

Relative Clauses of Characteristic; Dative of Reference; Supines

GRAMMATICA

RELATIVE CLAUSES OF CHARACTERISTIC

The type of relative clause you have encountered thus far provides some factual description of its antecedent, an actual person or thing, and thus has an indicative verb (Capvt XVII); e.g., *haec est discipula quae Latinam amat*, *this is the student who loves Latin*. The RELATIVE CLAUSE OF CHARACTERISTIC, by contrast, describes some general quality of an antecedent that is itself either general, indefinite, interrogative, or negative, and accordingly has its verb in the subjunctive; e.g., *haec est discipula quae Latinam amet*, *this is a student (or the sort of student) who would love Latin*.

Recognition: The relative clause of characteristic is easily recognized, since its verb is subjunctive and its antecedent is often obviously general, negative, etc. (typical examples are *sunt quī*, *there are people who*; *quis est quī*, *who is there who*; *nēmō est quī*, *there is no one who*). **Translation:** the auxiliary “would” is sometimes used in translating the subjunctive verb, and sometimes a phrase like “the sort of” or “the kind of” is employed in the main clause to make it clear that the antecedent is indefinite:

Quis est quī huic crēdat? *Who is there who trusts this man (of such a sort that he would trust this man)?*

Nēmō erat quī hoc scīret. *There was no one who knew this.*

Sunt quī hoc faciant. *There are some who do this (of such a sort as to do this).*

Is nōn est quī hoc faciat. *He is not a person who does (would do) this.*

Hic est liber quem omnēs legant. *This is the kind of book that all read (a book that all would read).*

Hic est liber quem omnēs legunt. *This is the book that all are reading (= a fact, hence the indicative).*

Some relative clauses have the force of result (e.g., S.A. 4 below), purpose (see "More Examples of Roman Wit" below), causal, or adversative clauses (i.e., clauses otherwise generally introduced by *ut*, *cum*, etc.) and so also have subjunctive verbs.

DATIVE OF REFERENCE OR INTEREST

The dative case is often used to indicate a person (or a thing) to whom some statement refers, or from whose perspective it is true, or to whom it is of special interest. This **DATIVE OF REFERENCE OR INTEREST** (which should be compared to the dative uses discussed in Capvt XXXV) can sometimes be translated with "to" or "for," but often some more elaborate phrase is required, depending upon the context, as you will see from the following examples; occasionally the function seems to be simply possessive (as in the second example below), but the intended force is generally more emotional.

Sī quis metuēns vivet, liber mihi nōn erit umquam.

If anyone lives in fear, he will not ever be free—as I see it (mihi) or to my way of thinking or in my opinion.

Caret tibi pectus ināni ambiōne?

Is your breast free from vain ambition—are you sure (tibi)?

Nūllius culpae mihi cōnsciū sum.

In my own heart (mihi), I am conscious of no fault.

Claudia est sapiēns multīs.

To many people Claudia is wise.

Remember to add this usage to your list of other dative case constructions (indirect object, dative of agent, dative with adjectives, dative with special verbs and compounds).

SUPINES

The **SUPINE** is a defective fourth declension verbal noun, based on the same stem as the perfect passive participle; only two forms were in common use, the accusative and ablative singular. The supines for our model verbs are: acc. **laudātum**, abl. **laudātū**; **mōnitum**, **mōnitū**; **āctum**, **āctū**; **audītum**, **audītū**; **cāptum**, **cāptū**.

The ablative is used with the neuter of certain adjectives to indicate in what respect a particular quality is applicable: e.g., **mīrābile dictū**, *amazing to say* (lit., *amazing in respect to saying*); **facile factū**, *easy to do*. The accusative (which must not be confused with the perfect passive participle) is employed with verbs of motion to indicate purpose: e.g., **ībant Rōmam rogātum pecūniam**, *they were going to Rome to ask for money*; **persuāsum amicīs vēnērunt**, *they came to persuade their friends* (note that the supine can take a direct object, a dative, or any other construction the basic verb can govern).

VOCĀBVLA

Not only is *arbor*, *tree*, feminine, but so regularly are the names of individual trees, regardless of declension, e.g.: *betulla*, -ae, *birch*; *ficus*, -ī, *fig*; *abies*, -etis, *fir*; *quercus*, -ūs, *oak*. Some more look-alikes to beware of: *opus/ops*, *queror/quaerō*, *odium/ōtium*. As you learn the verbs in this list, see if you can form the supines for the four regular ones (excluding *metuō*, which lacks a fourth principal part, and the deponent *queror*); your instructor can check your answers, or you can simply compare the supines of the five model verbs presented above. Finally, don't forget the sound of *gn* in *dignitās*: listen to this, and all new words, online or on the CDs, and practice saying each aloud several times.

