

5 Erat Italia tum plena Graecarum artium ac disciplinarum, studiaque haec et in Latio vehementius tum colebantur quam nunc isdem in oppidis, et hic Romae  
 55 propter tranquillitatem rei publicae non neglegebantur. Itaque hunc et Tarentini et Locrenses et Regini et Neapolitani civitate ceterisque praemiis donarunt, et omnes qui aliquid de ingeniis poterant iudicare cognitione atque  
 60 hospitio dignum existimarunt. Hac tanta celebritate famae cum esset iam absentibus notus, Romam venit

52. **Italia:** specifically the region of southern Italy known as Magna Graecia because many of its towns were originally settled by Greek colonists. **tum:** i.e., before the Social War. Archias arrived in Italy in 102 B.C., during the consulship of C. Marius and Q. Lutatius Catulus (see note on 60–61 below).

53–54. **et in Latio:** “also in Latium” (i.e., the area of central Italy containing Rome and its environs); the *et* is adverbial, the two clauses joined by the enclitic connector *-que* (w. *studia*). **isdem in oppidis:** “in these same towns,” i.e., those of Latium. **hic Romae:** “here at Rome,” the locative, with the adverb *hic*, marks the culmination of the geographical progression of the NARRATIO and prepares the audience for Archias’ arrival in Rome.

55. **propter tranquillitatem rei publicae:** the peaceful interval between the political and civil upheaval caused by the revolutionary reforms of the Gracchi (133–121 B.C.) and the Social War (90–89 B.C.). **non neglegebantur:** an example of the rhetorical figure LITOTES, the affirmation of something by the negation of its opposite.

56–59: **hunc:** i.e., Archias, direct object of *donarunt* (= *donaverunt*, a SYNCOPATED form of the perfect tense) and *existimarunt* (= *existimaverunt*) with *dignum* (line 59) serving as a predicate accusative: “thought him worthy...” (B 177.2). **Tarentini...Neapolitani:** the inhabitants of the principle towns of Magna Graecia.

57–59. **civitate ceterisque praemiis:** ablatives of thing given (B 187.1.a) with *donarunt*, “they presented him with citizenship and other awards.” **cognitione atque hospitio:** ablatives with *dignum* (B 226.2): “...worthy of their acquaintance and hospitality” (note the BRACKETING of *hunc...dignum*).

59–60. **Hac tanta celebritate...cum esset...notus:** “when, because of the great expansion of his reputation, he was already known even to men he had never met.” The ablative of cause (*celebritate*) precedes *cum*, the governing conjunction of the clause, illustrating how Archias’ reputation preceded him. **Romam:** with verbs of motion, the names of cities, towns, peninsulas, and small islands with a single important city or town do not require a preposition, B 182.1a.

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61. **nancisor, nancisci, nactus**, to get attached to a person in a particular relationship or connection (*i.e., as an ally or supporter*).  
**consul, consulis, m.**, consul, the highest ranking magistrate in the Roman republican government.
62. \* **scribo, scribere, scripsi, scriptus**, to write.
63. **gero, gerere, gessi, gestus**, to carry on, perform (**res gestae**: deeds, exploits, achievements).  
**auris, auris, f.**, the ear; **ures adhibere**: to listen to, pay attention.  
**adhibeo, adhibere, adhibui, adhibitus**, to offer, furnish, provide.
64. **statim**, (*adv.*) immediately, at once.  
**praetextatus, ~a, ~um**, wearing the **toga praetexta** (*worn by boys up to the official age of manhood, about 16 or 17*).
65. **recipio, recipere, recepi, receptus**, to receive, admit.
66. **lumen, luminis, n.**, brilliance, excellence.  
 \* **littera, ~ae, f.**, (*usu. pl.*) what is learned from books or formal education, erudition or culture; literature.  
**natura, ~ae, f.**, inborn abilities; natural endowments.  
**virtus, virtutis, f.**, moral excellence, character.
67. **adulescentia, ~ae, f.**, youth, young manhood; adolescence.  
**faveo, favere, favi, fautus**, (*w. dat.*) to show favor, give support.
68. **familiaris, ~e**, (*w. dat.*) congenial, welcome, intimate.  
**senectus, senectutis, f.**, the period of old age.



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Mario consule et Catulo. Nactus est primum consules eos quorum alter res ad scribendum maximas, alter cum res gestas tum etiam studium atque auris adhibere posset. Statim Luculli, cum praetextatus etiam tum Archias esset, eum domum suam receperunt. Dedit etiam hoc non solum lumen ingeni ac litterarum, verum etiam naturae atque virtutis ut domus, quae huius adulescentiae prima favit, eadem esset familiarissima senectuti.

61. **Mario consule et Catulo:** “in the consulship of Marius and Catulus,” i.e., 102 B.C. The usual construction for dating would be *Mario et Catulo consulibus*, and would normally come first in the sentence. By altering the construction Cicero seems to imply that Marius was the more powerful man, elected first at the polls (see APPENDIX I); postponing it until the end of the sentence emphasizes Archias’ arrival in Rome.

61–63. **Nactus est:** i.e., Archias came to Rome at a singularly propitious time. **consules eos quorum alter...alter:** the demonstrative pronoun follows its noun for emphasis while also ANTICIPATING the relative clause (see note on 42–44 above), “those consuls, of whom the one (Marius)...the other (Catulus).” **adhibere posset:** subjunctive in a relative clause of characteristic, B 283. *adhibere posset* applies to both pronouns *alter...alter*.

62–64. **res...maximas:** “outstanding achievements (as material) for literary composition,” (see note on 251 below). **cum...etiam tum...atque:** “not only (x)...but also (y) and (z).” While Marius’ *res maximae* are superior to the *res gestae* (sc. *ad scribendum*) of his colleague Catulus, Cicero is careful to note the enthusiasm (*studium*) and attention (*auris* [= *aures*, the alternate form of the accusative plural of 3rd declension nouns, B 37, 40]) that Catulus paid to Archias’ poetry. The pairing of *studium* and *auris* as objects of *adhibere* is an example of the rhetorical figure ZEUGMA, in which a single verb governs two or more objects in different ways, “the other was able to lend not only his achievements, but also his support and his ears.”

64. **Luculli:** nominative plural; for the notables of this family see APPENDIX I. **cum...esset:** *cum* concessive (“although”) in an adversative clause (B 309.3), “although Archias was even then still wearing the *toga praetexta*,” i.e., the toga adolescents wore until the age of 16 or 17, when they assumed the *toga virilis*.

65. **domum suam:** with *domus* no preposition is required, B 182.1.b (cf. note on 60–61 above).

65–68. **Dedit...senectuti:** the text of the sentence is corrupt. The best sense seems to be: *hoc* is the subject of *dedit* and ANTICIPATES the *ut* clause, a substantive clause in APPPOSITION to it: “Even this (*hoc*) showed brilliance (*lumen*) not only of his talent and education, but also of his nature and character, namely that (*ut*) the same house which first showed favor to him in his youth, was also a most intimate friend to him in his old age.” **adulescentiae:** dative with *favit*. **senectuti:** dative with *familiarissima*.

69. **iucundus, ~a, ~um, (w. dat.)** on friendly terms (*with*); congenial, agreeable (*to*).