

THE COMMISSATIO

1. For the commissatiō, see *Rome: Its People, Life and Customs* pp. 96–97. For the tālī “knucklebones” see *Roman Life*, pp. 244–245.

2. A commissatiō (or comis(s)atiō, derived from the Greek verb *kōmazō*, “to revel,” “to make merry”) follows Cornelius’ dinner. This topic provides an opportunity for discussion of ancient attitudes toward social drinking and inebriation and comparison with modern views.

Below are selections from Cicero, Horace, and Seneca on the practice of drinking during the commissatiō following a dinner. Reading of the passages in class may be followed by discussion of each author’s attitude toward drinking. Both the positive and the negative aspects of drinking as presented in the passages should be brought out in the discussion, with careful attention to what each author is saying.

a. Cicero (106–43 B.C.), Roman orator and statesman, and admirer and transmitter of Greek culture of the Roman world, in his *De senectute* (XIV) has the Elder Cato (234–149 B.C.) speak in his old age of his fondness for the commissatiō, of the prescribed customs for drinking and the opportunity for talk:

For my own part, because of my love of conversation, I enjoy even “afternoon banquets,” not with my contemporaries only, very few of whom now remain, but also with you and those of your age; and I am profoundly grateful to old age, which has increased my eagerness for conversation and taken away that for food and drink. But if there are any who find delight in such things (that may by no means seem to have declared war on every kind of pleasure, when, perhaps a certain amount of it is justified by nature), then I may say that I am not aware that old age is altogether wanting in appreciation of even these very pleasures. Indeed I find

delight in the custom established by our forefathers of appointing presidents at such gatherings; and in the talk, which, after that ancestral custom, begins at the head of the table when the wine comes in; and I enjoy cups, like those in Xenophon’s *Symposium*, that are small in size, filled with dew-like drops, cooled in the summer, and, again, in winter, warmed by the heat of the sun or fire. Even when among the Sabines I keep up the practice of frequenting such gatherings, and every day I join my neighbors in a social meal which we protract as late as we can into the night with talk on varying themes.

—tr. William Armistead Falconer

b. The poet Horace (65–8 B.C.) writes as follows in praise of wine drunk in moderation (*Odes* I.18.1–9):

O Varus, plant no tree in preference to the sacred vine about the mellow soil of Tibur and by the

Walls of Catilus! For to the abstemious has the god ordained that everything be hard, nor are canker-ing cares dispelled except by Bacchus’ gift. Who, after this wine, harps on the hardships of campaigns or poverty? Who does not rather glorify thee, O father Bacchus, and thee, O comely Venus? And yet, that no one pass the bounds of moderation in enjoying Liber’s gifts, we have a lesson in the Centaurs’ contest with the Lapithae, fought out to the bitter end over the festal board.

—tr. C.E.Bennett

c. Seneca, the Roman moralist (c. 4 B.C.–A.D. 65), who himself practiced abstinence from wine and believed that “it is easier for the will to cut off certain things utterly than to use them with restraint” (*Letters* CVIII.16), scorned the victor in drinking at the commissatiō as follows (*Letters* LXXXIII.24–27), using as his example Mark Antony:

What glory is there in carrying much liquor? When you have won the prize, and other banquetters, sprawling asleep or vomiting, have declined your challenge to still other toasts; when you are the last survivor of the revels; when you have vanquished every one by your magnificent show of prowess and there is no one who has

proved himself of so great capacity as you—you are vanquished by the cask. Mark Antony was a great man, a man of distinguish ability; but what ruined him and drove him into foreign habits and un-Roman vices, if it was not drunkenness and—no less potent than wine—love of Cleopatra? This it was that made him an enemy of the state; this it was that rendered him no match for his enemies; this it was that made him cruel, when as he sat at table the heads of the leaders of the state were brought in; when amid the most elaborate feasts and royal luxury he would identify the faces and hands of men whom he had proscribed; when, though heavy with wine, he yet thirsted for blood. It was intolerable that he was getting drunk when he did such things; how much more intolerable that he did these things while actually drunk! Cruelty usually follows wine-bibbing; for a man’s soundness of mind is corrupted and made savage, just as a lingering illness makes men querulous and irritable and drives them wild at the least crossing of their desires, so continued bouts of drunkenness bestialize the soul, for when people are often beside themselves, the habit of madness lasts on, and the vices which liquor generated retain their power even when the liquor is gone.

