

LESSON XLIV**CIRCĒ**

A Vocabulary In the vocabulary for this lesson, there is a word that has a special plural meaning. Let's review other nouns that also have unusual plural forms. Define each.

DEFINITIONS

1. impedimenta _____
2. studia _____
3. loca _____
4. litterae _____

B Ablative absolute construction Have you read pages 299–300? As you know, the ablative case (with or without prepositions) is used to express adverbial ideas such as:

<i>With what?</i>	armis (<i>means</i>)
<i>How?</i>	cum animō (<i>manner</i>)
<i>When?</i>	annō Domini (<i>time when</i>)
<i>Where?</i>	in agrō (<i>place where</i>)

There are also adverbial clauses in Latin such as:

quod cōsultus erat	<i>because he had been consulted</i>
ubi stābant	<i>where they were standing</i>
nam praedam reliquērunt	<i>for they have left the loot</i>

However, these clauses are often replaced by the special use of the ablative case called the *ablative absolute*.

Like most of the special constructions you have learned so far, the ablative absolute has certain distinctive characteristics. Look for the following:

- a noun or a pronoun in the ablative case
- a perfect passive participle, which is also in the ablative case since it is used as a modifier
- the endings: **-a, -o, -is**
- an ablative phrase that begins a Latin sentence; regardless of its position, it is almost always set off by commas

Since the ablative absolute can be used to show cause or time, your translations may sometimes require one of these conjunctions. Practice these and more flexible translations in answering the following questions.

1. Why was Polyphemus so angry?

Graecis in spēluncā* vīsīs...

*spēlunca, -ae, f. cave

2. When did Ulysses' men forget their homeland?

Lotō acceptā et ēsā*...

* edō, edere, edi, esus, eat. Lōtus, although second declension, is feminine in gender.

3. Under what circumstances did Mercury tell Ulysses that he would be able to rescue his crew?

Rēgīnā herbā territā...

4. Why was Eurylochous alarmed?

Sociīs in animālia versīs...

5. When did Ulysses return to the island of Aeolia?

Ventis acceptis āb Aeolō amissīs...



Participial phrases Now that you are reading about Ulysses, you may enjoy knowing more about the background of his story. As you translate each sentence, try to achieve some variety in the English that you use to render the participles.

Long before the chiefs of Greece brought war against Troy, Ulysses sought to marry an incomparably beautiful princess named Helen. He was only one of many famous suitors, however, and showed great wisdom as the rivalry for her hand intensified.

1. Cōsultus ā ducibus reliquīs, Ulixēs verba fēcit.

2. Adductī verbīs Ulixīs, ducēs cōnsilium cepērunt.

They agreed to set aside their rivalry as soon as Helen had declared her choice. They would thereafter support both Helen and the man she selected.

3. “Causa virī ā Helenā lectī semper ā nōbīs sustinēbitur.”

4. “Concordiam ita effectam dēfendēmus.”

5. Helenā captā ad Troiam et trānsportātā, bellum in Troiānōs ā Graecīs nūntiātum est.

6. Ulixēs, famā dē bellō audītā, pugnāre nōn cupīvit et esse insānus sīmulāvīt.*

**pretended*

This ruse was uncovered, however, and Ulysses was persuaded to join his fellow Greeks in the mission of honor to which they had all pledged themselves.

7. Officiō susceptō, ad locum ubi Achillēs habitābat Ulixēs missus est.

8. Achille petītō inventōque, Ulixēs ad Aulem* processit et nāvīgāre ad Troiam cum reliquīs parāvīt.

**Aulis, a seaport*

9. Decem annīs ad Troiam actīs, Ulixēs sociusque clāram statuam Minervae ē templō Troiānō remōvērunt.

10. Īrā* Troiānōrum incitatā, Ulixēs cum sociīs parāvērunt equum quī signum pācis vīsus est sed vērē māchina bellī erat.

**ira, -ae, f. anger, wrath*