

Alii immānī magnitūdine simulācra habent, quōrum contexta vīminibus membra vīvis hominibus complent; quibus succēnsīs circumventī flammā exanimantur hominēs. Supplicia eōrum quī in fūrtō aut in latrōciniō aut aliquā noxiā sint comprehēnsī grātiōra dis immortalibus esse arbitrantur; sed, cum eius generis cōpia dēficit, etiam ad innocentium supplicia dēscendunt.

com•pleō, -plēre, -plēvi, -plētum [*obs.*: **plēō**, fill], fill up; complete; cover.
com•prehendō, -prehendere, -prehendī, -prehensum [**prehendō** (= **prendō**), seize], lay hold of, seize, arrest.
con•texō, -texere, -texui, -textum [**texō**, weave], weave or bind together, connect.
dē•ficiō, -ficere, -fēcī, -fectum [**faciō**, make], fail, be insufficient.
dē•scendō, -scendere, -scendī, -scēsum [**scandō**, climb], climb down, go down, descend; have recourse (to), resort.
de•us, -ī (*nom. pl.*: **dii**; *dat. pl.*: **dis**), *m.*, god.
ex•animō, 1 [**anima**, breath], deprive of breath, render breathless, exhaust; kill.
flamm•a, -ae, f., fire, blaze.
fūrt•um, -ī, n., theft.
grāti•a, -ae, f. [**grātus**, pleasing], favor, goodwill, gratitude, esteem, influence, popularity.
immān•is, -e, adj., huge, immense.

immortal•is, -e, adj. [**in** + **mortalis**, mortal], not mortal, immortal, deathless.
innoc•ēns, -entis, adj. [**in** + **nocēns**, harmful], not harmful, innocent.
latrōcin•ium, -ī, n. [**latrō**, robber], robbery, brigandage.
magnitūd•ō, -inis, f. [**magnus**, large], large size.
membr•um, -ī, n., limb.
noxi•a, -ae, f., crime, offense.
simulācr•um, -ī, n. [**simulō**, make like], image, statue.
suc•cendō, -cendere, -cendī, -cēsum, set on fire below, kindle, burn.
supplic•ium, -ī, n. [**sub** + **plicō**, bend], humiliation; sacrificing; humble request or petition, supplication; punishment, penalty, torture.
vīm•en, -inis, n., a bendable stick, wicker, switch, osier.
viv•us, -a, -um, adj. [**vivō**, live], alive, living.

8. immānī magnitūdine: abl. of description; see App. §141.

simulācra: as the subordinate clause will explain, these “images” are made of wickerwork.

9. quibus succēnsīs = et eis (simulacribus) succēnsīs; abl. absolute; see App. §150.

10. exanimantur hominēs: how believable is it that Druids oversaw executions and sacrifices, in which human beings were enclosed in large wickerwork structures in human shape (*simulacra*), and then burnt alive? When we execute criminals, we no longer allow large audiences, but, in previous centuries, public hangings were attended by large crowds. The Romans, of course, put on games

before crowds where condemned criminals fought to the death or were killed by wild animals. “Human sacrifice,” on the other hand, was considered barbaric, even by Romans.

Supplicia: acc. subject of the inf. **esse** in indirect statement dependent on **arbitrantur**. Note too the HYPERBATON (App. §302, *f*) in relation to the predicate **grātiōra**.

10–11. quī . . . sint comprehēnsī: subjunctive in a rel. clause of characteristic; see App. §230.

12. dis: dat. with the adj. **grātiōra**; see App. §122.

12–13. eius generis cōpia: “a supply of this kind, i.e., of criminally guilty victims.