Therefore you should state why the wise man ought not to get drunk. Explain by facts, and not by mere words, the hideousness of the thing, its haunting evils, do that which is easiest of all—namely demonstrate that what men call pleasures are punishments as soon as they have exceeded due bonds.

—tr. Richard M. Grummere

Supplementum vocabulorum pagina LXIII:

1. commissatiō, -ōnis F. drinking party
2. rosa, ae F. rose
3. merum, ī N. undiluted wine
4. corōna, ae F. garland
5. flōs, flōris M. flower
6. apium, īī N. parsley
7. hедера, ae F. ivy
8. unguentum, ī N. ointment, perfume
9. arbiter (-trī g. s.) bibendī master of drinking
10. tālī, tālōrum M. Pl. dice
11. fritillus, ī M. dice box
12. cyathus, ī M. small ladle, measure of liquid (1/12 of a pint)
13. Bene + dative formulas for toasts with drinking e. g. Bene nobīs! Health to us!
Fēliciter + dative To our health!
14. coronō, -āre, -āvī, -ātus Fēliciter vobīs! Health to you!
put a garland on, crown May it go lucki-
(se coronare - to crown oneself) ly for you.

Objective

- to present systematically the comparative and superlative forms of adjectives.

The Story

1. Words to be deduced; rosa (2, 3), coronāre (2) to be deduced from corōna in the English introduction.
2. Note the inverted perfect, est allātum (1) and then point out the principal parts of afferō with the changes in spelling of its prefix due to assimilation afferō, afferre, attulī, allātum (also refer to page 18).
3. Point out the various uses of the dative: as indirect object (omnibus convīvīs 1) with the passive verb (datae sunt 1); as dative of possession (cui nōmen erat Messalla 4); with special verbs (mihi favet 19); and as dative of reference or advantage (Bene tibi 21).
4. Point out the various uses of the ablative: ablative of means or instrument (apiō 2), (tālīs 10); ablative of manner (magnā vōce and Hōc modō 9); ablative of agent with a passive verb (Ā Gaiō...iactī sunt tālī 13); ablative of manner with the preposition (cum risū 15), (magnā cum cūrā 16).

Lectiō:

Plūs vīnī est allātum, et omnibus convīvīs coronāe flōrum datae sunt.
Aliī coronās rosārum, aliī hederāe coronās induerunt. Gaius apiō modo sē coronāvit,
sed Titus et rosās et unguenta poposcit, nam in popīnā prope Forum multum vinum
iam biberat.

5. Note aliī... aliī, meaning *some...others* (1-2).

6. Note the pluperfect active: biberat (3).

7. Note the partitive construction with numbers: ūnus ē convīvīs (4 and 14).

8. Treat the gerund bibendī (4, 10, 20) as a vocabulary item at this stage. Likewise, the deponent verb collāpsus est (22) should be treated as a vocabulary item.

9. Note the comparative adjective followed by quam "than": prūdentior quam (7).

10. Point out the complementary infinitive: sinet... bibere (8 and other examples).

11. Note the partitive genitive; nimis vīnī (8) and duās partēs aquae et trēs partēs vīnī (20) and compare it with multum vīnum (3).

12. Point out the irregular imperative of ferō: Fer...! (11).

13. Note use of the genitive after a superlative adjective: pessimus omnium (24).

Unus ē convīvīs, cui nōmen erat Messalla, clāmāvit, "Quis creābitur arbiter bibendī?"

"Nōn tū certē, Messalla" inquit alter. "Aliī vīnum sine aquā bibunt, sed tū aquam sine vīnō bibis."

Cui Messalla, "Cūr nōn Gaius ipse? Quis enim est prūdentior quam Gaius? Ille enim aquam et vīnum prūdentē miscēbit, neque sinet convīvās nimis vīnī bibere."

