

CAPVT XXIX

Imperfect Subjunctive; Present and Imperfect Subjunctive of *Sum* and *Possum*; Result Clauses

GRAMMATICA

THE IMPERFECT SUBJUNCTIVE

The imperfect subjunctive is easy to recognize and form, consisting of the present active infinitive + the present system personal endings, active and passive, with the *-ē-* long (except, as usual, before final *-m*, *-r*, and *-t*, and both final and medial *-nt/-nt-*). Samples are given in the following paradigms; for complete conjugations, see the *Summārium Fōrmārum*, p. 502–03:

1. laudāre-m	laudāre-r	ágerer	audīrem	cáperem
2. laudāre-s	laudāre-ris	agerēris	audīrēs	cáperēs
3. laudāre-t	laudāre-tur	agerētur	audīret	cáperet
1. laudāre-mus	laudāre-mur	agerémur	audirémus	caperémus
2. laudāre-tis	laudāre-mini	agerēmini	audirētis	caperētis
3. laudāre-nt	laudāre-ntur	agerēntur	audirent	caperent

PRESENT AND IMPERFECT SUBJUNCTIVE OF *Sum* AND *Possum*

The present subjunctives of *sum* and *possum* are irregular but follow a consistent pattern; the imperfect subjunctives, however, follow the rule given above:

Present Subjunctive		Imperfect Subjunctive	
1. sim	póssim	éssem	póssem
2. sīs	póssis	éssēs	póssēs
3. sit	póssit	éssēt	póssēt
1. símus	possímus	essémus	possémus
2. sítis	possítis	essētis	possētis
3. sint	póssint	éssent	póssent

Usage and Translation of the Imperfect Subjunctive

The imperfect subjunctive is used in a variety of clause types, when the main verb is a past tense. As for all subjunctives, the translation depends upon the type of clause, but auxiliaries sometimes used with the imperfect include "were," "would," and, in purpose clauses, "might" (vs. "may" for the present tense). Study these sample sentences containing purpose clauses:

Hoc dicit ut eōs iuuet.
He says this (in order) to help them.
so that he may help them.

Hoc dixit (dīcēbat) ut eōs iuvāret.
He said (kept saying) this (in order) to help them.
so that he might help them.

Hoc facit nē urbs capiātur.
He does this so that the city may not be captured.

Hoc fēcit (faciēbat) nē urbs caperētur.
He did (was doing) this so that the city might not be captured.

Remember that in order to master the subjunctive (notice the purpose clause?) you must (1) learn a definition for each clause type, (2) be able to recognize each, and (3) know the proper translation for the subjunctive verb in each type. Keep these three points in mind—*definition, recognition, translation*—as you proceed to the following discussion of result clauses and to the subsequent chapters in this book.

RESULT CLAUSES

Definition: A **RESULT CLAUSE** is a subordinate clause that shows the result of the action in the main clause; the purpose clause answers the question "why is (was) it being done?," while the result clause answers the question "what is (was) the *outcome?*" Examples in English are: "it is raining so hard *that the streets are flooding*" and "she studied Latin so diligently *that she knew it like a Roman.*" Notice that En-

glish introduces such clauses with "that" and uses the indicative mood, generally with *no auxiliary* (i.e., neither *may* nor *might*).

Recognition: Latin result clauses begin with *ut* and contain (usually at the end) a subjunctive verb. The result clause can be easily recognized, and distinguished from a purpose clause, by the sense and context and also by the fact that the main clause usually contains an adverb (*ita, tam, sic, so*) or adjective (*tantus, so much, so great*) indicating degree and signaling that a result clause is to follow. Moreover, if the clause describes a negative result, it is still introduced by *ut* but contains a negative word such as *nōn, nihil, nēmō, numquam* or *nūllus* (vs. a negative purpose clause, which is introduced by *nē*).

