

Chapter 25

In this and the next chapter you read some well-known Greek myths. These thrilling stories have fascinated readers through the ages, and innumerable poets and artists have drawn inspiration from the narrative art of the Greeks.

The place-names mentioned in the story can be found on the map of Greece. Among the names of towns note the plural forms *Athēnae* and *Delphi*; accusative *Athēnās*, *Delphōs*, ablative *Athēnīs*, *Delphīs*. These two cases, as you know, serve to express motion to and from the town: Theseus goes *Athēnīs* in *Crētam* and later *ē Crētā Athēnās*. But the ablative of plural town names is also used as a locative, so that *Athēnīs* can also mean *in urbe Athēnīs*: *Thēseus Athēnīs vivēbat* (l. 52). The rule about the use of the accusative, ablative and locative (= genitive/ablative) of names of towns also applies to the names of small islands, e.g. *Naxus*: acc. *Naxum* = *ad insulam Naxum*, abl. *Naxō* = *ab/lex insulā Naxō*; loc. *Naxī* = *in insulā Naxō* (ll. 99, 100, 132). – A new name can be presented with *nōmine* ('by name', abl. of respect), e.g. *parva insula nōmine Naxus*; *mōnstrum horribile, nōmine Minōtaurus* (l. 26).

The imperative of deponent verbs ends in *-re* in the singular and in *-minī* in the plural (cons.-stems *-ere* and *-iminī*). You have already seen examples of *-re* in cap. 24 (e.g. l. 28: "*Intuere pedēs meōs, Syra!*") and in this chapter Theseus says to Ariadne: "*Opperire mē!*" and "*Et tū sequere mē! Proficiscere mēcum Athēnās!*" (ll. 75, 95), and to his countrymen: "*Laetāminī, civēs meī! Intuēminī gladium meum cruentum! Sequimīnī mē ad portum!*" (ll. 92-93).

Transitive verbs like *timere* and *amare* are generally used with an object in the accusative, e.g. *mortem timere*, *patriam amare*. The nouns derived from these verbs, *timor* and *amor*, can be combined with a genitive to denote what is the object of the fear or love, e.g. *timor mortis* and *amor patriae* (ll. 77, 86). Such a genitive is called an objective genitive. Other examples are *timor mōnstrōrum*, *expugnātiō urbis*, *nex Minōtaurī* and *cupiditās pecūniae* (ll. 22, 46, 88, 122), the nouns *expugnātiō* and *nex* being derived from the verbs *expugnāre* and *nectere*, while *cupiditās* is derived from the verb *cupere* through the adjective *cupidus* (= *cupiens*), which can itself be combined with an objective genitive, e.g. *cupidus pecūniae* (= *quī pecūniā cupit*, cf. l. 46). Even a present participle like *amāns* can take an objective genitive when used as an adjective, e.g. *amāns patriae* (= *quī patriā amat*, l. 51). – The verb *oblīviscī* takes a genitive as object: *oblīviscere illius viri!* (l. 126, cf. l. 128). When the object is a thing the accusative is also possible (ll. 118, 130).

You have seen several examples of the accusative and infinitive with the verb *iubere*: an active infinitive, as in *pater filium tacere iubet*, expresses what a person is to do, while a passive infinitive, like *dūcī in quā eum ... in labyrinthum dūcī iussit* (l. 59) expresses what is to be done to a person ('ordered him to be taken into the labyrinth'; cf. cap. 26, ll. 7-8). Like *iubere* the verb *velle* can take the acc. + inf.: *Tū hīc manere volo* ('I want you to...') and *Quam fābulam mē tibi narrare vis?* (ll. 2-4).

The perfect participle of deponent verbs can be used with the subject of the sentence to express what a person has/had done or did: *haec locūta Ariadna...* (l. 74, 'having said/after saying this...'); *Thēseus filium Ariadnae secutus...* (ll. 84-85, 'following...'); *Aegeus arbitratus...* (l. 137, 'who believed...').

A relative pronoun after a period functions as a demonstrative pronoun referring to a word in the preceding sentence, e.g. *Thēseus... Athēnīs vivēbat. Qui nīper Athēnās vēnerat* (ll. 52, = *is...*; cf. ll. 34, 61, 142).

The forms *navigandum* and *fugendum* (ll. 94, 97) will be taken up in cap. 26.

Athēnae -ārum f. pl.
Delphi -ōrum m. pl.

Athēnīs loc. (= abl.)

deponent verbs
imperative
sing. -re
plur. -minī

objective genitive

cupidus + gen.
amāns + gen.

oblīviscī + gen.

acc. + inf. pass.
with *iubere*
acc. + inf. with *velle*

ad + -ndum: cap. 26

Chapter 26

The story of the boy Icarus, who soared up to the scorching sun only to be plunged into the sea as the sun melted the wax that fastened his wings, has always been admired as a beautiful poetic picture of the penalty for arrogance and rashness. Syra, too, uses the story to warn Quintus to be careful.