"Minimē!" interpellat Titus magnā vōce. "Hōc modō creāre arbitrum nōn licet. Fer tālōs! Nōn nisi tālis rēctē creātur arbiter bibendī."

Paulisper tacēbant omnēs. Tum Gaius, "Estō! Fer tālōs! Necesse est omnia rēctē facere."

Statim igitur tālī cum fritillō allātī in mēnsā positī sunt. Ā Gaiō primō iactī sunt tālī. "Est sēniō!" ab omnibus clāmātum est. Deinde unus ē convīvīs tālōs mīsit. "Canis!" omnēs cum rīsū clāmāverunt. Identidem tālī missī sunt, sed nēmō Venerem iēcit.

Tandem Titus tālōs arripit et in fritillō magnā cum cūrā pōnit. "Meum Herculem," inquit, "invocō." Tum fritillum vehementer movet. Omnēs Titum attentē spectant. Subitō mittuntur tālī.

"Est Venus!" exclāmat Titus. "Vīcī! Vīcī! Hercules mihi favet! Nunc tempus est bibendī. Iubeō duās partēs aquae et trēs partēs vīnī." Primum tamen merum arripit et pōculum suum complet. "Bene tibi, Gai!" clāmat et pōculum statim haurit. "Bene tibi, Messalla!" clāmat et iterum pōculum haurit. Subitō collapsus est.

"Nōn bene tibi, Tite!" inquit Gaius. "Eheu! Nimis vīnī iam hausistī." Servi Titum vīnō oppressum auferunt. Titus erat bibendī arbiter pessimus omnium.

Vocabulary List A

1. plus vīnī more wine (lit. more of wine - partitive genitive)
 N. B. plus with mass nouns (nouns that cannot be counted or are too difficult to count) is followed by the partitive genitive.
 e.g. plus unguentī - more ointment
 plus pisōrum - more peas
2. creō, -āre, -āvī, -ātus to appoint, choose, create
3. prūdentior wiser, too wise, rather wise
4. quam Adv. than (after comparisons)
5. prūdentē Adv. of _____ wisely, sensibly
- +6. a fortiori with stronger reason
- +7. a priori from what is already known
8. nimis Adv. too much
 N. B. This adverb is like plus, is followed by the partitive genitive.
 e. g. nimis apiī too much parsley
 nimis aurī too much gold
9. poscō, poscere, poposcī, _____ to demand, ask for
10. misceō, miscēre, miscuī, mixtus to mix (miscegenation - mixture of races sexually)

Comments on Latin expressions used in English

- +6. a fortiori can be interpreted as meaning "even more certain" or "all the more."
 Thus we can say: "If you refuse to trust him with the petty cash box, a fortiori you must not let him handle our bank accounts."
- +7. a priori Reasoning a priori, literally "from what comes before," is a logical process in which consequences are deduced from principles that are assumed. Thus, a priori reasoning, also called deductive reasoning, is based initially on assumptions that derive from prior knowledge.

Vocabulary List B

1. modus, ī M. way, method, manner, measure, mood (mode)
2. cūra, ae F. care, concern
3. invocō, -āre, -āvī, -ātus to invoke, to call upon
4. collapsus est he collapsed (deponent verb - one that is passive in form but active in meaning)
5. pessimus, a, um worst, very bad
- +6. ne plus ultra perfection
- +7. summa cum laude with highest praise (used on diplomas)
- +8. summum bonum the highest good
9. sinō, sinere, sīvī, situs to allow
10. hauriō, haurīre, hausī, haustus to drain (exhaustion)

Comment on no. 6: Ne plus ultra may be translated formally as the acme or the highest point, literally as not more beyond. Its primary use remains that of indicating the supremacy of a product, of a literary work, of a system, and the like.

e. g. Mozart: the ne plus ultra of classical music

Vocabulary List C

1. Da locum meliōribus. Give way to your betters. (Terence - Roman playwright)
2. Firmissima est amīcitia inter parēs. Friendship between equals is most secure.
3. Dionysus Greek god of wine and revelry, similar to the Latin god Bacchus
4. Silenus - tutor of Dionysos, thought of as elderly, drunken and bestial in character
5. satyr - demigod of wild places and having goatlike features

Phrases and Sententiae to Accompany the Grammar

Point out Latin phrases used in English such as the following:

a fortiori
a priori
ne plus ultra
summa cum laude
summum bonum

Teach the following sententiae:

Da locum meliōribus! Give way to your betters
(Terence)

Firmissima est amīcitia inter parēs. Friendship
between equals is most secure.

