

[1.2] *Apud Helvētiōs longē nōbilissimus fuit et dītissimus Orgetorix. Is Marcō Messālā, et Marcō Pūpiō Pisōne cōsulibus rēgnī cupiditāte inductus coniūrātiōnem nōbilitātis fēcit et cīvitātī persuāsit ut dē finibus suis cum omnibus cōpiis exirent: perfacile esse, cum virtūte omnibus praestārent, tōtius Galliae imperiō potīri.*

coniūrāti•ō, -ōnis, f. [**coniūrō**, swear], a swearing together; plot, conspiracy.
cōn•sul, -sulis, m., consul, one of the two chief magistrates elected annually at Rome.
cupidi•tās, -tātis, f. [**cupidus**, eager], eagerness, desire, greed.
dīves, dīvitis, adj., rich, wealthy. *Superl.*: dītissimus.
ex•eō, -ire, -ii, itum [eō, go. App. §84], go from, leave.
imper•ium, -i, n. [**imperō**, order], right to command; authority; jurisdiction; supreme military command.
in•dūcō, -dūcere, -dūxī, -ductum [dūcō, lead], lead or draw on, induce; influence, instigate; cover.
Marc•us, -i, m.; Messāl•a, -ae, m., Marcus Valerius Messala, consul in 61 BCE.

Marc•us, -i, m.; Pis•ō, -ōnis, m., Marcus Pupius Piso Calpurnianus, consul with Messala in 61 BCE.
nōbil•is, -e, adj. [**nōscō**, know], well-known, distinguished; of noble birth.
nōbili•tās, -tātis, f. [**nōbilis**, well-known], fame; noble birth, rank; the nobility.
perfacil•is, -e, adj. [**facilis**, easy], very easy.
potior, 4 [**potis**, powerful], become master of, get control or possession of, obtain, capture.
prae•stō, -stāre, -stīti, -stātum [stō, stand], stand or place before; show, exhibit, supply; be superior, excel, surpass.
Pūpi•us, -i, m., see Pisō.

1. nōbilissimus: predicate nom.; see App. §§156–157.

2. Messālā et . . . Pisōne cōsulibus: abl. absolute; see App. §150. Consuls served for just one year, so their names were used to identify the year in which events occurred. This conspiracy, thus dated to 61 BCE, began three years before Caesar arrived in Gaul.

3. rēgnī: objective gen.; see App. §98. Gauls did not have kings, so Orgetorix aims at leadership and power.

coniūrātiōnem: according to Caesar (but how did he know?), Orgetorix aims to convince the Helvetians to emigrate with himself as their leader.

4. cīvitātī: dat. indirect object with an intransitive verb; see App. §115.

ut . . . exirent: subjunctive in a substantive clause of purpose (or indirect command); see App. §228, a. This is an example of SYNESIS (breaking strict grammatical rules for the

sake of sense), as Caesar follows the sing. state (or tribe) with a pl. verb that must refer to the people in that state; see App. §301, h.

omnibus cōpiis: this means everybody, the entire population: men, women, children.

5. cum . . . praestārent: “since they were superior in manliness”; subjunctive in a causal clause; see App. §239.

virtūte: abl. of respect or of specification; see App. §149.

omnibus: dat. with compound verb; see App. §116, I.

tōtius Galliae: in other words, ironically enough, Orgetorix wanted to do what Caesar eventually did: conquer all of Gaul.

5–6. perfacile esse . . . potīri: indirect statement dependent on **persuāsit**; see App. §266.

6. imperiō: abl. with a special deponent verb; see App. §145.