



BY THE WAY

In chapter 1 you learned that the **optative** subjunctive, with or without the word **utinam**, indicates a wish, and that **nē** is added (also with or without **utinam**) for a negative wish. You saw only the present subjunctive in these wishes. The present subjunctive is used for a wish about the **future**, which could still come true. Now that you know the imperfect and pluperfect subjunctive, you know how to express wishes for the present or the past which cannot come true. In these cases the imperfect subjunctive is used for a wish about the present while the pluperfect subjunctive is used for one about the past. Look at the examples:

Wish for the future

Present Subjunctive

(*Utinam*) *illam vōcem audiam!*

“If only I may hear that voice!”

(*Utinam*) *nē illam vōcem audiam!*

“May I not hear that voice!”

Wish for the present Imperfect Subjunctive

(*Utinam*) *illam vōcem audīrem!*

“If only I were hearing that voice!”

(*Utinam*) *nē illam vōcem audīrem!*

“If only I were not hearing that voice!”

Wish for the past

Pluperfect Subjunctive

(*Utinam*) *illam vōcem audīvissem!*

“If only I had heard that voice!”

(*Utinam*) *nē illam vōcem audīvissem!*

“If only I had not heard that voice!”

► EXERCISE 3

Change the perfect active indicative verbs into the pluperfect active subjunctive, keeping the same person and number. Give the basic meaning of the word.

Example: *ēgimus* *ēgissēmus* to do, drive

1. *scripsī*
2. *valuimus*
3. *aperuistī*
4. *pepercērunt*
5. *invāsīt*
6. *mūtāvīt*
7. *ēdidistīs*

8. *furuī*
9. *occupāvimus*
10. *invāsērunt*
11. *restitistī*
12. *recēpī*
13. *occupāvīt*
14. *invēnit*

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