

To complement the vocabulary within the commentary, I have added a running core word list at the beginning of this book that includes all words occurring fifteen or more times. An alphabetized form of this same list can be found in the glossary. Together, this book has been designed in such a way that, once readers have mastered the running core list, they will be able to rely solely on the Latin text and facing notes.

The greatest strength of this book, apart from captivating stories, is its ability to expose readers to difficult constructions over and over again. As a rule, I prefer to offer too much assistance in the grammatical notes rather than too little and, since readers may begin anywhere in the book, I identify constructions consistently throughout the commentary—often multiple times on the same page. In the case of *Fabulae Faciles* such support is appropriate. Even if readers rely on overly generous notes the first time they encounter a difficult passage, Ritchie presents the same constructions and same phrases so often that readers quickly become familiar with a range of difficult clauses and therefore rely less and less on the notes as they progress. By the time they encounter Ulysses, the constructions which readers have already encountered are so dense and frequent that it is impossible to include the ample notes found in earlier myths, and in most cases such notes are no longer necessary.

Although this volume may be used as a supplement in the classroom, I hope that teachers will encourage students to keep a copy by their bedsides for casual reading and rereading during the summer months and winter breaks. While there is no substitute for meaningful classical and medieval Latin texts, most authentic Latin prose still remains beyond the reach for intermediate-level students. This current commentary is made in the hopes that the short sections of connected prose will help readers of varying abilities develop reading proficiency and provide them with the knowledge and confidence necessary to read authentic Latin authors.

Finally, I wish to thank Justin Slocum Bailey and Erin Pammenter for recommending many changes that were included in this latest revision. Every reader will benefit from their generosity.

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How to Use this Commentary

Research shows that, as we learn how to read in a second language, a combination of reading and direct vocabulary instruction is statistically superior to reading alone. One of the purposes of this book is to encourage active acquisition of vocabulary.

1. Master the core vocabulary list as soon as possible.

Develop a daily regimen for memorizing vocabulary and forms before you begin reading. Start with an intensive review of the running core list on the next page. Although a substantial number of core vocabulary words come within the first few lessons of the commentary, readers have encountered most of these words in first-year Latin and should be able to master the list quickly. Once readers have reviewed these words, I recommend that they consult and memorize slightly less frequent words in *Fabulae Faciles* as they encounter them.

2. Read actively.

Read in Latin word order. Initially, readers have a tendency both (a) to scan through the entire Latin sentence quickly to order to attain a sense of the constructions and (b) to treat the sentence as a puzzle and jump around the passage from subject to verb to object and so on. As you acquire more vocabulary and your comfort with the Latin increases, make reading in Latin word order your primary method. It is a lot of fun and with persistence very satisfying as well.

Develop the habit of making educated guesses as you read. The purpose of the graded reader to provide you with an opportunity to encounter difficult constructions, particularly subjunctive clauses and indirect discourse, so frequently that you cannot help but to develop proficiency identifying and translating them. Make educated guesses as you read. If you guess correctly, the commentary will reaffirm your knowledge of the Latin. If you answer incorrectly, you will become more aware of your weaknesses and therefore more capable of correcting them.

3. Reread a passage immediately after you have completed it.

Repeated readings not only help you commit Latin to memory but also increase your ability to read the Latin as Latin. Always read the words out loud (or at least whisper them to yourself). While you may be inclined to translate the text into English as you reread, develop the habit of reading Latin as Latin.

4. Reread the most recent passage immediately before you begin a new one.

This additional repetition will strengthen your ability to recognize vocabulary, forms, and syntax quickly, bolster your confidence, and most importantly provide you with much-needed context as you begin the next selection in the text.

Running Core Vocabulary (Words 15 or More Times)

The following four pages include all words that occur fifteen or more times in the myths in a running core vocabulary list. These words are not found within the vocabulary lists facing each page of Latin. The number in the left column is the page number where the core vocabulary word first occurs. Flashcards for this list are available online. For a single alphabetized list of these core words, consult the glossary.

Page	
2	ā, ab, abs: (away) from, out of, 72
2	accipiō: to receive, get, accept, 26
2	ad: to, toward; near, 188
2	annus, -ī m.: year, 18
2	at: but; mind you; but, you say, 27
2	atque: and, and also, and even, 21
2	autem: however, moreover, 81
2	brevis, -e: short, brief, 15
2	coniciō, -ere, -iēcī: throw together, throw, take oneself, 13
2	cōnsilium, -iī n.: plan, advice; council, assembly, 23
2	constituō, -ere, -uī, -ūtus: decide, establish, resolve, 36
2	eum: with (+ abl.); when, since, although, 196
2	dē: down from, from, about, concerning (+ abl.), 29
2	deus, -ī m.: god, divinity, deity, 19
2	dīcō, -ere, dīxī, dictus: say, speak, tell, call, name, 17
2	dō, dare, dedī, datum: give, put, make; grant, allow, 42
2	enim: for, indeed, in truth, 77
2	et: and, also, even, 287
2	faciō, -ere, fēcī, factum: make, do, 89
2	habitō (1): to inhabit, live, 18
2	hic, haec, hoc: this, that; he, she, it, 222
2	ibi: there, in that place, 21
2	igitur: therefore, then, accordingly, 71
2	ille, illa, illud: that (famous); he, she, it, 84
2	in: in (+ abl.), into (+ acc.), 272
2	insula, -ae f.: island, 20
2	ipse, ipsa, ipsum: -self; the very, 50
2	is, ea, id: this, that; he, she, it, 230
2	litus, litoris n.: shore, beach, 19
2	māgnopere: greatly, very much, 15
2	magnus, -a, -um: great, large, tall; mighty, important, 79
2	mare, maris n.: sea, 15
2	multus, -a, -um: much, many, abundant, 36
2	omnis, omne: every, all, 96
2	Perseus, -ī m.: Perseus, 26
2	post: after, behind (+ acc.); afterward, next, 32
2	postquam: after, when, 58

