XIII

DISASTER

Intereā Cornēliī per Viam Appiam iter faciēbant. Cornēlius, quod ad urbem tribus diēbus advenīre volēbat, Syrum identidem iubēbat equōs incitāre. Syrus igitur equōs virgā verberābat. Dum per viam ībant, Aurēlia et Cornēlia spectābant rūsticōs quī in agrīs labōrābant. Mārcus et Sextus spectābant omnēs raedās quae per Viam Appiam ībant. 5

Septima hōra erat. Diēs erat calidus. In agrīs rūsticī nōn iam labōrābant sed sub arboribus quiēscēbant. In raedā Cornēlius et Aurēlia iam dormiēbant. Mārcus pede vexābat Cornēliam quae dormīre volēbat. Sextus cum raedāriō Syrō sedēbat; viam et vehicula spectābat.

Subitō, "Ecce, Mārce!" exclāmat Sextus. "Est aurīga!" 10

Mārcus magnō rīsū respondet, "Nōn est aurīga, fatue! Est tabellārius quī epistulās cīvium praeclārōrum ab urbe fert. Tabellāriī semper celeriter iter faciunt quod epistulās ab urbe ad omnēs partēs Italiae ferunt."

"Quam celeriter iter facit!" clāmat Sextus. "Equōs ferōciter virgā incitat. Cavē tabellārium, Syre! Tenē equōs! Cavē fossam! Cavē fossam!" 15

Syrus equōs tenet et tabellārium vītat, sed raeda in fossam magnō fragōre dēscendit.

1 **iter,** *journey*
iter faciēbant, *(they) were traveling*
2 tribus diēbus, *in three days*
volēbat, *(he/she) wanted*
identidem, adv., *again and again*
iubēbat, *(he) ordered, kept ordering*
3 virga, -ae, f., *stick, switch*
verberābat, *(he) kept beating, whipping*
ībant, *(they) were going*
rūsticus, -ī, m., *peasant*
6 septimus, *seventh*
erat, *(it) was*
7 **quiēscēbant,** *(they) were resting*
pēs, pedis, m., *foot*
9 **vehicula,** *vehicles*
10 **aurīga, -ae,** m., *charioteer*
11 **magnō rīsū,** *with a loud laugh*
fatuus, *stupid*
tabellārius, -ī, m., *courier*
12 **cīvis, cīvis,** gen. pl., **cīvium,** m./f., *citizen*
praeclārus, *distinguished*
ab or **ā,** prep. + abl., *from*
13 **pars, partis,** gen. pl., **partium** f., *part*
14 **Quam…!** adv., *How…!*
ferōciter, adv., *fiercely*
Cavē…! *Watch out (for)…!*
16 **vītō, vītāre,** *to avoid*

EXERCISE 13a

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Respondē Latīnē:

1. Quid Cornēliī faciēbant?
2. Cūr Cornēlius Syrum identidem iubēbat equōs incitāre?
3. Cūr rūsticī nōn iam labōrābant?
4. Quis celeriter appropinquat?
5. Vītatne Syrus tabellārium?
6. Quō dēscendit raeda?

FORMS

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3rd Declension i-stem Nouns

Some 3rd declension nouns such as **cīvis** and **pars** end in ***-ium*** instead of ***-um*** in the genitive plural. These are called *i-stem nouns*, and they will be identified in vocabulary lists by inclusion of the genitive plural form.

Verbs: The Imperfect Tense I

Up to the beginning of this chapter all of the verbs in the Latin stories described actions that were going on in the present with respect to the time of the story. All of these verbs are said to be in the present tense. (The word tense came into English from Old French *tens*, "tense," "time," which came from the Latin **tempus,** *time.*) Tense refers to the time when an action is conceived as taking place.

Look at the following sentences from the story at the beginning of this chapter:

Per Viam Appiam iter **faciēbant**. (13:1)	*They **were traveling** along the Appian Way.*
Ad urbem tribus diēbus advenīre **volēbat**. (13:1–2)	*He **wanted** to reach the city in three days.*
Syrus equōs **verberābat**. (13:2–3)	*Syrus **kept whipping** the horses.*

The Latin verbs in bold type are examples of the *imperfect tense*. This tense is easily recognized by the tense sign ***-ba-*** that appears before the personal endings. The verbs in the imperfect tense in these sentences describe actions that took place in past time and that were continuous or repeated.

