

*Virī in uxōrēs, sicutī in liberōs, vitae necisque habent potestātem; et cum pater familiae illūstriōre locō nātus dēcessit, eius propinquī conveniunt et, dē morte sī rēs in suspiciōnem vēnit, dē uxōribus in servilem modum*

10 *quaestiōnem habent et, sī compertum est, ignī atque omnibus tormentis excruciātās interficiunt.*

**com•periō, -perire, -perī, -pertum**

[**pariō**, procure], find out with certainty, discover, ascertain.

**dē•cēdō, -cēdere, -cessī, -cessum** [**cēdō**, go], go from or away, depart, withdraw, leave, forsake; die.

**excruciō**, 1 [**cruciō**, torture; **crux**, cross (used for crucifixion)], torture severely, torment.

**famili•a, -ae, f.**, household (including slaves); retinue (including all dependents); family.

**ign•is, -is, m.**, fire.

**illūstr•is, -e, adj.**, distinguished, illustrious.

**liber•ī, -ōrum, m.** [**liber**, free], the non-slave members of a family or household; children.

**mod•us, -ī, m.**, measure, quantity, size; manner, method.

**nāscor, nāsci, nātus sum**, be born, be produced; rise, spring up, be raised; be found.

**nex, necis, f.**, violent death, death, execution.

**pat•er, -ris, m.**, father; **pater familiae**, father or head of a household.

**potes•tās, -tātis, f.** [**potēs**, powerful], power, ability, authority; control, sway, rule; chance, opportunity, possibility; **potestātem facere**, grant permission, give a chance.

**propinqu•us, -a, -um, adj.** [**prope**, near], near, neighboring, close at hand; *pl. as noun*, relatives.

**quaesti•ō, -ōnis, f.** [**quaerō**, inquire], inquiry; examination, investigation.

**servil•is, -e, adj.** [**servus**, slave], of or like a slave, slavish, servile.

**sicut or sicutī, adv.** [**sic**, so + **ut**(ī), as], so as, just as, just as if.

**suspici•ō, -ōnis, f.** [**suspikor**, suspect], suspicion, distrust; surmise.

**torment•um, -ī, n.** [**torqueō**, twist], means of twisting; an engine or machine for hurling missiles; device for torturing, hence, torture.

**ux•or, -ōris, f.**, wife.

**veniō, venīre, vēnī, ventum**, come, arrive, go, advance.

**vīt•a, -ae, f.** [*cf.* **vivō**, live], life; lifestyle.

6–7. **vitae necisque . . . potestatem:** a Roman father traditionally (again, more so in earlier Roman history) held the power of life and death over his children too. Roman husbands in Caesar's day (unless they were married by an archaic ceremony, which was no longer popular) did not have similar authority over their wives. The Gauls thus offer Caesar's readers a glimpse into what life might have been like among their more primitive ancestors.

7. **illūstriōre locō:** abl. of source; see App. §135.

8. **dē morte:** the phrase has been put in front of the if-clause for emphasis.

9. **in servilem modum:** "through torture." In Rome, the testimony of slaves was admissible in court, only if it had been extracted through torture, hence "through the method applied to slaves."

10. **sī compertum est:** "if it has been proved," i.e., the suspicion has been ascertained to be true.

11. **excruciātās:** "after the women have been tortured." Note the gender of the part., which is being used in place of a subordinate clause (see App. §283).