2	puer, puerī, m.: boy, 17
2	quīdam, quaedam, quiddam: certain, a certain, 50
2	rēx, rēgis m.: king; <i>adj.</i> ruling, royal, 44
2	sē: himself, herself, itself, themselves, 115
2	sum, esse, fuī, futūrum: to be, 422
2	suus, -a, -um: his, her, its, their (own), 84
2	tamen: nevertheless, however, 99
2	tantus, -a, -um: so great, so much, so large, 55
2	tempestās, -tātis f.: weather; storm, 17
2	tempus, -poris n.: time, 31
2	tum: then, at that time, 73
2	videō, vidēre, vīdī, vīsum: to see, 50
2	volō, velle, voluī: will, wish, be willing, 22
4	audiō, audire, audivī, audītum: to hear, listen to, 22
4	capiō, capere, cēpī, captum: to take, capture, seize, 14
4	caput, capitis, n.: head; life, 20
4	causa, -ae f.: reason, cause; case, 31
4	dum: while, as long as, until, 35
4	ē, ex: out from, from, out of (+ abl.), 108
4	etiam: besides, also, even, 17
4	homō, -inis m./f.: man, mortal, human, 21
4	iam: now, already, soon, 29
4	locus, -ī m.: place, region, situation; opportunity, 51
4	manus, -ūs f.: hand, 16
4	modus, -ī m.: way, manner; modo (<i>adv.</i>) only 38
4	monstrum, -ī n.: monster, 26
4	per: through, over, across, 23
4	pervenīō, -īre, -vēnī, -ventum: to come through, arrive 19
4	prīmus -a -um: first, 16
4	quaerō, -ere, quaesivī, quaesītum: to seek, ask, inquire, 21
4	quī, quae, quod (quis? quid?): who, which, that, 307
4	referō, -ferre, -tulī, -lātum: report, bring back, 18
4	rēs, rei, f.: thing, matter, affair, business, 83
4	saxum, saxī n.: rock, 15
4	species, -ei f.: sight, look, appearance, aspect, 15
4	statim: immediately, on the spot, at once, 28
4	tandem: finally, at last, at length, in the end, 28
4	ubi: where, when, 56
4	ūnus, -a, -um: one, 14
4	veniō, -īre, vēnī, ventus: come, go, 72
6	animus, -ī m.: soul, spirit, breath, courage, pride, 18
6	diēs, -ei m./f.: day, time, season, 46
6	dolor, -ōris m.: pain, grief, anger, passion, 17
6	expectō (1): look out for, wait for, await, 15
6	filia, -iae f.: daughter, 20

- 6 gerō, -ere, gessī, gestus: carry (on), wage, 18
 6 gravis, -e: heavy, serious, severe; venerable, 16
 6 iubeō, iubēre, iussī, iussum: to order, command, 17
 6 mittō, -ere, -mīsī, missum: to send, let go, 18
 6 parō (1): prepare, make (ready), 21
 6 periculum, -ī n.: risk, danger, peril, 31
 6 subitō: immediately, straightaway, 19
 6 timor, -oris m.: fear, dread, anxiety, 15
 6 tradō, -dere, -didī, -ditum: to give over, hand down, 20
- 8 conferō, -ferre: bring together, collect, carry, 18
 8 corpus, corporis, n.: body, 19
 8 mox: soon, 19
 8 nāvis, nāvis, f.: ship, boat, 63
 8 neque: and not (neque...neque = neither...nor), 27
 8 paucī, -ae, -a: little, few, scanty, 22
 8 regiō, -ōnis f.: region, district, 18
 8 regnum, -ī n.: (royal) power, kingdom, realm, 19
 8 salūs, -ūtis f.: safety, security, health, 15
 8 sed: but, moreover, however, 31
 8 sentiō, sentiō, sēnsī, sēnsus: to feel, perceive, 16
 8 sine: without (*abl.*), 19
 8 solvō, -ere, solvī, solūtum: to loosen, release, 20
- 10 cognōscō, -ere, -nōvī, -nitum: to learn, *perf.* know, 22
 10 dīmittō, -ere, -mīsī, -missus: send away, let go, 8
 10 Hercules, -is m.: Hercules 121
 10 pars, partis, f.: part, share, 23
 10 redeō, -īre, -īvī: go back, return, come back, 19
 10 urbs, urbis, f.: city, 19
- 12 habeō, -ēre, habuī, -itus: have, hold; consider, 34
 12 interficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectum: kill, slay, destroy, 15
 12 iter, itineris n.: way, road, journey, 19
 12 nōn: not, by no means, not at all, 40
 12 paulus, -a, -um: little, small, 16
 12 vīs, (vīs), f.: force, power, violence; *pl.* vīrēs, strength, 23
 12 vir, virī m.: man, male, 23
- 14 bōs, bovis m. f.: cow, ox, bull (bobus-dat. *abl.*), 18
 14 proficiscor, -ī, -fectus: set out, depart, 19
- 16 Eurystheus, -ī m.: Eurystheus, 23
 16 possum, posse, potuī: be able, can, avail, 46
- 18 conficiō, -ere: to exhaust, finish, accomplish, 16
 18 labor, -ōris m.: labor, hardship, task, 22
 18 nullus, -a, -um: none, no, no one, 24
- 20 auxilium, -ī n.: help, aid, assistance, 19

