

# CAMBRIDGE LATIN COURSE

## Unit 3



*Fifth Edition*

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# ROMA

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NOX

I

nox erat. lūna stēllaeque in caelō serēnō fulgēbant. tempus erat quō hominēs quiēscere solent. Rōmae tamen nūlla erat quiēs, nūllum silentium.

magnīs in domibus, ubi dīvitēs habitābant, cēnae splendidae cōnsūmēbantur. cibus sūmptuosus ā servīs offerēbātur; vīnum optimum ab ancillīs fundēbātur; carmina ā citharoedīs perītissimīs cantābantur.

in altīs autem īnsulīs, nūllae cēnae splendidae cōnsūmēbantur, nūllī citharoedī audiēbantur. ibi pauperēs, famē paene cōfectī, vītā miserrimā agēbant. aliī ad patrōnōs epistulās scribēbant ut auxilium eōrum peterent, aliī scelera committere parābant.

prope forum magnus strepitus audiēbātur. nam arcus magnificus in Viā Sacrā exstruēbātur. ingēns polyspaston arcuī imminēbat. fabrī, quī arcum exstruēbant, diligentissimē labōrābant. aliī figurās in arcū sculpēbant; aliī titulum in fronte arcūs īnscribēbant; aliī marmor ad summum arcum tollēbant. omnēs strēnuē labōrābant ut arcum ante lūcem perficerent. nam Imperātor Domitiānus hunc arcum frātrī Titō postrīdīē dēdicāre volēbat. Titum vīvum oderat; sed Titum mortuum honōrāre cupiēbat. Domitiānus enim populum Rōmānum, quī Titum maximē dilēxerat, nunc sibi favēre volēbat.

II

praeerat huic operī Quīntus Haterius Latrōniānus, redēptor nōtissimus. eā nocte ipse fabrōs furēns incitābat. aderat quoque Gāius Salvius Liberālis, Hateriī patrōnus, quī eum invicem incitābat ut opus ante lūcem perficeret. anxius enim erat Salvius quod Imperātōrī persuāserat ut Haterium operī praeficeret. hic igitur fabrīs, quamquam omnīnō fessī erant, identidem imperāvīt nē labōre dēsisterent.

Glītus, magister fabrōrum, Haterium lēnīre temptābat. “ecce, domine!” inquit. “fabrī iam arcum paene perfēcērunt. ultimae litterae tituli nunc īnscribuntur; ultimae figurāe sculpuntur; ultimae marmoris massae ad summum arcum tolluntur.”

**serēnō:** serēnus *calm, clear*  
**fulgēbant:** fulgēre *shine*  
**tempus** *time*  
**Rōmae** *in Rome*  
**quiēs** *rest*  
**domibus:** domus *house, home*  
**carmina:** carmen *song*  
**altīs:** altus *high*  
**īnsulis:** insula *apartment building*  
**5 famē:** famēs *hunger*  
**cōfectī:** cōfectus *worn out, exhausted*  
**patrōnōs:** patrōnus *patron*  
**arcus** *arch*  
**10 Viā Sacrā:** Via Sacra *the Sacred Way (road running through the Forum)*  
**polyspaston** *crane*  
**fabrī:** faber *craftsman, workman*  
**15 figurās:** figurā *figure, shape*  
**sculpēbant:** sculpere *carve*  
**titulum:** titulus *inscription*  
**fronte:** frōns *front*  
**īnscribēbant:** īnscribere *write, inscribe*  
**20 marmor** *marble*  
**ante** *before*  
**lūcem:** lūx *light, daylight*  
**perficerent:** perficere *finish*  
**dēdicāre** *dedicate*

**operī:** opus *work, construction*  
**redēptor** *contractor, builder*  
**invicem** *in turn*  
**5 identidem** *repeatedly*  
**lēnīre** *soothe, calm down*  
**10 ultimae:** ultimus *last*  
**litterae:** littera *letter*  
**massae:** massa *block*

paulō ante hōram prīmam, fabrī labōre cōfectī arcum perfēcērunt. paulisper urbs silēbat.  
 ūnus faber tamen, domum per forum rediēns, subitō trīstēs fēminārum duārum clāmōrēs audīvit. duae enim captivāe, magnō dolōre affectae, in carcere cantābant:  
 “mī Deus! mī Deus! respice mē! quārē mē dēsenuistī?”

15 **paulisper** *for a short time*  
**silēbat:** silēre *be silent*

**dolōre:** dolor *grief*  
**affectae:** affectus *overcome*  
**respice:** respicere *look at, look*  
**quārē?** *why?*



“ecce, domine! fabrī iam arcum paene perfēcērunt.”

## About the language 1: active and passive voice

1 In Unit 1, you met sentences like these:

puer clāmōrem **audit**.            ancilla vīnum **fundēbat**.  
*A boy **hears** the shout.*        *A slave girl **was pouring** wine.*

The words in **boldface** are **active** forms of the verb.

2 In Stage 29, you have met sentences like these:

clāmor ā puerō **auditur**.        vīnum ab ancillā **fundēbatur**.  
*The shout **is heard** by a boy.*    *Wine **was being poured** by a slave girl.*

The words in **boldface** are **passive** forms of the verb.

3 Compare the following active and passive forms:

	PRESENT TENSE
<i>present active</i>	<i>present passive</i>
portat	portātur
<i>s/he carries, s/he is carrying</i>	<i>s/he is carried, or s/he is being carried</i>
portant	portantur
<i>they carry, they are carrying</i>	<i>they are carried, or they are being carried</i>

	IMPERFECT TENSE
<i>imperfect active</i>	<i>imperfect passive</i>
portābat	portābātur
<i>s/he was carrying</i>	<i>s/he was being carried</i>
portābant	portābantur
<i>they were carrying</i>	<i>they were being carried</i>

4 Further examples of the present passive:

- a cēna nostra ā coquō nunc parātur.
- b multa scelera in hāc urbe cotīdiē committuntur.
- c laudantur; dūcitur; rogātur; mittuntur.

Further examples of the imperfect passive:

- d candidātī ab amīcīs salūtābantur.
- e fābula ab āctōribus in theātrō agēbātur.
- f audiēbantur; laudābātur; necābantur; tenēbātur.