

CAPVT XXX

Perfect and Pluperfect Subjunctive; Indirect Questions; Sequence of Tenses

GRAMMATICA

PERFECT AND PLUPERFECT SUBJUNCTIVE

Perfect system subjunctives, like perfect system indicatives, all follow the same basic rules of formation, regardless of the conjugation to which they belong. For the perfect subjunctive active, add *-erī-* + the personal endings to the perfect stem (shortening the *-i-* before *-m*, *-t*, and *-nt*); for the pluperfect active, add *-issē-* + the personal endings to the perfect stem (shortening the *-e-* before *-m*, etc.). For the passives, substitute the subjunctives *sim* and *essem* for the equivalent indicatives *sum* and *eram*. The forms of *laudō* are shown below; those for the other model verbs (which follow the very same pattern) are provided in the Appendix (p. 502–04).

Perfect Subjunctive Active

Sg. *laudāv-erim, laudāverīs, laudāverit*
Pl. *laudāverīmus, laudāverītis, laudāverint*

Note that these forms are identical to those of the future perfect indicative except for the first person singular and the long *-ī-* in certain of the subjunctive forms; the identical forms can be distinguished as indicative or subjunctive by sentence context.

Pluperfect Subjunctive Active

Sg. *laudāv-íssem, laudāvíssēs, laudāvísset*
Pl. *laudāvíssēmus, laudāvíssētis, laudāvísSENT*

These forms resemble the perfect active infinitive, *laudāvisse*, + the endings (with the *-ē-* long except before *-m*, etc.; cf. the imperfect subjunctive, which resembles the present active infinitive + endings).

Perfect Subjunctive Passive

Sg.	<i>laudātus, -a, -um sim, laudātus sīs, laudātus sit</i>
Pl.	<i>laudātī, -ae, -a sīmus, laudātī sītis, laudātī sint</i>

Pluperfect Subjunctive Passive

Sg.	<i>laudātus, -a, -um essem, laudātus essēs, laudātus esset</i>
Pl.	<i>laudātī, -ae, -a essēmus, laudātī essētis, laudātī essent</i>

Translation and Usage

As with the present and imperfect subjunctives, the perfect and pluperfect are employed in a variety of clauses (in accordance with the sequence of tenses discussed below) and with a variety of translations. Just as "may" and "might/would" are *sometimes* used in translating the present and imperfect, respectively, so "may have" and "might have/would have" are *sometimes* employed with the perfect and pluperfect; likewise, they are often translated as simple indicatives: the best procedure is to learn the rules for translation of each clause type.

Synopsis

You can now conjugate a verb fully in all of its finite forms; following is a complete third person singular synopsis of *agō, agere, ēgī, āctum*:

Indicative Mood

	Pres.	Fut.	Imperf.	Perf.	Fut.Perf.	Pluperf.
Act.	<i>āgit</i>	<i>āget</i>	<i>agēbat</i>	<i>ēgit</i>	<i>ēgerit</i>	<i>ēgerat</i>
Pass.	<i>āgitur</i>	<i>agētur</i>	<i>agēbātur</i>	<i>āctus est</i>	<i>āctus erit</i>	<i>āctus erat</i>

Subjunctive Mood

	Pres.	Fut.	Imperf.	Perf.	Fut.Perf.	Pluperf.
Act.	<i>āgat</i>	—	<i>āgeret</i>	<i>ēgerit</i>	—	<i>ēgisset</i>
Pass.	<i>agātur</i>	—	<i>agerētur</i>	<i>āctus sit</i>	—	<i>āctus esset</i>

INDIRECT QUESTIONS

Definition: An INDIRECT QUESTION is a subordinate clause which reports a question indirectly, not via a direct quotation (e.g., "they asked what Gaius was doing" vs. "they asked, 'What is Gaius doing?'"); as such, it is comparable in concept to an indirect statement, which reports indirectly, not a question, but a statement (Capvt XXV). **Recognition:** The indirect question uses a subjunctive verb (not an infinitive, like an indirect statement) and is distinguished from other subjunctive clauses as it is introduced by an interrogative word such as *quis/quid, quī/quae/quod* (the interrogative adjective), *quam, quandō, cūr, ubi, unde, uter, utrum . . .* an (*whether . . . or*), *-ne* (attached to the clause's first word, = *whether*), etc.; the verb in the main clause is ordinarily a verb of speech, mental activity, or sense perception (including many of the same verbs that introduce indirect statements, listed in Capvt XXV). **Translation:** The subjunctive verb in an indirect question is usually translated as an indicative in the same tense, i.e., without any auxiliary such as "may" or "might." Compare the first three examples below, which are direct questions, with the next three, which contain indirect questions:

Quid Gāius facit?	<i>What is Gaius doing?</i>
Quid Gāius fēcit?	<i>What did Gaius do?</i>
Quid Gāius faciet?	<i>What will Gaius do?</i>
Rogant quid Gāius faciat.	<i>They ask what Gaius is doing.</i>
Rogant quid Gāius fēcerit.	<i>They ask what Gaius did.</i>
Rogant quid Gāius factūrus sit.	<i>They ask what Gaius will do</i> <i>(lit., is about to do).</i>

Factūrus sit in this last example is a form sometimes called the FUTURE ACTIVE PERIPHRASTIC; in the absence of an actual future subjunctive, this combination of a form of *sum* + the future active participle (cf. the passive periphrastic, consisting of *sum* + the future passive participle, Capvt XXIV) was occasionally employed to indicate future time unambiguously in certain types of clauses, including the indirect question. In this last example, if the main verb were a past tense, then (in accordance with the rules for sequence of tenses) the sentence would be *rogāvērunt quid Gaius factūrus esset*, *they asked what Gaius would do (was about to do, was going to do)*.

SEQUENCE OF TENSES

In Latin as in English there is a logical sequence of tenses as the speaker or writer proceeds from a main clause to a subordinate clause. The rule in Latin is simple: a PRIMARY TENSE of the indicative must be followed by a primary tense of the subjunctive, and an indicative HISTORICAL (OR SECONDARY) TENSE must be followed by a historical subjunctive tense, as illustrated in the following chart:

Group	Main Verb	Subordinate Subjunctive
Primary	Pres. or Fut.	{ Present (= action <i>at same time</i> or <i>after</i>) Perfect (= action <i>before</i>)
Historical	Past Tenses	{ Imperfect (= action <i>at same time</i> or <i>after</i>) Pluperfect (= action <i>before</i>)

After a primary main verb the *present* subjunctive indicates action occurring *at the same time* as that of the main verb or *after* that of the main verb; the *perfect* subjunctive indicates action which occurred *before* that of the main verb. Similarly after a historical main verb the *imperfect* subjunctive indicates action occurring *at the same time* as that of the main verb or *after* that of the main verb, and the *pluperfect* subjunctive indicates action *before* that of the main verb. The primary tenses of the indicative, the present and future, both indicate *incomplete* actions (i.e., actions now going on, in the present, or only to be begun in the future), while the historical tenses, as the term implies, refer to past actions.

The rules for the sequence of tenses operate in purpose clauses, result clauses, indirect questions, and similar constructions to be introduced in subsequent chapters; analyze carefully the sequencing in each of the following examples:

Id facit (faciet) ut mē iuuet. He does (will do) it to help me.

Id fēcit (faciēbat) ut mē iuvāret. He did (kept doing) it to help me.

Tam dūrus est ut eum vitēm. He is so harsh that I avoid him.

Tam dūrus fuit (erat) ut eum vitārem. He was so harsh that I avoided him.

Rogant, rogābunt—They ask, will ask

quid faciat. what he is doing.

quid fēcerit. what he did.

quid factūrus sit. what he will (is about to) do.

Rogāvērunt, rogābant—They asked, kept asking

quid faceret. what he was doing.

quid fēcisset. what he had done.

quid factūrus esset. what he would (was about to) do.

There are two common exceptions to the rules for sequence of tenses: a **HISTORICAL PRESENT** main verb (a present tense used for the vivid narration of past events: "I'm sitting in my room last night, when suddenly I hear a knock at the door") often takes a historical sequence subjunctive, and a perfect tense main verb, when focusing on the present consequences of the past action, may be followed by a primary sequence subjunctive (see Exerc. 8 below). Note, too, that since purpose and result clauses logically describe actions that *follow* the actions of the main verb, they do not ordinarily contain perfect or pluperfect tense verbs, which indicate *prior* action.