Translation: In result clauses (vs. purpose clauses) the subjunctive verb is regularly translated as *an indicative*, without an auxiliary; "may" or "might" are used only in those instances where a potential or ideal result, rather than an actual result, is being described. Analyze these examples:

Tanta fēcit ut urbem servāret. He did such great things that he saved the city.
(Result)

Haec fēcit ut urbem servāret. He did these things so that he might save the city.
(Purpose)

Tam strēnuē labōrat ut multa perficiat. He works so energetically that he accomplishes many things. (Result)

Strēnuē labōrat ut multa perficiat. He works energetically so that he may accomplish many things. (Purpose)

Hoc tantā benevolentīā dixit ut eōs nōn offenderet. He said this with such great kindness that he did not offend them. (Result)

Hoc magnā benevolentīā dixit nē eōs offenderet. He said this with great kindness in order that he might not offend them. (Purpose)

Saltus erat angustus, ut paucī Graecī multōs militēs prohibēre possent. The pass was narrow, so that a few Greeks were able to stop many soldiers.
(Result)

Note that in this last example there is no "signal word" such as *ita* or *tam* in the main clause, but it is clear from the context that the *ut* clause indicates the result, not the purpose, of the narrowness of the pass.

VOCĀBVLA

Nothing too unusual in this new list: *moenia* was regularly employed only in the plural, just as when speaking in English of defensive fortifications, we refer to a city's "walls" not "wall"; one word for a wall of a house, by the way, is *mūrus*, which

gives us "mural." Practice conjugating a few of the verbs in this list in the newly introduced imperfect subjunctive—and why not the present subjunctive too!

fātum, fātī, n., fate; death (fatal, fatalism, fatality, fateful, fairy; *fābula* and *fāma* are from the same stem)

ingénium, ingénī, n., nature, innate talent (ingenuity, genius, genial, congenial; cf. *genus, gēns*, and *gignere, to create, give birth to*)

moénia, moénium, n. pl., walls of a city (munitions, ammunition; cf. *mūnire, to fortify*)

nāta, nātae, f., daughter (prenatal, postnatal, Natalie; cf. *nātūra*)

ōsculum, ōsculī, n., kiss (osculate, osculation; cf. *ōs*)

sīdus, sīderis, n., constellation, star (sidereal, consider, desire)

dignus, digna, dignum + abl., worthy, worthy of (dignify, dignity from *dignitās*, indignation from *indignātiō*, deign, disdain, dainty)

dūrus, dūra, dūrum, hard, harsh, rough, stern, unfeeling, hardy, difficult (dour, durable, duration, during, duress, endure, obdurate)

tāntus, tānta, tāntum, so large, so great, of such a size (tantamount; do not confuse with the adv. *tantum, only*)

dēnique, adv., at last, finally, lastly

ita, adv. used with adjs., verbs, and advs., so, thus

quīdem, postpositive adv., indeed, certainly, at least, even; nē . . . quīdem, not . . . even (do not confuse with *quīdam, certain*)

sīc, adv. most commonly with verbs, so, thus (sic)

tam, adv. with adjs. and advs., so, to such a degree; tam . . . quam, so . . . as; tamquam, as it were, as if, so to speak

vērō, adv., in truth, indeed, to be sure, however (very, verily, etc.; cf. *vērus, vēritās*)

cóndō, cóndere, cóndidī, cónditum, to put together or into, store; found, establish (= *con- + dō, dare*; condiment, abscond, recondite)

conténdō, conténdere, conténdī, conténtum, to strive, struggle, contend; hasten (contender, contentious; cf. *tendō, to stretch, extend*)

mólliō, mollīre, mollīvī, mollítum, to soften; make calm or less hostile (mollescent, mollify, mollusk, emollient; cf. *mollis, soft, mild*)

púgnō, pugnāre, pugnāvī, pugnátum, to fight (pugnacious, impugn, pugilist)

respóndeō, respondēre, respóndī, respónsum, to answer (respond, response, responsive, responsibility, correspond)

súrgō, súrgere, surréxī, surréctum, to get up, arise (surge, resurgent, resurrection, insurgent, insurrection, source, resource)

LĒCTIŌ ET TRĀNSLĀTIŌ

The challenge in these readings is to distinguish between purpose and result clauses, both of which may be introduced by **ut**: if you see **tam, tantus, ita, or sīc**

in the main clause, the *ut*-clause indicates result; likewise an *ut*-clause that contains *nōn*, *numquam*, or *nēmō* is a negative result clause, whereas negative purpose clauses are introduced by *nē*. Remember that the verb in a result clause is generally translated without "may" or "might," which are commonly used in English to signal purpose rather than result.