- 20 coepī, coepisse, coeptum: begin, 16
 20 ingēns (ingentis): huge, immense, vast, huge, 21
 20 ita: so, thus, 25
- 22 progredior, -gredi, progressus sum: advance, 17
 22 reliquus, -a, um: remaining, left (over), 15
 22 sī: if (only), whether, in case that, 20
 22 spelunca, -ae f.: cave, 30
 22 summus, -a, -um: highest, greatest, top of, 29
 22 vinum, vinī n.: wine, 16
- 24 idem, eadem, idem: the same, 15
 24 egredior, -ī, -gressus: go out, disembark, 18
- 26 flūmen, -inis n.: river, stream, 15
 26 ut: as, just as, when (+ *ind.*); (so) that, in order that, 112
- 28 terra, -ae f.: land, earth, 22
- 34 socius, -ī m.: ally, companion, comrade, 33
- 36 intellegō, -ere, -lēxī, -lēctum: to realize, understand, 24
- 40 nē: lest, that not, no, not, 22
- 58 Iāson, -onis m.: Jason, 45
- 62 Argonautae, -ārum m.: Argonauts, 18
- 70 Mēdēa, -ae f.: Medea, 27
- 88 Ulixēs, -is m.: Ulysses, 43
- 92 Polyphēmus, -ī m.: Polyphemus, 19
- 104 Circē, -ēs f.: Circe, 15

Abbreviations

abs.	absolute	impf.	imperfect	pl.	plural
acc.	accusative	imper.	impersonal	plpf.	pluperfect
act.	active	indic.	indicative	pred.	predicate
adj.	adjective	i.o.	indirect object	prep.	preposition
adv.	adverb	ind.	indirect	pres.	present
app.	appositive	inf.	infinitive	pron.	pronoun
comp.	comparative	inter.	interrogative	quest.	question
dat.	dative	m.	masculine	reflex.	reflexive
dep.	deponent	n.	neuter	rel.	relative
d.o.	direct object	nom.	nominative	seq.	sequence
f.	feminine	obj.	object	sg.	singular
fut.	future	pple.	participle	subj.	subject
gen.	genitive	pass	passive	superl.	superlative
imp.	imperative	pf.	perfect	voc.	vocative

"To make the ancients speak, we must feed them with our own blood."

-von Wilamowitz-Moellendorff

1. THE ARK

Haec narrantur ā poētīs dē Perseō. Perseus fīlius erat Iōvis, maximī deōrum; avus eius Acrisius appellābatur. Acrisius volēbat Perseum nepōtem suum necāre; nam propter ōrāculum puerum timēbat. Comprehendit igitur Perseum adhuc infāntem, et cum mātrem in arcā lignēā inclūsit. Tum arcam ipsam in mare coniēcit. Danaë, Perseī mātrem, magnopere territa est; tempestās enim magna mare turbābat. Perseus autem in sinū mātris dormiēbat.

2. JUPITER SAVES HIS SON

Iuppiter tamen haec omnia vīdit, et fīlium suum servāre cōstituit. Tranquillum igitur fēcit mare, et arcam ad insulam Serīphum perdūxit. Huius insulae Polydectēs tum rēx erat. Postquam arca ad lītus appulsa est, Danaë in harēnā quiētem capiēbat. Post breve tempus ā piscātōre quōdam reperta est, et ad domum rēgis Polydectis adducta est. Ille mātrem et puerum benignē excēpit, et eīs sēdem tūtā in finibus suīs dedit. Danaë hoc dōnum libenter accēpit, et prō tantō beneficiō rēgī grātiās ēgit.

3. PERSEUS IS SENT ON HIS TRAVELS

Perseus igitur multōs annōs ibi habitābat, et cum mātrem suā vītā beatā agēbat. At Polydectēs Danaēn magnopere amābat, atque eam in mātrimonium dūcere volēbat. Hoc tamen cōsiliū Perseō minimē grātum erat. Polydectēs igitur Perseum dīmittere cōstituit. Tum iuvenem ad sē vocāvit et haec dīxit: "Turpe est hanc ignāvam

1 Acrisius, -iī m.: Acrisius, 4
 addūcō, -ere, -xī, -ctum: to lead to, bring, 8
 adhuc: still, 5
 agō, agere, ēgī, āctum: drive, lead, spend, 13
 appellō (1): call (by name), name, 12
 appellō, -ere, -pulī, -pulsī: drive to, 14
 arca, -ae f.: chest, box, ark, 4
 avus, avi m.: grandfather, 2
 beatus, -a, -um: blessed, happy, 3
 beneficium, -i n.: benefit, favor; kindness, 8
 benignus, -a, -um: kind, 4
 comprehendō, -ere, -dī, -sum: grasp, seize, 3
 Danaë, -ēs f.: Danae, 5
 demittō, -ere, -mīsī, -missum: to drop, 3
 domus, -ūs f.: house, home, dwelling, 11
 dōnum, -i n.: gift, 6
 dormiō, -ire, -ivī: to sleep, 8
 dūcō, -ere, dūxī, ductus: lead, draw, bring, 5
 excipiō, ere, cēpi, ceptum: receive, welcome
 fīlius, -iī m.: son, 10
 finis, -is m./f.: end, limit, border, boundary, 12
 grātia, -ae f.: gratitude, favor, thanks, 10
 grātus, -a, -um: pleasing, grateful, 1
 harēna, -ae f.: sand, 1
 ignāvus, -a, -um: lazy, cowardly, 2
 inclūdō, -ere, -ūstī, -ūsum: close in, shut in, 7
 infāns, -fantis m. f.: infant, 2
 Iuppiter, Iovis m.: Jupiter, 8
 iuvenis, -is m.: youth, young man, 4
 libenter: gladly, willingly, 12

