ați făcut-o săptămâna trecută.

Vă anunțăm cu regret că din cauza unei inundații, nu putem să vă cazăm la hotelul nostru. Vă vom rambursa în întregime suma depusă în contul nostru.

Vă suntem recunoscători pentru înțelegere.

Ne cerem scuze și sperăm că veți mai apela la serviciile noastre.

Cu stimă,

Președinte Ionescu Virgil

March 6th, 2006

Dear Mr Lupu,

I am writing to you with regard to the hotel room reservation you made last week. We regretfully inform you that due to a flood, we are unable to accommodate you in our hotel. We will reimburse the entire amount you have paid us.

Thank you for your understanding.

We apologize, and hope to have you as a customer again.

Yours sincerely,

Virgil Ionescu

Hotel Manager

14.6.3.2 Informal

Dragă Carmen,

Am ajuns cu bine la Tallinn. Mă simt minunat aici. Stau la un hotel ieftin și bun. Mă gândesc adesea la tine și regret că nu ești aici.

Ne vedem în curând.

Te pup, Irina

Dear Carmen,

I arrived safely in Tallinn. I am having a great time here. I am staying in a cheap but nice hotel. I think of you a lot and am sorry that you are not here with me.

See you soon.

Love,

Irina

Expressing opinions and attitudes

15.1 Agreement and disagreement

15.1.1 Questions

Ce crezi/credeți?	What do you think?
Ce crezi despre ce ți-am spus?	What do you think about what I said?
Ce părere ai?	What is your opinion?
Ce opinie ai?	What is your opinion?
Care e părerea/opinia ta?	What is your opinion?
Cum vrei să procedezi?	How do you want to proceed?
Ce soluție ai?	What is your solution?
Ești/sunteți de acord?	Do you agree?
Nu ești/sunteți de acord?	Do you disagree?
E bine pentru tine?	Is this good for you?
E rău pentru tine?	Is this bad for you?
Aprobi/aprobați?	Do you approve of it?
Dezaprobi/dezaprobați?	Do you disapprove of it?
Ai vreo obiecție?	Do you have any objection?
Ai ceva de obiectat?	Do you have anything to object to?
Ai ceva împotriva ideii să ...?	Do you have something against the idea of ...?
Ești pro?	Are you in favour?
Ești împotrivă?	Are you against this?

Ești contra?

Are you against?

Te opui?

Do you oppose this/object?

15.1.2 *Replies expressing agreement*

Bine.	Good. OK.
Foarte bine.	Very good.
De acord.	I agree.
E în regulă.	It is OK.
Sunt de acord.	I agree.
Ce idee bună!	What a good idea!
Și eu cred așa.	I think so too.
Asta e ce cred eu.	This is what I think.
Asta e opinia mea.	This is my opinion.
Sunt cu totul de acord.	I agree entirely.

15.1.3 *Replies expressing disagreement*

Nu.	No.
În nici un caz.	No way.
Nici vorbă.	No way.
Nici gând.	No way.
Nici nu se pune problema.	It is out of the question.
Exclus.	Out of the question.
Absolut nu!	Absolutely not!
Nu sunt de acord.	I do not agree.
Mă opun.	I oppose this/I object.
Obiectez.	I object.
Nu se poate.	It is not possible.
Doamne ferește!	God forbid!

15.2 Remembering something or someone

Remembering something or someone

15.2.1 Questions

Îți amintești/vă amintiți de ...?	Do you remember ...?
Îți amintești de anii de școală?	Do you remember your/our school years?
Îți amintești de bunicul meu?	Do you remember my grandad?
Nu îți amintești/vă amintiți de ...?	Do you not remember ...?
Ai uitat/ați uitat de ...?	Have you forgotten ...?
Ai uitat de întâlnire/ședință?	Have you forgotten about the meeting?
Ai uitat-o pe prietena ta Maria?	Have you forgotten your friend Maria?
O ții minte pe Andreea?	Do you remember Andreea?

15.2.2 Answers

Da, îmi amintesc.	Yes, I remember.
Îmi amintesc foarte bine de ...	I remember ... very well.
Țin minte.	I remember.
Nu îmi amintesc.	I do not remember.
Nu îmi amintesc deloc.	I do not remember at all.
Am o idee vagă.	I have a vague idea.
Am habar.	I have a vague idea.
N-am nici o idee.	I have no idea.
N-am habar.	I have no idea at all.
Habar n-am.	I have no idea at all.
M-a lăsat memoria.	My memory fails me.
Am un lapsus.	I have a mental blank.
Nu mai țin minte.	I do not remember.

15.3 Possibility and probability**15.3.1** Questions

Se poate să ...?	Is it possible to ...?
Pot să ...?	Can I ...?/May I ...?
Puteți să ...?	Can you ...?
E posibil să ...?	Is it possible to ...?
Există posibilitatea să ...?	Is there a possibility to ...?
S-ar putea să mă ajutați?	Could you help me?
Vă așteptați să ...?	Do you expect to ...?

