

AT THE PORTA CAPENA

Objectives

- to teach the future tense of regular and irregular verbs
- to explain the use of adjectives as substantives
- to provide in the story examples for review of the different forms and uses of the genitive and dative cases
- to provide in the story practice in the contrast between the perfect and imperfect tenses

The Story

1. Three verbs in the future tense occurred in the last paragraph of the story in Chapter 22: *adveniemus* (26), *videbimus* (27), and *excipiet* (28). The present story begins with verbs in the past tenses (1-3 imperfect; 3-10 mostly perfect). Verbs in the future tense occur in the dialogue (9-12). All but one are translated in the vocabulary list; the verbs in the future tense are *ducam* (10), *ferent* (11), *curabo* (12), *videbunt* (12), and *explicabo* (12). Only *explicabo* is left to be deduced, and it will cause no trouble since it is preceded by *curabo*. In getting students to comprehend the significance of these future forms, take full advantage of the context; e.g., *Cornelius says he has to go to the Senate House right away, but first he will take Aurelia and Cornelia home* (9-10).

2. This is a good story to teach with the passage projected onto a screen from an overhead transparency. After reading and translating the story, locate and underline verbs in the three tenses with different colored marking pens (one color for each of the tenses). Make some preliminary observations about the future tense forms: (1) the personal endings are familiar, (2) some forms have the letter *b*, and (3) some forms have the letters *n* and *e*. Draw comparison with the three verbs in the future tense at the end of story 21. Point out that while some of the imperfect tense forms at the beginning of story 23 show the letters *-ba-*, the form *videbimus* (22:27) shows the *-bi-* that is typical of some future tense forms.

Careful observation of the verb forms in the context of the reading passage will help students learn the sets of forms presented later in the chapter.

3. Have students deduce:

- words: *multitudinem* (5), *lecticarii* (11)
 - grammar: *itinere* (8, 14), ablative of cause
 - phrase: *se lavit* (15)
4. Structures:
- Balanced phrases with chiasmus (AB/BA):
ubi multitudinem civium, servorum urbam vidit (5)
 - Balanced phrases with anaphora (i.e., repetition of the same word at the beginning of successive phrases or clauses):
Undique erat strepitus plaustrorum, undique clamor mercatorum, viatorum, raedartorum. (5-6)

- Interrupted sentence:
... Aurelia et Cornelia, itinere defessae, se quieti dederunt. (14)
- Lists in asyndeton (i.e., without connectives):
Cives, mercatores, servi... (2)
- ... mercatorum, viatorum, raedartorum. (6)
- ... patrem, matrem, filiam... (13) Contrast with... Corneliū et Aureliam et liberos... (7)
- ... se lavit, aliam togam virtilem induit, iternum in lectica consedit. (15)
- Genitives for review: *Marci et Corneliae* (1), *civium, servorum* (5), *plaustrorum*... *mercatorum, viatorum, raedartorum* (6), *urbis* (13).
- Ablative of manner consisting of adjective-cum-noun: *maximo cum gaudio* (7). Students have previously seen the ablative of manner consisting of either adjective-noun without a preposition (*magna voce*, 11:6) or of cum-noun (*cum rsu*, 22:16).
- Datives for review: *Mihi necesse est* (9), *quos vobis conduxi* (11), *ego omnia eis explicabo* (12), and *se quieti dederunt* (14).
- Note that Latin connects two adjectives with *et* as in the phrase *multa et mira* (12), while in English we say simply *many wonderful things* (for adjectives used as substantives, see page 66 of the student's book).

9. In order to reduce traffic congestion in the city, Julius Caesar in 45 B.C. had outlawed the use of wheeled vehicles within the city from sunrise until the tenth hour of the day (about 4 P.M.). Travelers arriving at Rome during the day were required to disembark from their vehicles and enter the city either on foot or in a lectica. Thus the Porta Capena became a very busy depot crowded with lines of *raedae* and *plaustra* waiting to enter the city as soon as evening fell. Then the bustle and din of the Porta Capena were transferred to the city, prompting complaints such as that of Juvenal in his third satire: "Where is sleep possible?" (III.236). For more information, see *Rome: Its People, Life and Customs*, pp. 27-29; and *Daily Life in Ancient Rome*, pp. 49-51.

