

Basic Latin Grammar and Syntax

Direct Command

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| veni huc, O serve | Come here, slave |
| festinemus | Let us hasten |
| nuntii mittantur | Let messengers be sent |
| ne eum prohibeamus | Let us not prevent him |
| noli scribere; ne scripseris | Do not write |

Direct Question

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| cur illud dixisti? | Why did you say that? |
| unde venis? | Where do you come from? |
| ubi habitas | Where do you live? |
| quis canem vidit? | Who saw the dog? |
| quando profecti sunt? | When did they set out? |
| regemne vidisti? | Did you see the king? |
| nonne pomas amas? | You like apples, don't you? |
| num eum odisti? | You don't hate him, do you? |
| utrum Marcus an Quintus illud templum aedificavit? | Did M. or Q. build that temple? |
| utrum Romae habitas annon? | Do you live in Rome or not? |

Impersonal Verbs

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| licet vobis mecum ire | You may go with me |
| oportet servum statim venire | The slave must come now |
| oportet te ire | You ought to go |
| miseret me pueri | I pity the boy |
| taedet me itineris | I am weary of the march |
| pudet me tui | I am ashamed of you |
| puduit nos haec dicere | We were ashamed to say this |
| hoc consulis interest | This concerns the consul |
| mihi necesse est laborare | I have to work |
| nobis commodum est manere | It suits us to stay |

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Verbs governing the Dative

Consuli parete

dic mihi

obsidi pepercit

transfugae credidi

Obey the Consul

Tell me

He spared the hostage

I believed the deserter

Predicative Dative

hoc magno usui mihi est

haec res eis saluti fuit

cohortem auxilio ei mittit

This is of great use to me

This fact was their salvation

He sends a cohort to help him

Impersonal Passive

semper mihi paretur

non tibi creditur

acriter pugnatum est

I am always obeyed

You are not believed

There was fierce fighting

Past Participle and Ablative Absolute

nuntius captus interfectus est

The messenger, having been captured, was killed. (The messenger was captured and killed)

nuntium captum interfecerunt

Having captured the messenger, they killed him (They caught and killed the messenger)

nuntio capto milites celeriter

redierunt

Having captured the messenger, the soldiers returned quickly

profecti prima luce Romam advenimus

Having set out at dawn we reached Rome.

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Gerund and Gerundive

| | |
|--|---|
| fortiter pugnando Romani hostes vicerunt | By fighting bravely the Romans captured the enemy |
| occasionem urbis capiendae amisit | He lost the opportunity of capturing the town. |
| cupidus est vincendi Gallos | He is desirous of conquering the Gauls. |
| parcendo civibus amicitiam eorum conciliavit | By sparing the citizens he won their friendship. |
| mihi laborandum est | I must work |
| nuntii civibus mittendi sunt | Messengers must be sent to the citizens. |
| dux iit ipse ad urbem oppugnandum | The general went in person to besiege the city |
| dux iit ipse urbis oppugnandae causa | " " " " " " |

Final (Purpose) Clauses

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| in urbe manet ut laboret | He is staying in the city to work |
| in urbe mansit ne culparetur | He stayed in the city in order not to be blamed. |
| domi mansit ne quis eum videret | He stayed at home so that no one should see him. |
| equites misit qui hostes sequerentur | He sent horsemen to chase the enemy. |
| scutum abiecit quo celerius fugeret | He through away his shield in order to flee more quickly. |
| legatos misit ad pacem petendam | He sent legates to seek peace. |
| legatos misit pacis petendae causa | He sent legates to seek peace. |
| venerunt veniam oratum | They came to beg for pardon |

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Consecutive (result) Clauses

| | |
|--|--|
| tam celeriter cucurrit ut caderet | He ran so quickly that he fell |
| tam fortiter restiterunt ut non vincerentur | They resisted so bravely that they were not conquered |
| tam celeriter effugit ut nemo eum videret | He escaped so quickly that no one saw him |

Indirect Command

| | |
|--|--|
| dux militibus imperavit ut progredierentur | The general ordered the soldiers to advance. |
| puero persuasi ne abeat | I have persuaded the boy not to go. |
| dux imperavit ne quis procurreret | The general gave orders that no one should run forward. |
| mulierem iussi fenestram aperire | I ordered the woman to open the window |
| te ire veto | I forbid you to go (I order you not to go). |

Indirect Statement - Accusative and Infinitive - Reported Speech

| | |
|--|--|
| dicit Romanos fortiter pugnare | He says the R. are fighting bravely. |
| dixit Romanos fortiter pugnare | He said the R. were fighting bravely. |
| puto puellas venturas esse | I think the girls will come |
| dixit oppida captum iri | He said the towns would be captured. |
| puto vos stultos esse | I think you are stupid. |
| dicit se oratorem audivisse | He says he heard the orator. |
| spero me cras iturum esse | I hope to go tomorrow. |
| pollicitus est se auxilium missurum esse | He promised to send help. |
| negavit se ursam vidisse | He said he had not seen the bear. |

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Indirect Question

me rogaverunt quid facerem

They asked me what I was doing.

puerum rogavi num hoc intellegeret

I asked the boy whether he understood this.

nescio quis hoc fecerit

I do not know who did this.

cognovit quando auxilia ventura essent

He found out when reinforcements would come.

rogat utrum Graecus an Romanus sit

He asks whether he is a Greek or a Roman.

(rogat Graecusne an Romanus sit)

dic mihi utrum hoc intellegas necne

Tell me whether you understand this or not.

Antequam

vulneratus est antequam ad murum pervenit He was wounded before he reached the wall

in collo ante considerare constituerunt
quam hostes eum capere possent.

They decided to encamp on the hill before the enemy could take it

Postquam

postquam pueri abierunt librum legi

After the boys had gone I read a book.

Dum (meaning 'while')

dum castra ponimus hostes impetum
fecerunt

While we were pitching camp the enemy made an attack.

dum legaebamus scribebant

While we were reading they wrote.

Dum (meaning 'until')

librum legebam dum meus filius rediit

I read a book until my son returned.

domi manebo dum meus filius rediverit

I shall stay at home until my son returns.

in foro manserunt dum consul loqueretur They remained in the forum until the consul should speak.

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Cum (meaning 'when')

| | |
|--|---|
| cum rediero omnia sciam | When I return I shall know all. |
| cum Athenis essem multas et pulchras statuas videbam. | When I was in Athens I saw many beautiful statues. |
| cum hoc audivisset domum contendit | When he heard this he hastened home. |

Cum (meaning 'whenever')

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| cum venerunt eos video | Whenever they come I see them |
| cum venerint eos videbo | Whenever they come I shall see them. |
| cum venerant eos videbam | Whenever they came I used to see them |

Cum (all meanings)

1. 'as long as' -

| | |
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| cum Athenis habitabam miser eram | As long as I lived in Athens I was wretched |
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2. 'inverse' cum -

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|--|--|
| ver appropinquabat cum dux ex hibernis progressus est | Spring was approaching when the general advanced from winter quarters. |
|--|--|

3. 'since' -

| | |
|--|--|
| quae cum ita sint pauca vobis respondebo | Since this is so I will reply briefly to you. |
|--|--|

4. 'although' -

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|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| cum mentiaris tibi ignosco | Although you are lying I forgive you |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|