Worksheet 15: Imperfect Tense – Basics, Formation, Translation

I. Basics of the Imperfect Tense:

- The imperfect tense expresses **ongoing/continuous**, **repeated**, or **habitual** action **in past time** (past time = time *before* the present)

- The main way to translate the imperfect tense into English is "**was/were _____ing**"

- The imperfect active indicative uses the **personal endings**, just like the present tense–BUT, in the 1ˢ SG the imperfect <u>always</u> uses –*m* and <u>never</u> –*ō*

- The **personal endings** of Latin verbs are:

	SG	PL
1ˢᵗ		
2ⁿᵈ		
3ʳᵈ		

- The imperfect is indicated by the infix **–ba–**

- The imperfect is part of the **present system** of verbs, even though it is a past tense, because it is formed from the present stem.

- The rule for forming the imperfect active indicative of Latin verbs is:

_____ + _____ + _____

II. Morphology & Translation: For each of the following verbs, complete the dictionary entry, find the present stem, conjugate fully in the imperfect tense, and translate each form into English.

1. _____, _____, _____, _____: to summon

Present Stem: _____

Person	Singular (SG)		Plural (PL)	
	Latin	English	Latin	English
1ˢᵗ				
2ⁿᵈ				
3ʳᵈ				

2. _____, _____, _____, _____: to announce

Present Stem: _____

Person	Singular (SG)		Plural (PL)	
	Latin	English	Latin	English
1ˢᵗ				
2ⁿᵈ				
3ʳᵈ				

3. _____, _____, _____, _____: to fly

Present Stem: _____

Person	Singular (SG)		Plural (PL)	
	Latin	English	Latin	English
1ˢᵗ				
2ⁿᵈ				
3ʳᵈ				

III. Identification & Translation: Latin → English: Identify the person and number of each imperfect tense verb below and then translate the form into English.

	Verb	Person	Number	Translation
1.	vocābāmus			
2.	exspectābātis			
3.	amābās			
4.	occupābam			
5.	pugnābant			
6.	laudābat			
7.	habitābant			
8.	portābāmus			
9.	parābant			
10.	vulnerābat			

IV. Translation: English → Latin: Translate each of the following verbs from English into Latin. Watch your persons and numbers and do not forget to add your imperfect tense marker.

	Verb	Translation
1.	you (pl.) were naming	
2.	we were working	
3.	I was calling	
4.	they were seizing	
5.	you (sg.) were preparing	
6.	we are telling	
7.	they are awaiting	
8.	you (pl.) were wounding	
9.	he was flying	
10.	we were dwelling	