10. Discuss briefly the Roman Senate (*Curia*, 9) and its role in Roman government. See the entries "Curia" and "Senatus" in *The Oxford Classical Dictionary*. The Curia is one of the more notable buildings still standing in the Roman Forum today. For illustrations and further information, see *Forum Romanum*, pp. 13-14.

11. The lectica: the following information is taken from *Dictionary of Greek and Roman Antiquities*, Volume II, pages 671-672. The lectica was used by the Greeks and the Romans for conveying bodies of the dead to their graves. In Greece the lectica was used as a means of conveyance primarily by women. In early Roman times the lectica was used more for travel than for conveyance in the city. The lectica had a roof made of leather held up by four posts and had curtains around the sides. Later there were enclosed lecticae with windows made of transparent stone. The person riding in the lectica lay on a bed-like platform with his or her head on a pillow. When stationary, the lectica stood on four legs made of wood.

Slaves carried it by means of poles, which were removable. The number of slaves varied from two to eight; some wore bright red uniforms. Sometimes a slave went ahead of the lectica to make way for it. By the time of our story many wealthy Romans had their own lecticae and special slaves to carry them, but there were also companies of lecticarii for hire, stationed across the Tiber and in various regions of Rome.

Chapter 23 AT THE PORTA CAPENA

Interea Titus, patruus Marci et Corneliae, eos prope Portam Capenam exspectabat.

Cives, mercatores, servi per portam ibant atque huc illuc currebant. Titus tamen in

lectica sedebat. Ubi Cornelios conspexit, e lectica descendit. E raeda descenderrunt

Cornelii. Interdium enim raeada intra urbem agere Romanis non licebat.

5 Stupuit Sextus ubi multitudinem civium, servorum turbam vidit. Undique erat

strepitus plaustrorum, undique clamor mercatorum, viatorum, raeदारiorum.

Titus Corneliium et Aureliam et liberos maximo cum gaudio salutavit. "Quam

laetus," inquit, "vos omnes excipio! Nonne estis itinere defessi?"

Valde defessi respondit Cornelius. "Mihi necesse est celeriter ad Curiam ire, sed

10 primum Aureliam at Corneliam domum ducam."

"Ita vero," inquit Titus. "Ecce. Lecticarii, quos vobis conduxim, vos domum ferent.

Ego pueros curabo. Multa et mira videbunt pueri, atque ego omnia eis explicabo."

Itaque per vias urbis lecticarii patrem, matrem, filiam celeriter domum tulerunt.

Postquam eo advennerunt, Aurelia et Cornelia, itinere defessae, se quieti dederunt.

15 Cornelius tamen se lavit, aliam togam virilem induit, iterum in lectica consedit.

"Ad Curiam celeriter," inquit.

Regular verbs form their future tense in the following three ways:

A. 1st and 2nd conjugations

FORMATION: To the present stem add: -bo -bimus

-bit -bitis

-bit -bunt

e.g. paro, parate

para + bo = parabo I will (shall) prepare simple future
 para + bis = parabis I will (shall) be preparing progressive future

para + bit = parabit
 para + bimus = parabimus
 para + bitis = parabitis
 para + bunt = parabunt

e.g. habeo, habete

habe + bo = habebo
 habe + bis = habebis
 habe + bit = habebit
 habe + bimus = habebimus
 habe + bitis = habebitis
 habe + bunt = habebunt

Comment 1: In modern formal English shall is used in the 1st person and will for the 2nd and 3rd persons. For emphasis the order is reversed (e.g. Thou shalt not....).

For all practical purposes, will can be used in all persons in modern spoken standard casual American English.

Comment 2: Even though it is not 100 per cent true, bit is regarded as the sign of the future tense for 1st and 2nd conjugation regular verbs.

B.

3rd conjugation REGULAR

FORMATION: Drop ere from the infinitive and add:

-am -amus
 -es -etis
 -ent

e.g. mitto, mitte

mitt + am = mittam
 mitt + es = mittes
 mitt + et = mittet

mitt + emus = mittemus We will (shall) send
 mitt + etis = mittetis We will (shall) be sending

C.

