

XXXIII. Exercitus Rōmānus

Rēs Grammaticae Novae

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Aemilia Writes to Her Brother

The chapter consists mainly of a letter to Aemilia from her brother, who is in Germania on military service. From this letter, you learn more military terms.

Lēctiō Prīma (Section I)

Distributive Numerals (continued)

In Cap. XXX, you learned that distributive numbers are those used repetitively (e.g., in multiplication or groups of certain numbers). Here are more distributive numerals:

10	<i>dēnī</i> , -ae, -a (1.2)
4	<i>quaternī</i> , -ae, -a (1.3)
5	<i>quīnī</i> , -ae, -a (1.3)
6	<i>sēnī</i> , -ae, -a (1.3)

Nouns that occur only in the plural, i.e., *pluralia tantum*, use distributive numbers, e.g.:

bīna castra two camps
bīnae litterae (= *duae epistulae*)

When distributive numbers are used with nouns that are *plūrālia tantum*, *ūnī*, -ae, -a and *trīnī*, -ae, -a are used instead of *singulī*, -ae, -a and *ternī*, -ae, -a, e.g.:

ūnae litterae (= *ūna epistula*)
trīnae litterae (= *trēs epistulae*)

Quaeris ā mē cūr tibi ūnās tantum litterās scrīpserim, cum interim trīnās quaternāsve litterās ā tē accēperim. (ll.90–92)

Velle, nōlle, mālle (continued)

The imperfect subjunctive of *mālle* and *nōlle* follows the (perfectly regular) pattern of *velle* (margin, p. 274). Review the forms of the present indicative and present and imperfect subjunctive:

Indicative		Subjunctive Present		Subjunctive Imperfect	
<i>volō</i>	<i>volumus</i>	<i>velim</i>	<i>velimus</i>	<i>vellem</i>	<i>vellēmus</i>
<i>vīs</i>	<i>vultis</i>	<i>velīs</i>	<i>velītis</i>	<i>vellēs</i>	<i>vellētis</i>
<i>vult</i>	<i>volunt</i>	<i>velit</i>	<i>velint</i>	<i>vellet</i>	<i>vellent</i>
<i>nōlō</i>	<i>nolumus</i>	<i>nōlim</i>	<i>nōlimus</i>	<i>nōllem</i>	<i>nōllēmus</i>
<i>nōn vīs</i>	<i>nōn vultis</i>	<i>nōlīs</i>	<i>nōlītis</i>	<i>nōllēs</i>	<i>nōllētis</i>
<i>nōn vult</i>	<i>nōlunt</i>	<i>nōlit</i>	<i>nōlint</i>	<i>nōllet</i>	<i>nōllent</i>
<i>mālō</i>	<i>mālumus</i>	<i>mālim</i>	<i>mālimus</i>	<i>māllem</i>	<i>māllēmus</i>
<i>māvīs</i>	<i>māvultis</i>	<i>mālīs</i>	<i>mālītis</i>	<i>māllēs</i>	<i>māllētis</i>
<i>māvult</i>	<i>mālunt</i>	<i>mālit</i>	<i>mālint</i>	<i>māllet</i>	<i>māllent</i>

Lēctiō Altera (Section II)

Optative Subjunctive: Wishes Unfulfilled in the Present

In Cap. XXXI, you learned that the present subjunctive (with or without *utinam*) expresses a wish for the future. When we express a wish for the present, it has to be one that isn't true for the present (e.g., "I wish I weren't in class right now!"). There are various names for such wishes (which are optative subjunctive): unfulfilled, unrealistic, and contrafactual (contrary to fact). The verb is in the imperfect subjunctive, e.g., Aemilius's unreal (contrafactual) wishes:

Utinam ego Rōmae essem! (l.67)

Utinam hic amnis Tiberis esset et haec castra essent Rōma! (ll.70–71)

Aemilius is not, in fact, in Rome; the river is not the Tiber and the camp is not Rome. The verb is not in the present, but in the imperfect subjunctive.

