

XI

De formica cicadaque

Formica diligenter et prudenter frumentum aestate collegerat, ut hieme cibum haberet. Sed cicada de futuro tempore non cogitaverat. Itaque cum hiems esset, non habebat, unde nutriretur, et formicam rogavit, ut sibi cibum impertiret. "Cur non cogitabas aestate de futuro tempore?" – inquit. Cicada ad haec verba respondit: "Cantavi in agris et in campis; tu vocem meam, qua omnes delectavi, non audivisti?" Cum haec verba cicadae audivisset, formica dixit: "Audiui vocem tuam sed cum te monerem, ut laborares, consilio meo non oboedivisti. Qui consilio prudentium non oboediverit, iure punietur. Qui aestate de futuro tempore non cogitaverit, hieme iure esuriet. Cibus tibi a nobis non impertietur".

The tale retold in a modern form:

The Cicada Who Sang All Summer

It was deep in the middle of winter and a hungry cicada came across an ants nest. He knew that ants were clever creatures. They worked busily all through the summer storing up food to eat in the colder months when food was scarce. He went up to a group of ants and asked if he might have some of their food. The ants asked him why he had none of his own food for the winter.

“Because I was singing all through the summer months,” replied Cicada.

“If you were so stupid to spend your summer singing,” jeered the ants, “then you can spend your winter dancing! You need to learn that neither of these frivolous pursuits will fill your belly.”

(*Aesop's Fables*. Retold and Illustrated by Alice Shirley. London, Pavilion Children's Books, 2009, p. 82)

We meet this story in the Greek Course under the title Τέττιξ καὶ μύρμηκες.¹

The Ant and the Grasshopper (Cicada), alternatively titled **The Grasshopper and the Ant (or Ants)**, is one of [Aesop's Fables](#), numbered 373 in the [Perry Index](#). The fable describes how a hungry grasshopper begs for food from an ant when winter comes and is refused. The situation sums up moral lessons about the virtues of hard work and planning for the future.

The **cicada** is also mentioned in **Hesiod's** *Shield* (ll.393–394), its voice sings when millet first ripens, and in one of **Anacreon's** odes dedicated to the insect, especially widespread and popular in Greece, in the following way: “Μακαρίζομέν σε, τέττιξ” / ‘Bless you, cicada’/.

So, even in Classical times, the advice was mistrusted and an alternative story represented the ant's industry as mean and self-serving. [Jean de la Fontaine's](#) delicately ironic retelling in French later widened the debate to cover the themes of compassion and charity. Since the 18th century the grasshopper has been seen as the type of the artist and the question of the place of culture in society has also been included. Argument over the fable's ambivalent meaning has generally been conducted through adaptation or reinterpretation of the fable in literature, arts, and music.

1.. The remarks below as well as Doré's illustration on the following page, have been taken, with interventions by this writer, from various online sources (25.11.2020).

Jean de La Fontaine : La cigale et la fourmi



Gustave Doré's illustration of La Fontaine's *The Ant and the Grasshopper*

De formica cicadaque

Vocabulary

formīca, ae f	ant
cicāda, ae f	cricket, cicada, grasshopper
dīligēns, entis	careful, diligent, frugal
dīliger	diligently, assiduously
prūdenter	intelligently
frūmentum, ī n	corn, grain
aestās, ātis f	summer
aestāte	in (the) summer
colligō 3, lēgī, lēctus	to collect, to assemble, to acquire
hiems ² , hiemis f	winter
hieme	in winter
cibus, ī m	food
futūrus 3	future (adj.), about to be
cōgitō 1 + dē	to consider, to ponder, to think about
cum + coni.	("cum historicum") when, since, as soon as ³
unde	where ... from?, whence?
nūtriō 4, īvī (iī), ītus	to nourish, to foster
rogō 1	to ask, to request, to solicit for favours
sibī	(dat. of sē)
impertiō 4, īvī (iī), ītus	to impart, to give a share of
inquam (inquit) ⁴	to say
respondeō 2, spondī, spōnsus	to reply, to say in answer
cantō 1	to sing, to recite
ager, grī, m	field, ground, territory (cf. Gk ἄγρός, Skt. ájrah) ⁵
campus, ī, m	plain, field
vōx, vōcis, f	voice, sound
meus 3	my, mine
dēlectō 1	to delight, to entertain, to amuse

2.. The word has many cognate IE forms. According to stem, the forms are sorted into four groups. Near come Greek χειμών, Skt. *hémān* (loc.) 'in winter', *himá-* (m.) 'cold', 'frost' 'snow', Russian зима 'winter'. The basic meaning seems to be 'cold', 'bad weather'.