15.3.2 Answers expressing possibility

Da, se poate.	Yes, it is possible.
Da, e posibil.	Yes, it is possible.
Da, pot.	Yes, I can.
S-ar putea.	It is possible.
Poate.	Maybe.
Probabil.	Probably.
E probabil.	It is probable.
E posibil să ...	It is possible to ...
E probabil că ...	It is probable that ...
Mă aștept să ...	I expect to ...

15.3.3 Answers expressing impossibility, unlikelihood

Nu, nu se poate.	It is not possible.
Nu, nu e posibil.	It is not possible.
Nu, nu pot.	No, I can't.
Nu cred.	I don't think so.
Poate da, poate nu.	Maybe, maybe not.
E improbabil.	It is unlikely.

Nu e probabil.	It is not likely.
Nu e posibil să ...	It is not possible to ...
Nu e probabil că ...	It is not likely that ...
Nu mă aștept să ...	I do not expect to ...
Nu mă aștept la nimic.	I do not expect anything.

15.4 Incomprehension and clarification

15.4.1 *Incomprehension*

Nu înțeleg.	I do not understand.
Nu înțeleg deloc.	I do not understand at all.
Nu pricep.	I do not get it.
Nu mă prind.	I do not get it. (coll.)
Nu înțeleg nimic.	I do not understand anything.
E complet neclar.	It is totally unclear.
Nu e clar deloc.	It is not clear at all.
Nu e logic.	It is not logical.
E ilogic.	It is illogical.

15.4.2 *Clarification*

Poți să repeți?	Can you repeat? (informal)
Puteți să repetați?	Can you repeat? (formal)
Mai spune o dată!	Say that again, please! (informal)
Mai spuneți o dată!	Say that again, please! (formal)
Poftim?	Sorry?
Ce ai spus?	What did you say?
N-am înțeles!	I did not understand.
Cum?	What? (coll.) What is that?
Ce?	What? (coll.)
Poți să explici mai bine?	Can you explain better?

Poți să clarifici mai mult?

Can you clarify more?

Fii mai clar!

Be clearer!

15.5 Certainty and uncertainty**15.5.1 Certainty****Sunt sigur/sigură.**

I am sure.

Sunt convins/convinsă.

I am convinced.

Sigur că da.

Of course.

Clar că da.

Of course.

Clar că e așa.

Of course it is like this.

E clar.

It is clear.

E sigur.

It is sure.

E foarte sigur.

It is very certain.

E sută la sută.

It is one hundred per cent.

E cert.

It is sure.

N-am nici o îndoială.

I have no doubt.

N-am nici un dubiu.

I have no doubt.

15.5.2 Uncertainty**Nu e clar.**

It is not clear.

Nu e sigur.

It is not sure/certain.

Nu sunt sigur/sigură.

I am not sure.

Nu sunt convins/convinsă.

I am not convinced.

Mă îndoiesc.

I doubt it.

Am îndoieli.

I have doubts.

Am dubii.

I have doubts.

Nu e cert.

It is not certain.

Judgement and evaluation

16.1 Expressing pleasure or liking

Îmi place ... + sing.	I like ...
Îmi place cafeaua.	I like coffee.
Îmi plac ... + pl.	I like ...
Îmi plac florile.	I like flowers.
Prefer ...	I prefer ...
Iubesc ...	I love ...
Ador ...	I adore ...
Mă bucură ...	It makes me happy ...
Mă încântă ...	I find it enchanting ...
Am plăcerea să ...	I have the pleasure to ...
Am plăcerea să vă prezint noua noastră clădire.	I have the pleasure to show you our new building.
Plăcerea e de partea mea.	The pleasure is mine.
Cu plăcere.	With pleasure.
Cu multă plăcere.	With great pleasure.
Ce plăcere!	What a pleasure!
Ce superb!	How superb!
Ce minunat!	How wonderful!
Ce incredibil!	How incredible!
Ce mișto! (very coll.)	How cool!
Ce ca lumea! (very coll.)	How wicked!

16.2 Expressing displeasure or dislike

Nu îmi place ... + sing.	I don't like ..
Nu îmi place ceaiul.	I don't like tea.
Nu îmi plac ... + pl.	I don't like ...
Nu îmi plac cartofii.	I don't like potatoes.
Nu îmi prea place ...	I don't really like ...
Nu îmi place deloc ...	I don't like at all ...
Nu mă dau în vânt după ...	I am not crazy about ...
Urăsc ...	I hate ...
Ce groaznic!	How awful!
Ce oribil!	How horrible!
Ce îngrozitor!	How awful!
Ce nasol! (very coll.)	How bad!
Mă enervează.	It annoys me.
Nu suport ...	I can't stand ...
Nu suport să țipi la mine.	I can't stand you shouting at me.
Mă irită ...	It irritates me ...
Detest ...	I detest ...

