

► EXERCISE 5

Change the main verb into the imperfect, change the tense of the verb in the indirect question as required, and translate the sentences.

Example: Rogō ā quō haec domus sit aedificāta.

Rogābam ā quō haec domus esset aedificāta.

I asked by whom this house had been built.

1. Nōn sciō ā quō sit hoc ōrātum.
2. Rogō ā quō māne sītis iūctī.
3. Rogō cūr agrī sint occupātī.
4. Scītisne quā viā sint agmina ducta?

LANGUAGE FACT II

INDIRECT COMMAND

The poet in the chapter reading passage ends his confession with these words:

Ōrō ut mihi parcātis.

“I beg that you spare me (be lenient with me).”

You already know the use of *ut* as a conjunction which introduces a purpose clause.

However, *ut* in the sentence above does not introduce a purpose clause but instead introduces an indirect command.

The direct command of the example above would be:

Mihi parcite!

“Spare me!”

The indirect command is used after verbs that express a request or a command like *ōrō*, “to ask, entreat” or *rogō*, “to ask.” It is introduced with the conjunction *ut*, or with the conjunction *nē*, if the command is negative. The indirect command uses the present subjunctive, if the tense in the main clause is primary, and the imperfect subjunctive, if the tense in the main clause is secondary.

Positive

Negative

Primary Sequence:

Ōrō ut ad mē veniās.

“I ask you to come to me.”

Ōrō nē ad mē veniās.

“I ask you not to come to me.”

Secondary Sequence:

Ōrāvī ut ad mē venirēs.

“I asked you to come to me.”

Ōrāvī nē ad mē venirēs.

“I asked you not to come to me.”



BY THE WAY

The verb *iubeō*, “to order,” takes the accusative and infinitive.

Example: *Iubeō tē ad mē venīre.* “I order you to come to me.”

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