3.. Cum is usually followed by the subjunctive when the verb in its clause is in a past tense. In traditional grammar, this type of *cum* is called "cum historicum".

4.. A defective verb used to introduce direct speech, and is usually inserted after the first word. In past, Gk ἔφη is similar in usage and semantics.

5.. Originally the 'uncultivated land'; etymologically cognate are the verbs agō 3, ἄγω and Skt. ájati.

tuus 3
moneō 2, monuī, itus
labōrō 1
cōnsilium, ī, n
oboediō 4, īvī (iī), ītus + dat.
iūs, iūris, n
iūre
pūniō 4, īvī (iī), ītus
ēsuriō 4, īvī (iī), ītus

your (sg)
to warn, to advise, to presage
to work at, to labour, to strive
counsel, advice, reason
to obey, to comply with
law, right, authority
rightly, with good reason
to punish, to avenge
to be hungry

De formica cicadaque

A Bridge to Italian

formīca, ae f	formica
cicāda, ae f	cicala
dīligēns, entis	diligente
frūmentum, ī n	frumento
aestās, ātis f	estate
colligō 3, lēgī, lēctus	cogliere
hiems, hiemis f	iemale
cibus, ī m	cibo
futūrus 3	futuro
cōgitō 1 + dē	cogitare
unde	dunque (< de undeque)
nūtriō 4, īvī (iī), ītus	nutrire
rogō 1	rogare
respondeō 2, spondī, spōnsus	rispondere
cantō 1	cantare
ager, grī, m	agro, agreste
campus, ī, m	campo
vōx, vōcis, f	voce
meus 3	mio
dēlectō 1	dilettare
tuus 3	tuo
moneō 2, monuī, itus	ammonire
labōrō 1	lavorare
cōnsilium, ī, n	consiglio
oboediō 4, īvī (iī), ītus +dat.	ubbidire, obbedire
iūs, iūris, n	giure
pūniō 4	punire
ēsuriō 4, īvī (iī), ītus	esurire (arcaico)

De formica cicadaque

Grammar

The use of subjunctive in clauses.

Several forms we encounter in the Latin translation of the Aesopean tale are:

haberet, esset, nutriretur, impertiret, audivisset, monerem, laborares.

These subjunctive forms occur in clauses, the most frequent scene for subjunctive, two of which are being dealt with here.

Purpose or final clauses: *ut* used in such constructions is called traditionally “ut finale”.

The first sentence of the text has “ut hieme cibum haberet”.

We already met this type of sentences in Lesson VI: “oro te ut proelium renoves”. “Renoves” is con. praes. impf.; “haberet” is praet. impf. We need *praeteritum* in the second case because in the main sentence we find *collegerat*, and the principle of *consecutio temporum* does not permit to use other than *praeteritum* in the subordinate clause. “Renoves” is *praesens* because the main clause (oro te) has a present tense verb form.

Applying subjunctive is specified by the fact that we have to do with *final* or *purpose* clauses.

Another example in the text is “ut sibi cibum impertiret” depending on “rogavit”.

The last instance is “ut laborares” depending on “cum te monerem”. Although “cum te monerem” is a clause in the whole of the sentence, for “ut laborares” it functions as a main clause (i.e. “ut laborares” is depending immediately on “cum te monerem”). *Monerem* is not only subjunctive but also past tense producing the same result: *subjunctive*, the case being *identity of tense*.

Time clauses with *cum historicum* or *cum narrativum*:

Cum has many functions in Latin syntax. With regard to the one in time clauses, this word is called traditionally “cum historicum” or “cum narrativum”. This kind of cum refers to the *past* and is constructed always with subjunctive.

In time clauses, the relation between the time (tenses) expressed by the clause (the subordinated sentence) and the main sentence can be a, *antecedence* or *anteriority*, b, *identity of tense* or *synchrony*, or c, *posteriority*.⁶

When the case is *synchrony* the required verb tense is *praeteritum imperfectum*, when the case is *antecedence* the used form is *praeteritum perfectum*. When *synchrony* is expressed in English normally “when” is used. With *antecedence* the usual conjunction is “after”. *Posteriority* will be seen later.