Conditions in the Subjunctive: Present Unreal (Contrafactual)

Just as wishes can be unfulfilled (contrafactual), so too can conditions. The following sentences express a condition that can never be realized; here, too, the imperfect subjunctive is used to express unreality:

*Sī Mercurius essem ālāsque
habērem, in Italiam volārem!*

If I were Mercury and had wings, I would fly into Italy (but I'm not Mercury and I don't have wings). (ll.73–75)

*Nisi nōs hīc essēmus finēsque imperiī dēfenderēmus, hostēs celeriter
Dānuvium et Alpēs trānsīrent atque ūsque in Italiam pervenīrent, nec
vōs in Latiō tūtī essētis.* (ll.82–85)

*Sī mihi tantum esset ōtiī quantum est tibi, in epistulīs scrībendīs nōn
minus diligēns essem quam tū.* (ll.93–95)

Gerundive Attraction

A gerund is a verbal noun with an active sense and thus can take an accusative direct object. But in practice, the gerund is usually not found with a direct object. Instead, most writers preferred to substitute a phrase consisting of a noun and the gerundive; the meaning is the same in each case. Some examples:

cupidus sōlem propius aspiciendī
(Cap. XXVI, l.108)

cupidus sōlis propius aspiciendī

cupidus patriam videndī *cupidus patriae videndae* (l.80)

fessus longās fābulās audiendō
(Cap. XXVI, l.123)

fessus longīs fābulīs audiendīs

Compare: when adding an object to a gerund prepositional phrase, Latin writers consistently use a gerundive/noun combination (not the gerund plus object), e.g.:

Gerund prepositional phrase
ad scrībendum: “for writing”

in scrībendō: “in writing”

ad dēfendendum

ad persequendum

Gerundive/noun phrase

ad epistulam scrībendam: “for writing a letter” (ll.97–98)

in epistulīs scrībendīs: “in writing letters” (ll.94–95)

ad castrā dēfendendā (l.116)

ad eōs persequendōs (= *ut eōs persequerentur*) (l.132)

Lēctiō Tertiā (Section III)

Passive of Intransitive Verbs

Intransitive verbs, you have learned, do not take an accusative direct object. Intransitive verbs can still be used in the passive, but only if they are used impersonally (that is, in the 3rd person with no subject: “it”). The intransitive verb *pugnāre* is used impersonally in the following examples:

ā Rōmānīs fortissimē pugnātum est = Rōmānī fortissimē pugnāvērunt.
Mediā nocte in castra nūntiātum est... (l.105)

*Cum complūrēs hōrās ita
 fortissimē ā nostrīs, ab
 hostibus cōstanter ac nōn
 timidē pugnātum esset.*

literally: “when there had been
 fighting by our men...by the
 enemy,” but more idiomatically,
 “when our men and the enemy
 had fought...” (ll.119–121)

Pluperfect Subjunctive

The last remaining tense of the Latin subjunctive is the **pluperfect** (Latin *coniūctivus plūsquamperfectī*). It is formed in the **active** by inserting *-issē-* (shortened *-isse-*) between the perfect stem and the personal endings. In other words, just as the imperfect subjunctive can be formed by adding the personal endings to the present infinitive, the **pluperfect subjunctive** can be formed by adding the personal endings to the perfect infinitive:

1st sing.	~isse m
2nd	~issē s
3rd	~isse t
1st pl.	~issē mus
2nd	~issē tis
3rd	~isse nt

The **pluperfect subjunctive passive** is composed of the perfect participle and the imperfect subjunctive of *esse* (*essem, essēs, esset, etc.*).

Pluperfect Subjunctive in Subordinate Clauses

Just as the perfect subjunctive signifies completed action in a subordinate clause after a present or future tense verb, the pluperfect subjunctive signifies completed action after a past tense main verb.