- árbor*, *árboris*, f., *tree* (*arbor*, Arbor Day, arboretum, arboriculture)
- dígnitās*, *dígnitātis*, f., *merit, prestige, dignity* (indignity, deign, dignify, indignant, indignation; cf. *dignus*)
- dólor*, *dolóris*, m., *pain, grief* (doleful, dolorous, condolences; cf. *doleō*)
- ódium*, *ódii*, n., *hatred* (odium, odious, annoy, ennui, noisome; cf. *ōdī*)
- ópus*, *óperis*, n., *a work, task; deed, accomplishment* (*opus*, opera, operate, operative, inoperative, co-operate, hors d'oeuvre, maneuver, manure)
- órátíō*, *órátíōnis*, f., *speech* (oration, oratory; cf. *ōrō*, *ōrātor*)
- pēs*, *pédis*, m., *lower leg, foot* (pedal, pedate, pedestal, pedestrian, pedicel, pedigree, piedmont, pawn, peon, pioneer, biped, quadruped, impede, impediment, expedite, expedition, expeditious)
- sátor*, *satóris*, m., *sower, planter; begetter, father; founder* (cf. *serere*, to plant, sow; serial, series, assert, desert, exert, insert)
- fírminus*, *fírma*, *fírminus*, *firm, strong; reliable* (firmament, affirm, affirmation, affirmative, confirm, confirmation, farm, farmer)
- infírminus*, *infírma*, *infírminus*, *not strong, weak, feeble* (infirm, infirmary, infirmity)
- mírābilis*, *mírābile*, *amazing, wondrous, remarkable* (mirabilia, admirable, marvel, miracle, mirador, mirage, mirror; cf. *mīror*)
- prístinus*, *prístina*, *prístinum*, *ancient; former, previous* (pristine)
- sublímis*, *sublīme*, *elevated, lofty; heroic, noble* (sublimate, sublime, sublimity; not subliminal)
- étsī* (et + *sī*), conj. with indic. or subjunct. according to rules for *sī*, *even if, although*
- érgā*, prep. + acc., *toward*
- libénter*, adv., *with pleasure, gladly* (ad lib.; cf. the IMPERSONAL VERB *libet*, it pleases, is pleasing; cognate with "love")
- impédiō*, *impedīre*, *impedīvī*, *impeditum*, *to impede, hinder, prevent* (impediment, impedance, impeach; cf. *pēs* above and see *Lātina Est Gaudium*)

métuō, metúere, metuī, *to fear, dread; be afraid for + dat.* (meticulous; cf. metus)
 quérōr, quérī, quéstus sum, *to complain, lament* (querulous; cf. quarrel, from querēla, -ae, *complaint*)
 recognōscō, recognōscere, recognōvī, recognitum, *to recognize, recollect* (recognition, recognizance, reconnaissance, reconnoitre; cf. nōscō, cognōscō)
 suspēndō, suspēdere, suspēndī, suspēnsūm, *to hang up, suspend; interrupt* (suspense, suspension; cf. pendere, *to hang*, pendant, pendulum)
 vëndō, vëndere, vëndidī, vënditum, *to sell* (vend, vendor)

LĒCTIŌ ET TRĀNSLĀTIŌ

After testing your mastery of the chapter's new material with the Self-Tutorial Exercises, scan the readings for each (a) relative clause of characteristic, (b) dative of reference, and (c) supine; remember that in translating the relative clause of characteristic you often must supply some word/phrase indicating the indefinite nature of the antecedent or action, e.g., "a book that all *would* enjoy," "the *sort of* book that all enjoy." Listen to the CDs, if you have them, and read aloud for comprehension before translating.

EXERCITĀTIŌNĒS

1. Rēgī persuāsī ut sorōrī frātrīque tuō grātiōra praemia libenter daret.
2. Deinde, ab eā insulā nāve profecta, vīsum amīcōs Athēnās iniit.
3. Eum hortātī sumus ut ad Caesarem sine timōre accēdere cōnārētur.
4. Solitī sunt eī crēdere quī philosophiae servīret, virtūtem sequerētur, et cupidinēs superāret.
5. Sapiēns nōs ōrat nē virīs sentiārum adversārum noceāmus.
6. In illīs terrīs nōn licet litterīs bonīs vērīsq̄ue studēre, ut sub tyrannō saepe fit; dēbēs, igitur, exīre et peregrīnārī.
7. Cūrēmus nē civitātem eīs trādāmus quī sē patriae antepōnant.
8. Sunt infirmī quī levia opera mīrentur et semper sibi ignōscant.
9. Iste dux, diū absēns, tam stultīs cōsiliīs civitātī ūtēbātur ut mīlia civium adversa patī cōgerentur atque multī bonī perīrent.
10. Haec locūtus, fassus est illōs, quī odium immōtum ergā civitātem multōs annōs habēbant, Rōmae interfectōs esse.
11. Initium operis nōs saepe impedit—inīte opus nunc!
12. Sator sublimis hominum atque animālium omnibus nōbis animās dedit; cum corpora obeant, animae numquam morientur.
13. Cum rūs rediimus, tum domī invēnimus—mīrābile vīsū!—plūrimōs amīcōs.

