

In caelum huius proavus Cato tollitur; magnus honos
populi Romani rebus adiungitur. Omnes denique illi
Maximi, Marcelli, Fulvii non sine communi omnium
nostrum laude decorantur. Ergo illum qui haec fecerat,
285 Rudinum hominem, maiores nostri in civitatem receperunt;
nos hunc Heracliensem, multis civitatibus expetitur, in hac
autem legibus constitutum, de nostra civitate eiciamus?

23 Nam si quis minorem gloriae fructum putat ex
Graecis versibus percipi quam ex Latinis, vehementer errat,

281–282. **In caelum...tollitur:** (sc. *laudibus*) i.e., by Ennius' *Annales*. **proavus Cato:** Cato the elder, great-grandfather of Cato Uticensis, Cicero's contemporary, who was present, apparently (*huius*), in court. **populi Romani:** genitive with **rebus:** dative with *adiungitur*, "great glory is added to the achievements of the Roman people," i.e., by the poetry of Ennius.

282–284. **denique:** "finally," signals the last installment of Ennius' patrons. **Omnes...illi Maximi, Marcelli, Fulvii:** all men of prominent Roman families who distinguished themselves as commanders in the field and received recognition in the poetry of Ennius (see APPENDIX I). **sine...laude:** note how the HYPERBATON of the preposition and its object BRACKETS **omnium nostrum:** an objective genitive modifying *laude*.

284–287. **Ergo...eiciamus?:** The two independent clauses of this sentence, arranged in ASYNDETON, share many parallel structures in order to feature the ANTITHESIS of "they" (*maiores nostri*) and "we" (*nos*).

284–285. **Ergo:** indicates that what follows is a conclusion inferred from the points raised in the previous three sentences, "therefore," "for this reason" (construe with only the first of the two clauses). **illum:** i.e., Ennius, object of *reperunt*. **qui haec fecerat:** i.e., who wrote the poetry. **Rudinum hominem:** the phrase, in APPPOSITION to *illum*, is best translated with concessive force, "although (he was) a man from Rudiae" (for Ennius' life see APPENDIX I). **in civitatem receperunt:** i.e., granted him citizenship (despite being from Rudiae).

286–287. **hunc:** i.e., Archias. **Heracliensem:** in APPPOSITION to *hunc* (corresponding to *Rudinum hominem* in the previous clause). **expetitur...constitutum:** both passive participles modify *hunc*. **multis civitatibus:** dative of agent with the passive participle *expetitur*, B 189.2. **in hac:** sc. *civitate*. **de nostra civitate eiciamus?:** contrast with *in hac [civitate]*, and *in civitatem receperunt* from the previous clause.

288–289. **Nam:** the particle, which usually presents an explanation of the preceding sentence, here introduces the rhetorical device OCCUPATIO, as Cicero anticipates the argument that Ennius, because he wrote in Latin, was more worthy of Roman citizenship than Archias, who wrote in Greek. **si...Latinis:** the PROTASIS of a present general condition (B 302.1). **quis:** = *aliquis* (see on 1 above). **minorem:** comparative adjective (< *parvus*), modifying **fructum:** subject of **percipi:** passive infinitive of the indirect statement dependent on *putat*. **quam:** "than," a relative adverb introducing the COMPARANDUM. **ex Latinis:** sc. *versibus gloriae fructum percipi*. **vehementer errat:** the APODOSIS of the condition, "he is gravely mistaken."