Sequence of Tense

Main Verb	Subordinate Verb	
Incomplete Action	Completed Action	
present future	present subjunctive	perfect subjunctive
past tense	imperfect subjunctive	pluperfect subjunctive

The pluperfect subjunctive occurs in subordinate clauses such as:

- *cum*-clauses (where *cum* + pluperf. subj. = *postquam* + perf. ind.)
Quī cum arma cēpissent et vāllum ascendissent (= *postquam... cēpērunt/ascendērunt*), *prīmō mīrābantur quamobrem mediā nocte ē somnō excitātī essent...* (ll.109–111)
Cum complūrēs hōrās ita fortissimē ā nostrīs...pugnātum esset. (ll.119–121)
- indirect questions concerning completed action in the past, i.e., with the main verb in the preterite (imperfect, perfect, or pluperfect).
Ego quoque dubitāre coeperam num nūntius vērū dīxisset. (ll.112–113)

Optative Subjunctive: Wishes Unfulfilled in the Past

Just as the imperfect subjunctive expresses a wish that is not coming true in the present, the pluperfect subjunctive expresses a wish that didn't come true in the past, as in Aemilius's final remarks:

Utinam patrem audivissem!

If only I had listened to my father (but I didn't)! (l.166)

Conditions in the Subjunctive: Past Unreal (Contrafactual)

The imperfect subjunctive expresses a condition unfulfilled in the present, while the pluperfect subjunctive expresses a condition unfulfilled in the past, e.g.:

*Sī iam tum hoc intellēxissem,
certē patrem audivissem nec
bellum profectus essem.*

If I had understood...I would have listened and I would not have set out. (ll.181–182)

*Malus amīcus fuisset, nisi
lacrimās effūdissem super
corpus amīcī mortuū, cum
ille sanguinem suum prō mē
effūdisset.*

I would have been a bad friend, had I not shed tears, since he would have shed.... (ll.163–165)

More examples can be found in GRAMMATICA LATINA.

Thus, the **imperfect subjunctive** expresses a wish/condition that is not true in the present. The **pluperfect subjunctive** expresses a wish/condition that was not true in the past:

<i>utinam veniat</i>	“may he come” (in the future) or “may he be coming (presently)”
<i>utinam venīret</i>	“would that he were coming” (but he is not)
<i>utinam vēnisset</i>	“would that he had come” (but he did not)

Ablative of Respect (continued)

The **ablative of respect** (which answers the question “in what respect?”) was introduced in Cap. XI (*pede aeger*, l.55), Cap. XIX (*amōre dignus*, ll.111–112), and again in Cap. XXV (*nōmine Minōtaurus*, l.26). In the expression *hostēs numerō superiōrēs* (l.144), *numerō* shows in what way the enemy are superior: “in number,” “numerically.”

Future Imperative

Aemilius ends his letter with some requests (ll.187–189). Here he uses what is often called the **future imperative**. While all imperatives refer to the future, forms in *-tō* (sing.), *-tōte* (pl.) do not imply “immediately.” They are often, therefore, used in legal language.

To form the future imperative, the following endings are added to the present stem:

- Vowel Stems
 - ▷ *-tō* (sing.), *-tōte* (pl.)
 - ▷ *nārrā|tō -tōte*
- Consonant Stems
 - ▷ *ī|tō -ītōte*
 - ▷ *scrib|ītō -ītōte*
- Irregular
 - ▷ *es|tō, es|tōte* from *esse*
 - ▷ *fer|tō, fer|tōte* from *ferre*

Recēnsiō

I. Summary of Conditions

With the indicative

- Present Indicative:

*Sī iam hoc intellegis, certē
patrem audīs.*

If you already understand this,
you are certainly listening to your
father. (cf. ll.181–182)

Sī aeger est, in lūdum ire nōn potest. (cf. Cap. XV, l.83)

- Future or Future Perfect Indicative:

<i>Sī hoc intellēxeris, certē patrem audiēs.</i>	If you will have understood this, you will certainly listen to your father.
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Nōnne laetus eris, sī filiōlam habēbis? (cf. Cap. XX, ll.153–154)

*Profectō eum verberābō atque omnibus modīs cruciābō, sī eum invēnerō
priusquam Italiam reliquerit.* (Cap. XXXI, ll.63–65)

- Past Indicative:

