Caput XIX Grammar

Latin II

ABLATIVE ABSOLUTE

Ablative Absolute

- The last chapter introduced a new form of the verb called the *perfect passive participle*
- Which part of the verb is used to make this new construction?
  - lavo, lavare, lavi, <u>lautum</u>
  - edo, edere, edi, <u>esum</u>
  - credo, credere, credidi, <u>creditum</u>
  - tendo, tendere, tetendi, <u>tentum</u>

Ablative Absolute

Using this new construction, we can now form the **ablative** **absolute**.

- An **ablative absolute** phrase is used when a thought, condition or action is **grammatically separate** but **modifies the meaning of the rest of the sentence.**

- We use absolute adverbial phrases in English, too:

  - They had a pleasant trip, *all things considered.*

Ablative Absolute

The ablative absolute usually consists of:

- Noun + Noun
- Noun + Pronoun
- Noun/Pronoun + Adjective
- Noun + Participle

Noun + Noun

- Two nouns that are both in the ablative case

- There is no participle for the verb *sum esse*, so insert **being** with this construction
  - Caesare duce, …..
    - With Caesar being the commander ….
    - Since Caesar is the commander….

Noun + Pronoun

- A noun in the ablative case and a pronoun in the ablative case

- There is no participle for the verb *sum esse*, so insert **being** with this construction
  - Auro suo, ….
    - With the gold being hers, …
    - Since the gold is hers, …

Noun/Pronoun + Adjective

- A noun and an adjective that are both in the ablative case

- There is no participle for the verb *sum esse*, so insert **being** with this construction
  - Caesare invito, …..
    - With Caesar being unwilling ….
    - Since Caesar is unwilling….

Noun + Participle

<u>This is the most common construction for the ablative absolute!</u>

A noun and a participle (usually the perfect passive participle) that are both in the ablative case

- Caesare tenente imperium, …..

  - With Caesar holding the power ….

  - Since Caesar is holding the power….

Nota Bene: since the participle still retains some properties of verbs, it can still take a direct object!

Ablative Absolute

- How do you recognize an ablative absolute?
  - It is (not always!) set off from the sentence by **a comma or commas**
  - It is made up of at least _____**two**_____ words in the _____**ablative**_____ case
  - It is not __**grammatically connected**__ to the rest of the sentence.

Ablative Absolute

- The Ablative Absolute has certain characteristics that you should look for:
  - It must contain a noun or pronoun in the ablative case
  - Most of the time it will also contain a perfect passive participle (also in the ablative case!)
    - Because these are regularly declined, you already know what endings to look for: -ā, -ō, -īs, etc.
  - It often (but not always) begins a Latin sentence.
    - In most textbooks, the ablative absolutes are set off by commas.

Ablative Absolute

The best way to translate the ablative absolute is to use some type of **adverbial** conjunction, such as:

when	although	as
since	after	with
because	if	under

For example

His rebus auditis …..

- These things having been heard…..

- When these things were heard…..

- Since these things were heard…..

- After these things were heard…..

- Because these things were heard…..

- If these things were heard…..

- Although these things were heard…..

cibo eso
_____, servi mensam lavant.

penso perfecto
_____, discipuli a classe exiunt.

pomo carpto
_____, puer id edit.

carno eso
_____, puer est plenus.

voto dicto
_____, sacerdos templum exit.

carmine canto
_____, viri in theatro sedent.

aqua vaporato
_____, populi thermas intrant.

USING THE ABLATIVE ABSOLUTE

Using the Ablative Absolute

__**Ablative**__ __**absolutes**__ are clauses that do not grammatically link to the sentence

- The phrase reflects upon the action of the main clause with regard to one or more of these:
  - Time Sequence
  - Precondition or Causation
  - Opposing or Contrasting Circumstance

Ablative Absolute: Time Sequence

Time Sequence: __**gives the order of events:**__

__**one thing happened after another thing happened**__

Ablative Absolute of Time Sequence is often translated with:
- **when**
- **since**
- **because**
- **although**
- **with**

Ablative Absolute: Time Sequence

_____, Caesar in Galliā pugnavit.

(*With Caesar as consul*)

_____, populi fuerunt iratissimi.

(*With Tarquinius Superbus as king*)

_____, spectatores multi visitant.

 (*With Regulus as a retarius*)

_____, Celsus spectare pugnas vult

(*With Septimus as a bestiarius*)

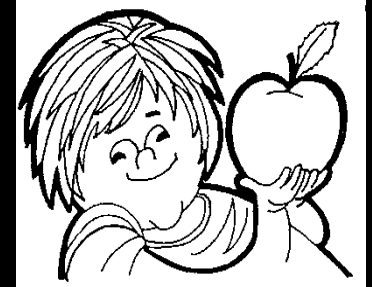# Ablative Absolute: Precondition or Causation

- Precondition or Causation: __reason why__

  __gives explanation of cause or preexisting circumstance__

  Ablative Absolute of Precondition or Causation is often translated with:
  - as
  - since
  - because
  - although
  - after

Precondition or Causation

_____, liberi aquam bibere volunt.

(*With the apple having been eaten*)

_____, Hippomenes vincere in cursu coepit.

(*With the golden apples having been given*)

