

XXVII. Rēs Rūsticae

Rēs Grammaticae Novae

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Julius's Estate

Julius is the owner of a large estate in the Alban Hills, *Mōns Albānus*, near Tusculum and the Alban Lake, *Lacus Albānus*. The running of the farm is left to tenant farmers, *colōnī*. Julius follows their work with great interest when he is in residence in his Alban villa. A typical wealthy Roman, he divides his time

between Rome and his country estate. Here we meet him walking in his fields and vineyards, questioning his men about the quality of the crops.

Lēctiō Prīma (Section I)

Ablative of Instrument (*Ablātīvus Instrūmentī*) (continued)

The **ablative of instrument** (Caps. VI and VIII) appears in the discussion of the use of the farmers' tools (*instrūmentum*) (ll.18–20):

*Frūmentum falce metitur.
Quō instrūmentō serit agricola?*

The verb *ūtī* (“use”) takes the ablative of instrument, not the accusative (ll.20–22):

*Quī serit nūllō instrūmentō ūtitur praeter manum.
Quī arat arātrō ūtitur.
Quī metit falce ūtitur.
Quī serit manū suā ūtitur.*

In addition to “use,” *ūtī* also means “enjoy,” “treat,” etc.:

Amīcīs meīs bene ūtor. I treat my friends well.
Vīnō numquam ūtor. I never use (drink, enjoy) wine.

Locus, plural: locī/loca

Instead of the regular plural *locī* of *locus*, you often find the neuter form *loca*, -ōrum (l.30), which is usual in the concrete sense (places, localities); *locī* is used for passages in books, topics, and points of argument.

Italia est terra fertilis, sed multa loca Italiae nōn arantur. (ll.30–31)
Theophrastus cum tractat locōs ab Aristotele ante tractātōs...; “when Theophrastus treats subjects previously treated by Aristotle...”¹

Lēctiō Altera (Section II)

Summary: Locative

	sing.	pl.	Examples
1st	-ae	-īs	Rōmae, Athēnīs
2nd	-ī	-īs	Tūsculī, humī
3rd	-ī/-ē		rūrī, Karthāgine domī

1. Cicero, *de Finibus* 1.2.6.

Subjunctive Mood

In addition to many new words, you learn important new verb forms in this chapter. Compare the sentences:

Servus tacet et audit.

Dominus imperat ut servus taceat et audiat.

The first sentence uses the **indicative mood** (Latin *modus indicātivus*)—*tace|t* and *audi|t*—to tell us what the slave actually does. The second sentence uses the **subjunctive mood** (Latin *modus coniūctivus*)—*tace|at* and *audi|at*—to express what the master wants his slave to do. *Taceat* and *audiat* are the **present subjunctive** (Latin *coniūctivus praesentis*) of *tacēre* and *audire*.

Moods (*Modi*) in Latin

Remember, language is an attempt to express thought. So, the mood used in a sentence reflects the way the speaker conceives that thought.

- The **indicative** (*modus indicātivus*) makes a statement or asks a question.² The attitude of the speaker is a simple “fact” or “question.”
- The **imperative** (*modus imperātivus*) gives a direct command.
- The **subjunctive** (*modus coniūctivus*) has various functions, such as expressing the will (volitive) or wish (optative) of the speaker. The subjunctive is used in dependent (subordinate) and independent clauses.
 - ▷ Common subjunctive uses in **dependent** clauses:
 - indirect commands (Cap. XXVII)
 - noun clauses (substantive clauses) (Cap. XXVII)
 - final (purpose) clauses (Cap. XXVIII)
 - consecutive (result) clauses (Cap. XXVIII)
 - cum* temporal, *cum* causal, *cum* concessive (Cap. XXIX)
 - ▷ Common subjunctive uses in **independent** clauses:
 - deliberative questions (Cap. XXIX)
 - wishes (Cap. XXXII)

Present Subjunctive

Forms of present subjunctive:

- 2nd, 3rd, and 4th conjugations insert *-ā/a* between the present stem and the personal endings:

active	passive
<i>-a m</i>	<i>-a r</i>
<i>-ā s</i>	<i>-ā ris</i>

2. In Cap. XXIX you will learn about questions in the subjunctive (deliberative questions).

-a t	-ā tur
-ā mus	-ā mur
-ā tis	-ā minī
-a nt	-a ntur

- 1st conjugation verbs, whose stems, as you know, end in -ā-, have -ē/*e*- before the personal endings in the present subjunctive:

-e m	-e r
-ē s	-ē ris
-e t	-ē tur
-ē mus	-ē mur
-ē tis	-ē minī
-e nt	-e ntur

→ In the section GRAMMATICA LATINA of LINGUA LATINA and at the back of this book, you will find examples of verbs with all these endings.