<i>Sī iam tum hoc intellēxistī, certē patrem audivistī.</i>	If you already at that time understood this, you certainly listened to your father.
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*Sī quid prāvē feceram, dominus imperābat ut ego ab aliīs servīs
tenērer et verberārer.* (cf. Cap. XXVIII, ll.160–161)

With the subjunctive

- Present Subjunctive (ideal: “should...would”):¹

<i>Sī hoc intellegās, certē patrem audiās.</i>	If you should understand this, you would certainly listen to your father.
<i>Sī quid prāvē faciam, dominus imperet ut ego ab aliīs servīs tenear et erberer.</i>	If I should do something wrong, my master would order...

- Imperfect Subjunctive (present unreal: “were...would”):

<i>Sī iam hoc intellegerēs, certē patrem audīres.</i>	If you already understood this (but you clearly don’t), you certainly would be listening to your father (but you aren’t).
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- Pluperfect Subjunctive (past unreal):

<i>Sī iam tum hoc intellēxissēs, certē patrem audīvissēs.</i>	If you had already then understood this (but you clearly didn’t), you certainly would have listened to your father (but you didn’t).
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II. Some Subjunctive Signals

Ut

- Purpose

▷ incomplete action: present or imperfect subjunctive

1. *Notā Bene:* There are no examples of this type of condition in your text.

- Result
 - ▷ incomplete action: present or imperfect subjunctive
- Optative
 - ▷ present subjunctive for a future wish or a present wish (when the outcome is uncertain)
 - ▷ imperfect subjunctive for a wish unfulfilled in the present
 - ▷ pluperfect subjunctive for a wish unfulfilled in the past
- Indirect command
 - ▷ incomplete action: present or imperfect subjunctive
- Indirect question
 - ▷ main verb refers to present or future:
 - present subjunctive if subordinate verb expresses incomplete action
 - perfect subjunctive if subordinate verb expresses completed action
 - ▷ main verb refers to past:
 - imperfect subjunctive if subordinate verb expresses incomplete action
 - pluperfect subjunctive if subordinate verb expresses completed action
- Negative fear (i.e., fear that something will not happen/has not happened)
 - ▷ main verb refers to present or future:
 - present subjunctive if subordinate verb expresses incomplete action
 - perfect subjunctive if subordinate verb expresses completed action
 - ▷ main verb refers to past:
 - imperfect subjunctive if subordinate verb expresses incomplete action
 - pluperfect subjunctive if subordinate verb expresses completed action

Utinam

- Wish (see optative subjunctive)

Nē

- Negative Purpose
 - ▷ incomplete action: present or imperfect subjunctive
- Optative (Negative)
 - ▷ present subjunctive for a future wish
 - ▷ imperfect subjunctive for a wish unfulfilled in the present
 - ▷ pluperfect subjunctive for a wish unfulfilled in the past

- Hortatory (Negative)
 - ▷ present subjunctive
- Indirect command (Negative)
 - ▷ incomplete action: present or imperfect subjunctive
- Prohibition
 - ▷ perfect subjunctive
- Affirmative fear (*nē* or *nē nōn*) (i.e., fear that something will happen/has happened)
 - ▷ main verb refers to present or future:
 - present subjunctive if subordinate verb expresses incomplete action
 - perfect subjunctive if subordinate verb expresses completed action
 - ▷ main verb refers to past:
 - imperfect subjunctive if subordinate verb expresses incomplete action
 - pluperfect subjunctive if subordinate verb expresses completed action

Nē...nōn

- Fear (see above, Affirmative fear)

Ut...nōn

- Negative Result
 - ▷ incomplete action: present or imperfect subjunctive

Cum

- Circumstances: subjunctive
- Causal: subjunctive
- (+ ablative: preposition)
- (Pinpointing the time: indicative)
- (Repeated action: “whenever”: indicative [usually])

Studia Rōmāna

It's not clear exactly what aspect of *litterae* Aemilius's father pursued and had in mind for his son. We learned in Cap. XXIX that Aemilius's family was poor. Generally, a career in literature was beyond the reach of people of lower socio-economic status. Even writers like Juvenal and Martial who complain constantly of their poverty were poor only in relation to the wealthy elite. He might have been a *scriba* and as such, one of the *appāritōrēs* (free-born attendants to Roman magistrates). Such *scribae* were public officials; they earned a salary and were part of a *collēgium*, or society, of men who performed the same role. They mixed with more powerful people who could assist their upward mobility.