3rd io and 4th conjugations

FORMATION: Drop the last three letters from the infinitives and

add: -iam -iamus
 -ies -ietis
 -ient -ient

e.g. iacio, iacite

iac + iam = iaciam
 iac + ies = iacies
 iac + iet = iaciet
 iac + iamus = iaciamus
 iac + ietis = iacietis
 iac + ient = iacient

e.g. audio, audite

aud + iam = audiam
 aud + ies = audies
 aud + iet = audiet
 aud + iamus = audiamus
 aud + ietis = audietis
 aud + ient = audient

BUILDING THE MEANING p. 69

In addition to the rule about an *i* before the *e*, call attention to the following. If students see an *e* before a personal ending of a verb, they should ask themselves whether the first principal part of that verb has an *e* before the personal ending -*o*. If it does, then the form in question is present tense; if it does not, then the form is future.

Ex. 23f p. 70

Interea Eucleides et pueri cum Tito extra Portam Capenam stabant.

Titus: Salvete, pueri! Quid in intrinere vidistis? Vidistisne rusticos in agris?

Agrisne colebant?

Sextus: Rusticos vidimus. Agros non colebant, sed sub arboribus quiescebant.

At cauponam vidimus; nostra raeda in fossa haerebat et nobis necesse erat in caupona pernoctare.

Marcus: Ita vero! Gaudebam quod pater meus in illa caupona pernoctare constitit. Caupo erat vir Graecus, amicus Eucleidis.

Sextus: Ego quoque gaudebam, nam miles bonam fabulam nobis narravit. In illa

fabula caupo quidam hospitem necavit. Tales fabulas amo. Sed quid nunc faciemus? Ego volo Circum Maximum visitare. Ecce! Nonne Circum Maximum supra muros urbis exstantem videre possum?

Marcus: Ita vero! Est Circus Maximus. Non procul abest.

Titus: Non possumus omnia hodie videre. Cras satis temporis habebimus.

Sextus: Sed quid est illud aedificium? Nonne pontem ingentem supra portam video?

Marcus: Non pontem hic vides, o stulte! Est aquaeductus, Aqua Marcia. Per illum aquaeductum Romani aquam in urbem ferunt. Cave imbrem, Sexte!

Sextus: Sed non pluit.

Titus: Semper hic pluit, Sexte. Rimosa enim est Aqua Marcia.

1. Have students deduce: *visitare* (11), *aqueductus* (16),

and *Aqua Marcia* (16).

2. Items of cultural interest in this passage include:

a. *Circum Maximum* (11): the *Circus Maximus* is

the subject of the story in Chapter 27, and it is the focus of considerable attention in the intervening chapters. With its seating capacity of 200,000, the *Circus Maximus* testifies to the great popularity of chariot racing in Rome. Inscriptions and passages from a variety of Roman authors dealing with the *Circus Maximus* and the races are given in English translation in the "Cultural Background Readings" at the end of this guide, pp. 330-347.

b. *Aqua Marcia* (19): running above the *Porta Capena*, the *Aqua Marcia* was one of the older

aqueducts of Rome. It was well-known for its cracks and leaks. Juvenal in his third satire has *Umbrius* stop at *veteres arcus madidamque Capenam, at the old arches and the dripping Porta Capena* (line 11). The portal, of course, drips from the leaky *Aqua Marcia* that passes over it. *Martial*, too, mentions the dripping gate and describes a traveler in his carriage (compare the *Comellii*):

Where the *Capene Gate* drips with heavy drops, . . . *Bassus* was riding . . . in a traveling carriage crammed full, dragging with him all the abundance of the rich country. There you might see cabbages with noble heads, and each kind of leek, and squat lettuces, and beets. . . .

—*Martial* 11.1.47-1-9
(tr. adapted from Walter C. A. Ker)

Voc. List D.

1. *Aut viam inveniam aut faciam*. Either I will find a way or make (one) .

(Motto of the University of Pennsylvania)

2. *extra* prep. + Acc. outside, beyond (extraterrestrial)

3. *talis, e* such

4. *Circus Maximus* The *Circus Maximus* (a large stadium in Rome)

5. *supra* Prep. + Acc. above

6. *murus, i* M. wall (mural)

7. *exstans, (exstantis)* standing out, towering

8. *colo, colere, colui, cultus* to cultivate; to worship

9. *quiesco, quiescere, quievi, quieturus* to rest, keep quiet

10. *satis* temporis enough (of) time

N. B. *satis* is followed by the partitive genitive

Voc. List E.