Breviter: The present subjunctive is formed with an *e* in 1st conjugation verbs, and an *a* in the other conjugations.

Translating the Subjunctive: The best way to read Latin is not to translate, but to understand in Latin. That requires knowing how your own language works as well as Latin! Then you can say to yourself, *How does this work in my language?* That may mean there are several ways to translate any given construction. The English translations below aim at showing the variety of interpretations possible. Some may seem rather literal and strained, others too free.

Verba postulandī

While the indicative is used to express that something does actually happen, the subjunctive expresses a desire or effort that something shall happen. Such an **indirect command** can be introduced by verbs that express an order (*verba postulandī*):

<i>imperāre</i>	<i>ōrāre</i>
<i>postulāre</i>	<i>monēre</i>

These *verba postulandī*—verbs that order, ask, warn, etc.—are often followed by object clauses introduced by *ut*, or, if they are negative (see Section III), by *nē* (or *ut nē*); the verb will be in the subjunctive. Examples can be found in the account of Julius's dealings with his men, e.g.:

<i>Iūlius colōnō <u>imperat ut</u> mercēdem solvat.</i>	Julius orders the farmer to pay his fee/gives an order to the farmer that he pay/commands the farmer in order that he pay. (ll.81–82)
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Vōs moneō ut industriē in vīneīs labōrētis. (l.126)

Complements in *Verba Postulandī*

Notice that the person commanded in each of the three sentences is expressed in a different case:

Iūlius colōnō imperat ut mercēdem solvat. (ll.81–82)

Colōnus eum ōrat ut patientiam habeat. (ll.92–93)

Num uxor abs tē postulat ut tū prō mātrem infantēs cūrēs? (ll.100–101)

The case of the person ordered depends on the verb used.

Dative (intransitive verbs):

imperāre eī ut

persuādēre eī ut

Ab + ablative (the following verbs suggest “seek from”):

quaerere ab eō ut

petere ab eō ut

postulāre ab eō ut

Accusative (transitive verbs):

rogāre eum ut

ōrāre eum ut

monēre eum ut

Notā Bene: *Iubēre* (order) does not regularly take an indirect command, but the accusative and infinitive construction. Compare:

Vōs moneō ut industriē in vīneīs labōrētis. (ll.125–126)

Iubeō vōs industriē in vīneīs labōrāre.

Medicus Quīntum ōs aperīre atque linguam ostendere iubet.

(Cap. XI, ll.69–70)

Medicus Quīntō imperat ut ōs aperiat atque linguam ostendat.

Ut

Most Latin *ut*-clauses with the subjunctive correspond to English “that”-clauses.

Remember: *ut* is also a comparative conjunction, meaning “like” or “as,” and is followed:

- by the indicative:

ut tempestās mare tranquillum turbāvit, ita (as...thus)... (ll.8–9)

ut spērō (l.149)

Cūr ille servus mēcum venīre nōn potest ut solet? (Cap. XIV, l.120)

- by a noun adjective:

Oculi lupī in umbrā lūcent ut gemmae et dentēs ut margaritae.

(Cap. IX, ll.72–73)

Puer quiētus super lectum iacet ut mortuus. (Cap. XI, ll.103–104)
Gallia autem prōvincia Rōmāna est, ut Hispānia, Syria, Aegyptus.
 (Cap. XII, ll.63–64)
ut saxa...vorāginēs...praedōnēs (Cap. XXVIII, ll.131–132)

Nē...quidem

The negation *nē* is also used in *nē...quidem* (“not even”):

Nē in Campāniā quidem plūrēs villae sunt. (l.55)
Nē assem quidem habeō. (l.86)
Nē verbum quidem dīc!