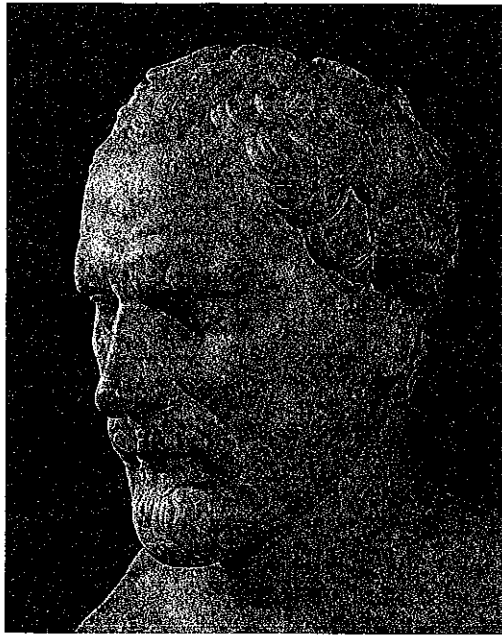
EXERCITATIONĒS

1. Princeps arma meliōra in manibus militum posuit, ut hostēs terrerent.
2. Hostēs quidem negāvērunt sē arma dissimilia habere.
3. Pars militum lūcem diēi vitāvit nē hīc vidērentur.
4. Sōlem primam lūcem caelī superī, lūnam primam lūcem vesperī, et stellās oculōs noctis appellābant.
5. Illi adulēscentēs sapientiae dēnique cēdant ut feliciōrēs hīs sint.
6. Sapientēs putant beneficia esse potentiōra quam verba acerba et turpia.
7. Quīdam magister verba tam dūra discipulis dixit ut essent trīstēs atque discēderent.
8. Respondērunt auctōrem hōrum novem remediōrum esse medicam potentissimam.
9. Nihil vērō tam facile est ut sine labōre id facere possimus.
10. Prō labōre studiōque patria nostra nobīs plūrimās occāsionēs bonās praestat.
11. Parentēs plūrima ōscula dederunt nātae pulcherrimae gracilique, in quā maximam dēlectatiōnem semper inveniēbant.
12. The words of the philosopher were very difficult, so that those listening were unable to learn them.
13. The two women wished to understand these things so that they might not live base lives.
14. Those four wives were so pleasant that they received very many kindnesses.
15. He said that the writer's third poem was so beautiful that it delighted the minds of thousands of citizens.

SENTENTIAE ANTĪQUAE

1. Omnia vincit Amor; et nōs cēdāmus Amōrī. (Vergil.)
2. Urbem clārissimam condidī; mea moenia vidī; explēvi cursum quem Fāta dederant. (Vergil.)
3. Ita dūrus erās ut neque amōre neque precibus molliri possēs. (Terence.—*prex, precis, f., prayer; "precarious," "imprecation," "pray."*)
4. Nēmō quidem tam ferōx est ut nōn molliri possit, culturā datā. (Horace.—*cultūra, -ae, f.; "agriculture," "horticulture."*)
5. Difficile est saturam nōn scribere; nam quis est tam patiēns malae urbis ut sē teneat? (Juvenal.—*patiēns, gen. -entis, tolerant of; "patience."*)

6. Fuit quondam in hāc rē pūblicā tanta virtūs ut virī fortēs cīvem perniciosum ācriōribus poenīs quam acerbissimum hostem reprimerent. (Cicero.—perniciōsus, -a, -um, *pernicious*.—re-primō, cf. opprimō; “repress,” “reprimand.”)
7. Ita praeclāra est recuperātiō libertātis ut nē mors quidem in hāc rē sit fugienda. (Cicero.—recuperātiō, -ōnis, f., *recovery*; “recuperate.”)
8. Nē ratiōnēs meōrum periculōrum ūtilitātem rēi pūblīcae vincant. (Cicero.—ūtilitās, -tātis, f., *advantage*; cf. ūtilis; “utilitarian,” “utility.”)
9. Eō tempore Athēniēsēs tantam virtūtem praestitērunt ut decemplicem numerum hostium superārent, et hōs sic perterrūrunt ut in Āsiam refugerent. (Nepos.—Athēniēsēs, -ium, *Athenians*.—decemplex, -plicis, *tenfold*.—per + terreō.)
10. Orātor exemplum dignum petat ab Dēmosthene illō, in quō tantum studium tantusque labor fuisse dīcuntur ut impedīmenta nātūrae diligentīā industriāque superāret. (Cicero.—exemplum, -ī, n., *example*; “exemplify,” “sample.”—Dēmostenēs, -thenis, m., a famous Greek orator.—impedīmentum, -ī, n.; “impede.”—diligentia, -ae, f.; “diligently.”—industria, -ae, f.; “industrious.”)



