

► EXERCISE 2

In the sentences below, find the words derived from the Vocabulary to Learn in this chapter. Write the corresponding Latin word.

1. A good historian always makes reference to his sources.
2. People who act without thinking about other people's feelings are often offensive.
3. He received a large gift from a benevolent uncle.
4. His resignation was completely voluntary; that was what he wanted, and no one forced him to do it.
5. A person who is absent from class without a legitimate excuse cannot make up the test.
6. So large was the multitude of pilgrims that no traffic could move in the street outside the shrine.
7. My associate must sign all the documents signed by me.
8. The history of the United States is considered by some historians to begin with the signing of the Declaration of Independence.
9. An irate person may do things which later evoke great self-regret.
10. Thirsty people in the desert who think they see water are often seeing only a mirage.
11. If we hope to maximize our chances of success, we should try hard to avoid negative thoughts.

LANGUAGE FACT II

MORE ON THE ABLATIVE ABSOLUTE

As you probably noticed in the chapter reading passage and in the sentences in Exercise 1, the ablative absolute can fulfill the same functions as temporal, causal, conditional, and concessive clauses. The temporal, causal, conditional, or concessive meaning is inferred from the context. Sometimes the presence of the word *tamen* in the main clause is an indication that the meaning is concessive. Study the following examples.

Temporal Meaning

Caesare duce dictō, milītēs sē ad iter parāre coepērunt.

“When Caesar had been named leader, the soldiers began to prepare themselves for the road.”

Causal Meaning

Hostibus appropinquantibus, cōsul exercitum parāvit.

“Because the enemy was approaching, the consul prepared an/the army.”

Concessive Meaning

Hostibus appropinquantibus, cōsul tamen exercitum nōn parāvit.

“Although the enemy was approaching, nevertheless the consul did not prepare an/the army.”

The ablative absolute sometimes allows the writer to express shades of more than one meaning in the subordinate clause. For example:

Absente maiōre Hispanōrum parte, hī paucī in tantā barbarōrum multitudīne relictī in periculō maximō versābuntur.

“If (and/or) **when** the larger part of the Spaniards is absent, these few left among such a great multitude of barbarians will be situated in very great danger.”

Colōnus, litterīs hūmānissimē scrīptīs, suam in Martinum benevolentiam dēclārāvit.

“Columbus, **because** (and/or) **when** he had written a letter in a very kind way, made clear his good will toward Martín.”



Queen Isabella “the Catholic” at the Royal Palace in Madrid which continues to serve as the official residence for the Kings of Spain. Though a Castilian royal possession since the Moorish outpost fell to Alfonso VI in 1065, it was Philip II who made it and Madrid the center of the kingdom in 1561. The current palace was built in 1734 by Philip V after a fire had devastated the original building.