They were also part of the larger world of letters: the poet Horace (first century BC) was a *scriba quaestorius*. There is a good amount of evidence, literary and inscriptional, to show the potential for this kind of *studium litterarum*.

One Roman senator who combined the life of a statesman, *studium litterarum* and the military was *Sextus Iulius Frontinus*, who lived in the first century AD. His most famous work is his treatise on aqueducts (*dē Aquaeductū Urbis Rōmae*) but he also wrote two works that would have been read by Aemilius's commanders, if not Aemilius himself. *Dē Rē Militārī*, a treatise on military theory, has not survived, but we do have the *Stratēgmata*, a collection of useful examples of stratagems as a continuation of his work on military theory. One section offers examples of clever ways generals (both Greek and Roman) have roused dispirited soldiers. The republican general Aulus Postumius, for example, while fighting against the Latins, told his exhausted troops that two men on horseback were the Dioscuri (Cap. XVI); at the sight of the "gods," his soldiers revived:

*Aulus Postumius proeliō quō cum Latīnīs conflīxit, oblātā speciē
duōrum in equīs iuvenum animōs suōrum ērexit, Pollūcem et
Castōrem adesse dīcens, ac sīc proelium rēstituit.*

By Aemilius's time as a soldier, the Roman army had undergone great changes. In the first century BC, the general Marius began the practice of having soldiers carry all of their weapons and equipment, instead of having baggage mules (thereby greatly speeding up the military march). These soldiers got the nickname "Marius's mules." The very efficient practice persisted. The army comprised volunteer soldiers who served for twenty-five years. During this time, they were not allowed to marry (although some had unofficial wives and children). The soldiers' physical training was extensive and difficult. They had to be able to march fast carrying heavy loads, to move in formation, and to wield weapons skillfully. They built the roads they would march on into new territory; at the end of a long day of marching, they built overnight camps, pitched their tents, cooked their meals, and had to be ready to start all over again the next day. Aemilia's brother was part of a legion (*lēgio, legiōnis*, f.), which consisted of ten cohorts (*cohors, cohortis*, f.), which in turn consisted of six companies, called centuries (*centuria, -ae*, f.) of about eighty men. Centuries were led by centurions (*centuriōnēs*). Aemilius was a *pedes* (foot soldier), but he could in time have been promoted to an *eques* (cavalryman), which would have meant a new round of training. The constant trouble with the Germans meant a large number of soldiers were needed in Germany.

The emperor Augustus turned the Roman army into a standing, professional force that policed the boundaries of the Roman world. Inscriptional evidence tells us that Augustus's system stayed remarkably stable for hundreds of years. Soldiers were Roman citizens; auxiliary troops were not. The *stīpendium* (whence our word "stipend") referred both to a term of military service and

the recompense earned from that service (*stipendia merēre* means both “to serve in the military” and “to earn a wage for serving in the military”).

Most of what we know about soldiers on the Roman frontiers comes from inscriptions and archaeology. A recent discovery of a number of letters, written on very thin, folded wooden tablets, has been found at Vindolanda, a fort along Hadrian’s Wall in Northern England. The discovery of these tablets has revised our view of letter writing, adding thin, wooden tablets inscribed with ink to papyrus and wooden tablets covered with wax and inscribed with a stylus. <http://vindolanda.csad.ox.ac.uk/>

Vocābula Disposita/Ōrdināta

Nōmina

1st

rīpa, -ae riverbank

2nd

gaudium, -ī joy
lēgātus, -ī envoy, delegate
legiōnārius, -ī legionary
proelium, -ī battle
stipendium, -ī salary
studium, -ī interest, study