Prae, prō, abs

The prepositions *prae* and *prō* take the ablative; the basic meaning of both is “before,” from which other meanings are derived (*prae* ll.63, 83; *prō* ll.71, 72):

Arātor duōs validōs bovēs quī arātrum trahunt prae sē agit. (ll.13–14)
Quamquam nūllō modō labōrem agricolārum sordidum indignumve esse exīstimat, tamen sē prae agricolīs beātum esse cēnset. (ll.61–63)
Colōnus pallidus prae metū loquī nōn potest. (l.83)
Colōnus est agricola quī nōn suōs, sed aliēnōs agrōs prō dominō absentī colit. (ll.71–72)
Mercēdem dominō solvit prō frūgibus agrōrum. (l.72)

Abs for *ab* is found only before *tē*: *abs tē*:

Cūr nōndum solvistī mercēdem quam ter quaterve iam abs tē poposcī.
 (ll.79–80 = *ā tē*).

Ablative of Separation

Note the ablative of separation (without *ab*) with:

pellere: ut tē agrīs meīs pellant. (l.89)
prohibēre: Nōlī mē officiō meō prohibēre! (ll.173–174)

Parum

The adverb *parum* often means not “a little” but “too little,” as in the following examples:

Parum temporis habeō ad opus rūsticum. (ll.98–99)
Imber brevis quem hodiē habuimus frūmentō prōfuit quidem, sed parum fuit. (ll.130–131)

Lēctiō Tertiā (Section III)

Verba cūrāndī

Verba cūrāndī (verbs that show an effort to get something done) can be used to give commands as well:

cūrāre:	cūrā ut	facere:	fac ut
labōrāre:	labōrā ut	cavēre:	cavē nē
efficere:	effice ut		

Verba cūrāndī are not always in the imperative, however, but are often followed by object clauses,³ e.g.:

*Calor sōlis nōn ipse per sē efficit
ut vīnum bonum sit.*

The heat of the sun does not
itself through its own agency
bring it about that/effect
that/accomplish that the wine
is good/does not make the
wine good. (ll.124–125)

Faciam ut tergum eī doleat.

I will make his back hurt
(literally: I will bring it about
that the back to him hurts).
(l.153)

Like verba postulandī, verba cūrāndī are often followed by object clauses introduced by *ut*, or, if they are negative, by *nē* (or *ut nē*) and the subjunctive.

*Primum cūrā ut uxor et liberī
valeant, tum vērō labōrā ut
pecūniam solvās.*

First of all take care that/
make sure that (your) wife
and children be well/are well,
then surely work to pay the
money/work so that you can
pay the money. (ll.111–113)

Fac ut ovēs ex agrīs agantur! (ll.175–176)

Officium tuum est cūrāre nē ovēs aberrant nēve ā lupō rapiantur.
(ll.161–162)

As appears from the last example, the second of two negative clauses is introduced by *nē-ve*, i.e., *nē* with the attached conjunction *-ve*, which has the same value as *vel*.

Summary:

<i>ut</i> + subjunctive	command, ask that something happen
<i>nē/ut nē</i> + subjunctive	command, ask that something not happen

3. An “object clause” is a dependent clause that functions as the object of the verb.

Subjunctive of *esse*

In lines 151–152, we find an example of the irregular present subjunctive of *esse*:

Ego vērō cūrābō nē ille pāstor neglegēns sit nēve dormiat!

Here are the other forms:

<i>sim</i>	<i>sīmus</i>
<i>sīs</i>	<i>sītis</i>
<i>sit</i>	<i>sint</i>

Quam + the superlative

Quam + superlative (with or without *posse*) denotes the highest possible degree:

Pāstor quam celerrimē potest ad ovēs suās currit. as quickly as possible
(ll.177–178)