N.B. The imperfect forms of **sum, esse,** *to be*, and **possum, posse,** *to be able*, are irregular. They may be recognized by the letters **era-**:

erat, *(he/she/it) was*	**poterat,** *(he/she/it) was able*
erant, *(they) were*	**poterant,** *(they) were able*

EXERCISE 13b

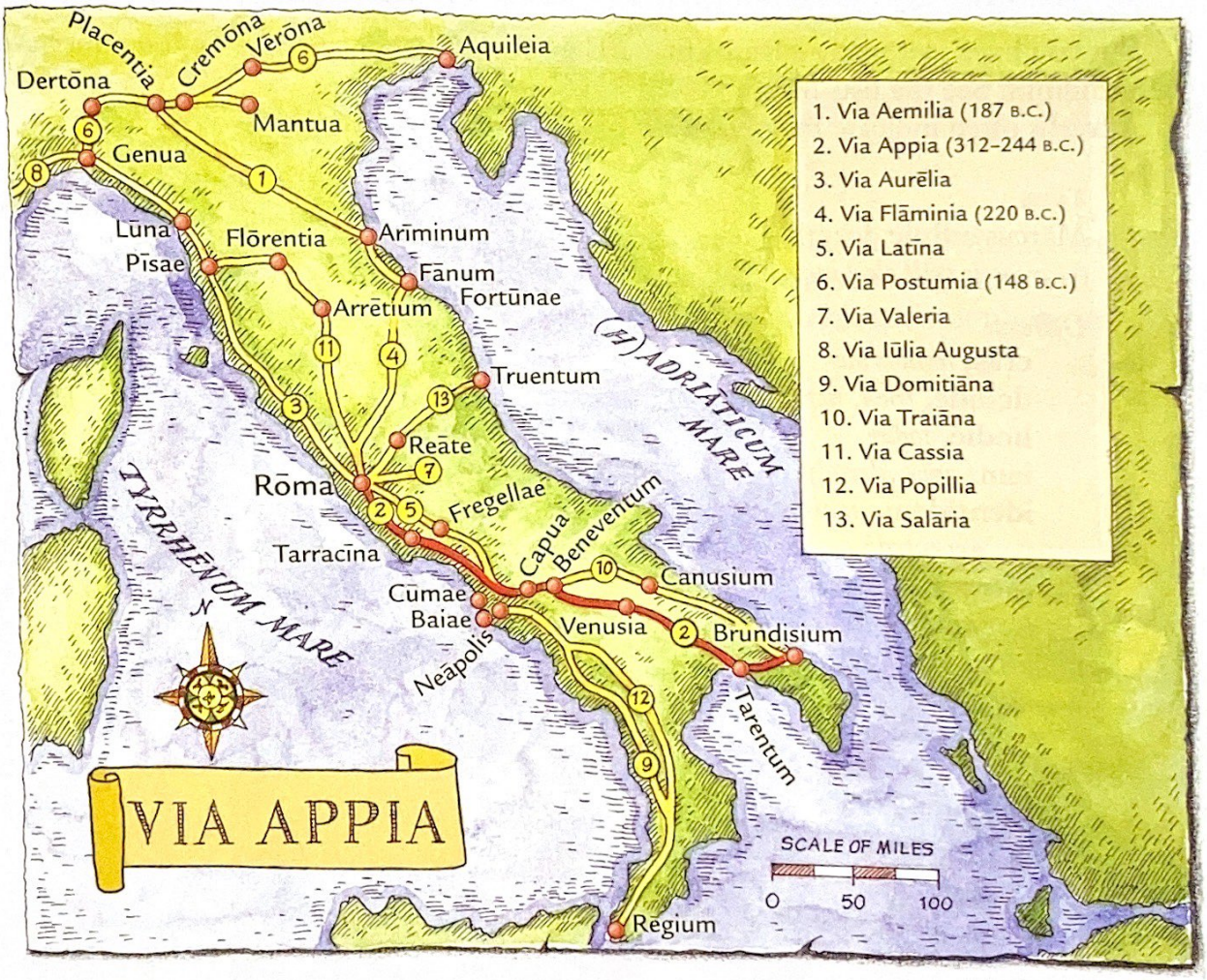
Read aloud, say whether the verb is present or imperfect, and translate:

1. Cornēlia sub arbore sedet.
2. Flāvia in agrīs ambulābat.
3. Rōmānī in Italiā habitant.
4. Servī Getam invenīre nōn poterant.
5. Lātrant canēs; appropinquant servī.
6. Mārcus et Sextus raedās spectābant.
7. Erant rūsticī prope Viam Appiam.
8. Puerī saepe currunt in agrīs.
9. Geta labōrāre nōlēbat.
10. Tabellāriī epistulās ab urbe in omnēs partēs Italiae ferēbant.