6.. We have met these concepts in Lesson 10 when we discussed the phrases “pulso fratre” (antecedence) and “relabente flumine” (synchrony).

These relations may be rendered by several conjunctions in Latin, and *cum* is *one* among them.

English examples to illustrate the possible cases:

Antecedence:

The mouse hurried off before the cat spotted it.

Synchrony:

When you did that, I was angry.

Posteriority:

When you do that, I shall be angry.

A case for *antecedence*:

Romani, cum reges expulissent, consules creabant – After having expelled the kings (after [they] expelled the kings), the Romans elected (were electing) consuls.

For *synchrony*:

Dux, cum adversus hostes dimicaret, in proelio occisus est – When (while) he was fighting the enemy, the general was killed in a battle.

The examples in the text:

“cum hiems esset”	– during winter (“when it was winter”), subordinated to “non habebat”
“ut sibi cibum impertiret”	– so that she takes (“lets them give her”), depending on “rogavit” (purpose clause)
“cum te monerem”	– when I advised you (adversative dependence on “audivi vocem tuam”)
“ut laborares”	– so that you (should) work (purpose clause)

“unde nutriretur”	– what to feed on (“from where to feed on/ to eat”) depending on “non habebat” (‘she didn’t have [the means ...]’)

The last case is an example of *reported* or *indirect question*, being part of *indirect speech*. The direct question would be “What should I feed on?” This question is reproduced as an *object clause*; this is why it is called *indirect* or *oblique* question. The required mood in such sentences is always the subjunctive.

Relative clauses:

“Qui [...] non cogitaverit” – “relative” in syntax means a construction with a “relative” conjunction like “([he] who”, *qui, quae, quod* etc. This, given that the main point with clauses is that they *substitute* some part of speech in the main sentence, is a *secondary* feature.

Relative clauses can be constructed with *indicative* if there is something real, factual, and may contain *subjunctive* if there is something assumed, a purpose or other deviation from the factual. More about this later.

The sentence in the text should be clear: “Qui aestate de futuro tempore non cogitaverit, hieme iure esuriet”.

The other example is “Qui consilio prudentium non oboediverit, iure punietur.”

Expanding verbal forms:

sum, esse, fui:

The forms	essem	essēmus
	essēs	essētis
	esset	essent

belong to praet. impf. coni. The independent meaning comes near to English conditional I, i.e. If I/you/he etc. *were* ..., then I etc. would ... etc. With *cum historicum* conjunctivus is mandatory: cf. “cum hiems esset” in the text. In such cases we do not translate it with conditional.

In praes. impf. coni. we have:

sim	simus
sis	sitis
sit	sint

The independent meaning is similar to the Greek subjunctive, and comes near to imperative, although this is not imperative: ‘let me/you/him etc. be ...’, ‘in order that I/you/he etc. am/are/is ...’ etc.

Sum is also part of the periphrastic conjugational forms of verbs, so e.g. of the verba deponentia (see Lesson X and XV):

Ind. praes. perf.:

Coni. praes. perf.

hortatus etc. sum ‘I have encouraged’
es
est

hortatus etc. sim
sis
sit

hortati etc. sumus
estis
sunt

hortati etc. simus
sitis
sint

Systematization of the 1st conjugation⁷:

laudō 1

Indicativus:

Activum:

Passivum:

praes. impf. ind.: laudō⁸, laudās etc. praes. impf. ind.: laudor,
laudāris⁹ etc.

praet. impf. ind.: laudābam¹⁰ etc.

praet. impf. ind.: laudābar¹¹ etc.

fut. impf. ind.: laudābō¹² etc.

fut. impf. ind.: laudābor¹³ etc.

praes. perf. ind.: laudāvī¹⁴ etc.
etc.

praes. perf. ind.: laudātus sum¹⁵

praet. perf. ind.: laudāveram¹⁶ etc.

praet. perf. ind.: laudātus
eram¹⁷ etc.

fut. perf. ind.: laudāverō¹⁸ etc.

fut. perf. ind.: laudātus erō¹⁹ etc.

Imperativus:

All the forms, act. and pass., imp. I and imp. II are to be found in Lesson VIII.

7.. Cf. Lesson VIII.

8.. Complete conjugation in Lesson III.

9.. Complete conjugation in Lesson III.

10.. Complete conjugation in Lesson III.