16.3 Enquiring and expressing interest**16.3.1 Questions**

Vreau să întreb ceva.	I want to ask something.
Pot să întreb ceva?	May I ask something?
Îți place ...?	Do you like ...? (informal)
Vă place ...?	Do you like ...? (formal)
Vrei ...?	Do you want ...? (informal)
Vreți ...?	Do you want ...? (formal)
Dorești ...?	Do you want ...? (informal)
Doriți ...?	Do you want ...? (formal)

Te/vă interesează ...?	Are you interested in/by ...?
Nu te /vă interesează ...?	Aren't you interested in/by ...?
Ai vrea ...?	Would you like ...?
Ai dori ...?	Would you want ...?
Ai chef de ...? (coll.)	Do you feel like ...?
Ai chef de un film?	Do you feel like watching a movie?
Ai chef să ...? (coll.)	Are you up for ...?
Ai chef să mergem la un film?	Are you up for a movie?
Ai poftă de ...? (with nouns)	Do you feel like ...? (esp. with food)
Ai poftă să ...? (with verbs)	Do you feel like ...?
Asta îți trezește curiozitatea?	Does this interest you?

16.3.2 Replies

Da, mă interesează.	Yes, it interests me.
Sunt interesat/interesată de ...	I am interested in/by... (passive construction)
Sunt interesat de oferta dvs.	I am interested in/by your offer.
Sunt interesat să ...	I am interested in/to ... (active construction)
Sunt interesat să vizitez Castelul Peleş.	I am interested in visiting Peles Castle.
Am chef de o plimbare.	I feel like going for a walk.
Sunt curios/curioasă să văd noua ta casă.	I am curious to see your new house.
Nu mă interesează.	It does not interest me.
Nu am chef de nimic azi.	I don't feel like doing anything today.
Nu mă interesează.	It is of no interest to me.
Nu îmi pasă.	I don't care.

Mi-e paralel. (slang)	It is all the same to me.
Mi-e tot una.	It is all the same to me.
Mi-e indiferent.	It is all the same to me.

16.4 Expressing surprise

Ce surpriză!	What a surprise!
Ce surpriză plăcută!	What a pleasant surprise!
Ce grozav!	How wonderful!
Ce frumos!	How beautiful!
Ce interesant!	How interesting!
Ce drăguț!	How nice!
Nu-mi vine să cred.	I can't believe it!
E incredibil!	It is incredible!
Nu se poate!	That's impossible!
E surprinzător!	It is surprising!
Doamne!	Oh God!
Doamne Dumnezeule!	Good God!
Doamne Sfinte!	Dear God!
Vai!	Oh!
Vai de mine!	Oh, dear me!
Aaaaa!	Wow!
Ce veste bună!	What good news!

16.5 Expressing hope

Sper!	I hope!
Sper din tot sufletul!	I hope so with all my heart!
Sper din toată inima!	I hope so with all my heart!
Să dea Dumnezeu!	God willing!
Așa să fie!	So be it!
Îți țin pumnii!	Fingers crossed!

Baftă!	Good luck!
Noroc!	Good luck!
Ce mult aş vrea asta!	I want this so much!
Ar fi atât de frumos dacă ...	It would be so nice if ...
Doamne fereşte să se întâmple una ca asta!	God forbid such a thing to happen!
Să ne ferească Dumnezeu de aşa ceva!	May God protect us from such a thing!

16.6 Expressing satisfaction and dissatisfaction

Eşti satisfăcut/-ă?	Are you satisfied? (informal)
Te bucuri?	Are you happy? (informal)
Vă bucuraţi?	Are you happy? (formal)
Îţi pare bine?	Are you glad? (informal)
Eşti mulţumit/-ă?	Are you pleased? (informal)
Eşti nesatisfăcut/-ă?	Are you dissatisfied? (informal)
Te mulţumeşte ajutorul primit?	Are you satisfied with the help you received? (informal)
Te nemulţumeşte ajutorul primit?	Are you dissatisfied with the help you received? (informal)

16.7 Expressing approval and disapproval

16.7.1 Questions

Eşti/sunteţi de acord?	Do you agree?
Vreţi să faceţi asta?	Do you want to do this?
Nu eşti/sunteţi de acord?	Do you disagree?
E bine aşa?	Is it OK like this?
Nu e bine aşa?	Is it not OK like this?
Eşti/sunteţi de aceeaşi părere?	Are you of the same opinion?

16.7.2 *Replies expressing assent*

Da, sunt de acord.	Yes, I agree.
E bine așa.	It is OK like that.
Bineînțeles!	Of course/Certainly!
Desigur!	Of course/Certainly!
Firește!	Of course/Certainly!
Foarte bine!	Very well!
Bravo!	Well done!
Felicitări!	Congratulations!
E perfect!	It is perfect!
Continuă tot așa!	Keep up the good work!
Ține-o tot așa! (coll.)	Keep it up!