20

2 haec: these (things); neut. pl.
 de: about; often when object is not a place
 Iōvis: of Jupiter; the god Iuppiter declines
 in the 3rd decl.: Iuppiter, Iōvis, Iōvī, Iōvem
 and Iōve; Iōvis is gen. sg.
 3 eius: gen. sg. of is, ea, id
 Acrisius: pred. nom. of appellābatur,
 which behaves as a linking verb
 4 suum: his; reflexive possessive adj., use the
 subject ('su' as in subject!) to translate
 5 in mare: acc. place to which, neuter sg.
 Danaë: Greek nominative, the two dots
 (diacresis) indicate that the 'e' is
 pronounced separately from the 'a'
 tempestās: nom. sg., fem. 3rd decl.
 7 sinū: 4th decl. abl. sg.
 8 haec omnia: neuter acc. pl., add 'things'
 9 fēcit: made (x) (y); tranquillum is an adj.
 in the predicative position: not 'tranquil

lignum, -i n.: wood, 4
 mater, matris f.: mother, 9
 mātrimonium, -iī n.: marriage, 6
 maximus, -a, -um: greatest, 9
 minimē: least, by no means, not at all, 1
 nam: for, 6
 nārrō (1): to narrate, relate, 7
 necō (1): to kill, slay, put to death, 9
 nepōs, nepōtis m.: grandson, decedent, 2
 ōrāculum, -i n.: oracle, 11
 perdūcō, -ere, -xī, -ctum: lead through, 4
 piscātor, piscātoris m.: fisherman, 1
 poēta, -ae m.: poet, 4
 Polydectēs, -is m.: Polydectes, 7
 prō: before, in front of, for, 9
 propter: on account of, because of, 6
 quiēs, quiētis f.: rest, repose, sleep, 5
 reperiō, -ire, repperī, reperitum: find out, 9
 sēdes, sēdis f.: seat; abode, home, 5
 Seriphus, -i m.: Seriphos (an island) 1
 servō (1): save, keep, preserve, 1
 sinus, -ūs m.: bosom, lap, 1
 terreō, -ere, -uī, territum: to terrify, scare, 5
 timeō, -ere, -uī: fear, dread, 6
 tranquillus, -a, -um: calm, tranquil, 1
 turbō (1): to confuse, disturb, 2
 turpis, turpe: ugly, shameful, 1
 tutus, -a, -um: safe, secure, 3
 vīta, -ae, f.: life, 9
 vocō (1): call, summon, invoke, 2

10 huius insulae: gen. sg. with rex; -ius
 is a common gen. pronoun ending (hic)
 14 quietam capiēbat: was taking a rest
 15 quōdam: a certain; the suffix -dam never
 declines but the first half of this indefinite
 adjective does and modifies piscātōre (abl)
 16 benignē: kindly; -ē indicates an adv.
 17 eīs: dat. pl. is, ea, id; ind. obj. of dedit
 18 prō: (in return) for
 rēgī: dat. sg. 3rd decl. noun rex, rēgis
 grātiās ēgit: gave thanks; common
 idiom for grātiās āgo, here pf.
 21 multōs annōs: for...; acc. duration
 22 agēbat: was living/spending; common
 idiom for vītā agō; cf. line 18
 Danaēn: Greek accusative ('n' not 'm')
 23 Perseō: dat. of reference with grātum
 25 haec: neuter pl., supply 'things'
 Turpe est: it is shameful to; the adj. turpis,

vītam agere; iam dūdum tū adulēscēns es. Quō ūsque hīc manēbis? 1
Tempus est arma capere et virtūtem praestāre. Hinc abī, et caput
Medūsae mihi refer.”

4. PERSEUS GETS HIS OUTFIT

Perseus ubi haec audīvit, ex īnsulā discessit, et postquam ad
continentem vēnit, Medūsam quaesīvit. Diū frūstrā quaerēbat;
namque nātūram locī ignorābat. Tandem Apollo et Minerva viam
dēmōnstrāvērunt. Prīmum ad Graeās, sorōrēs Medūsae, pervēnit.
Ab hīs tālāria et galeam magicam accēpit. Apollo autem et 10
Minerva falcem et speculum dedērunt. Tum postquam tālāria
pedibus induit, in āera ascendit. Diū per āera volābat; tandem
tamen ad eum locum vēnit ubi Medūsa cum cēterīs Gorgonibus
habitābat. Gorgonēs autem mōnstra erant speciē horribilī; capita
enim eārum anguibus omnīnō contēcta erant. Manūs etiam ex aere 15
factae erant.

5. THE GORGON'S HEAD

Rēs difficillima erat caput Gorgonis abscīdere; eius enim cōspectū
hominēs in saxum vertēbantur. Propter hanc causam Minerva 20
speculum Perseō dederat. Ille igitur tergum vertit, et in speculum
inspiciēbat; hōc modō ad locum vēnit ubi Medūsa dormiēbat. Tum
falce suā caput eius ūnō ictū abscīdit. Cēterae Gorgonēs statim ē
sommnō excitātae sunt, et ubi rem vīdērunt, irā commōtae sunt.
Arma rapuērunt, et Perseum occīdere volēbant. Ille autem dum 25
fūgit, galeam magicam induit; et ubi hoc fēcit, statim ē cōspectū
eārum ēvāsīt.

abēō, -īre, -īī, -itus: go away, go off, depart, 6
abscīdō, -ere, -cīdī, -cīsum: cut away or off, 5
adulēscēns, -entis: young (man), youth(ful), 3
aēr, aēris n.: air, 6
aes, aēris n.: bronze, 1
agō, agere, ēgī, āctum: drive, lead, spend, 13
anguis, -is m. f.: serpents, snakes, 1
Apollo, -inis m.: Apollo, 7
arma, -ōrum n.: arms, equipment, tools, 6
ascēndō, -ere, -ī, -ēnsus: ascend, mount, 3
cēteri, -ae, -a: the other, remaining, 2
commoveō, -ēre, -mōvī, -mōtum: move,
trouble, upset, 14
cōspectus, -ūs m.: sight, view, 6
contēgō, -ere, -tēxī, -tēctum: cover, 1
contineō, -ēre, -nuī, -tentum: hold or keep
together, 4
dēmōnstrō (1): to show, demonstrate, 13
difficilis, -e: hard, difficult, troublesome, 6
discedō, -ere, -cessī, -cessum: to go away,
depart, 4
diū: a long time, long, 13
dormiō, -īre, -īvī: to sleep, 8
indūm: a short time ago; just now, once, 2
ego: I, 9
evadō, -ere, ēvāsī, ēvāsūm: go out, escape, 9
excitō (1): excite, rouse, incite, 8
falcis, falcis f.: sickle, 2
frustrā: in vain, for nothing, 13
fugio, fugere, fūgī, --: to flee, hurry away, 9
galea, -ae f.: helmet, 3
Gorgō, -onis f.: Gorgon, 4

