

EARLY IN THE DAY

Nōndum lūcet, sed Cornēlia surgit et per vīllam ambulat. Adhūc dormiunt pater et māter et Mārcus. Etiam Sextus dormit neque Cornēliam vexat. Nōn tamen dormiunt servī et ancillae. Omnes iam surgunt et labōrāre parant quod Cornēlium et Aurēliam timent.

Cornēlia ancillam, nōmine Syram, observat quae vīllam pūrgat et alteram, nōmine Thressam, quae cibum coquere parat. Multī servī mox in agrōs currunt ubi strēnuē labōrant. Aquam ē rīvō in vīllam portant.

Iam surgunt Cornēlius et Aurēlia. Cornēlius petit Dāvum quī in hortō est. Īrātus subitō est Cornēlius. Dāvum reprehendit quod sub arbore sedet neque labōrat. Dāvus, ubi Cornēlium audit, statim surgit et labōrāre parat.

Aurēlia Cornēliam docet vīllam cūrāre. Ancillae vīllam pūrgant, cibum coquunt, lānam trahunt. Reprehendit Aurēlia ancillās sī ignāvae sunt. Mātrem observat Cornēlia et omnia quae māter facere parat. Mātrem adiuvāre vult, sed ipsa neque servum neque ancillam reprehendit. Servī et ancillae nunc strēnuē labōrant. Necesse est neque servum neque ancillam reprehendere.

- 1 **nōndum**, adv., *not yet*
lūcet, *it is light, it is day*
- 2 **māter**, *mother*
etiam, adv., *also, even*
neque, conj., *and...not*
tamen, adv., *however*
- 3 **ancilla**, *slave-woman*
omnes, *all*
- 5 **observat**, *(he/she) watches*
pūrgat, *(he/she) cleans*
- 6 **cibus**, *food*

- coquere**, *to cook*
mox, adv., *soon, presently*
strēnuē, adv., *strenuously, hard*
- 7 **aqua**, *water*
portant, *(they) carry*
- 9 **reprehendit**, *(he/she) blames, scolds*
- 11 **docet**, *(he/she) teaches*
cūrāre, *to look after, take care of*
- 12 **lānam trahunt**, *(they) spin wool*
- 13 **omnia quae**, *everything that*
adiuvāre, *to help*
ipsa, *she herself*
- 14 **nunc**, adv., *now*
necesse est, *it is necessary*

EXERCISE 6a

Respondē Latīnē:

1. Quis surgit?
2. Quī dormiunt?
3. Quid faciunt servī et ancillae?
4. Quid servī ē rīvō in vīllam portant?
- Quī...? Who...? (plural)

5. Cūr Cornēlius īrātus est?
6. Quid Aurēlia Cornēliam docet?
7. Quid Cornēlia facere parat?
8. Quid Cornēlia nōn facit?



Web Code: jfd-0006

BUILDING THE MEANING

Infinitive with Impersonal Verbal Phrase

An infinitive usually occurs with the verbal phrase **necesse est**:

Necesse est neque servum neque ancillam **reprehendere**. (6:14–15)

It is necessary to scold neither slave nor slave-woman.

The verbal phrase **necesse est** is said to be *impersonal* because we supply the subject “it.”

Nouns and Adjectives: Gender

The meaning of basic Latin sentences may be expanded by the addition of modifiers such as adjectives. Compare the following sets of sentences:

Mārcus est puer.
Marcus is a boy.

Mārcus est puer Rōmānus.
Marcus is a Roman boy.

Cornēlia est puella.
Cornelia is a girl.

Cornēlia est puella Rōmāna.
Cornelia is a Roman girl.

The adjectives **Rōmānus** and **Rōmāna** are said to *modify* the nouns that they describe, namely **puer** and **puella**. In order to understand the grammatical relationship between Latin adjectives and the nouns they modify, you need to know more about Latin nouns.

Latin nouns are said to have *gender*. We say that **Mārcus** and **puer** are *masculine* nouns and that **Cornēlia** and **puella** are *feminine* nouns.

Names of men and boys, such as **Cornēlius** and **Mārcus**, and words that designate men and boys, such as **vir** and **puer**, are masculine. Most nouns, such as **hortus**, that end in **-us** are also masculine, even those that do not refer to males.

Names of women and girls, such as **Aurēlia** and **Cornēlia**, and words that designate women and girls, such as **fēmina** and **puella**, are feminine. Most other nouns that end in **-a**, such as **vīlla** and **pictūra**, are also feminine, even those that do not refer to females.