VOCĀBVLA

A few unusual items: *cēterī* has only plural forms for the same reason as *paucī*, i.e., because the meaning essentially connotes plurality; *tantus . . . quantus*, when employed together, are known as CORRELATIVE ADJECTIVES, comparable to the correlative conjunctions *et . . . et* and *aut . . . aut*; the verb *cognōscō/nōscō* in the perfect means *I have learned*, and since, once you have learned something, you "know" it, the word's perfect tense is often translated with present force, e.g., *cognōvit* = *she has learned* or *she knows*, and similarly *nōverant* = *they had learned/they knew*. As you learn the verbs in this list, practice conjugating a few of them in the perfect and pluperfect subjunctive, and do a synopsis of one or two as well, then compare your work with the paradigms.

honor, honōris, m., honor, esteem; public office (honorable, honorary, honorific, dishonor, honest)

cēterī, cēterae, cētera, pl., the remaining, the rest, the other, all the others; cf. alius, another, other (etc. = *et cetera*)

quāntus, quānta, quāntum, how large, how great, how much (quantify, quantity, quantitative, quantum); *tāntus . . . quāntus, just as much (many) . . . as*

rīdīculus, rīdīcula, rīdīculum, laughable, ridiculous (ridicule; cf. *rīdeō*)

vīvus, vīva, vīvum, alive, living (vivid, vivify, convivial; cf. *vīvō, vīta*)

fūrtim, adv., stealthily, secretly (furtively, ferret; cf. *fūrtīvus, -a, -um, secret, furtive; fūr, fūris, m./f., thief*)

mox, adv., soon

prīmō, adv., at first, at the beginning (cf. *prīmus, -a, -um*)

repēnte, adv., suddenly

ūnde, adv., whence, from what or which place, from which, from whom

ūtrum . . . an, conj., whether . . . or

bībō, bibere, bībī, to drink (bib, bibulous, imbibe, wine-bibber, beverage)

cognōscō, cognōscere, cognōvī, cognitum and (its base form) *nōscō, nōscere, nōvī, nōtum, to become acquainted with, learn, recognize; in perf. tenses, know* (cognizance, cognition, connoisseur, incognito, reconnaissance, reconnoiter, notice, notify, notion, notorious)

comprehēdō, comprehendere, comprehendī, comprehēsum, to grasp, seize, arrest; comprehend, understand (comprehensive, comprehensible)

cōnsūmō, cōnsūmere, cōnsūmpsī, cōnsūptum, to consume, use up (consumer, consumption, assume, assumption, presume, presumption, presumptuous, resume, resumption; cf. *sūmere, to take*)

dūbitō, dubitāre, dubitāvī, dubitātum, to doubt, hesitate (dubious, dubitable, doubtful, doubtless, indubitable, undoubtedly)

expōnō, expōnere, expōsuī, expōsitum, to set forth, explain, expose (exponent, exposition, expository, expound)

mínuō, minúere, mínuī, minútum, to lessen, diminish (cf. *minor, minus, minus; diminish, diminutive, minuet, minute, minutiae, menu*)
rógō, rogáre, rogávi, rogátum, to ask (interrogate, abrogate, arrogant, derogatory, prerogative, surrogate)

LĒCTIŌ ET TRĀNSLĀTIŌ

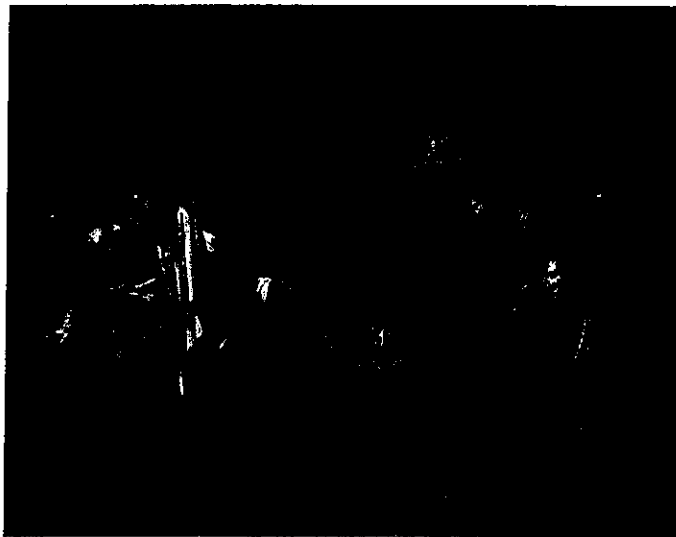
Before reading the following selections, be sure you have memorized the paradigms and *Vocābula* and assessed your mastery by answering the grammar questions and translating some of the sentences in the Self-Tutorial Exercises for this chapter (p. 436–37); check your answers to the Exercises against the key (p. 471–72), analyze any errors, and review accordingly. Scan through the readings below for all subjunctive verbs and identify the clause type in which each appears; recall that “may” or “might” are commonly employed when translating verbs in purpose clauses into English, but subjunctives in result clauses or indirect questions are usually translated simply as indicatives, without any auxiliary.