Graeae, -ārum f.: Gracee, 1
hinc: from this place, hence, 1
horribilis, -e: horrible, dreadful, 11
ictus, -ūs m.: strike, blow, 4
ignōrō (1): not know, be ignorant, 5
induō, -ere, induī, indūtum: put on, 8
inspiciō, -ere, -spēxī, -spectum: look upon, 1
ira, irae f.: anger, 12
magicus, -a, -um: magic, 5
manēō, -ēre, mansī, --: to stay, wait, 9
Medūsa, -ae f.: Medusa, 6
Minerva, -ae f.: Minerva, 4
namque: for, 2
nātūra, -ae. f.: nature, 9
occidō, -ere, -cidī, -cīsus: kill, cut down, 14
omnīnō: altogether, wholly, entirely, 11
pēs, pedis m.: foot, 8
praestō, -stāre, -stīfī: stand in front, show, 6
propter: on account of, because of, 6
rapiō, -ere, rapuī, raptum: to seize, snatch, 5
sommnus, -ī m.: sleep, 14
soror, sorōris f.: sister, 1
speculum, -ī n.: mirror, 3
talāria, -ium: winged shoes, 4
tergum, -ī n.: back, 8
tū: you, 10
usque: all the way to, up to, continuously, 2
vertō, -ere, vertī, versum: to turn, 4
via, -ae, f.: way, road, 4
virtūs, -ūtis f.: valor, manhood, excellence, 10
vita, -ae, f.: life, 9
volō (1): to fly, 3

agere: to live; idiom, see p. 2, line 22
iam dūdum: now for a long time; often
as one word
es: 2nd sg. pres. sum
quō (cōsiliō): for what purpose
hic: note the long vowel 'i' indicates that
this is the adverb 'here' not the pronoun
Tempus est: it is time; infinitives are subj.
hinc: from here; compare hīc above
abī: sg. imperative abēō
mihi: dat. sg. egō
refer: sg. imperative, 3rd conj. referō
does not retain the final "e." Consider
the mnemonic: 'dīc, dūc, fac and fer
should have an "e" but it isn't there.'
frustrā: a common adverb
Graeae: these 3 sisters to the Gorgons had

one eye, which they shared; Perseus stole
the eye until they told him what he wanted
11 eī: dat. sg. ind. object is, ea, id
12 pedibus: on...; dat. pl. with compound
verb (make prefix "in-" into a preposition)
14 speciē horribilī: of horrible appearance;
abl. of quality with monstra, horribilī is i-
stem 3rd decl. abl., speciē is 5th decl. abl.
15 aere: bronze; abl. of aes, not aēr
19 difficillima: superlative difficilis
eius...cōspectū: gen. sg. the Gorgon's
22 hōc modō: in this way; abl. of manner
24 ubi: when; i.e. 'at this point' in time/place
irā: by anger; abl. of cause or means
commōtae sunt: were moved; they are
moved emotionally, not physically

6. THE SEA-SERPENT

Post haec Perseus in finēs Aethiopum vēnit. Ibi Cēpheus quīdam illō tempore regnābat. Hīc Neptūnum, maris deum, ōlim offenderat; Neptūnus autem mōnstrum saevissimum mīserat. Hoc cotīdiē ē marī veniēbat et hominēs dēvorābat. Ob hanc causam pavor animōs omnium occupāverat. Cēpheus igitur ōrāculum deī Hammōnis cōnsuluit, atque ā deō iussus est filiā mōnstrō trādere. Eius autem filia, nōmine Andromeda, virgō fōrmōsissima erat. Cēpheus ubi haec audīvit, magnum dolōrem percēpit. Volēbat tamen cīvēs suōs ē tantō perīculō extrahere, atque ob eam causam imperāta Hammōnis facere cōstituit.

7. A HUMAN SACRIFICE

Tum rēx diem certam dīxit et omnia parāvit. Ubi ea diēs vēnit, Andromeda ad lītus dēducta est, et in cōspectū omnium ad rūpem alligāta est. Omnēs fātum eius deplōrābant, nec lacrimās tenēbant. At subitō, dum mōnstrum exspectant, Perseus accurrī; et ubi lacrimās vīdit, causam dolōris quaerit. Illī rem tōtam expōnunt et puellam dēmōnstrant. Dum haec geruntur, fremitus terribilis audītur; simul mōnstrum horribilī speciē procul cōspicitur. Eius cōspectus timōrem maximum omnibus iniēcī. Mōnstrum magnā celeritāte ad lītus contendit, iamque ad locum appropinquābat ubi puella stābat.

8. THE RESCUE

At Perseus ubi haec vīdit, gladium suum ēdūxit, et postquam tālāria induit, in āera sublātus est. Tum dēsUPER in mōnstrum impetum subitō fēcī, et gladiō suō collum eius graviter vulnerāvit.