EXERCISE 6b

Tell the gender of each noun below:

- | | | | |
|------------|------------|----------|------------|
| 1. Aurēlia | 4. amīcus | 7. rāmus | 10. Sextus |
| 2. stola | 5. piscīna | 8. vir | 11. servus |
| 3. Dāvus | 6. toga | 9. amīca | 12. palla |

Note that in the following examples the adjective ends in **-us** when it modifies **Mārcus**, **puer**, and **vir** (masculine nouns) and that it ends in **-a** when it modifies **puell** (feminine):

Mārcus est **Rōmānus**.
Mārcus est puer **Rōmānus**.

Cornēlius est vir **Rōmānus**.
Cornēlia est puella **Rōmāna**.

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Mārcus est Rōmānus.

Mārcus est puer Rōmānus.

Cornēlius est vir Rōmānus.

Cornēlia est puella Rōmāna.

The endings of both nouns and adjectives change when they become direct objects or become plural:

Masculine

Subject or complement singular:

servus Britannicus

Object singular:

servum Britannicum

Subject or complement plural:

servi Britannici

Feminine

puella laeta

puellam laetam

puellae laetae

The gender of many nouns is not so easy to predict, but you can tell by looking at an adjective used to describe the noun:

Magnus clāmor in hortō est.

There is great shouting in the garden.

Arbor est **magna**.

The tree is big.

Diēs est **calidus**.

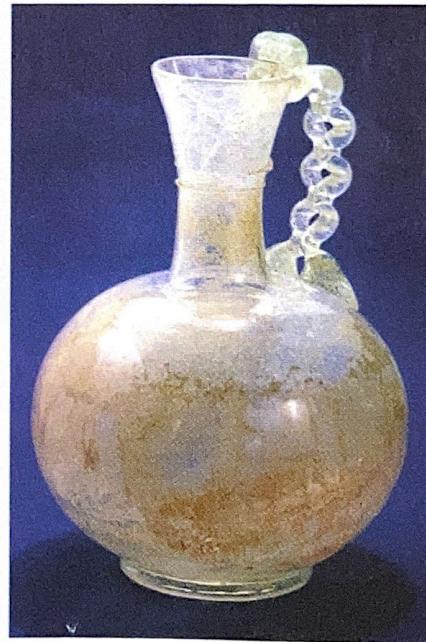
The day is hot.

The **-us** on **magnus** shows that **clāmor** is masculine, the **-a** on **magna** shows that **arbor** is feminine, and the **-us** on **calidus** shows that **diēs** is masculine.

EXERCISE 6c

Read each sentence aloud. In each sentence identify the adjective and the noun that it modifies or describes. Use the ending on the adjective to determine whether the noun it modifies or describes is masculine or feminine. Then translate the sentence:

1. Cornēlia magnum fragōrem audit.
2. Puerī sunt laeti.
3. Puella sollicita magnam vōcem audit.
4. Magnum clāmōrem nōn amat Dāvus.
5. Sextus est puer strēnuus.
6. Dāvus puerum strēnum nōn amat.
7. Puerī ad vīllam vīcīnam currunt.
8. Dāvus nōn est Rōmānus.
9. Puellae laetae in agrīs errant.
10. Magnam arborem puerī in agrīs vident.