Illustration

p. 64

This detail comes from the elaborate frescoes that decorate an interior room in the Villa of the Mysteries outside Pompeii. The various scenes represent important moments in the apotheosis of Dionysos, and of his mother, Semele. The elderly figure in the forefront of this detail is that of Silenus, a magical spirit of woodlands and fields, usually represented as a shaggy, bearded man with horse-like ears — sometimes also with horse-tail and horse-legs — whose musical ability, wisdom, verbal wit and gift of poetry, and skill at both preparing and drinking wines were all put to the service of Dionysos. The Silenus generally was accompanied by young spirits — satyrs — who had many traits taken over from the Greek god Pan, including the ears of a goat. The detail shows one satyr.

The cult of Dionysos was a complex one, involving intense, even frenzied, emotional states and deeply mystical beliefs. While Dionysos was god of the fruit of the vine, he was also associated with fertility and with immortality of the soul. One of his symbols (also shown in the fresco detail) was that of a human mask and garment hung on a pole.

GRAMMATICA LATĪNAComparatiō adiectivōrum: (the comparison of adjectives)

I + II		III	
positīvus	obēsus, a, um	pinguis, pinguis, pingue	
comparātīvus	obēsior (M. F.), obēsius (N.)	pinguior (M. F.), pinguius (N.)	
superlātīvus	obēsissimus, a, um	pinguissimus, a, um	
Sunt complūrēs interpretātiōnēs gradūs comparātīvī superlātīvīque.			
obēsus	fat	suāvis	delightful
obēsior, ius	fatter	suāvior, ius	more delightful
	rather fat		too delightful
	too fat		rather delightful.
obēsissimus	fattest	suāvissimus	most delightful
	very fat		very delightful
	exceedingly fat		exceedingly delightful

N. B. To give the three degrees of an adjective is to compare an adjective.

A. Adiectiva regularia:1. Gradus positivus

- a. I + II decl. adjectives - use, obviously, 1st and 2nd decl. endings

3 types: obesus, a, um

pulcher, pulchra, pulchrum (dropped "e")

miser, misera, miserum (retained "e")

- b. III decl. adjectives - use 3rd decl. i-stem endings in this degree

4 types: procax (nom. s.), procacis (gen. s.)

adjective of one termination in the nominative singular;

with this type, the gen. s. must be memorized to know the stem.

facilis, facile

adjective of two terminations in the nominative singular;

with this type, the first form is M. + F.; the second is Neut.

celer, celeris, celere (retained "e")

celeber, celebris, celebre (dropped "e")

adjectives of three terminations in the nominative singular;

with this type, there is a separate nominative singular form for each gender.

Here are the nominative singular forms for the above four types with the third declension endings added to the stem of the adjective, which is found by dropping the genitive singular ending.

M.	F.	N.	M.	F.	N.
procax	procax	procax	procacēs	procacēs	procacia
facilis	facilis	facile	facilēs	facilēs	facilia
celer	celeris	celere	celerēs	celerēs	celeris
celeber	celebris	celebre	celebrēs	celebrēs	celebria

Nota Bene: The above material is presented only by way of review.

2. Gradus comparatīvus:

The forms of the comparative degree are the same for most adjectives of all declensions (I + II; + III). Instead of using the 30 form set-up on p. 67 we shall use the 20 form set-up to save time and energy. On p. 67 you will note that the masc. and fem. forms are identical.

