

ita dici forte miretur, quod alia quaedam in hoc facultas  
 sit ingeni neque haec dicendi ratio aut disciplina, ne nos  
 quidem huic uni studio penitus umquam dediti fuimus.  
 20 Etenim omnes artes quae ad humanitatem pertinent habent  
 quoddam commune vinculum et quasi cognatione qua-  
 dam inter se continentur. **3 Sed ne cui vestrum mirum esse  
 videatur, me in quaestione legitima et in iudicio publico,**

16–17. **Ac ne quis a nobis hoc** (p. 5) **ita dici forte miretur**: a negative purpose clause (B 282.1), governed loosely by the main clause (*ne nos quidem...dediti fuimus*, 19–20): “and in order that no one wonder that this case (*hoc*) is being presented (*dici*) by me in this fashion (*ita*)... [let me assure you that] not even I have devoted all my time to this one single pursuit (i.e., oratory).” **miretur**: subjunctive in the negative purpose clause. It also introduces an indirect statement. **ne quis** = *ne aliquis* (see note on 1 above). **a nobis**: (= *a me*) ablative of agent with the passive infinitive of a 3rd conjugation verb, *dici* (“is spoken”). **hoc**: “this case” (accusative subject in an indirect statement). **quod**: “the fact that.” The whole clause (*quod...si*) explains, in apposition, the preceding *hoc* (B 299.V.a): “namely that there is...” **in hoc**: i.e., Archias (“in this man”).

17–19. **alia quaedam...facultas...ingeni**: Cicero contrasts the talents of Archias in poetry against his own in oratory (*neque* = “and not”). **dicendi ratio**: i.e., oratory, Cicero’s domain. **ne...quidem**: the construction emphasizes the word it surrounds, “not even we (= I).” **huic uni studio**: i.e., oratory, dative with *dediti fuimus*. **dediti fuimus**: sometimes *fui, fuisti*, etc., are used instead of *sum, es*, etc., in forming the perfect indicative, B 102 n.1.

21–22. **quasi cognatione quadam**: “as it were by a kind of kindred relationship.” Cicero qualifies *cognatione* with both *quasi* and *quadam* because he is using the term, which technically describes a familial, blood-relationship, metaphorically (cf. *quoddam commune* above; also *quasi divino quodam spiritu*, 233–234 below). **inter se continentur**: “are connected, one to another.”

22–37. **Sed...dicendi**: the skeleton of this long sentence is: *Sed ne...mirum esse videatur, me...hoc uti genere...quod...abhorreat, quaeso a vobis ut...detis hanc veniam...ut me...patiamini...loqui...et...uti...genere dicendi*.

22–23. **Sed ne cui**: *cui* (= *alicui*, see note on 1 above), dative with *videatur* (“it seems”). **videatur**: subjunctive in a negative purpose clause (B 282.1) dependent on *quaeso* (see line 28 below), the main verb of the sentence (note: *mirum esse* = subjective infinitive of *videatur*). **vestrum**: (< *vos*) partitive genitive with *cui*, “to anyone of you.” **me...hoc uti genere dicendi** (line 26): indirect statement introduced by *mirum esse*. **me**: subject accusative of *uti* (present infinitive < *utor*), an accusative + infinitive clause functioning as the subject of *mirum esse* (see note on 26–28 below). **in quaestione legitima et in iudicio publico**: a court (*quaestio*) concerned with the law (*lex*), convened before a judge (*iudex*) or jury (*iudices*); it could be either a civil or criminal case (as this one was), but was distinct from a private suit.

