



Verba Latina (Verbs)

Verbs are a big part of every language, and Latin is no different. For starters, try to master the four groups (or conjugations) of active verbs in the present and perfect tenses. This will give you a grounding in the most common forms. Like nouns, verbs go into groups which, once learnt, allow you to tackle almost every verb you meet.

Then add in the imperfect and the future, leaving the pluperfect and future perfect aside until later in your learning. Next there are less common but no less important groups – irregulars, impersonals, passives and deponents – which have to be tackled. Do this selectively, and, as always, base it in your reading of texts. The final step is to meet the subjunctive, a whole other mood, which means (unfortunately) there will be new subjunctive forms, active and passive, in four tenses. But take things step by step, and use this as a handy reference.

Verbs in Latin are given in four different parts, which give you their important base forms. These are called a verb's **principal parts**, and, for the moment, we're interested in the first three of them. The first part is always the first person singular, present active indicative, which to say 'I walk', 'I run' etc. The second part is the infinitive – 'to walk', 'to run' etc. – and this one is important because it tells you which group – 1, 2, 3, or 4 – a verb belongs to (more below). The third principal part is the first person singular, perfect (or past) active indicative, i.e. 'I walked', 'I ran' etc. If that all sounds a bit confusing, things usually become clearer with practice.

Words of two syllables are stressed on the first syllable; for words of three or more syllables, an accent will tell you where the stress is (cantáre, etc.).

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Part 1: Conjugations 1–4, Presents and Perfects

Group 1

canto, cantāre, cantāvi, cantātum, ‘I sing’, ‘I am singing’

Every verb that belongs in this group will have an infinitive ending in -are, and will go like *cantāre*.

Present Active ‘I sing’ ‘I am singing’

Some verbs like *cantāre*:

cant-o	I sing	salto, saltāre, saltāvi, saltātum	‘to dance’
canta-s	You sing	amo, amāre, amāvi, amātum	‘to love’
canta-t	He, she, it sings	nato, natāre, natāvi, natātum	‘to swim’
cantā-mus	We sing	creo, creāre, creāvi, creātum	‘to create’
cantā-tis	You (pl.) sing	cógito, cogitāre, cogitāvi, cogitātum	‘to think’
canta-nt	They sing		

Imperative (ordering) forms:

cant-a	sing! (singular)
cant-áte	sing! (plural)

Perfect Active ‘I sang’ ‘I have sung’

cantāv-i	I sang
cantav-ísti	You sang
cantāv-it	He, she, it sang
cantāv-imus	We sang
cantav-ístis	You (pl.) sang
cantav-érunt	They sang

Group 2

dóceo, docēre, dócui, doctum, ‘I teach’, ‘I am teaching’

Every verb that belongs in this group will have an infinitive ending in -ēre and will go like *docēre*. This long first e in the -ēre is the defining mark of group 2, and should be noted.

Present Active ‘I teach’ ‘I am teaching’

Some verbs like *docēre*:

dóce-o	I teach	fleo, flēre, flevi, fletum	‘to weep’
doce-s	You teach	hábeo, habēre, hábui, hábitum	‘to have’
doce-t	He, she, it teaches	iaceo, iacēre, iácui, íacitum	‘to lie down’
docé-mus	We teach	máneo, manēre, mansi, mansum	‘to stay’
docé-tis	You (pl.) teach	rídeo, ridēre, risi, risum	‘to laugh’
doce-nt	They teach		

Imperative (ordering) forms:

doc-e	teach! (singular)
docéte	teach! (plural)

Perfect Active 'I taught' 'I have taught'

dócu-i	I taught
docu-ísti	You taught
dócu-it	He, she, it taught
docú-imus	We taught
docu-ístis	You (pl.) taught
docu-érunt	They taught

Now try some sentences:

ubi manémus in hoc urbe?	Where are we staying in this city?
amávimus natare in mari.	We loved to swim in the sea.
ubi fessus sum, iáceo.	When I'm tired I lie down.
saltavérant cum gáudio magno.	They danced with great joy.
habet ómnia quae vult.	She has everything that she wants.

Group 3

mitto, mittere, misi, missum, 'I send', 'I am sending'

Every verb belonging to this group will also end in -ere. The crucial difference is that for group 3 verbs the first e is short, not long (as in group 2): mittere, as opposed to docere. It is important you learn whether a new -ere verb has a short e or a long e, because this tells you which group it belongs to. There are many verbs in group 3, and sometimes their principal parts can vary internally, *misi* may look fairly similar to *mitto*, but for a verb like *ago*, *agere*, the third part is *egi*. Which is to say always do your best to learn the principal parts of new verbs in full, it will help you to recognize them.