1

5

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accurrō, -ere, -cucurrī, -cursum: to run to, 2
 adligō (1): bind to, tie to, 2
 āēr, aēris n.: air, 6
 Aethiōpēs, -um m.: Ethiopians, 2
 Andromeda, -ae f.: Andromeda, 4
 appropinquō (1): come near, approach, 8
 celeritās, -tātis f.: speed, quickness, 7
 Cēpheus, -ī m.: Cepheus, 5
 certus, -a, -um: fixed, sure, 11
 cīvīs, -is m/f: citizen, fellow citizen, 5
 collum, -ī n.: neck, 6
 conspectus, -ūs m.: sight, view, 6
 conspiciō, -ere, -ēxī, -ectum: catch sight of, 3
 contendō, -ere, -ī, -tus: strive; hasten; fight 11
 cotīdiē: daily, 2
 dēdūcō, -ere: lead or bring down, launch, 10
 dēmōnstrō (1): to show, demonstrate, 13
 deplorō (1): lament, weep, 1
 dēsUPER: from above, 2
 dēvorō (1): swallow down, devour, 4
 ēdūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductum: lead out, draw, 3
 expōnō, -ere, -suī, -situm: set out, explain 7
 extrahō, -ere, -traxī, -tractum: draw out, 2
 fātum, -ī n.: fate, ruin, death, 2
 finis, -is m./f.: end, limit, border, boundary, 12
 formōsus, -a, -um: shapely, beautiful, 2
 fremitus, -ūs m.: roaring, roar, 2
 gladius, -ī m.: sword, 10
 Hammōn, -ōnis m.: Hammon (Jupiter), 2
 horribilis, -e: horrible, dreadful, 11
 imperō (1): order, command, 12

2 in finēs: into the borders; usual meaning

3 illō tempore: at...; abl. of time when
 Hīc: note that the 'ī' distinguishes this adverb from the pronoun hic, 'this one'3 saevissimum: superlative adj. saevus
 Hoc: this one; neut. sg. subject; "this (monster)," monstrum is neuter5 marī: abl. sg. 3rd decl. i-stem noun6 omnium: gen. pl. 3rd decl. i-stem adj.
 deī Hammōnis: of the god Hammon; a north African god often identified with Jupiter/Zeus, sometimes spelled 'Ammon'

7 mōnstrō: dat. sg. ind. obj. of trādere

8 nōmine: by name; abl. of respect
 virgō: nom. sg. predicate9 haec: these (things); neut. acc. pl.
 volēbat: impf. of volō, velle, 'to wish,' not from volō, volāre, "to fly"

10 ob eam causam: for this reason

impetus, -ūs m.: attack, onset, assault, 9
 induō, -ere, induī, indūtum: put on, 8
 iniciō, -ere, -iēcī, -iectum: throw in or upon, 2
 lacrima, -ae f.: tear, 10
 maximus, -a, -um: greatest, 9
 nec: and not, nor, 10
 Neptūnus, -ī m.: Neptune, 4
 nōmen, nōminis, n.: name, 12
 ob: on account of (acc.), 13
 occupō (1): occupy, seize, 8
 offendō, -ere, offendi, offēnsum: offend, 1
 ōlim: once, formerly, 10
 ōrāculum, -ī n.: oracle, 11
 pavor, pavōris m.: terror, panic, 1
 percipiō, -ere, -cēpi, -ceptum: receive, perceive, get, 5
 procul: from afar, from a distance, 5
 puella, -ae f.: girl, 8
 que: and, 14
 rēgnō (1): to rule, reign, 3
 rūpēs, rūpis f.: rock, cliff, 6
 saevus, -a, -um: savage, fierce, 3
 simul: at the same time; at once, together, 10
 stō (1): to stand, 8
 tālāria, -ium: winged shoes, 4
 tenēō, tenēre, tenuī, tentum: to hold, keep 13
 terribilis, -e: terrible, dreadful, 5
 tollō, tolle, sustulī, sublātum: raise, lift up 10
 tōtus -a, -um: whole, entire, 14
 virgō, virginis f.: maiden, 2
 vulnerō (1): wound, injure, 7

11 imperāta: commands; 'things having been commanded' neuter acc. pl. PPP (pf. pass. pple) imperō

14 diem certam dīxit: appointed a...day
 omnia: neut pl. acc. 3rd decl. i-stem
 ea: this; is, ea, id as an adj. is a demonstrative which can be translated as "this/these" or "that/those"16 eius: her; gen. fem. sg. is, ea, id
 expōnunt: explain; 'set out (in detail)'20 horribilī speciē: of...; see p. 5, line 14
 eius: of this one; or 'of it,' i.e. monstrum21 omnibus: upon all; dat. of compound verb
 magnā celeritāte: with...; abl. manner often 'cum' missing when there is an adj.26 sublātus est: 3rd sg. pf. pass. tollō
 in mōnstrum: against...; often in an attack
 impetum...fēcī: made an attack

Mōnstrum ubi sēnsit vulnus, fremitum horribilem ēdidit, et sine
morā tōtum corpus in aquam mersit. Perseus dum circum lītus
volat, reditum eius exspectābat. Mare autē intereā undique
sanguine īficitur. Post breve tempus belua rūrsus caput sustulit;
mox tamen ā Perseō ictū graviōre vulnerāta est. Tum iterum sē in

9. THE REWARD OF VALOR

Perseus postquam ad lītus dēscendit, primum tālāria exuit; tum ad
rūpem vēnit ubi Andromeda vincta erat. Ea autem omnem spem
salūtis dēposuerat, et ubi Perseus adiit, terrōre paene exanimāta
erat. Ille vincula statim solvit, et puellam patrī reddidit. Cēpheus ob
hanc rem maximō gaudiō affectus est. Meritam grātiā prō tantō
beneficiō Perseō rettulit; praetereā Andromedam ipsam eī in
mātrimōnium dedit. Ille libenter hoc dōnum accēpit et puellam
dūxit. Paucōs annōs cum uxōre suā in eā regiōne habitābat, et in
magnō honōre erat apud omnēs Aethiopēs. Magnopere tamen
māterem suam rursus vidēre cupiēbat. Tandem igitur cum uxōre suā
ē regnō Cēpheī discessit.