11.. Complete conjugation in Lesson IV

12.. Complete conjugation in Lesson III.

13.. Complete conjugation in Lesson IV.

14.. Complete conjugation in Lesson VIII.

15.. Full conjugation: laudatus etc. sum, es, est, laudati etc. sumus, estis, sunt.

16.. Complete conjugation in Lesson VIII.

17.. Full conjugation: laudatus etc. eram, eras, erat, laudati etc. eramus, eratis, erant.

18.. Complete conjugation in Lesson VIII.

19.. Full conjugation: laudatus etc. ero, eris, erit, laudati etc. erimus, eritis, erunt.

Coniunctivus²⁰:

Activum:

Passivum:

praes. impf. coni.: laudem²¹ etc.praes. impf. coni.: lauder²² etc.praet. impf. coni.: laudārem²³ etc.praet. impf. coni.: laudārer²⁴ etc.fut. –²⁵

praes. perf. coni.: laudāverim²⁶ etc.praes. perf. coni.: laudātus sim²⁷ etc.praet. perf. coni.: laudāvissem²⁸ etc.praet. perf. coni.: laudātus essem²⁹ etc.

Deverbatives

A full system is given in Lesson VIII.

The difference between gerund and gerundive (*gerundium* and *gerundivum*) has been explained.³⁰

20.. Cf. Lesson VIII.

21.. Complete conjugation in Lesson V.

22.. Complete conjugation in Lesson V.

23.. Complete conjugation in Lesson V.

24.. Complete conjugation in Lesson V.

25.. Futurum does not exist in coniunctivus.

26.. Full conjugation: laudaverim, laudaveris, laudaverit, laudaverimus, laudaveritis, laudaverint.

27.. Full conjugation: laudatus etc. sim, sis, sit, laudati etc. simus, sitis, sint.

28.. Full conjugation: laudavissem, laudavisses, laudavisset, laudavissemus, laudavissetis, laudavissent. For the meaning and usage cf. the remarks on *essem*.

29.. Full conjugation: laudatus etc. essem, esses, esset, laudati etc. essemus, essetis, essent.

30.. Some grammars and dictionaries do not approach correctly the two grammatical categories. It is *imprecise* e.g. what is given in the *Pocket Oxford Latin Dictionary* (ed. by James Morwood, ©1994), 2005, pp. 220 and 222.

A sample of the 1st, 2nd and 4th conjugations is given in Lesson 1.

The four conjugational classes (1,2,3,4) follow, on their own, the 1st one. A full explanation will be given later.³¹

The verb forms found in the text grouped according to their conjugations:

collegerat:	3
cogitaverat, cogitabas, cogitaverit:	1
haberet, habebat:	2
nutriretur:	4
rogavit:	1
impertiret:	4
respondit:	2
cantavi:	1
delectavi:	1
audivi, audivisti, audivisset:	4
monerem:	2
laborares:	1
oboedivisti:	4
punietur:	4 ³²
esuriet:	4
impertietur:	4
esset:	sum, esse
inquit:	inquam (see Lesson I)

31.. Occasional informations are given in Lesson II (dīcō 3, habēō 2, erō [sum]), in Lesson III (agō 3, audiō 4), and elsewhere.

32.. To the *futurum imperfectum* and *futurum perfectum* of conjugations 3 and 4, cf. Lesson III. (3 and 4 have a similar future, whereas the future of conjugations 1 and 2 are different, but similar to one another).

Conjugation of *sum, esse*:

Actio imperfecta:

Indicativus

Praes. impf.

sum
es
est

sumus
estis
sunt

Praet. impf.

eram
erās
erat

erāmus
erātis
erant

Fut. impf.

erō
eris
erit

erimus
eritis
erunt

Coniunctivus

Praes. impf.

sim
sīs
sit

simus
sitis
sint

essem
essēs
esset

essēmus
essētis
essent

--

Actio perfecta:

Praes. perf.

fuī
fuistī
fuit

fuimus
fuistis
fuērunt

fuerim
fueris
fuerit

fuerimus
fueritis
fuerint

Praet. perf.

fueram
fuerās
fuerat

fuissem
fuissēs
fuisset

fuerāmus
fuerātis
fuerant

fuissēmus
fuissētis
fuissent

Fut. perf.

fuerō
fueris
fuerit

--

fuerimus
fueritis
fuerint

Imperativus:

I: Sg. 2. es
Pl. 2. este

II: Sg. 2. estō
Sg. 3. estō

Pl. 2. estōte
Pl. 3. suntō

Infinitivus:

Impf. esse
Perf. fuisse
Inst. futūrum, -am, -um (-ōs, -ās, -a) esse³³

Participium instans:

futūrus, -a, -um

(futūra, -ōrum, n 'the future')

33.. *Fore* (=futūrum esse) and *forem* (=futūrus essem) are also frequent.