_____, mater cum filiis suis erat laetissima.

(*With the dog having been washed*)

_____, vos legere verba potestis.

(*With the rock having been washed*)

Ablative Absolute: Opposing or Contrasting Circumstance
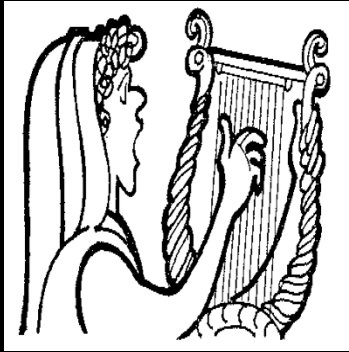
- Opposing or Contrasting Circumstance:

expresses two conflicting events

Ablative Absolute of Opposing or Contrasting Circumstance is often translated with:
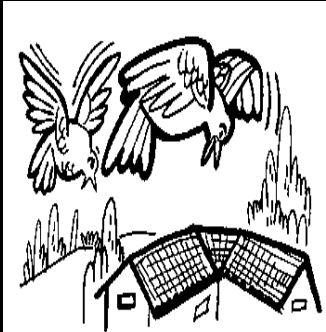- **although**
- **even though**

Sometimes the word "*tamen*" (meaning *nevertheless)* will occur in the main clause which will introduce the opposing or contrasting circumstance.

Opposing or Contrasting Circumstance

_____, familia hospitesque cenam edunt.
(*While the songs were being sung*)

_____, Midas non procul afuit.
(*While Apollo had been singing*)

_____, nos diligenter sub eis ambulamus.
(*With the bird having followed in the sky*)

_____, amici sui eam rident.
(*With Livia being amazed by the birds*)

4TH AND 5TH DECLENSION

4th Declension

- So far, the only nouns you have dealt with have been of the _____**1ˢᵗ**_,_**2ⁿᵈ**_____ or _____**3ʳᵈ**____ declension.
  - The genitive singular of the first declension is _____**-ae**____.
  - The genitive singular of the second declension is _____**-i**____.
  - The genitive singular of the third declension is _____**-is**____.

4ᵗʰ Declension

- This chapter introduces the next group of nouns, named (creatively enough) the fourth declension.

  – The genitive singular of the fourth declension is ___**-ūs**___.

4th Declension

- All nouns in Latin have some gender assigned to them.
  - Nouns of the first declension are predominately **feminine** _____.
  - Nouns of the second declension are predominately **masculine** _____ or **neuter** _____.
  - Nouns of the third declension are predominately **feminine** _____, **masculine** _____, or **neuter** _____.
  - Nouns of the fourth declension are predominately **masculine** _____ or **neuter** _____.

4th Declension

Masculine

	Singular	*Plural*
Nom.	-us	-ūs
Gen.	-ūs	-uum
Dat.	-uī	-ibus
Acc.	-um	-ūs
Abl.	-ū	-ibus

Neuter

	Singular	*Plural*
Nom.	-ū	-ua
Gen.	-ūs	-uum
Dat.	-ū	-ibus
Acc.	-ū	-ua
Abl.	-ū	-ibus

4ᵗʰ Declension

- **Manus** and **domus** are two feminine nouns in this otherwise masculine and neuter declension. Both are declined like masculine nouns.

5ᵗʰ Declension

- So far, the only nouns you have dealt with have been of the __**1ˢᵗ**___,__**2ⁿᵈ**___,__**3ʳᵈ**___ or __**4ᵗʰ**___ declension.
  - The genitive singular of the first declension is __**-ae**___.
  - The genitive singular of the second declension is __**-i**___.
  - The genitive singular of the third declension is __**-is**___.
  - The genitive singular of the fourth declension is __**-ūs**___.

5ᵗʰ Declension

- This chapter introduces the **final** group of nouns, named (creatively enough) the fifth declension.
  - The genitive singular of the fifth declension is __**-ei**___.

5ᵗʰ Declension

- All nouns in Latin have some gender assigned to them.
  - Nouns of the first declension are predominately _____**feminine**_____.
  - Nouns of the second declension are predominately _____**masculine**_____ or _____**neuter**_____.
  - Nouns of the third declension are predominately _____**feminine**_____, _____**masculine**_____, or _____**neuter**_____.
  - Nouns of the fourth declension are predominately _____**masculine**_____ or _____**neuter**_____.
  - Nouns of the fifth declension are predominately _____**feminine**_____.

5th Declension

	Case Endings	**rēs, reī,** *f.*	**diēs, diēī,** *m.*[1]
		Singular	
Nom.	-ēs	rēs	diēs
Gen.	-ēī	rēī	diēī
Dat.	-ēī	rēī	diēī
Acc.	-ēm	rēm	diēm
Abl.	-ē	rē	diē
		Plural	
Nom.	-ēs	rēs	diēs
Gen.	-ērum	rērum	diērum
Dat.	-ēbus	rēbus	diēbus
Acc.	-ēs	rēs	diēs
Abl.	-ēbus	rēbus	diēbus

5th Declension

- 5th declension nouns are relatively common but are few in number; the two most common are dies and res.

- *Dies* is feminine only when it refers to specific days of the week.