Method: To the genitive singular stem of the positive degree, add the termination -ior to form the M. + F. nom. sing.; add -ius to form the Neuter nom. and acc. singular; use the M. + F. nom. sing. form (with a macron added on the termination "o") as the base for the other 17 forms while adding 3rd decl REGULAR endings. Here find the complete comparative declension for obēsior followed by the nominative forms only for the six adjectives used as examples:

	g. s. obēsī		obēs- = stem	
	M. + F.	N.	M. + F.	N.
	<u>obēsior</u>	<u>obēsius</u>	obēsiorēs	obēsiora
	obēsioris	obēsioris	obēsiorum	obēsiorum
	obēsiorī	obēsiorī	obēsioribus	obēsioribus
	obēsiorēm	<u>obēsius</u>	obēsiorēs	obēsiora
	obēsiorē	obēsiorē	obēsioribus	obēsioribus
g.s.				
pulchrī	pulchrior	pulchrius	pulchriorēs	pulchriora
miserī	miserior	miserius	miseriorēs	miseriora
procācī	procācior	procācius	procāciorēs	procāciora
facilī	facilior	facilius	faciliorēs	faciliora
celerī	celerior	celerius	celeriorēs	celeriora
celebrī	celebrior	celebrius	celebriorēs	celebriora

3. Gradus superlatīvus:

The endings of the superlative degree are the same as those of the positive degree of the 1st and 2nd decl. adjectives which most adjectives, regular and irregular, use. Most regular adjectives of the superlative degree fall into three categories:

- Those attaching -issimus, a, um to the gen. s. positive stem.
e.g. obesus g.s.:obēsī + issimus = obēsissimus, a, um
- Those attaching -rimus to the positive masculine NOMINATIVE sing. form. These include all adjectives ending in -er (I +II, and III)
e.g. pulcher + rimus = pulcherrimus, a, um
- There are six adjectives in all of Latin which attach -limus to the gen. s. positive stem.
e.g. facilī + -limus = facillimus, a, um

The six adjectives which act like facilis in the superlative degree are:

facilis (easy)	difficilis (difficult)
similis (similar)	dissimilis (dissimilar)
humilis (humble)	gracilis (slender, graceful)

**** BUT ****

crūdēlis - crūdēlissimus
nōbilis - nōbilissimus
etc.

Here is the complete superlative declension of a short adjective:

M.	F.	N.	M.	F.	N.
plēnissim ^{us}	plēnissim ^a	plēnissim ^{um}	plēnissim ⁱ	plēnissim ^{ae}	plēnissim ^a
plēnissim ⁱ	plēnissim ^{ae}	plēnissim ⁱ	plēnissim ^{orum}	plēnissim ^{arum}	plēnissim ^{orum}
plēnissim ^o	plēnissim ^{ae}	plēnissim ^o	plēnissim ^{is}	plēnissim ^{is}	plēnissim ^{is}
plēnissim ^{um}	plēnissim ^{am}	plēnissim ^{um}	plēnissim ^{os}	plēnissim ^{as}	plēnissim ^a
plēnissim ^o	plēnissim ^a	plēnissim ^o	plēnissim ^{is}	plēnissim ^{is}	plēnissim ^{is}

Here are the superlative nominative singular forms of our seven types of adjectives

obēsissim ^{us}	obēsissim ^a	obēsissim ^{um}
pulcherrim ^{us}	pulcherrim ^a	pulcherrim ^{um}
miserrim ^{us}	miserrim ^a	miserrim ^{um}
procācissim ^{us}	procācissim ^a	procācissim ^{um}
facillim ^{us}	facillim ^a	facillim ^{um}
celerrim ^{us}	celerrim ^a	celerrim ^{um}
celeberrim ^{us}	celeberrim ^a	celeberrim ^{um}

N. B. You may want to remember at this point that the longest word in the Latin language is supposedly the following word and translation:

incomprehensibilissim^{orumque} = and of the most incomprehensible things

N. B. Comparative forms will often be followed by quam "than":

e.g. Quis enim est prūdenti^{or} quam Gaius?

N. B. Superlative forms will often be followed by a partitive genitive or ē, ex + ablative.

e.g. Titus erat bibendⁱ arbiter pessim^{us} omnium.