Studia Rōmāna

We read about Julius’s villa in Cap. V and now learn that around the *hortus* lie the fields that support the farm. Iūlius has no doubt inherited the many villas and the house in Rome that had belonged to his father (*Pater Iūlii... magnam pecūniam habēbat multāsque villās magnificās possidēbat praeter domum Rōmānam*, Caps. XIX, XXX). It was not unusual for wealthy Romans to own more than one estate (Cicero had several), as agriculture was *the* noble profession and capital rooted in land was the mark of a gentleman. This attitude persists through Roman history. In the second century BC, Cato had written in his treatise *dē Rē Rūsticā*, “Our ancestors, when they praised a man as being good, were praising him on these merits: a good farmer and good husbandman” (*Māiōrēs nostrī... virum bonum quom (= cum) laudābant, ita laudābant, bonum agricolam bonumque colōnum*). In the first century BC, Cicero, in his book *On Duties* (*dē Officiis*), writes, “Of all the pursuits, from which something is acquired, nothing is better than farming, nothing richer, nothing sweeter, nothing worthier of a free man” (*Omnium autem rērum, ex quibus aliquid adquiritur, nihil est agrī cultūrā melius, nihil ūberius, nihil dulcius, nihil homine liberō dignius*). Columella (first century AD) still sees agriculture as the only way of making a living worthy of a freeborn man.⁴

Vergil wrote a four-book didactic epic (see Cap. X) on farming, called the *Geōrgica* (Γεωργικά, *Concerning Farming*) after his bucolic poems (see Cap. IX) and before his more famous *Aenēis* (*Aeneid*). In the beginning of Book II, he praises the life of farmers, beginning with (II.458–460):

4. 1.10: *superest...genus liberāle et ingenuū reī familiāris augendae, quod ex agricolātiōne contingit.*

Ō fortūnātōs nimium, sua sī bona nōrint,
 agricolās! quibus ipsa procul discordibus armīs
 fundit humō facilem uictum iustissima tellūs.

Vocabulary

nimium = *nimis*

nōrint = *noverint* (condition about which you will learn in *Rōma Aeterna*): “if they would come to know their good fortune”

discors (genitive: *discordis*): discordant, harsh

fundere: pour, pour out

victus, *ūs*: sustenance, nourishment (do not confuse with *victum* from *vincere*)

Of course, the situation was not so idyllic for the *colōnī*, as we see in this chapter. A *colōnus* is a tenant farmer who signs a lease with the landowner (Julius). Sometimes, the tenant farmers paid the owner for the right to farm; sometimes, they remunerated the owner by giving him part of the produce. *Colōnī*, as the one in our chapter, can wind up in debt to the farmer and be driven from the farm.

This chapter highlights three important aspects of Roman culture: *officium* (duty, responsibility: from *opus* + *facere*: a labor or duty which one performs), *ōtium* (leisure time, freedom from responsibility), and *negōtium* (literally: the lack of *ōtium*; business, employment). We have already seen the idea of *officium* in Cap. XX, when Aemilia declares of her coming baby, (l.83–84): “*Māter ipsa eum cūrāre et alere debet—hoc est mātris officium!*” Julius’s inspection of his estate is part of what he sees as his *officium* (Cap. XX, l.96–97: *Meum officium est pecūniam facere ac magnam familiam alere*).

A Roman active in city life (as Julius is with his frequent trips to Rome, Cap. XX) would see his *praedium* not only as the backbone of his finances, but also as an opportunity for *ōtium*, away from the pressures of city life. At his estate, a *paterfamilās* has the *ōtium* after lunch to nap, take a stroll, and bathe (*prīmum quiēscit, tum ambulat, dēnique lavātur*, ll.1–2). But he also must check his farm. In this he also follows Cato’s advice: When the master has come to the villa, when he has greeted the household god, let him take a tour of the farm on the same day, if he can; if not the same day, then the day after.⁵ His farm would have been managed by a combination of slaves and tenant farmers, freemen who pay Julius rent (ll.70–73). Julius behaves himself exactly as Columella teaches: he is stern but not unreasonable with his farmhands (although we might consider beating the shepherd less than reasonable).

5. 2.1: *Paterfamiliās ubi ad villam vēnit, ubi lārem familiārem salūtāvit, fundum eōdem diē, sī potest, circumeat; sī nōn eōdem diē, at postridiē.*

Cato's advice to greet the household god (*larem familiārem salūtāre*) refers to the protective spirit who guarded the place. You read about the *lar familiāris* in the notes to Cap. IV.

