

II

Linus et Tullia

- Tullia. Salve, Line! Et tu, Lygia, salve!
- Linus. Salve, domina!
- Tullia. Apporto filiolum meum. Nonne pulcher est?
- Linus. Certe pulcher est. Oculos quoque pulchros habet.
- Lygia. Filia nostra non tam pulchros habet oculos.
- Tullia. Parvus adhuc est. Nondum multa verba dicit.
- Lygia. Filius noster, Glaucus, quattuor natus annos non multa verba dicebat.
- Tullia. Filiolus meus non duo¹ annos natus est. Nonne amas me, mi Sexte?
- Sextus. Amo te, mamma.
- Lygia. Filius carus erit et postea ingenium magnum habebit. Glaucus meus non magnum habet.
- Linus. Poeta erit, credo.
- Lygia. Credo ego quoque, nam poetae oculos habet.

1 Numerals are also declined. The plural accusative masculine is either *duōs* or *duō* (with short "o").

Linus et Tullia: Vocabulary

Linus ī m	Linus (name, frequent in mythology)
Lygia ae f	Lygia (female name)
tū	you, thou
apportō 1	to carry to, to bring to
fīliolus ī m	little son
fīlius ī m	son
meus 3	my, mine
nōnne?	not?; is it not the case that ...? ²
certē	certainly
oculus ī m	eye
adhūc	still, yet
quoque	also, too
habeō 2	to have, to possess
fīlia ³ ae, f	daughter
noster tra, trum	our (own), ours
nōn	not
tam	so, so much
Glaucus ī m	Glaucus (name; Glaucus renders Greek Γλαῦκος which was the name of various mythological figures)
quattuor	four (cf. Skt. catvār, Hindi cār)
nātus 3	old
annus ī m	year
quattuor natus annos	four years old
multus 3	much, many
verbum ī n	word (cf. Skt. vratá-, n. 'vow, religious observance, commandment')
nōndum	not yet
dīcō 3	to say, to tell
duo ae, o	two (Gk. δύο, Skt. dvá, dvi)
mē	(acc. of <i>ego</i>)
mī	(voc. masc. sing. of <i>meus</i>)
meus 3	my, mine
Sextus ī m	Sextus (name)

² *Nōnne* introduces direct yes/no questions of the form 'isn't X the case?', or 'surely, X is the case, isn't it?'. These tend to expect the answer 'yes'. E.g. "nōnne nōs amātis?" 'don't you love us?'

³ The dat./abl. pl. of this noun is *filiābus*, distinguishing it from the dat./abl. of *filius*, but *filiīs* is also possible.

tē	(acc. of <i>tū</i>)
mamma ae f	mother, mummy
cārus 3	dear, precious, valued, esteemed, appreciated, dear to all
erit	he will be (future of <i>sum, esse</i>)
postea	afterwards, (there)after
ingenium ī n	mind, intelligence, talent; gifted
writer,	(man of) genius
māgnus 3	big, great, large
poēta ae m	poet (Gk. ποιητής) ⁴
crēdō 3	to believe, to think
egō	I (Gk. ἐγώ, Skt. ahám)
nam	(conjunction, introducing an explanation) for

4 Literally: "a maker" – the poet might be 'the maker' *par excellence* as in Greek; 'maker, poet, writer'. The poet as a craftsman can be seen in the preservation of metaphorical expressions in various Indo-European languages that describe how the poet created his poetry.

Grammar

Nominals:Declension of *pulcher*:

	<i>masc.</i>	<i>fem.</i>	<i>neut.</i>
<i>sg.</i>	pulcher pulchrem pulchrī pulchrō pulchrō	pulchra pulchram pulchrae pulchrā pulchrā	pulchrum pulchrum pulchrī pulchrō pulchrō
<i>pl.</i>	pulchrī pulchrōs pulchrōrum pulchrīs pulchrīs	pulchrae pulchrās pulchrārum pulchrīs pulchrīs	pulchra pulchra pulchrōrum puchrīs pulchrīs

Numerals:

"1", "2" and "3" (as well as some other numerals) are declined in Latin:

ūnus ⁵ ūnum ūnīus ūnī ūnō	ūna ūnam ūnīus ūnī ūnā	ūnum ūnum ūnīus ūnī ūnō
duo duōs/duo duōrum duōbus duōbus	duae duās duārum duābus duābus	duo duo duōrum duōbus duōbus
trēs trēs trium tribus tribus	trēs trēs trium tribus tribus	tria tria trium tribus tribus

⁵ *Unus* has plural only when the respective noun is attested in the plural only (these are the so called *pluralia tantum*): *unae feriae* ('a holiday'). This kind of plural of 'one' is also used in Russian.

Verbs:

Remarks to the verbal system: in Greek and Latin, and in several other Indo-European languages, historically, *aspect* was more important than "time" (tense), and with the classical languages, it is at least so important as tense is. What "aspect" (in Latin *actio* or *status actionis*) is, the English verbal system can make clear. Languages do not have more than three "times" (tenses)⁶: present, past and future. Future can even be absent. The subcategorization of tenses are *aspects*. In English, in each tense, there are four of them. In the simplest case:

Simple *Present Tense* – *Present Continuous* – *Present Perfect* – *Present Perfect Continuous*.