16.7.3 *Replies expressing dissent*

Nu, nu sunt de acord.	No, I don't agree.
Bineînțeles că nu.	Of course not/Certainly not!
Sigur că nu.	Of course not/Certainly not!
Nu poate fi așa.	It cannot be like that.
E prost!	It is bad!
E rău!	It is bad!
Nu merge bine!	It does not go well.
Merge prost.	It goes badly.
Trebuie să schimbăm ceva.	We need to change something.
Nu se poate!	It is not possible.
Nicidecum!	No way!

16.8 Expressing preference

16.8.1 Questions

Preferi să ...?

Do you prefer to ...? (informal)

Preferai să ...?

Do you prefer to ...? (formal)

Ai prefera să ...?

Would you prefer to ...? (informal)

Ați prefera să ...?

Would you prefer to ...? (formal)

Vrei să ...?

Do you want to ...?

Ai vrea să faci altceva în loc de asta?

Would you prefer to do something else instead of this?

Care îți place cel mai mult?

Which one do you like best?

Pe care o preferi?

Which do you prefer?

Nu ai vrea să ...?

Wouldn't you want to ...?

Nu preferi să ...?

Wouldn't you prefer to ...?

16.8.2 Replies

Prefer să ...

I prefer to ...

Mai degrabă vreau asta.

I'd rather have this one. (or: I'd rather do this.)

Mai repede vreau asta.

I'd rather have this one.

Mă atrage mai mult ideea să călătorim.

The idea of travelling attracts/ appeals to me more.

Mă gândesc mai mult la o vacanță la mare.

I am thinking more of a holiday at the seaside.

Nu vreau asta.

I don't want this.

Nu prefer asta.

I don't prefer this.

Nu mă atrage să mergem la munte.

Going to the mountains does not appeal to me.

16.9 Expressing gratitude, sympathy, appreciation**16.9.1 Gratitude**

Mulțumesc!	Thank you!
Mulțumesc foarte mult!	Thank you very much!
Mulțumesc frumos!	Thank you very much!
Îți rămân dator.	I owe you one.
Îți sunt obligat.	I am obliged.
Vă sunt recunoscător.	I am grateful.
Vă sunt îndatorat.	I am indebted to you.
Să vă răsplătească Dumnezeu!	May God take care of you!

16.9.2 Sympathy

Îmi pare rău!	I am sorry!
Îmi pare foarte rău!	I am really sorry!
Condoleanțe!	Condolences!
Sunt alături de tine/de voi/ de dvs.	I am thinking of you.
Vă trimit cele mai sincere gânduri.	My sincerest thoughts.

16.9.3 Appreciation

Bravo!	Well done!
Perfect!	Perfect!
Ce bine!	How wonderful!
Excelent!	Excellent!
Ce frumos!	How beautiful!
Extraordinar!	Extraordinary!
Vă felicit!	I congratulate you!
Sunt mândru de tine/de voi/de dvs.	I am proud of you!
Mă bucur să văd ce bine te descurci.	I am glad to see how well you are doing!

16.10 Expressing happiness and unhappiness

Expressing happiness and unhappiness

16.10.1 Happiness

Mă bucur așa de mult.	I am so glad!
Sunt așa de bucuros/bucuroasă!	I am so glad!
Mă bucur să văd că ai reușit la examen.	I am glad to see you passed your exam.
Sunt fericit/fericită.	I am happy!
Sunt în al nouălea cer de fericire.	I am over the moon.
Plutesc de fericire.	I am ecstatic.
Nu-mi mai încap în piele de fericire.	I am overflowing with happiness.
Nu știu ce să mai fac de fericire.	I am so happy I don't know what to do with myself.
Îmi vine să plâng de fericire.	I feel like crying for joy.
Îmi dau lacrimile de fericire.	I feel like crying for joy.
Tremur de fericire.	I am delirious with happiness.

16.10.2 Unhappiness

Nu-mi vine să cred.	I can't believe it.
Nu pot să cred că s-a întâmplat așa ceva.	I can't believe such a thing has happened.
Sunt așa de nefericit/nefericită.	I am so unhappy.
Îmi vine să plâng de supărare.	I feel like crying with sorrow.
Îmi dau lacrimile de supărare.	I feel like crying with sorrow.
Tremur de mânie.	I am shaking with anger.
Sunt negru/neagră de supărare.	I am seething with anger.

16.11 Apologizing

Îmi pare rău!	I am sorry!
Îmi cer scuze!	I apologize!
Îmi cer mii de scuze!	I sincerely apologize!
Vă implor să mă iertați!	I beg you to forgive me!
Pardon!	Sorry!
Mă scuzați!	Forgive me!
Regretele mele!	My regrets!
Sper să nu vă supărați, dar trebuie să plec.	I hope you won't mind, but I have to leave.