1. *pons, pontis* M. bridge (pontoon)

pons pontis
pontes pontium

pons is a third decl. i-stem noun
Why?

ponte pontem
ponte pontibus

2. *stultus, a, um* stupid, foolish syn: *fatuus*

3. *Cave imbre!* Watch out for the rain.

4. *imber, imbris* M. rain

5. *rimosus, a, um* full of cracks, leaky

6. *constituo, constituere, constitui, constitutus* to decide

7. *pluit, pluere, pluit* it rains

8. *domo* out of the house

9. *illuc* Adv. of there, to that place syn: *eo*

Illustration

The illustrations show three Roman devices for controlling water and making it available for human and animal use. From left to right:

cisterna, -ae, f., *cistern*. A covered underground structure for collecting rain water for use by people (Varro, *De re rustica* I.XI.2, distinguishes this from an open reservoir, *lacus*, built to collect rain water for animals)

antlia, -ae, f., *a water-raising device*. Martial (IX.18) speaks of an *antlia* that raises water from a valley to the level of the garden near his country house. The water was raised by bucket-like devices attached to the wheel. For a model of a similar device used to pump water from a Roman gold mine in Wales, see *Roman Technology and Crafts*, p. 41.

canalis, *canalis*, m./f., *water trough*. The illustration shows a *lacus* in the background and she-goats drinking from the trough.

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Illustration

Here is a description of the Pont du Gard (late first century B.C.), near Nîmes in southern France:

The Pont du Gard is a splendid sight, supported by a triple line of arches. The water channel at the top is supported by thirty-five small arches. These are carried by eleven large arches, and the whole erection supported by six more great arches and piers going right down into the gorge on either side of the river bed. In Nîmes the water flows into a large circular basin which has five openings on the opposite side. Pipes from these take the water to the baths, public fountains and private houses. The owners of the private houses have to pay a water rate. The supply from the aqueduct can be cut off by a gate and the basin drained for cleaning.

Roman Gaul, pp. 39-40

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Illustration

The dates of construction of the aqueducts shown in this illustration are as follows, in chronological order (see *The Oxford Classical Dictionary*, p. 89):

Appia, 312 B.C.
 Anio Vetus, 272 B.C.
 Marcia, 144 B.C.
 Tepula, 125 B.C.
 Julia, 33 B.C.
 Virgo, 19 B.C.
 Alsietina, 2 B.C.
 Claudia, A.D. 47
 Anio Novus, A.D. 52

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Interea Titus, patruus Marci et Corneliae, eos prope Portam Capenam exspectabat. Cives, mercatores, servi per portam ibant atque huc illuc currebant. Titus tamen in lectica sedebat. Ubi Cornelios conspexit, e lectica descendit. E raeda descendunt Corneli. Interdium enim raedas intra urbem agere Romanis non licebat. Stupuit Sextus ubi multitudinem civium, servorum turbam vidit. Undique erat strepitus plastrorum, undique clamor mercatorum, viatorum, radorum.

Titus Corneliū et Aureliam et liberos maximo cum gaudio salutavit. "Quam laetus," inquit, "vos omnes excipio! Nonne estis itinere defessi?"

"Valde defessi," respondit Cornelius. "Mihi necesse est celeriter ad Curiam ire, sed primum Aureliam et Corneliā domum ducam."

"Ita vero!" inquit Titus. "Ecce! Lecticarii, quos vobis conduxī, vos domum ferent. Ego pueros curabo."

Multa et mira videbunt pueri, atque ego omnia eis explicabo."

Itaque per vias urbis lecticarii patrem, matrem, filiam celeriter domum tulerunt. Postquam eo advenērunt, Aurelia et Cornelia, itinere defessae, se quieti dederunt. Cornelius tamen se lavit, aliam togam virilem induit, iterum in lectica consedit.

"Ad Curiam celeriter!" inquit.