10. POLYDECTES IS TURNED TO STONE

Postquam Perseus ad īnsulam nāvem appulit, sē ad locum contulit
ubi māter ōlim habitāverat, sed domum invēnit vacuam et omnīnō
dēsertam. Trēs diēs per tōtam īnsulam māterem quaerēbat; tandem
quartō diē ad templum Diānae pervēnit. Hūc Danaē refūgerat, quod

adeō, -īre, -i(v)ī: go to, approach, 4
Aethiopēs, -um m.: Ethiopians, 2
afficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectum: influence, treat, 13
Andromeda, -ae f.: Andromeda, 4
appellō, -ere, -pulī, -pulsī: drive to, 14
apud: among, in the presence of (+ acc.), 9
aqua, -ae f.: water, 11
belua, -ae f.: beast, brute, monster, 1
beneficiū, -ī n.: benefit, favor; kindness, 8
Cepheus, -ī m.: Cepheus, 5
circum: around, about, at, near (acc.), 1
cupiō, -ere, -ivī, -ītum: desire, long for, 4
Danaē, -ēs f.: Danae, 5
dēponō, -ere, -suī, -situm: put down or aside⁹
dēscendō, -ere, -ndī, -nsum: descend, 4
dēsērō, -ere, -uī, -sertum: to desert, 2
Diāna, -ae f.: Diana, 1
discēdō, -ere, -ssi, -ssum: go away, depart, 4
domus, -ūs f.: house, home, dwelling, 11
dōnum, -ī n.: gift, 6
ducō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: lead, draw, bring, 5
ēdō, -ere, -ēdidī, -ēditum: give out, put forth, 3
exanimō (1): to kill, exhaust, 9
exuō, -ere, -uī, -ūtum: take off, put off, 1
fremitus, -ūs m.: roaring, roar, 2
gaudium, -ī n.: gladness, joy, 9
grātia, -ae f.: gratitude, favor, thanks, 10
honor, -ōris m.: honor, glory; offering, 4
horribilis, -e: horrible, dreadful, 11
hūc: to this place, hither, 2
ictus, -ūs m.: strike, blow, 4
īficīō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectum: stain, dye, 4
intereā: meanwhile, 7
inveniō, -īre, -vēnī, -ventum: find, discover 8
iterum: again, a second time, 3
libenter: gladly, willingly, 12
mater, matris f.: mother, 9

matrimōnium, -ī n.: marriage, 6
maximus, -a, -um: greatest, 9
mergō, mergere, mersī, mersum: to sink, 3
meritus, -a, -um: deserved, due, just, 4
mora, -ae f.: delay, hesitation, hindrance, 14
ob: on account of (acc.), 13
ōlim: once, formerly, 10
omnīnō: altogether, wholly, entirely, 11
paene: almost, nearly, 8
pater, patris, m.: father, 12
postea: after this, afterwards, 7
praetereā: besides, moreover, 3
prō: before, in front of, for, 9
puella, -ae f.: girl, 8
quartus, -a, -um: one-fourth, 3
reddō, ere, -didī, -dditum: give back, return 4
reditus, -ūs m.: return, 5
refugiō, -ere, -fūgī: flee back, 5
rūpēs, rūpis f.: rock, cliff, 6
rursus: again, backward, back, 7
sanguis, sanguinis m.: blood, 6
spēs, -ei f.: hope, 15
talāria, -ium: winged shoes, 4
templum, -ī n.: temple, 3
terror, terrōris m.: terror, fright, 4
tollō, tolle, sustulī, sublātum: raise, lift up 10
tōtus -a, -um: whole, entire, 14
trēs, tria: three, 9
unda, -ae f.: wave, 1
undique: from everywhere, from all sides, 7
uxor, ūxōris f.: wife, spouse, 10
vacuus, -a, -um: empty, fear, vacant, 1
vinciō, -īre, vīnxi, vīnctus: bind, tie, 4
vinculum, -ī n.: bond, chain, 4
volō (1): to fly, 3
vulnerō (1): wound, injure, 7
vulnus, -eris n.: wound, blow, 6

1 ēdidit: ē/ex + dedit, in compound verbs

vowels 'a' and 'e' often become 'ī'

4 sustulit: pf. tollō, belua is subject

5 graviōre: graver; or 'more serious,'
abl. sg. comparative adj. gravis, -e

9 primum: first (of all); adverbial acc.

11 salūtis: for safety; objective gen., it is
equivalent to the obj. of a verb 'hope'

adiit: pf. ad-eō

terrōre: abl. of cause

12 patrī: dat. ind. obj. of rē + dedit

reddidit: red-dedit, pf. red-dō (give back),
compare to red-it from red-eō (see back)

13 maximō gaudiō: with...; abl. manner,
without "cum" when modified by adj.

prō: (in return) for...

14 rettulit: pf. referō with a dat. ind. obj.

eī: dat. sg., is, ea, id

16 paucōs annōs: for...; acc. of duration

23 eā: this; demonstrative adj. with regiōne

22 sē contulit: carried himself; pf. cōnferō, a
common expression for 'went,' 'moved'

23 domum: fem. sg. modified by 2 adjectives

24 trēs diēs: for...; acc. of duration

25 quartō diē: at...; abl. time when

hūc: (to) here; see also hūc and hinc

Polydectem timēbat. Perseus ubi haec cognōvit, irā magnā 1
commōtus est; ad rēgiam Polydectis sine morā contendit, et ubi eō
vēnit, statim in ātrium irrūpit. Polydectēs magnō timōre affectus est
et fugere volēbat. Dum tamen ille fūgit, Perseus caput Medūsae
mōnstrāvit; ille autem simul atque hoc vīdit, in saxum versus est. 5

11. THE ORACLE FULFILLED

Post haec Perseus cum uxōre suā ad urbem Acrisī rediit. Ille autem
ubi Perseum vīdit, magno terrōre affectus est; nam propter
ōrāculum istud nepōtem suum adhuc timēbat. In Thessaliam igitur 10
ad urbem Larīsam statim refūgit, frūstrā tamen; neque enim fātum
suum vītāvit. Post paucōs annōs rēx Larīsae ludōs magnōs fēcit;
nuntiōs in omnēs partēs dīmiserat et diem ēdixerat. Multī ex
omnibus urbibus Graeciae ad ludōs convēnērunt. Ipse Perseus inter
aliōs certāmen discōrum iniit. At dum discum conicit, avum suum 15
cāsū occīdit; Acrisius enim inter spectātōrēs eius certāminis forte
stābat.