EXCEPTION to all the above:

Adjectives of the 1st and 2nd decl. ending in -us preceded by "e" or "i" such as ēbrius, idoneus, necessārius, industrius are compared with adverbs (such as with the adverbs more and most in English with lengthy adjectives) magis and maximē.

e.g. ēbri^{us} drunk
magis ēbri^{us} drunker
maximē ēbri^{us} drunkest

Irregular Comparative and Superlative Adjectives

The irregular comparatives and superlatives yield many important derivatives in English. Some of these appear in Activity 34d in the language activity book. Awareness of the English derivatives will help students learn the irregular Latin comparative and superlative adjectives.

EXERCISE: Give all nominative singular forms by completing the degrees of the following adjectives according to the models:

obēsus, a, um; obēsior, obēsius; obēsissimus, a, um

pinguis, is, e; pinguior, pinguius; pinguissimus, a, um

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|
| 1. vexātus, _____; | _____; | _____; |
| 2. infirmus, _____; | _____; | _____; |
| 3. celeber, _____; | _____; | _____; |
| 4. nōtus, _____; | _____; | _____; |
| 5. antīquus, _____; | _____; | _____; |
| 6. crūdēlis, _____; | _____; | _____; |
| 7. foedus _____; | _____; | _____; |
| 8. ingēns, (_____); | _____; | _____; |
| 9. pūrus, _____; | _____; | _____; |
| 10. stultus, _____; | _____; | _____; |
| 11. mīrus, _____; | _____; | _____; |
| 12. sordidus, _____; | _____; | _____; |
| 13. ferōx (_____); | _____; | _____; |
| 14. novus, _____; | _____; | _____; |
| 15. calidus, _____; | _____; | _____; |
| 16. dēfessus, _____; | _____; | _____; |
| 17. frīgidus, _____; | _____; | _____; |
| 18. immōbilis, _____; | _____; | _____; |
| 19. timidus, _____; | _____; | _____; |

B. Adiectīva irrēgulāria:

As in any language, there are a few irregular adjectives in Latin. Once the base forms are learned, however; they are declined as regular adjectives are. Here follow the three degrees for parvus, a, um; minor, minus; minimus, a, um:

positivus

parvus	parva	parvum	parvī	parvae	parva
parvī	parvae	parvī	parvōrum	parvarum	parvōrum
parvō	parvae	parvō	parvīs	parvīs	parvīs
parvum	parvam	parvum	parvōs	parvas	parva
parvō	parvā	parvō	parvīs	parvīs	parvīs

comparativus

minor	minus	minōrēs	minōra
minōris	minōris	minōrum	minōrum
minōrī	minōrī	minōribus	minōribus
minōrem	minus	minōrēs	minōra
minōre	minore	minōribus	minōribus

superlativus

minimus	minima	minimum	minimī	minimae	minima
minimī	minimae	minimī	minimorum	minimarum	minimorum
minimō	minimae	minimō	minimīs	minimīs	minimīs
minimum	minimam	minimum	minimōs	minimas	minima
minimō	minimā	minimō	minimīs	minimīs	minimīs

Note: The declension of more is as follows:

M+F	N.	M+F	N
_____	plūs	plūrēs	plūra
_____	plūris	plūrium	plūrium
_____	plūrī	plūribus	plūribus
_____	plūs	plūrēs	plūra
_____	plūre	plūribus	plūribus

Note: Even though plūs is listed as an adjective, in the singular it is actually a neuter noun which must be followed by the partitive genitive with especially mass nouns (nouns that ordinarily cannot be counted like: glue, ink, most liquids, substances, mud, etc.)

e.g. Da mihi plūs vīnī. Give me more wine (literally: more of wine).
 plūs atramentī more ink
 plūs panis more bread
 etc.

Reflections after dinner

Postquam convīvae discessērunt, nē tum quidem cubitum iērunt Cornēlius et Aurēlia, nam multa dē convīviō inter sē dīcēbant.

Aurēlia: Placuitne tibi cēna, Gaī?