3rd

aetās, aetātis (f.) age
agmen, agminis (n.) army on the march, file
amnis, amnis (m.) river
caedēs, caedis (f.) slaughter
cohors, cohortis (f.) cohort
ēnsis, ēnsis (m.) sword
imperātor, imperātōris (m.) general, emperor
legiō, -ōnis (f.) legion
ōrdō, ōrdinis (f.) order
pāx, pācis (f.) peace
ratis, ratis (f.) raft
valētūdō, valētūdinis (f.) health
virtūs, virtūtis (f.) virtue
vulnus, vulneris (n.) wound

5th

aciēs, -ēī line of battle

Verba

-āre (1)

(circumdō) circumdare, surround
circumdedisse, circumdatum
(commemorō) commemorāre, mention
-āvisse, -ātum

(convocō) convocāre, -āvisse, -ātum	call together
(cōpulō) cōpulāre, -āvisse, -ātum	join, connect
(dēsiderō) dēsiderāre, -āvisse, -ātum	long for, miss
(fatīgō) fatīgāre, -āvisse, -ātum	tire out, weary
(hortor) hortārī, hortātum	encourage, urge
(praestō) praestāre, praestitisse	furnish, fulfill
(properō) properāre, -āvisse, -ātum	hasten, hurry
(vulnerō) vulnerāre, -āvisse, -ātum	wound
-ēre (2)	
(studeō) studēre, studuisse (+ <i>dat.</i>)	devote oneself to
-ere (3)	
(adiungō) adiungere, adiūnxisse, adiūnctum	add to, join
(caedō) caedere, cecīdisse, caesum	beat, fell, kill
(cōgō) cōgere, coēgisse, coāctum	compel, force
(effundō) effundere, effūdisse, effūsum	pour out
(ērumpō) ērumpere, ērūpisse, ēruptum	break out
(excurrō) excurrere, excucurrisse or excurrisse, excursum	run out, rush out
(īnstruō) īnstruere, īnstrūxisse, īnstrūctum	draw up, arrange
(prōcurrō) prōcurrere, prōcucurrisse or procurrisse, prōcursum	run forward, charge
(prōgredior) prōgredi, prōgressum	go forward, advance
-īre (4)	
(mūniō) mūnīre, mūnīvisse, mūnītum	fortify
Irregular	
fore	= futurum esse
(trānsferō) trānsferre, trānstulisse, trānslātum	transfer, transport
(trānseō) trānsīre, trānsīvisse	cross, pass
Adiectiva	
1st/2nd (-us/er, -a, -um)	
arduus, -a, -um	steep
dēnī, -ae, -a	ten at a time
dīrus, -a, -um	dreadful
horrendus, -a, -um	dreadful
idōneus, -a, -um	suitable
ōtiōsus, -a, -um	leisured, idle
posterus, -a, -um	next, following
privātus, -a, -um	private
pūblicus, -a, -um	public

quaternī, -ae, -a	four at a time
quīnī, -ae, -a	five at a time
rīdiculus, -a, -um	laughable, funny
sēnī, -ae, -a	six at a time
trīnī, -ae, -a	three at a time
ūnī, -ae, -a	one at a time
3rd	
citerior, citerius	nearer
incolumis, -e	unharmed, safe
militāris, -e	military
ulterior, ulterius	farther, more distant
Prōnōmina	
plērique, plēraeque, plēraque	most
Adverbia	
diūtius	longer (<i>comp.</i> of diū)
etenim	and indeed, for
ferē	about, almost
praecipuē	especially
prīdiē	the day before
quamdiū	how long, as long as
tamdiū	so long, as long
Praepositōnēs	
citrā² (<i>prp.</i> + <i>acc.</i>)	on this side
secundum³ (<i>prp.</i> + <i>acc.</i>)	along
ultrā (<i>prp.</i> + <i>acc.</i>)	on that (the far) side

2. Although not used so in this book, *citrā* can also be used as an adverb.

3. Although not used so in this book, *secundum* can also be used as an adverb.