12. THE HATRED OF JUNO

Herculēs, Alcmēnae filius, ōlim in Graeciā habitābat. Hic omnium 20
hominum validissimus fuisse dīcitur. At Iūnō, rēgīna deōrum,
Alcmēnam ōderat et Herculem adhuc infantem necāre voluit. Mīsit
igitur duās serpentēs saevissimās; hae mediā nocte in cubiculum
Alcmēnae vērērunt, ubi Herculēs cum frātre suō dormiēbat. Nec
tamen in cūnīs, sed in scūtō magnō cubābant. Serpentēs iam 25
appropinquāverant et scūtum movēbant; itaque puerī ē somnō
excitātī sunt.

Acrisius, -ī m.: Acrisius, 4
adhuc: still, 5
afficiō, -ere, -fēcī, fectum: influence, treat, 13
Alcmēna, -ae f.: Alcmēna, 4
alius, -a, -ud: other, another, else, 9
appropinquō (1): come near, approach, 8
atrium, atrīī n.: atrium, 3
avus, avī m.: grandfather, 2
cāsus, -ūs m.: misfortune, accident, event, 8
certāmen, -minis n.: struggle, contest, 2
commoveō, -ēre, -mōvī, -mōtum: move,
trouble, upset, 14
contendō, -ere, -ī, -tus: strive; hasten; fight 11
conveniō, -ire, vēnī, ventum: come together 8
cubiculum, -ī n.: bedroom, 1
cubō (1): to lie down, recline, 1
cūnae, -ārum f.: cradle, 1
discus, -ī m.: discus, 2
dormiō, -ire, -ivī: to sleep, 8
duo, duae, duo: two, 10
ēdicō, -ere, -dixī, dictum: declare, proclaim, 4
excitō (1): excite, rouse, incite, 8
fātum, -ī n.: fate, ruin, death, 2
filius, -īī m.: son, 10
fors, fortis f.: luck, chance; forte by chance, 2
frāter, -tris m.: brother, 5
frustrā: in vain, for nothing, 13
fugiō, fugere, fūgī, --: to flee, hurry away, 9
fugiō, fugere, fūgī, --: to flee, hurry away, 9
Graecia, -ae f.: Greece, 7
ineō, -ire, -ī, -itum: go into, enter, 4
infāns, -fantis m. f.: infant, 2
inrumpō, -ere, -rūptī, -ruptum: burst in, 2
inter: between, among (+ acc.), 10
īra, īrae f.: anger, 12
iste, ista, istud: that or those (of yours), 7
itaque: and so, 8

Iūnō, -ōnis m.: Juno, 3
Larīsa, -ae f.: Larisa, 2
lūdus, -ī m.: game, sport; school, 2
medius, -a, -um: middle of, 10
Medūsa, -ae f.: Medusa, 6
monstrō (1): to show, demonstrate, 3
mora, -ae f.: delay, hesitation, hindrance, 14
moveō, -ēre, mōvī, mōtum: move, arouse, 3
nam: for, 6
nec: and not, nor, 10
necō (1): to kill, slay, put to death, 9
nepōs, nepōtis m.: grandson, decedent, 2
nox, noctis, f.: night, 7
nuntius, -īī m.: messenger, 12
occidō, -ere, -cidī, -cisus: kill, cut down, 14
ōdī, -isse: to hate, 1
ōlim: once, formerly, 10
ōrāculum, -ī n.: oracle, 11
Polydectēs, -is m.: Polydectes, 7
propter: on account of, because of, 6
refugiō, -ere, -fūgī: flee back, 5
rēgia, -ae f.: palace, 4
rēgīna, -ae f.: queen, 2
saevus, -a, -um: savage, fierce, 3
scūtum, -īī n.: shield, 2
serpens, serpentis f.: serpent, 6
simul: at the same time; at once, together, 10
somnia, -īī m.: sleep, 14
spectātōr, -tōris m.: spectator, observer, 1
stō (1): to stand, 8
terror, terrōris m.: terror, fright, 4
Thessalia, -ae f.: Thessaly, 4
timeō, -ēre, -uī: fear, dread, 6
uxor, ūxōris f.: wife, spouse, 10
validus, -a, -um: strong, 1
vertō, -ere, vertī, versum: to turn, 4
vitō (1): to avoid, 2

1 haec: these (things); neut. substantive
irā...commōtus est: see p. 5, line 24
2 contendit: hastened; common in Caesar
eō: (to) there; adv.; ibi is "there," inde
is "from there," and eō is "to there"
3 magnō timōre: abl. of means
5 simul atque: as soon as; 'at the same time
as'
8 rediit: pf. red-eō
9 magnō terrōre: abl. of means
10 istud: neut. sg. with ōrāculum (cf. illud)
11 frustrā: adverb
12 spectātōrēs: spectators, observers

13 partēs: directions
ēdixerat: appointed
14 ad: for...; ad often expresses purpose
15 iniit: pf. in-eō
16 cāsū: by chance; 4th decl. abl. of manner
eius: of that...; demon. adjective
forte: by chance; abl. as adverb, fōrs
21 omnium hominum: of...; partitive gen.
fuisse dicitur: is said to have been; pf.
inf. sum; superlative validissimus as pred.
22 ōderat: plpf., simple past in sense
23 hae (serpentēs): these; nom. subject