16.12 Expressing disappointment, worry, fear**16.12.1 Disappointment**

Sunt dezamăgit de ...	I am disappointed by ...
Sunt deziluzionat.	I am disillusioned.
Sunt dezamăgit să ...	I am disappointed to ...
Sunt dezamăgit să aud că ai căzut la examen.	I am disappointed to hear that you failed your exam.

16.12.2 Worry and fear

Ți-e teamă de ...?	Are you afraid of ...?
Ți-e teamă de câini?	Are you afraid of dogs?
Ți-e teamă să ...?	Are you afraid to ...?
Ți-e teamă să mergi pe întuneric?	Are you afraid to walk in the dark?
Ți-e frică de ...?	Are you afraid of ...?
Ți-e frică să ...?	Are you afraid to ...?
Ai emoții?	Are you nervous?
Ești emoționat?	Are you nervous?

Ești preocupat de ceva?	Do you have something on your mind?
Ești îngrijorat.	You are so worried.
Ai atâtea griji!	You have so many problems!
Ai atâtea pe cap!	You have so many things to do!
Ai ceva pe suflet?	Do you have something on your mind?
Te preocupă ceva?	Is something bothering you?
Vai, ce frică mi-e!	God, I am so scared.
Mi-e frică!	I am scared.
Sunt speriat!	I am scared.
Sunt terorizat!	I am terrorized/obsessed.

16.13 Expressing regret and indifference

16.13.1 Regret

Regret ce s-a întâmplat!	I regret what happened.
Îmi pare rău de ce s-a întâmplat!	I am sorry about what happened.
Dacă știam, aș fi făcut ceva.	If I knew, I would have done something about it.
Dacă aș putea, aș da timpul înapoi!	If I could, I would turn back time.

16.13.2 Indifference

Nu are importanță!	It doesn't matter.
Nu are nicio importanță!	It doesn't matter at all.
Nu are nici cea mai mică importanță!	It doesn't matter in the slightest.
Nu contează deloc!	It doesn't matter at all.
Nu importă!	It has no importance.
E totuna.	It is all the same.

E la fel.

It is the same.

Mi-e indiferent.

It is all the same to me.

Nu îmi pasă!

I don't care.

Nu e nicio diferență!

It makes no difference.

Nu mă interesează!

I don't care about it.

Și ce dacă!

So what!

16.14 Accusing

E vina ta/voastră/dvs.

It is your fault.

Tu ești de vină!

You are to blame.

Pe tine te blamez.

I blame you.

E din cauza ta!

It is because of you.

**Numai tu poți să faci
așa ceva!**

Only you can do such a thing.

Tu ai făcut asta!

You did this.

Te acuz de furt.

I accuse you of theft.

Te acuz că ai furat.

I accuse you of stealing.

Te consider vinovat.

I blame you.

Glossary of grammatical terms

Accusative Case denoting the direct object of a sentence.

Adjective Modifies a noun or a pronoun, attributing a descriptive quality to it.

Adverb Modifies a verb, an adverb or an adjective, attributing a descriptive quality to it.

Case Inflected forms of a noun, adjective or pronoun, expressing the semantic relation of the word to other words in the sentence. The five Romanian cases are: Nominative, Accusative, Genitive, Dative, Vocative.

Comparative Second degree of comparison for adjectives and adverbs, expressing the sense of *less* or *more*.

Conjugation Forms taken by verbs, denoting tense, person, mood etc.

Conjunction Used to join clauses, nouns and pronouns together.

Dative Case that denotes the indirect object of a sentence.

Direct object A noun or pronoun denoting a person or thing that is directly affected by a transitive verb. It is the answer to the question *whom* or *what?*

Genitive Case that denotes possession of something.

Impersonal moods Infinitive, gerund, participle, supine.

Indirect object A noun or pronoun referring to someone or something that is indirectly affected by the action of a verb. It is the answer to the question *to whom* or *to what?*

Mood Category of verb expressing fact, command, wish, condition, etc.

Nominative Case denoting the subject of a sentence.

Noun Denotes people, places, things or concepts.

Glossary

Personal moods Indicative, subjunctive, conditional, presumptive, imperative.

Preposition Denotes a relationship between two nouns, or between a noun and a verb.

Pronoun Can replace a noun.

Reflexive Refers to verbs and pronouns where the doer and the recipient are the same.

Superlative Third degree of comparison for adjectives and adverbs, expressing the sense *the most* or *the least* or *very*.

Tense Forms of the verb indicating the time of the action/state expressed by the verb.

Verb Denotes the action or the state of things.

Vocative Case used when addressing someone directly.

Appendix I

List of verbs

This list of verbs is a general one. The translations give the most basic meaning without any nuances. For multiple meanings and reflexive verbs the readers should use a dictionary. The verbs are listed alphabetically under the three headings that show the correct verb pattern.