14. Cicero, who was the greatest Roman orator, was a consul who would obey the senate.
15. I shall persuade him to become a better student and to return to Syracuse soon, I assure you.
16. We begged them not to trust a man whom a tyrant pleased.
17. Wherefore, let that man who hesitates to defend our country depart (use *abeō*) to another land.

SENTENTIAE ANTĪQVAE

1. Sē omnēs Caesarī ad pedēs prōiēcērunt. (Caesar.—*prō-iaciō*; “project,” “projectile.”)
2. Hīc in nostrō numerō sunt quī lēgēs contemnant ac dē exitiō huius urbis cōtidīē cōgitent. (Cicero.)
3. Quis est cui haec rēs pūblica atque possessiō libertātis nōn sint cārae et dulcēs? (Id.—*possessiō, -ōnis, f.*; “possess,” “possessive.”)
4. Quae domus tam stabilis est, quae civitās tam firma est quae nōn odiīs, invidiā, atque insidiīs possit contundi? (Id.—*stabilis, -e*; “stability,” “establish.”—*quae . . . contundi*: here the characteristic clause has the force of result.)
5. Quārē, quid est quod tibi iam in hāc urbe placēre possit, in quā nēmō est quī tē nōn metuat? (Id.)
6. Quis enim aut eum diligere potest quem metuat aut eum ā quō sē metuī putet? (Id.)
7. Tibi sōlī necēs multōrum civium impūnitae ac liberae fuērunt. (Id.—*nex, necis, f.*, *murder*; “internecine,” “pernicious;” cf. *necō*.—*impūnitus, -a, -um, unpunished*; “impune,” “impunity,” “punitive;” cf. *poena*.)
8. Habētis autem eum cōsulem quī exigere officium et pārere vestrīs dēcrētis nōn dubitet atque vōs dēfendere possit. (Id.—*dēcrētum, -ī, n.*, *decree*; “decretal.”)
9. Ille mihi semper deus erit. (Vergil.)
10. Nullus dolor est quem nōn longinquitās temporis minuat ac molliat. (*Cicero.—*longinquitās, -tātis, n.*, *length*; “longinquity.”)
11. Parāvisse divitiās fuit multis hominibus nōn finis sed mūtātiō malōrum. (Epicurus quoted by Seneca.—*mūtātiō, -ōnis, f.*, *change*; “mutation,” “permutation.”)
12. Nihil est opere et manū factum quod tempus nōn cōsūmat. (Cicero.)
13. Viribus corporis dēficiētibus, vigor tamen animī dūrāvit illī ad vitae finem. (Pliny.—*dēficiō, -ere, to fail*; “defect,” “deficient,” “deficit.”—*vigor, -gōris, m.*—*dūrāre, to last*; “durable,” “duration.”)
14. Nunc est bibendum; nunc pede liberō pulsanda tellus. (*Horace; from his ode celebrating the death of the Egyptian queen Cleopatra.—*sc. nōbis* as dat. of agent with both pass. periphrastics.—*pulsāre, to strike, beat*; with *pulsanda*,

- sc. est, *should be struck*, i.e., *danced upon*; "pulse," "pulsar."—tellūs, -lūris, f., = terra; "tellurian," "tellurium.")
15. Ē tacitō vultū scīre futūra licet. (*Ovid.—tacitus, -a, -um, *silent*; "tacit," "taciturn."—vultus, -ūs, m., *countenance, face*.)
16. Stultitias, pater, vēnātum dūcere invitās canēs. (*Plautus.—stultitia; -ae, f., noun from stultus, -a, -um; "stultifying"—stultitias: a common type of contraction known as PRODELISION, = stultitia est.—vēnor, -ārī, -ātus sum, *to go hunting, hunt*.—invītus, -a, -um, *unwilling, against one's will*; cf. volō.—canis, -is, m./f., *dog*; "canine.")

Note on a Book by Lucan

Sunt quīdam quī mē dicant nōn esse poētam;
sed quī mē vēndit bibliopōla putat.