Cornēlius: Ita vērō! Tū quidem omnia optimē ēgistī. Coquus nōbīs cēnam parāvit optimam quae ab omnibus laudābātur. Quam ingēns erat ille porcus! Maiōrem porcum numquam vīdī. Glīrēs quoque suāviōrēs numquam ēdī.

Aurēlia: Cūr tam sērō advēnit Titus? Quid eī acciderat?

Cornēlius: Nihil. Amīcō veterī in popīnā occurrerat!

Aurēlia: In popīnā? Ubi?

Cornēlius: Prope Forum Rōmānum.

Aurēlia: Omnēs popīnae sunt foedae, sed foedissimae omnium sunt popīnae prope Forum sitae.

Cornēlius: Ita vērō! Iam ēbrius erat cum in triclinium irrūpit. Omnēs convīvae erant irātissimī.

Aurēlia: Fit in diēs molestior.

Cornēlius: Sed hāc nocte erat molestissimus.

Aurēlia: Quōmodō?

Cornēlius: Missī sunt tālī; arbiter bibendī creātus est ille; iussit duos cyathos aquae et trēs cyathos vīnī!

Aurēlia: Paulatim igitur fiebat magis ēbrius?

Cornēlius: Minimē! Statim factus est maximē ēbrius, nam nīl nisi merum bibit! "Bene tibi, Gaī!" clāmat et, "Bene tibi, Messalla!" tum collapsus est vīnō oppressus. Hominem magis ēbrium quam Titum numquam vīdī.

Aurēlia: Quid tum accidit?

Cornēlius: Iussī servos eum lecticā portāre domum quam celerrimē.

Aurēlia: Fortasse crās fiet vir vīnō abstinentissimus!

Cornēlius: Fortasse!

Exercises to Accompany the Grammar

Exercise 34h is an important reading passage. After reading and translating the passage, note the following:

1. the adverbs in -ē: *optimē* (4), *maximē* (22), and *celerrimē* (27). Adverbs will be treated systematically in the next chapter.
2. the verb intruding between noun and adjective: *cēnam parāvit optimam* (5).
3. exclamatory *quam* (6), not to be confused with *quam* meaning "than".
4. *quam* used with the superlative to mean "as... as possible" (27).
5. the dative with compound verbs: *ei acciderat* (8) and *amicō veteri... occurrerat* (9).
6. the important irregular verb *fiō* (passive of *faciō*), which is here used in the present (16), imperfect (21), and future (28) tenses (the forms of this verb will be formally presented in Chapter 46).
7. the comparative and superlative of *ēbrius*, using *magis* and *maximē* (21-22). Compare the use of *more* and *most* in English instead of the more usual -er and -est, *bigger* and *biggest*, but *more beautiful* and *most beautiful*.
8. the adverbs *magis* and *maximē* used to compare adjectives ending in -us preceded by e or i, such as *ēbrius*, *idōneus*, and *necessārius*.

Vocabulary List D

1. *nē...quidem* not even
2. *convīvium, iī* N. banquet (convivial, conviviality)
3. *placeō, -ēre, -uī*, _____ + dative to please cf. *noceō* _____ + *faveō* _____
4. *optimē* Adv. very well, excellently
5. *suāvis, e* sweet, delightful
6. *vetus*, (*veteris*) old (veteran) comp. *vetustior* sup. *veterrimus*
7. *foedus, a, um* filthy, disgusting, ugly syn: *sordidus*
8. *ēbrius, a, um* drunk (inebriated, inebriation)

Vocabulary List E

1. *in diēs* every day, day by day
2. *paulātim* gradually
3. *magis* Adv. more (pertaining to quality rather than quantity with plus)
4. *maximē* Adv. very much, very, especially
5. *nīl* nothing (alternate form of *nihil*)
6. *quam celerrimē* (*quam* + superlative) as quickly as possible (as....as possible)
7. *vīnō abstinēs* refraining from wine, abstemious
8. *fīō, fierī, factus sum* to become, be made, be done, happen

The irregular verb fīō, fīerī, factus sum to be made, done, to become, to happen
Fīō is the passive of faciō in the present system. In the perfect system
the forms coincide.