1. Titus nos prope Portam Capenam exspectabit; omnes maximo cum gaudio salutabit.

2. Hodie magna sepulcra Romanorum praeclarorum vidimus; cras Curiam et alia aedificia Romana videbimus.

3. Fortasse patruus noster nos ad Curiam ducet.

4. Corneli omnes se parant; brevi tempore ad urbem iter facient.

5. Multa et mira vident pueri; lecticarii eos mox domum portabunt.

6. Cornelius e raeda descendet, nam raedam intra urbem agere non licet.

7. Quam diu in urbe manebis, pater?

8. Bene dormietis, pueri. Longum enim iter hodie fecistis.

9. Cornelia, tinere longo defessa, se quieti dabit.

10. Pueri multa rogabunt de aedificiis quae in urbis vits videbunt.

Exercise 23c Using story 23, its verb list, and the charts of the future tense as guides, give the Latin for:

1. Will you run home, boys? _____

2. We will sit near the Porta Capena. _____

3. When will the Corneluses climb down out of the carriage? _____

4. Cornelius, will you drive your carriage inside the city during the day? _____

5. Who will hire the litter-bearers? _____

6. Will you litter-bearers carry us home? _____

7. Where will Cornelius wash himself? _____

8. What will you put on, Cornelius? _____

9. We will all sit down in two litters. _____

Exercise 23d Following the examples, fill in the remainder of the verb information below:

Verb	Conjugation	Tense	Meaning	Pr./Fut. or vice versa
habent	2	present	they have	habebunt
mittent	3	future	they will send	mittunt
vident				
tubent				
ascendent				
admovent				
timent				
ducent				
trident				
facient				

Exercise 23e Please look carefully at the verbs in the following sentences. Decide the conjugation number first (this will help you to get the tense right) and then read aloud and translate:

1. Puert Eucleidem non vident sed vocem eius audient.

2. Vidēsne senātores in vīs? Quando Cornelius veniet?

3. Servi celeriter current, nam Cornēlium timent.

4. Sextus mane surget, in animo habet extire.

5. Ego et Cornelia tacemus; patrem timemus.

Exercise 23f

Please read aloud and translate:

Interea Eucleides et puert cum Tito extra Portam Capenam stabant.

TITUS: Salvete, puert! Quid in itinere vidistis? Vidistisne rusticos in agris? Agrōsne colēbant?

SEXTUS: Rusticos vidimus. Agrōs non colēbant, sed sub arboribus quiescēbant. At caupōnam vidimus;

nostra raeda in fossa haerebat et nobis necesse erat in caupōna pernoctare.

MARCUS: Ita vēro! Gaudēbam quod pater meus in illa caupōna pernoctare cōstituit. Caupo erat vir Graecus,

amicus Eucleidis.

SEXTUS: Ego quoque gaudēbam, nam miles bonam fabulam nobis nārravit. In illa fabula caupo quidam

hospitem necavit. Tales fabulas amo. Sed quid nunc faciēmus? Ego volo Circum Maximum

visitare. Ecce! Nonne Circum Maximum supra muros urbis exstantem videre possum?

MARCUS: Ita vērō! Est Circus Maximus. Non procul abest.

TITUS: Nōn possumus omnia hodiē vidēre. Crās satis temporis habebimus.

SEXTUS: Sed quid est illud aedificium? Nōne pontem ingentem supra portam videtis?

MARCUS: Nōn pontem hīc vidēs, o stultē! Est aquaeductus, Aqua Marcia. Per illum aquaeductum Rōmāni

aquam in urbem ferunt. Cavē imbrem, Sexte!

SEXTUS: Sed nōn pluit.

TITUS: Semper hīc pluit, Sexte. Rimōsa enim est Aqua Marcia.

Exercise 23h Please read aloud, circle all verbs in the future tense, and translate:

1. Tibisne ad Curiam, pater? Ita vērō! Ad Curiam celeriter ibō.

2. Quando domum redibis, pater? Nesciō.

3. Fortasse Cornēlius domum redire brevi tempore poterit.

4. Eucleides et pueri in urbem mane exierunt.

5. Necesse erat diu in urbe manēre.

6. Nocte vehicula magna onera in urbem ferent.

7. Pueri Circum Maximum cras videre volent.

8. Ubi liberti mane erunt? Tu liberos non videbis, nam domo mox exibunt.

9. St equi strenue laborabunt, raedam e fossa extrahere poterunt.

10. St pluet, ad silvam ambulare nolam.

11. Feresne cistam meam in cauponam? Minime! Tu ipse eam fer!

12. Redibitisne ad villam rusticam? Fortasse redire poterimus.

13. Voletisne cras ad Circum Maximum ire? Ita vero! Cras illic ire volumus.

14. "Ego ire nolam," inquit Aurelia.

15. Post cenam pueri cubitum ire nolebant.