*Marble head of Demosthenes
Roman copy of a 3rd cent. B.C. bronze
statue by Polyektos
Louvre, Paris, France*

11. Praecepta tua sint brevia ut cito mentēs plūrium discipulōrum ea discant te-
neantque memoriā fidēli. (Horace.—praeceptum, -ī, n., *precept*; “preceptor.”)
12. Nihil tam difficile est ut nōn possit studiō invēstīgārī. (Terence.—invēstīgāre,
to track down, investigate; “investigation,” “vestige.”)
13. Bellum autem ita suscipiātur ut nihil nisi pāx quaesita esse videātur. (Cicero.)
14. Tanta est vīs probitātis ut eam etiam in hoste diligāmus. (Cicero.)

How Many Kisses Are Enough?

Quaeris, Lesbia, quot bāsia tua sint mihi satis? Tam multa bāsia quam magnus numerus Libyssae harēnae aut quam sīdera multa quae, ubi tacet nox, furtivōs amōrēs hominum vident—tam bāsia multa (nēmō numerum scīre potest) sunt satis Catullō insānō!

Catullus *Carm.* 7: In an earlier poem (*Carm.* 5, which you will read in its entirety in Capvt XXXI) Catullus had begged Lesbia for hundreds and thousands of kisses and a life immersed in love; in this prose adaptation of *Carm.* 7 (for verse excerpts from the poem, see *Locī Im.* II) the poet imagines his mistress coolly asking just *exactly* how many kisses he wants.—quot . . . sint: an **IND. QUEST.**, a construction formally introduced in Capvt XXX but easily understood here.—Libyssus, -a, -um, *Libyan, African.*—harēna, -ae, f., *sand*, here = *grains of sand*; “arena.”—furtivus, -a, -um, *stolen, secret*; “furtive.”—insānus, -a, -um: = Eng.; “insanity.”

QVAESTIŌNĒS: Catullus’ response is as calculated as Lesbia’s question; how are his analogies alike and yet different?—try to visualize them both—how do they look different and, in a sense, even “feel” different?

The Nervousness of Even a Great Orator

Ego dehinc ut respondērem surrēxī. Quā sollicitūdine animī surgēbam—dī immortālēs—et quō timōre! Semper quidem magnō cum metū incipiō dicere. Quotiēscumque dicō, mihi videor in iūdicium venire nōn solum ingeniū sed etiam virtūtis atque officīi. Tum vērō ita sum perturbātus ut omnia timērem. Dēnique mē collēgi et sic pugnāvī, sic omnī ratiōne contendī ut nēmō mē neglēxisse illam causam putāret.

Cicero *Cluent.* 51: Cicero’s speech *Prō Cluentiō*, *In Defense of Cluentius*, resulted in the acquittal of a man accused by his mother of poisoning his step-father; this passage is interesting, as it shows the trepidation that can plague even the greatest of public speakers.—sollicitūdō, -dinis, f., *anxiety*; “solicit,” “solicitous.”—quotiēscumque, adv., *as often as, whenever.*—ingeniū . . . virtūtis . . . officīi: all modify iūdicium.—perturbāre, *to disturb, confuse*; “perturbation,” “imperturbable.”—colligō, -ere, -lēgi, -lēctum, *to gather, collect, control*; “collection,” “recollect.”

QVAESTIŌNĒS: Cicero’s concern over public opinion was a great source of anxiety; explain in your own words the three areas in which he feared he might be judged lacking. By what multiple means did he overcome his concerns on this occasion and win his case?