-esc verbs

absolvi to absolve, to graduate

adăposti to shelter

adeveri to prove

amăgi to delude

ameți to get dizzy

amorți to get numb

ați to fall asleep

batjocori to mock

bănu to suspect

bărbieri to shave

bârfi to gossip

bolborosi to mumble

categorisi to categorize

căi to repent

călări to ride

călători to travel

căli to temper

căsători to get married

cersi to beg

chefui to party

cheli to go bald

cheltui to spend money

chicoti to giggle

chinui to torture

chiuli to play truant

cicăli to nag

cinsti to honour

ciopli to carve

citi to read

ciupi to pinch

cântări to weigh

cârpi to patch

clădi to build

clăti	to rinse	dovedi	to prove
clipi	to blink	dușmăni	to hate
clocoti	to boil	economisi	to save
coji	to peel	fâstâci	to blush
compătimi	to pity	feri	to avoid
conlocui	to cohabit	flămânzi	to starve
construi	to build	foi	to fret
converti	to convert	folosi	to use
copilări	to spend one's childhood	frunzări	to leaf through
copeși	to overwhelm	găsi	to find
cuceri	to conquer	găti	to cook
dăru	to give a gift	găzdui	to host
defini	to define	gândi	to think
denumi	to name	glumi	to joke
deosebi	to see a difference	goli	to empty
depăși	to overtake	goni	to banish
descâlci	to untangle	grăbi	to hurry
despăgubi	to pay compensation	hrăni	to feed
destăinui	to confess	ieftini	to get cheaper
dezamăgi	to disappoint	instrui	to train
dezlipi	to unstick	intui	to have an intuition
dezmoșteni	to disown	investi	to invest
dezobișnui	to grow out of a habit	iroși	to waste
dezveli	to unveil	ispiti	to tempt
disprețui	to scorn	iubi	to love
dobândi	to acquire	izbucni	to burst
domestici	to tame	îmbătrâni	to age
domoli	to calm down	îmbolnăvi	to fall ill
dori	to wish	îmbunătăți	to improve

împlini	to fulfil	învinui	to blame
împotmoli	to get stuck	jefui	to rob
împrieteni	to befriend	jigni	to offend
încălzi	to heat up	lămuri	to clarify
încărunți	to go grey	lărgi	to enlarge
încâlci	to entangle	lenevi	to idle
încetini	to slow down	linguși	to flatter
îndeplini	to carry out	liniști	to calm down
îndoi	to doubt	lipi	to stick, glue
îndrăgi	to grow keen on	lipsi	to lack
îndrăgosti	to fall in love	locui	to live
îndrăzni	to dare	logodi	to get engaged
îndulci	to sweeten	lovi	to hit
înflori	to blossom	măcelări	to slaughter
îngrămădi	to cram	mări	to raise, enlarge
îngriji	to look after	mărturisi	to confess
îngrozi	to fill with horror	mijloci	to facilitate
înjumătăți	to halve	mitui	to bribe
înlocui	to replace	mâhni	to upset
înmulți	to multiply	mândri	to boast
înnebuni	to go mad	molipsi	to contaminate
înrautăți	to worsen	moșteni	to inherit
înroși	to blush	mozoli	to snog
însănătoși	to get well	mucegăi	to grow mouldy
întări	to reinforce	mulțumi	to thank
întâlni	to meet	munci	to work
întineri	to get younger	murdări	to soil
învechi	to age, go stale	nădăjdui	to hope
înveseli	to cheer up	nărui	to destroy, collapse
învineți	to bruise	năvăli	to invade

necăji	to upset	pregăti	to prepare
numi	to name	prelungi	to extend
obișnui	to get used to	prevesti	to forecast
obosi	to get tired	prilejui	to cause
ocoli	to avoid	primi	to receive
ocroti	to protect	privi	to look
odihni	to rest	prosti	to fool, become stupid
opări	to scald	putrezi	to rot
opri	to stop	răci	to cool
orbi	to go blind	răcori	to get cool
otrăvi	to poison	răguși	to get hoarse
păcăli	to fool	răni	to hurt, wound
păcătui	to sin	răpi	to kidnap
păli	to fade	răspândi	to spread
părăsi	to desert	răzgândi	to change one's mind
păși	to pace, step	revizui	to revise
păzi	to guard	rugini	to rust
pârî	to tell on someone	sărăci	to impoverish
pedepsi	to punish	sărbători	to celebrate
pecui	to fish	sclipi	to glow
plănuî	to plan	scumpi	to become expensive
plăti	to pay	servi	to serve
plictisi	to bore	sfătui	to advise
pluti	to float	sfârși	to end
porecli	to nickname	slăbi	to lose weight
porni	to start	socoti	to calculate
potrivi	to fit	sosi	to arrive
povesti	to tell, narrate	stabili	to establish
prăbuși	to collapse	stăpâni	to master
prăji	to fry	străluci	to shine

