Use of Croatian Cases (without prepositions) Cheat Sheet

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Nominative (N) = the dictionary form

- subjects: **Ana jede.** *Ana is eating.*
- with the verb **biti** *be*: **Ona je gladna.** *She's hungry.*
- with some other verbs:
  Ona se zove Ana. *Her name is Ana.*
  Postajem star. *I'm getting old.*

Dative/Locative (DL)

- recipients: **Poslao sam pismo Ani.** *I sent a letter to Ana.*
- motion to a person: **Trčim Ani.** *I'm running to Ana.*
- to express emotions and feelings:
  Ani je hladno. *Ana is cold.*
  Ani je dosadno. *Ana is bored*
- with the verb **sviđati se** *like* and similar verbs:
  Ani se sviđa Ivan. *Ana likes Ivan.*
- possession of body parts and kin, when used as objects:
  Perem Ani kosu. *I'm washing Ana's hair.*
- with some verbs:
  Pas pripada Ani. *The dog belongs to Ana.*
  Pomažem Ani. *I'm helping Ana.*

Instrumental (I)

- tools: **Pišem olovkom.** *I'm writing with a pen.*
- means: **Putuje vlakom.** **He's travelling on a train.*
- events repeating on days of week:
  Plešemo subotom. *We dance on Saturdays.*
- indefinite time: **Putovali smo danima.** *We travelled for days.*
- with some verbs: **Bavim se crtanjem.** *I do drawing.*

Accusative (A)

- objects: **Pas gleda Anu.** *A dog is watching Ana.*
- time periods (must contain a 'measure'):
  Živio sam tamo jednu godinu. *I lived there for a year.*
- with verbs expressing pain, itch and discomfort:
  Anu boli glava. *Ana's head hurts.*
- with the noun **strah** *fear*: **Anu je strah.** *Ana is afraid.*

Genitive (G)

- counting: **dva psa** *two dogs*, **pet pasa** *five dogs*
- with quantity adverbs: **nekoliko pasa** *several dogs*
- to express indefinite quantities: **Trebam vode.** *I need some water.*
- 'part': **kraj filma** *end of the movie*
- existence: **Ovdje nema Ane.** *There's no Ana here.*
- possession: **auto moje sestre** *my sister's car*
- events within a larger time frame:
  Prošle noći je padala kiša. *It rained last night.*
- replacing N and A:
  after gerunds:**padanje kiše** *falling of rain*, **pisanje pisama** *writing letters*
  after **osim** *except* and **umjesto** *instead of*
- with some verbs:
  Bojim se pasa. *I'm afraid of dogs.*
  Ne sjećam se Ane. *I don't remember Ana.*

Vocative (V)

- calling someone: **Dođi, Ivane!** *Come, Ivan!*

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