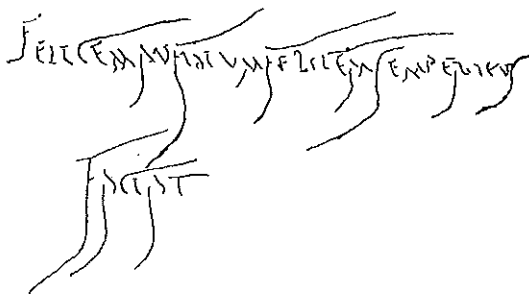
You’re All Just Wonderful!

Nē laudet dignōs, laudat Callistratus omnēs:
cui malus est nēmō, quis bonus esse potest?

*Martial *Epig.* 12.80: meter: elegiac couplet.—*dignōs*: i.e., *only the deserving*.—*Callistratus*: a Greek name, meant to suggest perhaps a former slave.—*quis . . . potest*: supply *eī*, antecedent of *cui*, *to a man to whom*.

QVAESTIŌNĒS: Explain the ethical implications of the question Martial poses in line 2; why would befriending someone like Callistratus ultimately be meaningless?—have you ever known such a person?

SCRĪPTA IN PARIETIBVS



Fēlicem Aufidium, fēlicem, semper deus faciat!

CIL 4.6815: If this prayer, written with a flourish between two doors of an apartment house (Reg. VI, Ins. 16), achieved its purpose, Aufidius was a very lucky guy!—*Fēlicem*: repeated for emphasis, a rhetorical device known as **ANAPHORA**; or, as some editors suppose, the second occurrence of the word may be the man's cognomen, i.e., his name was Aufidius Felix and the writer is engaging in a bit of name-play, a favorite type of Roman humor.

ETYMOLOGIA

The adverbial ending **-mente** or **-ment** so common in Romance languages derives from Lat. *mente* (abl. of *mēns*) used originally as an abl. of manner but reduced to an adverbial suffix. The following examples are based on Lat. adjectives which have already appeared in the vocabularies:

Latin Words	It. Adverb	Sp. Adverb	Fr. Adverb
dūrā mente	duramente	duramente	durement
clārā mente	chiaramente	claramente	clairement
sōlā mente	solamente	solamente	seulement
certā mente	certamente	certamente	certainement
dulcī mente	dolcemente	dulcemente	doucement
brevī mente	brevemente	brevemente	brèvement
facilī mente	facilmente	fácilmente	facilement

Present		Subjunctive Active		
laudem	moneam	agam	audiam	capiam
laudēs	moneās	agās	audiās	capiās
laudet	moneat	agat	audiat	capiat
laudēmus	moneāmus	agāmus	audiāmus	capiāmus
laudētis	moneātis	agātis	audiātis	capiātis
laudent	moneant	agant	audiant	capiant
Imperfect				
laudārem	monērem	agerem	audīrem	caperem
laudārēs	monērēs	agerēs	audīrēs	caperēs
laudāret	monēret	ageret	audīret	caperet
laudārēmus	monērēmus	agerēmus	audīrēmus	caperēmus
laudārētis	monērētis	agerētis	audīrētis	caperētis
laudārent	monērent	agerent	audīrent	caperent
Perfect				
laudāverim	monuerim	ēgerim	audīverim	cēperim
laudāverīs	monuerīs	ēgerīs	audīverīs	cēperīs
laudāverit	monuerit	ēgerit	audīverit	cēperit
laudāverīmus	monuerīmus	ēgerīmus	audīverīmus	cēperīmus
laudāverītis	monuerītis	ēgerītis	audīverītis	cēperītis
laudāverint	monuerint	ēgerint	audīverint	cēperint
Pluperfect				
laudāvissem	monuisssem	ēgisssem	audīvissem	cēpisssem
laudāvissēs	monuissēs	ēgissēs	audīvissēs	cēpissēs
laudāvisset	monuisset	ēgisset	audīvisset	cēpisset
laudāvissēmus	monuissēmus	ēgissēmus	audīvissēmus	cēpissēmus
laudāvissētis	monuissētis	ēgissētis	audīvissētis	cēpissētis
laudāvissent	monuissent	ēgissent	audīvissent	cēpissent
		Present Imperative Active		
laudā	monē	age	audi	cape
laudāte	monēte	agite	audite	capite
		Indicative Passive		
Present				
laudor	moneor	agor	audior	capior
laudāris(-re)	monēris(-re)	ageris(-re)	audiris(-re)	caperis(-re)
laudātur	monētur	agitur	auditur	capitur
laudāmur	monēmur	agimur	audimur	capimur
laudāminī	monēminī	agimini	audimini	capimini
laudantur	monentur	aguntur	audiuntur	capiuntur
Imperfect				
laudābar	monēbar	agēbar	audiēbar	capīēbar
laudābāris(-re)	monēbāris(-re)	agēbāris(-re)	audiēbāris(-re)	capīēbāris(-re)
laudābātur	monēbātur	agēbātur	audiēbātur	capīēbātur
laudābāmur	monēbāmur	agēbāmur	audiēbāmur	capīēbāmur
laudābāminī	monēbāminī	agēbāminī	audiēbāminī	capīēbāminī
laudābantur	monēbantur	agēbantur	audiēbantur	capīēbantur