Verba defectiva:Inquam:

Praes. impf. ind.:

inquam	inquimus
inquis	inquitis
inquit	inquiunt

Praet. impf. ind.

----	----
----	----
inquiebat	----

Fut. impf.

----	-----
inquies	-----
inquiet	-----

Praes. perf. ind.

----	-----
inquisti	-----
inquit	-----

This verb belongs to the so-called *defective* ones. It reminds of the Greek ἔφη ('he/she/it said') but is, etymologically, cognate with the Homeric ἐννέπω ('to tell', 'to speak'). The first line of the Odyssey has "Ἄνδρα μοι ἔννεπε, Μοῦσα" ('Speak to me, Muse, about a hero'), the verb "ἔννεπε" containing the word ἔπος ('word'). To "ἔννεπε", in Archaic Latin "insece" corresponds. This, however, is not present any more in the classical literature. Vergil begins his work with "Arma virumque cano" (cano being 'I chant', 'I sing about', so 'I celebrate [in poetry] an armed hero', or 'I sing about a hero and his feats of arms') which is Aeneas.

Historia fabularis

(5)

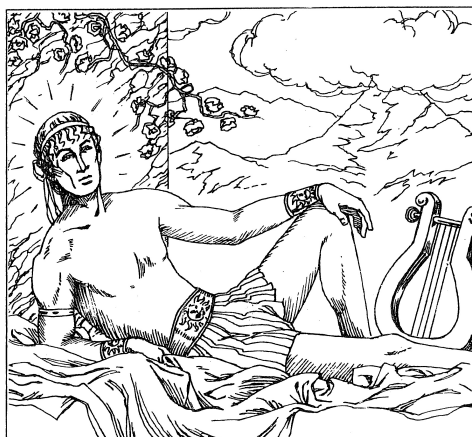
Learning Latin Through Mythology

Daphne and Apollo

Daphne was a beautiful nymph, and she loved to run through the forest. One day the powerful god Apollo saw her and began to pursue her. Daphne at once fled, with Apollo at her heels.

Daphne ran to her father Peneus, who was a river god, and cried out in terror, "Please help me, father! Change my form or let the earth swallow me!"

As Apollo reached out to touch her, his fingers felt a woody trunk. Her arms were now branches, her hair green leaves and where her feet had been grew immovable roots. Daphne had turned into a beautiful laurel tree.

Daphnē et Apollō

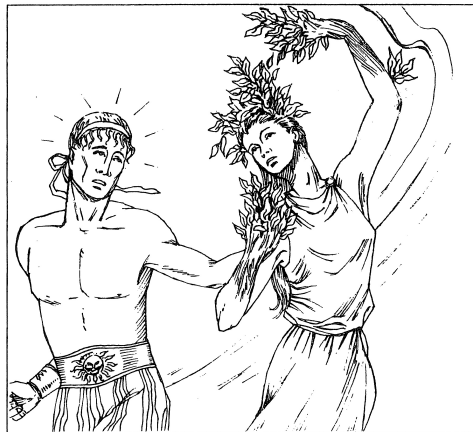
A Apollō est deus potēns.



B Daphnē est nympha.
Daphnē in silvā habitat.