24. **apud**, (*prep. w. acc. denoting position or relationship*) at (*the house of*); in (*the army of*); before, in the presence of (*a magistrate, etc.*).  
**praetor, praetoris, m.**, the magistrate immediate to the consul, who usually presided over a public court.  
**populus, populi, m.**, people, population (*usu.* the Roman people).  
**lectus, ~a, ~um**, excellent, special, worthy of choice.
25. **vir, viri, m.**, a man; hero; husband.  
**severus, ~a, ~um**, strict, old-fashioned.  
 \* **iudex, iudicis, m.**, one appointed to decide a case, a juror.  
**conventus, ~us, m.**, an assembly, a court of law.
26. **utor, uti, usus, (w. abl.)** to use, employ.  
**genus, generis, n.**, type, style.
27. **consuetudo, consuetudinis, f.**, practice, one's customary manner.  
 \* **iudicium, ~i, n.**, a legal proceeding, or trial.  
**forensis, ~e, of, or connected to, the law courts.**
28. **sermo, sermonis, m.**, a way or style of speaking.  
 \* **abhorreo, abhorreere, abhorruui, (w. a + abl.)** to be averse or opposed (*to something or someone*).  
**quaeso, quaesere, quaesivi, quaesitus, (< quaero)** to ask.  
**causa, ~ae, f.**, cause, trial.
29. **venia, ~ae, f.**, indulgence, favor.  
**accommodo, ~are, ~avi, ~atus**, to suit, accommodate; (*pass.*) to be appropriate (*to or for something*).  
**reus, ~i, m.**, a defendant.
30. **quemadmodum, (interrog. and rel. adv.)** as, in the manner in which (= **ad quem modum**).  
**spero, ~are, ~avi, ~atus**, to hope.  
**molestus, ~a, ~um**, annoying, tiresome, tedious.
31. **eruditus, ~a, ~um**, learned, accomplished.  
**concursum, ~us, m.**, a crowd, assembly.
32. **litteratus, ~a, ~um**, well-read, cultured.  
 \* **humanitas, humanitatis, f.**, civilization, culture.
33. **denique, (adv.)** finally, at length, at last.  
 \* **praetor, praetoris, m.**, the Roman magistrate, immediate to the consul, who usually presided over a public court.  
**exerceo, exercere, exercui, exercitus, (w. iudicium)** to preside.  
 \*\* **iudicium, ~i, n.**, a legal proceeding, a trial.  
**pator, pati, passus, (w. inf.)** to allow.  
 \*\*\* **studium, ~i, n.**, study or pursuit.

25 cum res agatur apud praetorem populi Romani, lectissimum  
 30 virum, et apud severissimos iudices, tanto conventu hominum ac frequentia, hoc uti genere dicendi, quod non modo a consuetudine iudiciorum, verum etiam a forensi sermone abhorreat, quaeso a vobis ut in hac causa mihi detis hanc veniam accommodatam huic reo, vobis, quemadmodum spero, non molestam, ut me pro summo poeta atque eruditissimo homine dicentem hoc concursu hominum litteratissimorum, hac vestra humanitate, hoc denique praetore exercente iudicium, patiamini de studiis

24–25. **cum res agatur**: a temporal clause, “when the case is being conducted,” B 289. **apud praetorem**: the PRAETOR was a magistrate second only to the CONSUL; during this period of the republic there were eight PRAETORS whose duties included presiding over the *quaestiones perpetuae* (full-time standing courts). **lectissimum virum**: in APPOSITION to *praetorem*: “a first-choice man.” Cicero’s brother, Quintus, who presided at Archias’ trial, was elected PRAETOR in 62 B.C. first in the polls, hence the superlative.

25–26. **tanto conventu hominum ac frequentia**: ablative absolute (without a present participle, here expressing attendant circumstance, B 227). The phrase also contains an example of HENDIADYS, a rhetorical device whereby two nouns (*conventu...ac frequentia*) are joined to convey a single idea: “with so great a throng and crowd of men” = “with so numerous a throng of men,” B 374.4.

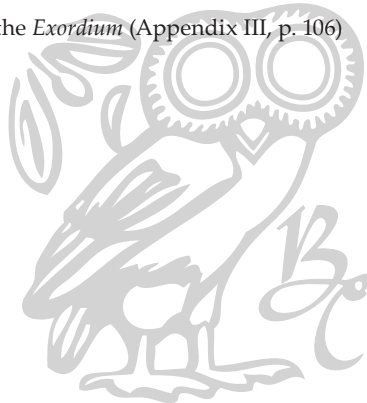
26–28. **hoc...genere**: ablative with *uti* (< *utor*), subjective infinitive of *mirum esse* (see note on 22–23 above), B 218.1. **dicendi**: genitive of the gerund, modifying *genere*. **quod...abhorreat**: antecedent = *genere*. **non modo...verum etiam**: “not only... but also,” a favorite construction for Cicero.

28–30. **quaeso**: the main verb of the sentence. **ut...detis**: indirect command with *quaeso*, B 295.1 (*detis* = 2nd person plural present subjunctive < *do, dare*). **accommodatam...non molestam**: read *non molestam* after *accommodatam* and construe respectively with the datives *reo* and *vobis* (note the CHIASTIC word order: *accommodatam...reo :: vobis...non molestam*). **huic reo**: i.e., Archias. **quemadmodum spero**: a parenthetical aside, “as I hope.”