strivi to crush

supraviețui to survive

șopti to whisper

șterpeli to nick

târî to drag

tipări to print

topi to melt

trăi to live

trezi to wake up

tuși to cough

uimi to astonish

umili to humiliate

urî to hate

urmări to follow

vâsli to row

vopsi to paint

vorbi to speak

zâmbi to smile

-ez verbs

abuza to abuse

accelera to accelerate

accentua to accentuate

accidenta to have an accident

actualiza to update

adapta to adapt

adresa to address

alimenta to supply, refill

amenda to fine

angaja to employ

aniversa to celebrate

anticipa to anticipate

antrena to train

aprecia to appreciate

aranja to arrange

ateriza to land

avertiza to warn

bandaja to bandage

beneficia to benefit

binecuvânta to bless

bronza to tan

calcula to calculate

calma to calm

candida to be a candidate

caracteriza to characterize

cauza to cause

ceda to give up

cenzura to censor

cerceta to research

cina to dine

cita to quote

colabora to collaborate

colecționa to collect

colora to colour

comenta to comment

completa to fill in

concedia to fire

concura to compete

conecta to connect

confecționa to manufacture

conserva	to preserve	diminua	to diminish
conta	to matter	discrimina	to discriminate
controla	to control	distra	to have fun, entertain
conversa	to converse	divorța	to divorce
copia	to copy	dona	to donate
corecta	to correct	dura	to last
crea	to create	edita	to publish
dansa	to dance	elibera	to free
datora	to owe	emigra	to emigrate
deceda	to die	enerva	to annoy
decola	to take off	entuziasma	to enthuse
decongela	to defrost	estima	to estimate
decora	to decorate	eșua	to fail
defăima	to slander	eticheta	to label
defecta	to break down	evidenția	to highlight
deforma	to deform	evolua	to evolve
delecta	to relax	exersa	to exercise
demachia	to remove makeup	expedia	to send
demisiona	to resign	experimenta	to experiment
demonstra	to prove	exploata	to exploit
depărta	to distance	explora	to explore
depozita	to store	exterioriza	to externalize
deranja	to disturb	facilita	to facilitate
descuraja	to discourage	factura	to invoice
desena	to draw	fascina	to fascinate
despacheta	to unpack	filma	to film
dezinfecta	to disinfect	finanța	to finance
dezrădăcina	to uproot	flata	to flatter
diferenția	to differentiate	flirta	to flirt
difuza	to broadcast	focaliza	to focus

forma	to form	înregistra	to register
forța	to force	întrista	to become sad
fotografia	to take photos	licita	to auction
frâna	to brake	livra	to deliver
frustra	to frustrate	machia	to put on makeup
fuma	to smoke	masa	to massage
funcționa	to function	memora	to memorize
gafa	to blunder	menționa	to mention
ghida	to guide	micșora	to minimize
gripa	to get a cold	monta	to assembly
imagina	to imagine	mura	to pickle
impresiona	to impress	neglija	to neglect
infecta	to infect	negocia	to negotiate
influența	to influence	obiecta	to object
informa	to inform	ofensa	to offend
intenționa	to intend	ofta	to sigh
interesa	to interest	opta	to opt
interpreta	to interpret	organiza	to organize
intimida	to intimidate	parca	to park
invada	to invade	paria	to bet
inventă	to invent	patina	to ice skate
invidia	to envy	păstra	to keep
îmbrățișa	to hug	picta	to paint
înapoia	to return	planta	to plant
înceta	to stop	polua	to pollute
închiria	to rent	prescurta	to abbreviate
încuraja	to encourage	proba	to try on
înfrumuseța	to beautify	profesa	to practise
îngrijora	to worry	progresă	to progress
înmormânta	to bury	proiecta	to project, to design

promova to promote
proteja to protect
protesta to protest
rata to miss
reacționa to react
realiza to realize
recicla to recycle
refula to repress
regiza to direct
relaxa to relax
remedia to remedy
schia to ski
sculpta to sculpt
semna to sign
sesiza to notice
staționa to stop
subestima to underestimate
supraestima to overestimate
telefona to telephone
tenta to tempt
tolera to tolerate
traversa to cross
trăda to betray
trișa to cheat
ura to wish
urma to follow
utiliza to use
vaccina to jab
visa to dream

vizita to visit
vota to vote

No suffix verbs

accepta to accept
achita to pay off
acusa to accuse
adăuga to add
admira to admire
aduce to bring
afla to find out
ajunge to arrive
alege to choose
alerga to run
amâna to postpone
amenința to threaten
aparține to belong
apăra to defend
apărea to appear
apăsa to press
aprinde to turn on
aproba to approve
apropia to approach
arăta to show
arde to burn
arunca to throw
asculta to listen
ascunde to hide
atinge to touch
atrage to attract