In the expression *parātus ad pugnam* the accusative of the noun, *pugnam*, is used after *ad*. If the noun is replaced by the corresponding verb, the infinitive *pugnāre* is not used, but the form *pugnandum*: *parātus ad pugnandum*. This form, characterized by *-nd-* added to the present stem, is a kind of verbal noun called **gerund** (Latin *gerundium*, cf. the English ‘-ing’-form). The gerund is a 2nd declension neuter, but the nominative is missing: the accusative ends in *-ndum* (*pugna|ndum*), the genitive in *-ndī* (*pugna|ndī*), the dative and ablative in *-ndō* (*pugna|ndō*). In consonant- and *ī*-stems (3rd and 4th conjugations) a short *e* is inserted before *-nd-*: *ad viv|endūm*, *ad audi|endūm*.

In this chapter you find several examples of the gerund in the different cases (except the dative, which is rarely used). The **accusative** is only found after *ad*, e.g. *ad nārrandūm* (l. 10). The **genitive** occurs with nouns, e.g. *finem nārrandī facere* (l. 13; = *finem nārratiōnis f.*); *cōnsilium fugiendī* (l. 56, = *cōnsilium fugae*); *haud difficilis est ars volandī* (l. 72); *tempus dormiendī est* (l. 122, = *tempus est dormire*); or as objective genitive with the adjectives *cupidus* and *studiōsus*: *cupidus audiendī*, *studiōsus volandī* (ll. 18, 43; cf. l. 108); with the ablative *causā* the genitive of the gerund denotes cause or purpose: *nōn solum dēlectandī causā, sed etiam monendī causā nārrātūr fābula* (ll. 134-135). The **ablative** of the gerund is found after *in* and *dē*: *in volandō* (l. 80); *dē amandō* (l. 154); or alone as the ablative of means or cause: *puerī scribere discunt scribendō*; *fessus sum ambulandō* (l. 24; cf. ll. 129, 130).

Some **adjectives** have *-er* in the masculine nom. sing. without the usual endings *-us* and *-is*, e.g. *niger -grīa -grīum* and (with *-e* retained) *miser -erīa -erīum*, *liber -erīa -erīum*, and *celer -erīs -erīe* (in other adjectives of the 3rd declension *-e* is dropped, e.g. *acer acris acris*, ‘keen’, cf. *December -bris*). Such 3rd declension adjectives have three different forms in the nominative singular – whereas those in *-ns* and *-x*, like *prudēs* and *audāx*, have only one: *vir/fēmina/cōnsilium prudēs/audāx* (gen. *prudētīs, audācīs*). Adjectives in *-er* have *-errimus* in the superlative, e.g. *celerrimus*. Irregular superlatives are *summus* and *infimus* (ll. 77, 79) from *super(us) -era -erum* and *infer(us) -era -erum* (comparative *superior* and *inferior*).

The noun *āer* (3rd decl. m., gen. *āerīs*) is borrowed from the Greek and keeps its Greek ending *-a* in the acc. sing. *āer|a* (l. 22, = *āer|em*).

Like *ūllus -a -um* the pronoun *quis-quam quid-quam* (‘anyone’, ‘anything’) is used in a negative context, so that *et* is not placed before *nēmō, nihil: neque quisquam* (l. 26, ‘and no one’), *nec quidquam* (cap. 27, l. 106, ‘and nothing’); similarly *et* is avoided before *numquam* by using *neque umquam* (cap. 23, l. 26, ‘and never’). *Quidquam* is changed by assimilation to *quicquam*.

Instead of the short imperative *es! es!te!* of *esse* the longer form in *-tō -tōte* is often preferred: *es|tō! es|tōte!* In other verbs this so-called **future imperative** is not very common (it will be treated in cap. 33).

Vidēri, the passive of *vidēre*, is used (with nom.+ inf.) in the sense of ‘seem (to be)’, e.g. *īnsulae haud parvae sunt, quamquam parvae esse vidētur* (l. 94). In this function a dative is often added, e.g. *Mēlos īnsula... nōn tam parva est quam tibi vidētur* (l. 95, = *quam tū putās*; cf. ll. 96-97, 125); *puer... sibi vidētur... volāre* (l. 144, = *sē volāre putat*).

gerund
acc. -ndum
gen. -ndī
abl. -ndō

-ndī causā

adjectives
m. f. n.
-er -(e)r|a -(e)r|um
-er -(e)r|is -(e)r|e

m./f./n.
-ns, gen. -n|is
-x, gen. -c|is

āer āer|is, acc. -a
(= -em)

neque ūllus -a -um
neque quisquam
neque quidquam
neque umquam

es|tō es|tōte (imp.)

vidēri
(+ dat.)