

Chapter 31

RULE 1: *Cum* clauses most often take the subjunctive.

I. Grammar

A. *Cum* Clauses

Distinguishing the preposition and the subordinate conjunction *cum* may cause students some initial distress, but with a little practice they will have no problem. *Cum* clauses in classical Latin most often call for a subjunctive verb but can also take the indicative when they denote a real event or refer to the present or future. Since, however, students are focusing largely on subjunctives at this point in the class, Wheelock concentrates on *cum* clauses with the subjunctive. This is fine as long as students are aware that *cum* clauses in Latin are not restricted to the subjunctive.

B. History of *Cum* Clauses

The conjunction *cum* was spelled *quom* up until Cicero's day when the spelling was revised to harmonize with pronunciation. Other words were similarly changed but their new spellings did not catch on, e.g. *secuntur* (*sequuntur*) and *ecus* (*equus*). These were later restored to their older spelling on analogy with other forms in which *quu-* had not changed to *cu-* (e.g. *equi*, *relinquimus*), but *cum* which had no other forms kept its new spelling. The regular use of the subjunctive with *cum* is part of the general encroachment of the subjunctive into subordinate clauses and its widespread replacement of the indicative of fact.

C. *Fero*

A little linguistics can be very helpful to students here. Assuming terms like composite conjugation, reduplication and the vowel grades of bases don't frighten them too badly, you can make *fero* look much more regular than it appears on the surface. For the full forms of *fero*, refer students to pp. 394-395 at the back of Wheelock:

1. **Composite conjugation**—that is, the use of more than one base in the conjugation of a verb (cf. composite comparison in the comparison of “irregular” adjectives, see [Chapter 27](#))—accounts for the change of base in the perfect forms of this verb. The base *fer-* runs through only the present-tense system. In the perfect system, the base *tol-* takes over, cf. English *go* vs. *went* (in origin, the past form of *wend*).
2. **Reduplication** accounts for the perfect active form *tuli* which subsequently lost its reduplication: **tetoli* > **tetuli* < *tuli*.
3. Finally, different **vowel grades**—in other words, when the same base exhibits different vowels but the same or similar consonants (cf. Greek **lego** vs. **logos**)—account for *tuli* and *latum*. Originally from **tol-*, *tuli* exhibits the *o*-grade of the base, whereas *latum* comes from **tl-atum* (**tl-* is the zero-grade which has no vowel in the base).

With this in mind one can see that *fero* is not as irregular as it might seem, or at least it's more predictable. Only the infinitive *ferre* which should be **ferere* will still look irregular, which it is. One would not expect this verb to exhibit athematic forms—i.e. forms lacking a thematic vowel—but it does, and not just in the infinitive but also elsewhere: *fers*, *fert*, *fertis*, *fer*, *ferto*. None of these forms are easy to explain.

II. Vocabulary

- **annus:** As a word for a unit of time, it's commonly seen in the ablative of time.
- **auxilium:** This noun comes from the same base as *augeo* “increase,” with an *s*-extension (cf. Greek *aux[an]ein*).

- **navis**: An *i*-stem noun (genitive plural = **navium**). It is based on an Indo-European diphthong stem **nau-*, cf. Greek *naus*.
- **aequus**: Literally “level, even,” it can also connote “calm” (in the mind) and “fair” (in judgment); cf. *aequor* “a flat surface, the (level) sea.”
- **apud**: This preposition takes the **accusative** case.
- **cum**: This conjunction expects the subjunctive but can take the indicative as well. For the development of *cum*, see [Chapter 17](#).
- **tamen**: This adverb is often used in the main sentence as a signal that a *cum* clause is concessive: “*Although (Cum) he was late, he nevertheless (tamen) finished the quiz on time.*” In most circumstances, *tamen* signals an inversion of logic or expectation.
- **confero**: Note that the reflexive pronoun with *conferre* means “betake oneself, go.” Give students several examples of this idiom outside of just the formula:

Feminae se conferunt ad urbem.	The women are going to the city.
Vos contulistis in navem.	You went onto the ship.
Me conferam ut amicos adiuvem.	I will go to help my friends.
Te confer ab me.	Get away from me.

- **offero**: Wheelock does not list an important English derivative, *oblation*. Ask students what *oblations* are (“offerings”). [*ob-* here has the sense “toward, to a position facing.”]
- **respondeo**: = *re-* “in return, in repetition” + *spond-* “pour (a libation), vow”, cf. Greek *spendo*. It derived its sense “answer” from the meaning “to make a solemn engagement.” For second-conjugation causatives, see *terreo*, [Chapter 18](#).
- **exsilium**: = *ex(s)-* + *-ul-* (cf. *exul*) + *-ium*. The base *-ul/-el-*, also seen in **ambulare**, conveyed a basic sense of motion. Before a syllable with *-i-*, *-il-* will prevail over *-ul-*: **famulus** but **familia**, **simulare** but **similis**, **consulo** but **consilium**. *Exsilium* can also be spelled *exilium*.
- **vinum**: This word is cognate with Greek *oinon* (< **woinon*), exhibiting the expected change of initial *woi-* to *vi-* in Latin, cf. Greek *oida* (< **woida*) vs. *vidi*, Greek *oikos* (< **woikos*) vs. *vicus*.
- **mediocris**: This adjective originally meant “of middle height” (= *medi-* “middle” + *ocr-* “rugged mountain,” cf. Greek *okris* “jagged point or prominence”).

III. Quiz 4

QUIZ 4

NOMEN TUUM

I. Translate the following verbs. Put “S” to the left of all subjunctive forms. (18 pts.)

1. ferantur
2. contulisses
3. credita sit
4. speraverim
5. lata essent
6. ferremus

II. Answer the questions pertaining to the following sentences. DO NOT TRANSLATE THE SENTENCES! (20 pts.)

1. Multi nesciverunt quid **gestum** esset.

What mood is gestum esset and why?	
What tense is gestum esset and why?	

2. Cum istum **esseservumcognovisset**, eum comprehendit.

What mood is esse and why?	
What case is servum and why?	
What mood is cognovisset and why?	

3. Tantum auxilium tibi tulimus ut hostes patriam tuam **relinquerent**.

What mood is relinquerent and why?	
What tense is relinquerent and why?	

4. Arma **paremus** ne libertas nostra **tollatur**.

What mood is paremus and why?	
What mood is tollatur and why?	
What tense is tollatur and why?	

III. Fill in the blanks with the correct vocabulary forms of the Latin words below. Give the **NOMINATIVE**, **GENITIVE**, and **GENDER** of nouns, and the **PRINCIPAL PARTS** (**PRESENT INDICATIVE**, **PRESENT INFINITIVE**, **PERFECT INDICATIVE**, **PERFECT PARTICIPLE**) of verbs. For adjectives, give the **NOMINATIVE** forms. (12 pts.)

1. nevertheless
2. sword
3. put, place
4. ordinary
5. among
6. at last