auzi	to hear	dezbrăca	to undress
bate	to beat	dezvolta	to develop
băga	to put in	discuta	to debate
cădea	to fall	dispărea	to disappear
căra	to carry	distruge	to destroy
căsca	to yawn	dormi	to sleep
căuta	to look for	duce	to take
cânta	to sing	evita	to avoid
câştiga	to win	exista	to exist
certa	to tell off	exprima	to express
coace	to bake	expune	to expose
coase	to sew	ezita	to hesitate
comanda	to order	face	to do, make
comunica	to communicate	felicita	to congratulate
conduce	to drive	frige	to fry
confirma	to confirm	fura	to steal
confunda	to confuse	gâdila	to tickle
consuma	to consume	gusta	to taste
continua	to continue	ierta	to forgive
contribui	to contribute	ieşi	to go out
crede	to believe	intra	to enter
culca	to go to bed	invita	to invite
culege	to pick up	îmbăta	to get drunk
curăţa	to clean	îmbrăca	to dress
da	to give	împărţi	to share
depinde	to depend	împinge	to push
depune	to hand in, deposit	încălţa	to put one's shoes on
descălţa	to take one's shoes off	începe	to start
descoperi	to discover	încerca	to try
deveni	to become	închide	to close

înghiți	to swallow	opune	to oppose
întârzia	to be late	permite	to allow
întoarce	to return	petrece	to spend, party
întreba	to ask	pieptăna	to comb
înțelege	to understand	pierde	to lose
învăța	to learn	pleca	to leave
învinge	to win	plimba	to walk
juca	to play	plânge	to cry
juđeca	to judge	presimți	to sense
jura	to swear	prezenta	to present, introduce
lăsa	to leave, let	pricepe	to understand
leșina	to faint	profita	to profit
lupta	to fight	promite	to promise
măsura	to measure	propune	to propose
mătura	to sweep	provoca	to challenge
menține	to maintain	pune	to put
merge	to go	purta	to wear
minți	to lie	putea	to be able to
mirosi	to smell	răbda	to bear
mișca	to move	rămâne	to remain
muri	to die	răsfăța	to spoil
muta	to move	răspunde	to answer
naște	to give birth	râde	to laugh
nega	to deny	reduce	to reduce
număra	to count	refuza	to refuse
obliga	to force	regreta	to regret
observa	to notice	relua	to resume
obține	to obtain	renunța	to renounce
ocupa	to occupy	repara	to repair
omorî	to kill	repetă	to repeat

respira	to breathe	suna	to ring
retrage	to withdraw	supăra	to upset
rezolva	to solve	suporta	to bear
ridica	to raise	ședea	to sit
ruga	to ask a favour	șterge	to wipe
sacrifica	to sacrifice	ști	to know
saluta	to greet	tăcea	to keep quiet
satisface	to satisfy	tăia	to cut
sări	to jump	târâi	to drag
săruta	to kiss	traduce	to translate
scădea	to subtract	trage	to pull
scăpa	to escape, drop	transpira	to sweat
scoate	to take out	trece	to pass, cross
scrie	to write	tremura	to shake
scula	to wake up	trimite	to send
scuza	to excuse	turna	to pour
simți	to feel	ține	to keep, hold
sparge	to break	țipa	to scream
spăla	to wash	uita	to forget
spera	to hope	umbla	to walk
speria	to scare	umple	to fill
spune	to say	urca	to go up, ascend
sta	to stay	vedea	to see
strănuta	to sneeze	veni	to come
strânge	to gather	vinde	to sell
strica	to ruin, break	vindeca	to heal
striga	to shout	zgâria	to scratch
suferi	to suffer	zice	to say

Appendix 2

Useful Romanian websites

Here is a list of websites about Romania and Romanian.

General

www.romania.org

www.romania-on-line.net

www.aboutromania.com

Romanian studies

www.ssees.ac.uk

www.indiana.edu

BBC Romanian section

www.bbc.co.uk/romanian

Romanian Ministry of Culture

www.cultura.ro

Romanian Ministry of Education

www.edu.ro

Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

www.mae.ro

Romanian Museum of Contemporary Art

www.mnac.ro

Romanian National Museum of Art

www.itcnet.ro/museum

Romanian Peasants Museum

www.muzeultaranuluiroman.ro

Romanian tourism

www.turism.ro

www.myromania.com.ro

www.mamaliga.co.uk

Romanian film

www.sapteseri.ro

Romanian Cultural Institute

www.icr.ro

Romanian Cultural Centre London

www.romanianculturalcentre.org.uk

Romanian Embassy London

www.londra.mae.ro

Romanian Embassy Washington

www.roembus.org

Romanian literature

www.poezie.ro

www.liternet.ro

Romanian dictionaries

www.dictionare.ro

Appendix 2

Romanian history, arts and crafts

www.eliznik.org.uk

www.cimec.ro

Romanian newspapers

www.ziare.ro

Moldovan resources page

www.ournet.md

Moldovan history, architecture and news

www.monument.md

www.azi.md

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