<u>faciō</u>	<u>fīō</u>
pres. facio	fīō
fut. faciam	fīam
imp. faciēbam	fīēbam
perf. fecī	factus sum
plup. feceram	factus eram
f.p. fecero	factus erō

Fīō has four meanings, all of which cannot be used for every person and gender.
Here is the present tense of fīō with every person and gender translated:

pres. fīō	I am made, I become
fīs	You are made, you become
fit	He is made, he becomes
	She is made, she becomes; <u>It is made, it is done, it becomes, it happens</u>
fīmus	We are made, we become
fītis	You are made, you become
fīunt	<u>They are made, they are done, they become, they happen</u> (MFN)

Note: All four translations are possible only in the third person neuter.

fut. fīam	I shall become	imperfect fīēbam	I was becoming
fīes		fīebas	
fīet		fīebat	
fīemus		fīebamus	
fīetis		fīebatis	
fīent		fīebant	

perf. factus sum I became, I have become

plup. factus eram I had become

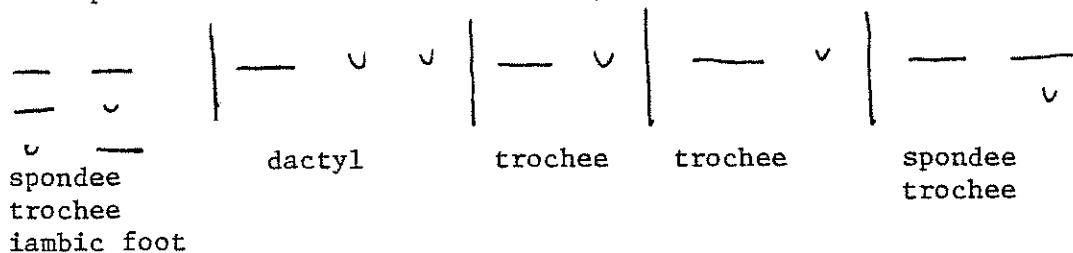
F. P. factus erō I will (shall) have become

Vocabulary List F

1. paucī, ae, a few (paucity)
2. candidus, a, um white, fair-skinned, beautiful
3. sal, salis M. salt; wit
4. arānea, ae F. spider; cobweb
5. contrā Adv. in return
6. -ve enclitic conjunction or
7. dōnō, -āre, -āvī, -ātus give syn: dō, dare, dedī, datus
8. Venus, Veneris F. Venus, goddess of love (venereal)
9. Cupīdō, Cupīdīnis M. Cupid, god of love and son of Venus

Ex. 34i p. 69

This poem is written in the hendecasyllabus meter which is as follows:

The art of reading poetry is called scansion and the verb is to scan.

Cēnabis bēnē, | mī Fabullē, | apud mē
 paucis, | si tibi | dī favent, | diebus
 si tē cum attuleris bonam atque | magnam
 cenam, | non sine | candida puella
 et vino et sale et omnibus cachinnis.
 Haec sī, inquam, attuleris, venuste noster,
 cenabis bene: | nam tui Catulli
 plenus | sacculus est | araneorum.
 Sed contra accipies meros amores
 seu quid suavius elegantius vest:
 nam ~~urguentum~~ dabo, | quod meae puellae
 donarunt Veneres Cupidinesque,
 quod tū | cum olfactes, deos rogabis,
 totum ut | te faciant, Fabulle, | nasum.

Exercise on the Grammar

Exercise 34i: The meter is hendecasyllabic.

Have students deduce *amor* from the verb *amare*, with which they are familiar. The noun occurred in Review VII, Exercise VIIj:14.

Language Activity Book

1. In Activity 34b, the answer to No. 6 should be *maximē ebrius*.
2. In Activity 34c, in Nos. 7 and 10, the perfect passive participle alone may be used to substitute for the first verb and *et* may be omitted, e.g., either:

Tālī cum fritillō ā servīs allātī sunt et in mēnsā posītī sunt.

or

Tālī cum fritillō ā servīs allātī in mēnsā posītī sunt.

The latter is preferred.