*Martial *Epig.* 14.194: In this note from a gift copy of Lucan's poetry (compare the note from a copy of Catullus in Capvt XXX), the author is himself imagined as speaking; meter: elegiac couplet.—bibliopōla, -ae, m., *book-dealer*, antecedent of quī; "bibliopole," "bibliopolist," and cf. "bibliography" and "bibliophile," all Gk. in origin.

QVAESTIŌNĒS: Is the accusation in line 1 real or hypothetical?—how do you know? The language of verse, as of daily speech, is often elliptical; what must be understood following putat?

More Examples of Roman Wit

Cum quīdam, querēns, dixisset uxōrem suam dē ficū suspendisse sē, amīcus illius "Amābō tē," inquit, "dā mihi ex istā arbore surculōs quōs seram!"

Cum quīdam ōrātor sē misericordiā ōrātiōne fortasse mōvisse putāret, rogāvit Catulum vidērēturne misericordiā mōvisse. "Ac magnam quidem, mihi," inquit, "putō enim nēminem esse tam dūrum cui ōrātiō tua nōn vīsa sit digna misericordiā!"

Cicero *De Or.* 2.278: You read another joke ("Sorry, Nobody's Home!") from the same section of Dē Ōrātōre in Capvt XXXV; the first one here you ought not tell your wife, but the second just might get a laugh in a class on public speaking!—ficus, -ūs, f., *fig tree*; "ficus."—surculus, -ī, m., *shoot, sprig*; "surculose."—quōs: = ut eōs, RELATIVE CLAUSE OF PURPOSE, a common alternative, introducing the purp. clause with a rel. pron. instead of ut.—serō, -ere, *to plant, sow*; "season."—misericordia, -ae, f., *pity*; "misericord"; cf. miser; an important objective for the ancient orator, and one for which he was trained, was to arouse the audience's emotions.—Catulus, -ī, m.; Quintus Lutatius Catulus, orator, author, and statesman, consul in 102 B.C.—vidērēturne: the -ne, *whether*, signals an ind. question.—magnam: sc. misericordiā mōvistī!—cui: = ut eī, RELATIVE CLAUSE

OF RESULT; like the rel. clause of purp., this construction is a common variant in which the clause is introduced by a rel. pron., rather than by ut.

QVAESTIŌ: The first of these jokes, albeit unkind, is clear enough, but how about the second: “pitiful” in contemporary American English can carry a double entendre identical to the one intended here—can you explain the joke?

Two Letters to Cicero

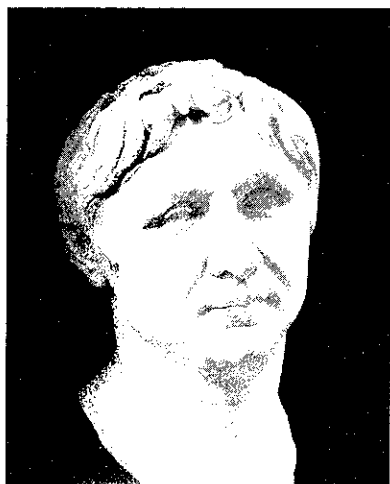
Gn. Magnus Prōcōsul Salūtem Dicit Cicerōnī Imperātōrī

Sī valēs, bene est. Tuās litterās libenter lēgī; recognōvī enim tuam pristinam virtūtem etiam in salūte commūnī. Cōsulēs, Rōmā abientēs, ad eum exercitum vērunt quem in Āpūliā habuī. Magnopere tē hortor ut occāsiōnem carpās et tē ad nōs cōferās, ut commūnī cōsiliō rei publicae miserae opem atque auxilium ferāmus. Moneō ut Rōmā exeās, viā Appiā iter faciās, et quam celerrimē Brundisium veniās.

Caesar Imperātor Salūtem Dicit Cicerōnī Imperātōrī

Cum Brundisium celerius adeam atque sim in itinere, exercitū iam praemissō, dēbeō tamen ad tē scribere et grātiās idōneās tibi agere, etsi hoc fēcī saepe et saepius factūrus videor; ita dignus es. Imprimīs, quoniam crēdō mē celeriter ad urbem ventūrum esse, ā tē petō ut tē ibi videam ut tuō cōsiliō, dignitāte, ope ūtī possim. Festinātiōnī meae brevitatīque litterārum ignōscēs; cētera ex Furniō cognōscēs.

Cicero *Atticum* 8.11c and 9.6a: Among the hundreds of letters surviving from Cicero’s correspondence, several were written, not by him, but to him, including these two adapted from the collection of his epistles to his friend Atticus, *Epistulae ad Atticum*; one is from Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus, “Pompey the Great,” written on February 20, 49 B.C., and the other was sent about two weeks later, on March 5, by Julius Caesar, both of whom were



*Marble bust of Pompey the Great
1st cent. B.C.
Museo Archeologico, Venice, Italy*