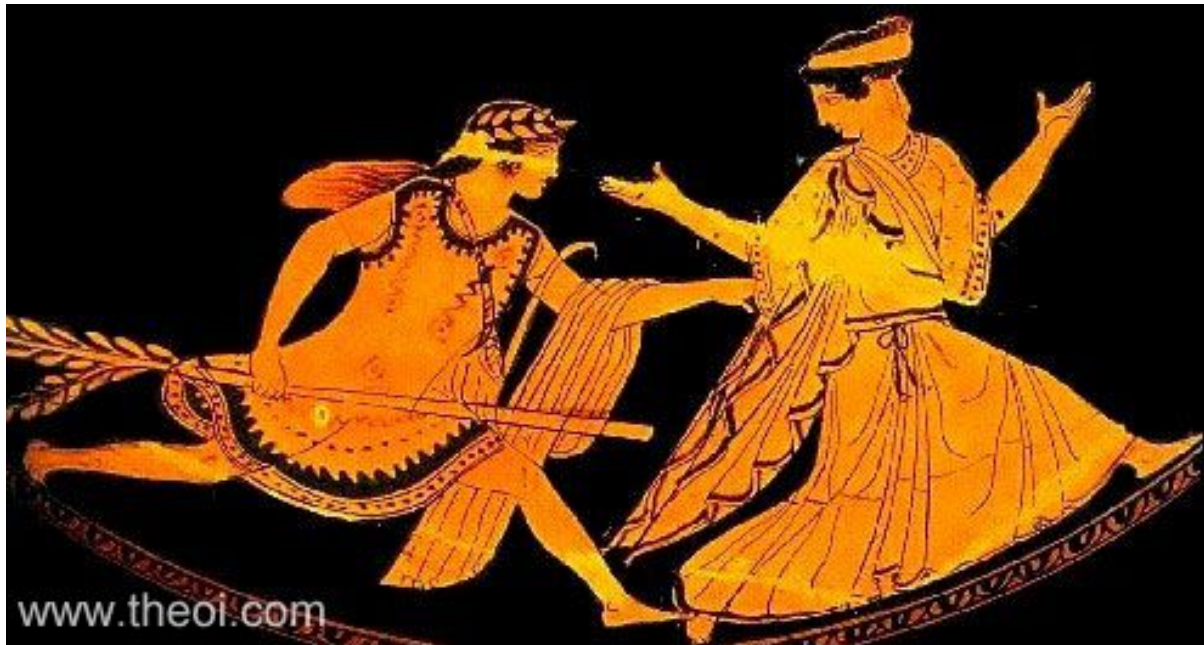


C Apollō Daphnēn amat.
Daphnē fugit.



D Daphnē est laurus.

amat	loves	in	in
deus potēns	powerful god	laurus	laurel tree
est	is	nympha	nymph
fugit	runs away	silvā	woods
habitat	lives		



(Source: <http://www.theoi.com/Nymphe/NympheDaphne.html>).

Downloaded: 12.4.2018)

Apollo and Daphne | Athenian red-figure hydria C5th B.C. | British Museum, London

De formica cicadaque

Loquamur Latine!

Lucius, Tullia et Priscilla

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|--|
| L. | Salva sis, Tullia. Quid agis? | T. | Salve, Luci. Quid agis tu? |
| L. | Nosti me. Me semper belle habeo.
Quis est haec puella quae tecum est? | T. | Luci, velim tradere tibi consobrinam meam, Priscillam. |
| L. | Priscilla, mihi pergratum est te convenire. Habitasne in hac vicinia?
Ego ipse habito duos solum vicos hinc. | P. | Minime vero. Habito in oppidulo Ardea. |
| L. | Ardea? Estne in Campania an in Latio? | P. | In Latio, non procul ab urbe. |
| L. | Dic mihi, quoties Romam venis? | P. | Quotiescumque consobrina mea me invitat. |
| T. | Haec hactenus! Me paenitet, Luci, sed nobis nunc eundum est. Frater meus nos in gymnasio iamdudum exspectat. | L. | Tullia, amabo te, iube fratrem tuum Tullium salvere. Priscilla, cura ut valeas. Mox, ut spero, te iterum videbo. |
| T. | Vale. Cura ut valeas. | P. | Bene vale, Luci. |

De formica cicadaque

Exercises

Find the following forms of amo 1 ('to love'):

Active:

Passive:

Ind. praes. impf.:

Coni. praes. impf.:

Ind. praet. impf.:

Coni. praet. impf.:

Ind. fut. impf.:

Translate:

In a tale we read this: the cicada was singing during the summer but the diligent ant was working so that it had food during the winter. During the winter the cicada suffering hunger asked the ant for food.

The cicada explained: I was singing in the forests and on the fields, I delighted everyone with my singing (vox or part.). The ant answered: I heard you singing but when I told you to work you did not listen to me.

Those who do not care about the future will be punished in winter. I don't help you.

Words:

to read: lego 3 legi lectus

to explain: explano 1

forest: silva ae f

to help: auxilium fero + dat.