EXERCITĀTIONĒS

1. Rogāvit ubi illae duae discipulae dignae haec didicissent.
2. Vidēbit quanta fuerit vīs illōrum verbōrum fēlicium.
3. Hās insidiās repente exposuit nē rēs pública opprimerētur.
4. Hī taceant et trēs cēterī expellantur nē occāsiōnem similem habeant.
5. Ita dūrus erat ut beneficia nē parentum quidem comprehendere posset.
6. Cēterī quidem nesciēbant quam ācris esset mēns nātae eōrum.
7. Dēnique princeps cognōscet cūr potentior pars militum nōs vītet.
8. Iam cognōvī cūr clāra facta vērō nōn sint facillima.
9. Quīdam auctōrēs appellābant arma optimum remedium malōrum.
10. Mortuīs haec arma mox dēdicēmus nē honōre egeant.
11. Fātō duce, Rōmulus Remusque Rōmam condidērunt; et, Remō necātō, moenia urbis novae cito surrēxērunt.
12. Tell me in what lands liberty is found.
13. We did not know where the sword had finally been put.
14. He does not understand the first book which they wrote about the moon, stars, and constellations.
15. They asked why you could not learn what the rest had done.
16. Let all men now seek better things than money or supreme power so that their souls may be happier.

SENTENTIAE ANTĪQVAE

1. Nunc vidētis quantum scelus contrā rem pūblicam et lēgēs nostrās vōbīs prōnūntiātum sit. (Cicero.)
2. Quam dulcis sit libertās vōbīs prōtinus dīcam. (Phaedrus.)
3. Rogābat dēnique cūr umquam ex urbe cessissent. (Horace.)
4. Nunc sciō quid sit amor. (*Vergil.)
5. Videāmus uter hīc in mediō forō plūs scribere possit. (Horace.)
6. Multī dubitābant quid optimum esset. (*Cicero.)
7. Incipiam expōnere unde nātūra omnēs rēs creet atque. (Lucretius.)
8. Dulce est vidēre quibus malīs ipse careās. (Lucretius.)
9. Auctōrem Trōiānī bellī relēgī, quī dicit quid sit pulchrum, quid turpe, quid ūtile, quid nōn. (Horace.—Trōiānus, -a, -um, *Trojan*.)
10. Doctōs rogābis quā ratiōne bene agere cursum vītae possīs, utrum virtūtem doctrīna paret an nātūra ingeniumque dent, quid minuat cūrās, quid tē amīcum tibi faciat. (Horace.—doctrīna, -ae, f., *teaching*; “doctrine,” “indoctrinate.”)
11. Istī autem rogant tantum quid habeās, nōn cūr et unde. (Seneca.)
12. Errat, quī finem vēsānī quaerit amōris: vērus amor nūllum nōvit habēre modum. (*Propertius.—vēsānus, -a, -um, *insane*.)
13. Sed tempus est iam mē discēdere ut cicūtā bibam, et vōs discēdere ut vītam agātis. Utrum autem sit melius, dī immortalēs sciunt; hominem quidem nēminem scire crēdō. (Cicero.—Socrates’ parting words to the jury which had condemned him to death.—cicūta, -ae, f., *hemlock*; “cicutoxin.”—nēminem: = nūllum.)



The Death of Socrates. Charles Alphonse Dufresnoy. Oil on canvas, 17th cent.
Galleria Palatina, Palazzo Pitti, Florence, Italy

Evidence and Confession

Sit dēnique scriptum in fronte ūnius cuiusque quid dē rē publicā sentiat; nam rem publicam labōribus cōsiliisque meīs ex igne atque ferrō ēreptam esse vidētis. Haec iam expōnam breviter ut scīre possītis quā ratiōne comprehēnsa sint. Semper prōvidi quō modō in tantis insidiis salvī esse possēmus. Omnēs diēs cōsūpsī ut vidērem quid coniūrātī actūrī essent. Dēnique litterās intercipere potuī quae ad Catilinam ā Lentulō aliisque coniūrātīs missae erant. Tum, coniūrātīs comprehēnsīs et senātū convocātō, contendī in senātum, ostendi litterās Lentulō, quaesivī cognōsceretne signum. Dixit sē cognōscere; sed primō dubitāvit et negāvit sē dē hīs rēbus respōnsurum esse. Mox autem ostendit quanta esset vīs cōscientiae; nam repente mollitus est atque omnem rem nārāvit. Tum cēterī coniūrātī tam fūrtim inter sē aspiciēbant ut nōn ab aliis indicārī sed indicāre sē ipsī vidērentur.