Future

laudabor	monēbor	agar	audiar	capiar
laudāberis(-re)	monēberis(-re)	agēris(-re)	audiēris(-re)	capīeris(-re)
laudābitur	monēbitur	agētur	audiētur	capīētur
laudābimur	monēbimur	agēmur	audiēmur	capīēmur
laudābiminī	monēbiminī	agēminī	audiēminī	capīēminī
laudābuntur	monēbuntur	agentur	audientur	capientur

Perfect

laudātus ¹² sum	monitus sum	actus sum	auditus sum	captus sum
laudātus es	monitus es	actus es	auditus es	captus es
laudātus est	monitus est	actus est	auditus est	captus est
laudāti sumus	monitī sumus	actī sumus	audītī sumus	captī sumus
laudāti estis	monitī estis	actī estis	audītī estis	captī estis
laudātī sunt	monitī sunt	actī sunt	audītī sunt	captī sunt

Pluperfect

laudātus eram	monitus eram	actus eram	auditus eram	captus eram
laudātus erās	monitus erās	actus erās	auditus erās	captus erās
laudātus erat	monitus erat	actus erat	auditus erat	captus erat
laudāti erāmus	monitī erāmus	actī erāmus	audītī erāmus	captī erāmus
laudāti erātis	monitī erātis	actī erātis	audītī erātis	captī erātis
laudātī erant	monitī erant	actī erant	audītī erant	captī erant

Future Perfect

laudātus erō	monitus erō	actus erō	auditus erō	captus erō
laudātus eris	monitus eris	actus eris	auditus eris	captus eris
laudātus erit	monitus erit	actus erit	auditus erit	captus erit
laudāti erimus	monitī erimus	actī erimus	audītī erimus	captī erimus
laudāti eritis	monitī eritis	actī eritis	audītī eritis	captī eritis
laudātī erunt	monitī erunt	actī erunt	audītī erunt	captī erunt

Subjunctive Passive**Present**

laudē	monear	agar	audiar	capiar
laudēris(-re)	moneāris(-re)	agāris(-re)	audiāris(-re)	capīāris(-re)
laudētur	moneātur	agātur	audiātur	capīātur
laudēmur	moneāmur	agāmur	audiāmur	capīāmur
laudēminī	moneāminī	agāminī	audiāminī	capīāminī
laudentur	moneantur	agantur	audiantur	capiantur

Imperfect

laudārer	monērer	agerer	audīrer	caperer
laudārēris(-re)	monērēris(-re)	agerēris(-re)	audīrēris(-re)	caperēris(-re)
laudārētur	monērētur	agerētur	audīrētur	caperētur
laudārēmur	monērēmur	agerēmur	audīrēmur	caperēmur
laudārēminī	monērēminī	agerēminī	audīrēminī	caperēminī
laudārentur	monērentur	agerentur	audīrentur	caperentur

¹² The participles *laudātus* (-a, -um), *monitus* (-a, -um), etc., are used as predicate adjectives, and so their endings vary to agree with the subject.