Vocābula Disposita/Ōdināta

Nōmina

1st

agricola, -ae (<i>m.</i>)	farmer
cōpia, -ae	abundance
cūra, -ae	care, concern
lāna, -ae	wool
patientia, -ae	patience
ūva, -ae	grape
vīnea, -ae	vineyard

2nd

ager, agrī	field
arātrum, -ī	plow
colōnus, -ī	(tenant) farmer
coniūctīvus	subjunctive
frūmentum, -ī	grain
īnstrūmentum, -ī	tool, instrument
negōtium, -ī	business
ōtium, -ī	leisure
pābulum, -ī	fodder
praedium, -ī	estate
vīnum, -ī	wine

3rd

calor, calōris (<i>m.</i>)	heat
falx, falcis (<i>f.</i>)	sickle
frīgus, frīgoris (<i>n.</i>)	chill, cold
frūgēs, frūgum (<i>f. pl.</i>)	crops
grex, gregis (<i>m.</i>)	herd
labor, labōris (<i>m.</i>)	labor, toil
pecus, pecoris (<i>n.</i>)	livestock, cattle
precēs, precum (<i>f. pl.</i>)	prayers
regiō, regiōnis (<i>f.</i>)	region
rūs, rūris (<i>n.</i>)	countryside
sēmen, sēminis (<i>n.</i>)	seed
vītis, vītis (<i>f.</i>)	vine

Verba

-āre (1)

(arō) arāre, arāvisse, arātum	plow
(rigō) rigāre, rigāvisse, rigātum	water
(labōrō) labōrāre, labōrāvisse, labōrātum	work, toil

(exīstimō) exīstimāre, exīstimāvisse, exīstimātum	think
(ōrō) ōrāre, ōrāvisse, ōrātum	beg, pray
-ēre (2)	
(cēseō) cēnsēre, cēnsuisse, cēsum	think
(noceō) nocēre, nocuisse (<i>intr. + dat.</i>)	harm
(prohibeō) prohibēre, prohibuisse, prohibitum	keep off, prevent
-ere (3)	
(cingō) cingere, cīnxisse, cīnctum	bind round, surround
(colō) colere, coluisse, cultum	cultivate
(crēscō) crēscere, crēvisse	grow
(invehō) invehere, invēxisse, invectum	import
(metō) metere, messuisse, messum	reap, harvest
(neglegō) neglegere, neglēxisse, neglēctum	neglect
(pāscō) pāscere, pāvisse, pāstum	to pasture
(prōiciō) prōicere, prōiēcisse, prōiectum	throw forward
(quiescō) quiescere, quiēvisse	rest
(rapiō) rapere, rapuisse, raptum	tear away, carry off
(serō) serere, sēvisse, satum	sow
(spargō) spargere, sparsisse, sparsum	sprinkle
(ūtor) ūtī, ūsum (<i>+abl.</i>)	use
Irregular	
(prōsum) prōdesse, prōfuisse (<i>+dat.</i>)	to be profitable, of advantage

Adiectiva

1st/2nd (-us/er, -a, -um)

amoenus, -a, -um	pleasant (of places)
gravidus, -a, -um	heavy, weighty, pregnant
immātūrus, -a, -um	not ripe
inhūmānus, -a, -um	inhumane
mātūrus, -a, -um	ripe, early
rūsticus, -a, -um	of the country, rustic
siccus, -a, -um	dry
suburbānus, -a, -um	near the city
tricēsīmus, -a, -um	30th
urbānus, -a, -um	of the city, sophisticated

3rd

fertilis, -e	fertile
neglegēns (<i>gen. neglegentis</i>)	careless
patiēns (<i>gen. patientis</i>)	enduring, patient
rudis, -e	rough

Irregular	
nēquam/nēquior, nēquius/ nēquissimus, -a, -um	worthless
Prōnōmina	
quīdam, quaedam, quoddam	a certain
Adverbia	
circā	around
dēnique	finally
parum	little, too little, <i>also indecl. noun</i>
prae	before
tantum	only, so much, <i>also indecl. noun</i>
Coniūctionēs	
nē	<i>negative conjunction</i>
-ve	or (=vel)
Praepositionēs	
abs = ā, ab (<i>before te</i>)	
circā (<i>prp. + acc.</i>)	around
prae (<i>prp. + abl.</i>)	before, in front of, in comparison with
prō (<i>prp. + abl.</i>)	before, in front of, on behalf of