All of them are *present*, as the terminology clearly shows. It is another question *how* verb applications in these categories are translated into another language. It is also a further question *how* in various modern languages, the tense-based system prevailed or not. The tendency is toward a time-based system. Aspect is then the category which shows *how* the action, the operation comprised in the verb goes, whether in present or in past or in future.

Latin, compared to English, has two aspects: perfect and non-perfect. Grammatically, this is rendered with the terms "completed" and "not completed". The Latin terminology is: *perfecta actio* and *imperfecta actio*. The first is comparable to the English Perfect, e.g. Present Perfect (it has rained, I have written), the second to English "Simple" and Continuous (I read, I am reading).⁷

In this sense, a verb like "laborat", being "imperfect", can have two renderings: "I work" (in general), "I am working" (just now, or continuously). What we have seen so far was the *imperfecta actio*. What follows below is, in reality, "imperfect": Lat. *praesens imperfectum*, *praeteritum imperfectum* and *futurum imperfectum*. The "perfect" category will come later. Following that, the system will be summarized. A terminology will be suggested like (for the simplest case) "*praesens imperfectum indicativi activi*" (with number and person added).

⁶ The word "tense" was borrowed from Old French *tens* ('time'), and this goes back to Latin *tempus*, cf. modern French *temps*. The word *time* is cognate to *tide* (originally 'season'), and was formed – probably – with dissimilation.

⁷ In Sanskrit, this category, existing, is formed either by reduplication or periphrastically. Roots follow the former method, derivative verbs (chiefly causatives) the latter. There are also four roots with a prosodically long initial vowel which take the periphrastic perfect. Technique and outcomes are rather similar to those in Greek and Latin grammar. E.g. *tu-tód-da*, *tu-tód-itha*, *tu-tód-a* (*parasmaipada*, verb *tud* 'strike'; cf. A. McDonell, *A Sanskrit Grammar*, 1926, §135, p. 135 ff.). With regard to the complicated perfect-imperfect categories (participles and tenses) in Hindi, cf. S.H. Kellogg's *Hindi Grammar* (1876), p. 159 ff. To Skt. *tud-* cf. Lat. *tundō* 3, *tu-tu-dī*, *tū(n)sus* ('beat, cruise, pulp, crush').

Conjugation of habeo 2 (praesens – praeteritum – futurum; present tense – past tense – future tense)

Praesens tempus

habeō	habēmus
habēs	habētis
habet	habent

Praeteritum tempus

habēbam	habēbāmus
habēbās	habēbātis
habēbat	habēbant

Futurum tempus

habēbō	habēbimus
habēbis	habēbitis
habēbit	habēbunt

Conjugation of dico 3 (present and past)⁸

Praesens

dīcō	dīcimus
dīcis	dīcitis
dīcit	dīcunt

Praeteritum

dīcēbam	dīcēbāmus
dīcēbas	dīcēbātis
dīcēbat	dīcēbant

8. The *future* of dico 3, and also that of the 4th conjugational class, follows another principle.

Sum, esse (future and past tense)

erō	erimus
eris	eritis
erit	erunt

eram	erāmus
erās	erātis
erat	erant

Syntax:

Grammatical cases in Latin and Greek, beside their proper meanings and their usage as governed by a verb or a nominal (*government* is in Latin *rēctiō*), have also a so called "syntactic usage". These instances are categorized each time according to the case in which they occur.

Here is an example from the text: *filius quattuor annos natus* – (my/our) son is four years old.

Annos is acc. plural, and the case is neither to be interpreted as an accusative proper (indicating direct object), nor as a government (there is no preposition or verb to be constructed with accusative), this is a "syntactic" usage.

This type of accusative is called *accusativus temporis* (accusative of [duration] of time). There are traces of this usage in modern languages. Acc. temporis is frequent in Classical Greek, and still Modern Greek normally uses the accusative case for an adverbial modifier of time in a sentence like *αυτή τη νύχτα* ('this night'). To this corresponds an English construction in a sentence like "we won't sleep this night". The syntagm "*τη νύχτα*" is accusative. Cf. German *diesen Sommer* ('this summer') where "*diesen*" is accusative, and – provided that there is a context – nothing else is necessary for it to be a sentence constituent. There are more instances of "syntactic" usages of all cases. The respective repertoire in Latin is very rich.⁹

⁹ It is not the place here to count for the history of such peculiar usages. Enough to say that the issue takes us back to the Indo-European level where accusative seems to have had primarily a *locative* function. This might be a linguistic universal. In Hungarian too, being not an Indo-European language, the accusative ending *-t* was originally a *locative* case. Similar functions yielded in the case systems we have in various ancient or ancient type languages. Modern generative grammar considers this type instances "inherent" cases and proposes complicated derivations that go beyond the scope of our material.

Exercises

Translate:

- Welcome, Lygia. How are you?
- I am fine, thank you.
- Here is my little son.
- A very nice boy.
- He is three years old.
- He will be a gifted writer.
- I believe this. He has the eyes of a poet.

how are you?
here
nice
boy

quid agis?, quid agitur?
hic
suavis
puer