290. **propterea**, (*adv.*) therefore; (*w. quod*) because of the fact that.
lego, legere, legi, lectus, to read.
fere, (*adv.*) nearly, almost, virtually.
gens, gentis, f., family, race, clan.
291. **finis, finis, m.**, end, limit; (*of countries, territories, etc.*) the boundary, border.
*** exiguus, ~a, ~um**, small, scanty, slight, insignificant.
sane, (*adv.*) certainly, truly, absolutely.
*** contineo, continere, continui, contentus**, to hold together (*by bonds of relationship*); to contain, hold, keep.
**** quare** (*interrog. and rel. adv.*) for what reason, wherefore.
292. ***** gero, gerere, gessi, gestus**, to carry on, perform.
orbis, orbis, m., circle, circuit, course; **orbis terrae** (*or terrarum*), the world.
*** regio, regionis, f.**, a geographical position; a territory, region.
definio, definire, definivi (~ii), definitus, to limit, bound; to define.
293. ***** debeo, debere, debui, debitus**, (*w. inf.*) to be under obligation to do something.
quo, (*interrog. and rel. adv.*) to what place, where; (*abl. sing. of rel. pron. used as conj.*) whereby, in order that.
telum, ~i, n., a weapon (*dagger, knife, spear, etc.*).
*** pervenio, pervenire, perveni, perventus**, to arrive (*at a place, situation, station, etc.*); to attain (*a position*).
294. ***** fama, ~ae, f.**, reputation, public opinion.
penetro, ~are, ~avi, ~atus, to work a way, make one's way (*to or into a place, etc.*); to reach, enter, penetrate.
295. *** amplus, ~a, ~um**, (*w. dat. of person*) magnificent, great.
296. **** certe**, (*adv. < certus*) without doubt, surely.
***** causa, ~ae, f.**, (*abl. w. gen.*) for the sake (*of*).
*** dimico, ~are, ~avi, ~atus**, to struggle, contend, fight.
297. **** periculum, ~i, n.**, danger.
incitamentum, ~i, n., that which urges, a stimulus, incentive.
*** labor, laboris, m.**, labor, task; effort, struggle; trial, hardship.
298. **** scriptor, scriptoris, m.**, a writer, author.

- 290 propterea quod Graeca leguntur in omnibus fere gentibus, Latina suis finibus exiguis sane continentur. Quare, si res eae quas gessimus orbis terrae regionibus definiuntur, cupere debemus, quo hominum nostrorum tela pervenerint, eodem gloriam famamque penetrare, quod cum ipsis
- 295 populis de quorum rebus scribitur haec ampla sunt, tum eis certe qui de vita gloriae causa dimicant hoc maximum et periculorum incitamentum est et laborum. 24 Quam multos scriptores rerum suarum magnus ille Alexander secum habuisse dicitur. Atque is tamen, cum in Sigeo

290–291. **propterea quod**: “because of the fact that...” **Graeca...Latina**: (sc. *scripta*). **in...gentibus**: Greek was the predominant language of the eastern half of the Mediterranean. **sane**: with *continentur*.

291–292. **si...definiuntur**: the PROTASIS of a present general condition (B 302.1). **quae gessimus**: the antecedent is *res* (note how the demonstrative *eae*, inserted after its noun for emphasis, ANTICIPATES the clause). **orbis terrae**: genitive with *regionibus*.

292–294. **cupere**: complementary infinitive with *debemus*, the main verb of the APODOSIS. **quo...pervenerint**: “where...” the adverbial relative clause precedes its antecedent *eodem* for emphasis (the usual order would be *eodem...quo*: “to the same place...where.” **hominum nostrorum**: i.e., soldiers. **gloriam...penetrare**: accusative + infinitive object clause of *cupere*, B 331 IV.

294–297. **quod**: “because.” **cum...tum**: a correlative construction introducing two co-existing circumstances of which *tum* indicates the more noteworthy, “not only...but especially.” **ipsis populis**: dative with *ampla*. **de...scribitur**: an impersonal construction, “about whose achievements it is written” (the antecedent of *quorum* is *populis*). **haec**: neuter nominative plural (antecedent = *tela* or a vague “these things”). **qui...dimicant**: the antecedent is *eis*. **gloriae causa**: “for the sake of glory” (see note on 95–98 above). **hoc**: neuter nominative (note: the singular pronoun, which has no precise antecedent, refers to the idea expressed by the main clause of the sentence [*cupere...penetrare*]), i.e., wanting our glory and reputation to reach where our weapons have reached. **maximum**: modifies *incitamentum*. **et...et**: “both...and,” connects *periculorum* and *laborum*, objective genitives of *incitamentum*, B 200.

297–300. **Quam**: the adverb, construe with *multos*, “How many...” **scriptores**: direct object of *habuisse*: complementary infinitive of *dicitur* (for the construction see note on 277–279 above). **magnus ille Alexander**: i.e., Alexander the Great (see APPENDIX I). **secum**: (a common inversion of *cum se*) “with him,” i.e., accompanying him on his military campaigns. **is**: i.e., Alexander. **tamen**: the adverb lends an ironic tone (strengthened by *atque*) to the sentence.