Cicero *Cat.* 1 and 3: Cicero finally succeeded in forcing Catiline to leave Rome, but some of his henchmen remained in the city and tangible evidence was still needed to prove their guilt; in this selection, adapted from passages in his first and third Catilinarian orations, Cicero shows how he finally obtained that evidence and even extracted a confession from Publius Cornelius Lentulus Sura, a disgraced former consul and Catiline's second in command. Be sure to review the readings and notes on the Catilinarian conspiracy in *Capita* XI, XIV, and XX; a final reading, "Testimony Against the Conspirators," appears in *Capvt* XXXVI.—frōns, frontis, f., *brow, face*; "frontal," "affront."—breviter: adv. of brevis.—prō-vidēō, to *fore-see, give attention to*; "provide," "provident."—intercipiō, -ere, -cēpī, -ceptum, = Eng.; "interception," "interceptor."—cognōsceretne: when introducing an ind. quest., -ne = *whether*.—cōscientia, -ae, f., *conscience*; "conscientious," "unconscionable."—inter sē aspiciō, -ere, to *glance at each other*; "aspect."—indicāre, to *accuse*; "indication," "indicative."—sē ipsī: a lit. Eng. translation might produce the unfortunate redundancy *themselves . . . themselves*, but in Lat. of course the words are identical in neither form nor function and would in no way sound odd.

QVAESTIŌNĒS: What incriminating evidence had Cicero obtained against the conspirators, and how did it lead to Lentulus' confession?

A Covered Dish Dinner!

Mēnsās, Ōle, bonās pōnis, sed pōnis opertās.

Rīdiculum est: possum sic ego habēre bonās.

**Martial Epig.* 10.54: Olus was the sort of stingy host often targeted in Roman satire—one might as well dine at home! Meter: elegiac couplet.—mēnsās: here, as often, the word refers not to *tables* but to the *dishes*, i.e., the platters of food, set out on them at dinner.—opertus, -a, -um, *concealed, covered*; "coverlet," "covert."—sic: here better rendered (*in*) *that way*, rather than simply "so" or "thus."—ego: i.e., even a "poor" fellow like the speaker could host fancy dinner parties!

QVAESTIŌNĒS: Explain exactly what tantalizing circumstance the speaker is complaining about in line 1; how does word order underscore the point in that line, and echo it in the following verse as well?

A Legacy-hunter's Wish

Nil mihi dās vivus; dīcis post fāta datūrum:
sī nōn es stultus, scīs, Maro, quid cupiam!

*Martial *Epig.* 11.67: The speaker wants something Maro is just dying to give him! For Rome's captātōrēs, see "When I Have . . . Enough," Capvt IX above. Meter: elegiac couplet.—nīl: a common variant for nihil.—fāta: poetic pl. for sg., = mortem.—datūrum: = tē datūrum esse.

QVAESTIŌNĒS: What does the speaker want, so that he can get, well, what he wants? Identify the chiasmus in line 1, and explain its purpose.

Note on a Copy of Catullus' *Carmina*

Tantum magna suō dēbet Vērōna Catullō
quantum parva suō Mantua Vergiliō.

*Martial *Epig.* 14.195: A gift-note from the Apophorēta (see "Message from a Bookcase," in Capvt XIX), and a high compliment to Catullus, who was a favorite of Martial's and a major influence on his epigrams. Meter: elegiac couplet.—Vērōna . . . Mantua: Verona and Mantua, both towns in northern Italy (see Map 1), were the birthplaces of Catullus and Vergil respectively.—magna suō . . . Vērōna Catullō: this kind of ABAB arrangement (adj. A . . . adj. B . . . noun A . . . noun B), known as **INTERLOCKED WORD ORDER**, is common in Lat. verse.

QVAESTIŌNĒS: Comment on the word order in the second verse, and on the parallel structure of the two lines; how is the parallelism suited to the point Martial is making?

SCRIPTA IN PARIETIBVS

Sic [t]i[b]i contingat semper florere, Sabīna,
contingat fōrmæ, sisque puella diū.

11