EXERCISE 13c

Using story 13 and the information on the imperfect tense as guides, give the Latin for:

1. Again and again Cornelius kept ordering Syrus to spur on the horses.
2. The day was warm, and it was the seventh hour.
3. The peasants were resting under the trees, and Cornelius and Aurelia were asleep in the carriage.
4. Marcus was sitting in the carriage and annoying Cornelia with his foot.
5. Sextus was looking at a courier who was going along the road.



BUILDING THE MEANING

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Adverbs

You have seen a number of ways in which the meaning of simple Latin sentences can be expanded by the addition of modifiers. One commonly used modifier is the *adverb*. Adverbs can modify verbs ("She ran *quickly*"), adjectives ("She is *very* beautiful"), or other adverbs ("She ran *very* quickly").

Latin adverbs are sometimes formed from adjectives by using the ending *-ē* or *-iter*:

Adjective	Adverb
strēnuus, *active, energetic*	**strēnu*ē*,** *strenuously, hard*
celer, *quick*	**celer*iter*,** *quickly*

But you have met many adverbs that are not formed from adjectives and do not have these endings. See the lists below.

Adverbs often indicate the *time*, *place*, or *manner* of the action of the verb:

Time:

Mārcus **adhūc** dormit.
*Marcus is **still** sleeping.*

Others:

crās, *tomorrow*
deinde, *then, next*
hodiē, *today*
iam, *now, already*
identidem, *again and again, repeatedly*
intereā, *meanwhile*
iterum, *again, a second time*
mox, *soon, presently*
nōn iam, *no longer*
nōndum, *not yet*
nunc, *now*
saepe, *often*
semper, *always*
simul, *together, at the same time*
statim, *immediately*
subitō, *suddenly*
tandem, *at last, at length*
tum, *at that moment, then*

Place:

"Quid tū **hīc**?" (9:8)
*"What (are) you (doing) **here**?"*

Other:

ibi, *there*

Manner:

Sextus **celeriter** tunicam et togam induit. (8:9–10)
*Sextus **quickly** puts on his tunic and toga.*

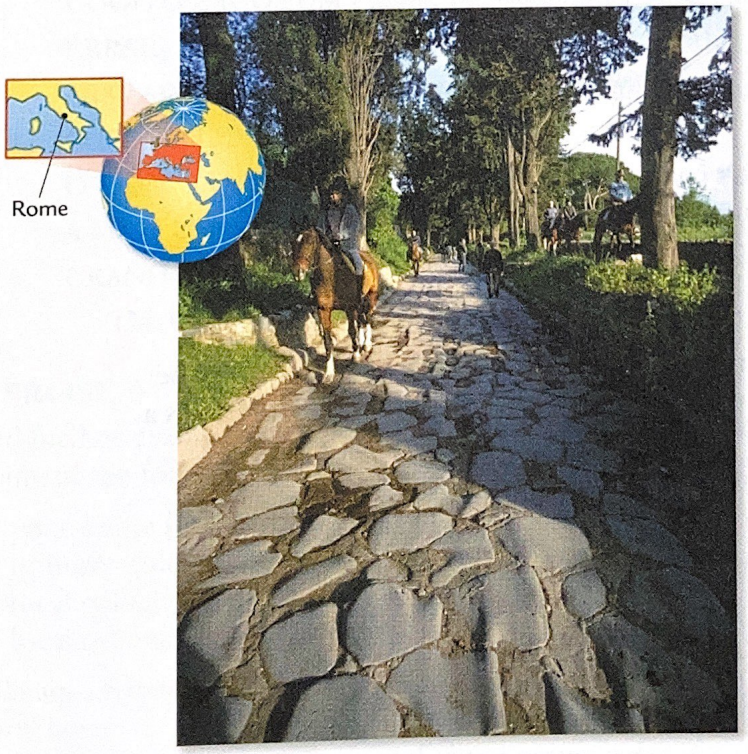
Others:

ferōciter, *fiercely*
fūrtim, *stealthily*
lentē, *slowly*
strēnuē, *strenuously, hard*
tacitē, *silently*

Other Adverbs:

etiam, *also, even*
Ita vērō! *Yes! Indeed!*
Minimē! *No! Not at all!*
nōn, *not*
Quam...! *How...!*
quoque, *also*
tamen, *however, nevertheless*

Note that some of the adverbs on the previous page and above end with letters that are used in case endings of nouns and adjectives: **-ās, -e, -am, -em, -ā, -um,** and **-ō**. Be sure that you know that the words on these pages are adverbs and not nouns or adjectives.



Some sections of the ancient Appian Way have survived over time. The wheel ruts shown in the picture are the result of the heavy traffic over the road throughout the centuries.
Via Appia Antica, Rome