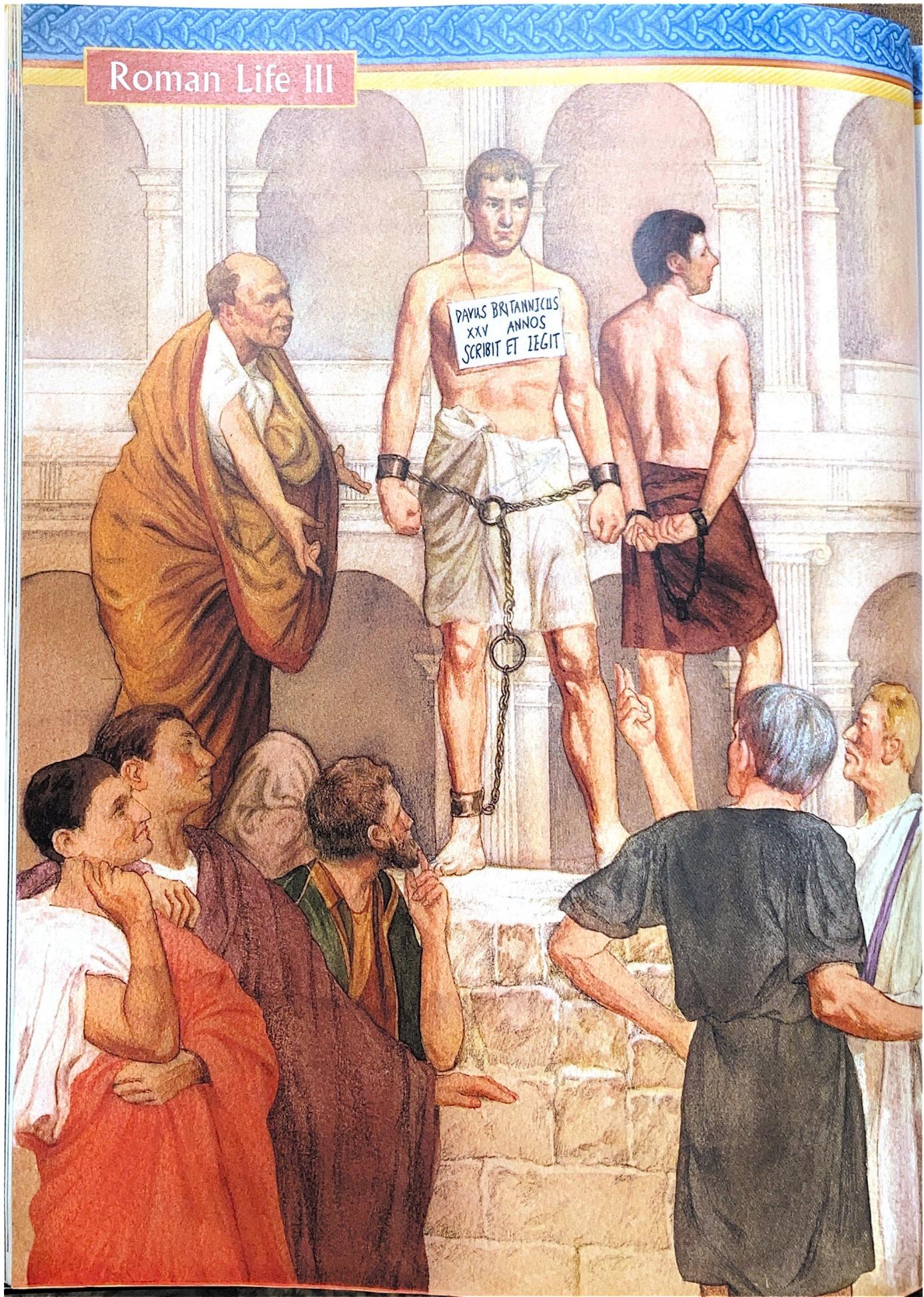
Romans prized creatively designed glassware, such as this jug.
Second to third century A.D.

EXERCISE 6d

Using story 6 as a guide, give the Latin for:

1. Marcus is sleeping because he is tired.
2. The energetic slaves are not sleeping.
3. Cornelius scolds lazy Davus.
4. Many slaves carry cold water.
5. Aurelia scolds a lazy slave-woman.

Roman Life III



THE SLAVE MARKET

Slaves, who were in the early days mainly prisoners of war, were plentiful, and even the poorest Roman household might own one or two. Davus had been captured in Britain and sent to Rome to be sold by auction in the Forum. When his feet were whitened with chalk by the slave-dealer, Davus was mystified, but he soon discovered that this had been done to all new arrivals from abroad. A placard was hung around his neck indicating that he was British and could read and write. He was then put on a revolving stand, and bidding for him began.

He felt pretty uncomfortable standing there like an exhibit at the cattle-market, but he put the best face on it, looking around challengingly at the bidders. Titus Cornelius, father of Gaius Cornelius, was in the Forum that day with the overseer (*vīlicus*) of his farm to purchase some new slaves. He did not pay much attention to the placard—*mangōnēs*, as slave-dealers were called, were notorious swindlers—but when he saw Davus's fine physique, fair hair, and blue eyes he made a bid of 5,000 sesterces, and Davus soon found himself beside the overseer and his new master.

By this time Titus was offering 10,000 sesterces for a Greek from Rhodes. This puzzled Davus because the fellow was a pale, half-starved individual who looked as if a hard day's work would kill him. The overseer, too, looked annoyed at this extravagant bid but said nothing. But when he heard Titus being forced up to 20,000, then 30,000, he could contain himself no longer and muttered angrily, "He's not worth half that, master!" But Titus ignored him and finally paid 35,000 for the Greek Eucleides. The odd qualifications on the placard, "skilled in geometry and rhetoric," must, the overseer thought, have had something to do with the record price!

As Davus, along with the strange Greek, was packed on a cart with some tough-looking Thracians also bought that day, he was filled with fear and doubt as to what might happen to him. But he needn't have worried. Old Titus proved to be the kindest of masters, and now, thirty years later, Davus, himself a grizzled fifty-five, was overseer of the farm. On some of the neighboring estates, he knew, things were not so good.