30–33. **ut...patiamini**: an indirect command dependent on *detis veniam*. **me**: accusative subject of *loqui* (34) and *uti* (36), objective infinitives of *patiamini* (33), B 328. **dicentem**: accusative participle modifying *me* (note the BRACKETING of the prepositional phrases *pro summo poeta atque eruditissimo homine*). **hoc concursu...hac...humanitate...hoc...praetore**: the ANAPHORA of the demonstrative pronoun (*hoc...hac...hoc*) introduces a TRICOLON of ablative absolutes (here expressing attendant circumstance), modifying *dicentem*. Cicero avoids strict PARALLELISM by expanding the third ablative absolute with the present active participle *exercente*, modifying *praetore* and taking *iudicium* as its object.

34. **littera**, ~ae, *f.*, (*usu. pl.*) what is learned from books or formal education, erudition or culture; literature.  
**paulo**, (*adv.*) by a little, somewhat.  
**loquor**, **loqui**, **locutus**, to speak, say.
35. **persona**, ~ae, *f.*, a role, part, or position (*assumed or adopted*).  
**propter**, (*prep. w. acc.*) because of, on account of.  
**otium**, ~i, *n.*, leisure (*esp. as devoted to cultural pursuits*).
36. \*\*\* **iudicium**, ~i, *n.*, a legal proceeding, a trial.  
**periculum**, ~i, *n.*, danger, hazard; (*pl.*) legal liability.  
**tracto**, ~are, ~avi, ~atus, to handle, have experience with.  
\* **prope**, (*adv.*) almost, nearly, all but.
37. **inuitatus**, ~a, ~um, unusual, unfamiliar.  
\* **genus**, **generis**, *n.*, type, style.
38. **tribuo**, **tribuere**, **tribui**, **tributus**, to grant, bestow.  
**concedo**, **concedere**, **concessi**, **concessus**, to concede, grant.  
\* **sentio**, **sentire**, **sensi**, **sensus**, to realize, perceive, feel.  
**perficio**, **perficere**, **perfeci**, **perfectus**, to effect, bring about.  
\* **profecto**, (*adv.*) undoubtedly, without question.
39. **segrego**, ~are, ~avi, ~atus, to separate, exclude.  
**civis**, **civis**, *m. or f.*, a citizen (*usu. of Rome*).
40. **ascisco**, **asciscere**, **ascivi**, **ascitus**, to enroll.

Optional Reading: On the *Exordium* (Appendix III, p. 106)



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humanitatis ac litterarum paulo loqui liberius, et in eius  
 35 modi persona quae propter otium ac studium minime in  
 iudiciis periculisque tractata est uti prope novo quodam  
 et inusitato genere dicendi. 4 Quod si mihi a vobis tri-  
 bui concedique sentiam, perficiam profecto ut hunc A.  
 Licinium non modo non segregandum, cum sit civis, a  
 40 numero civium verum etiam, si non esset, putetis asciscen-  
 dum fuisse.

34. **paulo loqui liberius:** “to speak a little more freely.” *paulo* (< *paulus*) is an ablative of degree of difference with the comparative adverb *liberius*. **loqui:** objective infinitive of *patiamini* (see 33 above), B 328. **et:** connects *loqui* and *uti* (36).

34–36. **in eius modi persona quae...:** “assuming a persona (“role”) of the sort which...” i.e., by using a different style of speaking (*novum genus dicendi*) suited more to poets and scholars (*otium ac studium*) than lawyers and law courts (*iudiciis periculisque*). **minime...tractata est:** “is infrequently introduced...” **in iudiciis periculisque:** HENDIADYS for *in iudiciorum periculis*, “...into the legal hazards of the courts.”

36–37. **uti...novo...et inusitato genere dicendi:** *genere* is the ablative object of *uti* (“to use”). Cicero repeats the claim he made at the beginning of the sentence, that in his defense he will employ a style of speaking not usually heard in a court of law.

37–41. **Quod si...sentiam:** “and if I (shall) perceive that this...” *si* begins the PRO-TASIS of a future more vivid (uses the indicative) condition, which is introduced by **Quod:** a CONNECTING (or linking) RELATIVE PRONOUN. Read *Id* (= it, B 251.6). *Quod* in turn serves as the accusative subject of **tribui concedique:** present passive infinitives of the indirect statement governed by *sentiam*.

**perficiam...ut:** the APODOSIS of the condition: “I shall bring it about that...” The main verb of the sentence, *perficiam* takes an *ut* clause of result (B 297.1), whose verb, *putetis*, in turn governs an extended accusative + infinitive indirect statement: *hunc... non modo non segregandum* (sc. *esse*)...*verum etiam...asciscendum fuisse* (for the passive periphrastic expressing necessity/obligation, cf. B 337.8). **cum sit civis...si non esset:** two circumstantial clauses; the first qualifies *non segregandum* (*esse*), the second *asciscendum fuisse*.

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