Present Active 'I send' 'I am sending'

mitt-o	I send
mitt-is	You send
mitt-it	He, she, it sends
mítt-imus	We send
mítt-itis	You (pl.) send
mitt-unt	They send

Some verbs like mittere:

dico, dícere, dixi, dictum	'to say'
curro, cúrrere, cursi, cursum	'to run'
edo, édere, edi, esum	'to eat'
bibo, bíbere, bibi, bibitum	'to drink'
tango, tángere, tétigi, tactum	'to touch'

Imperative (ordering) forms:

mitt-e	send! (singular)
mítt-ite	send! (plural)

Perfect Active 'I sent' 'I have sent'

mis-i	I sent
mis-ísti	You sent
mis-it	He, she, it sent
mís-imus	We sent
mis-ístis	You (pl.) sent
mis-érunt	They sent

3a facio, facere, feci, factum, 'I do' 'I make'

There are some verbs that straddle groups 3 and 4: their short -ere infinitive means they belong in group 3, but their forms have extra i's, just like you find in group 4. Consider *facio* a slight variation but don't let it trouble you too much: if you need to, prioritize *mitto* and *salio* (group 4, below).

Present Active 'I do' 'I am doing'

fac-io	I do
fac-is	You send
fac-it	He, she, it sends
fac-imus	We send
fac-itis	You (pl.) send
fac-iunt	They send

Some verbs like *facere*:

cápio, cápere, cepi, captum	'to take'
cúpio, cúpere, cupívi, cúpitum	'to desire'
aspício, aspícere, aspéxi, aspéctum	'to look at'

*the perfect forms follow *mitto*, above.

Imperative (ordering) forms:

fac	do! (singular, irregular)
fac-ite	do! (plural)

Now try some sentences:

cúrrimus in viam et animália aspícimus
edi et bibi bene in illa urbe.
semper mihi flores mittis.
pictúram pulchram fecit
tum non dícere cupívimus

We run into the street and look at the animals.
I ate and drank well in that city.
You always send me flowers.
She's made a beautiful picture.
At that time we didn't want to speak.

Group 4

dórmio, dormíre, dormívi, dormítum, 'I sleep', 'I am sleeping'

Every verb belonging to this group will end in -ire.

Present Active 'I sleep' 'I am sleeping'

dórm-io	I sleep
dorm-is	You sleep
dorm-it	He, she, it sleeps
dorm-ímus	We sleep
dorm-ítis	You (pl.) sleep
dórm-iunt	They sleep

Some verbs like *dormíre*:

aúdio, audíre, audívi, audítum	'to listen'
vénio, veníre, veni, ventum	'to come'
scio, scire, scivi, scitum	'to know'
sálio, salíre, salívi, sáltum	'to jump'
sárcio, sarcíre, sarsi, sartum	'to mend'

Imperative (ordering) forms:

dorm-i	sleep! (singular)
dorm-íte	sleep! (plural)

Perfect Active 'I slept' 'I have slept'

dormív-i	I slept
dormiv-ísti	You slept
dormív-it	He, she, it slept
dormív-imus	We slept
dormiv-ístis	You (pl.) slept
dormiv-érunt	They slept

Now try some sentences:

noctes longae erant: dormívimus bene.
Quid facio? sarcio soleas tuas.
veníte et audíte: narro fábulam.
rana parva in stagno salívit.
scis multa quae néscio.

The nights were long: we slept well.
What I am doing? I'm mending your sandals.
Come and listen: I'm telling a story.
The little frog jumped into the pond.
You know many things that I do not know.

Part 2: Conjugations 1–4, Imperfects and Futures

The imperfect is the continuous past tense, for actions that were in some way continuous, habitual, unfinished. Your go-to translation word is ‘was’. Both it and the future tense have a very regular set of endings, but watch one thing: the future endings switch in groups 3 and 4, a challenge for beginners in that *mittam* looks like a noun, and one vowel (*mittit*, *mittet*) can determine now tense.

Group 1

Imperfect

cantá-bam	I was singing
cantá-bas	You were singing
cantá-bat	He, she, it was singing
canta-bámus	We were singing
canta-bátis	You (pl.) were singing
cantá-bant	They were singing

Future

cantá-bo	I will sing
cantá-bis	You will sing
cantá-bit	He, she, it will sing
cantá-bimus	We will sing
cantá-bitis	You (pl.) will sing
cantá-bunt	They will sing

Group 2

Imperfect

docé-bam	I was teaching
docé-bas	You were teaching
docé-bat	He, she, it was teaching
doce-bámus	We were teaching
doce-bátis	You (pl.) were teaching
docé-bant	They were teaching

Future

docé-bo	I will teach
docé-bis	You will teach
docé-bit	He, she, it will teach
docé-bimus	We will teach
docé-bitis	You (pl.) will teach
docé-bunt	They will teach

Group 3

Imperfect

mitté-bam	I was sending
mitté-bas	You were sending
mitté-bat	He, she, it was sending
mitte-bámus	We were sending
mitte-bátis	You (pl.) were sending
mitté-bant	The were sending

Future (new endings for 3 & 4)

mitt-am	I will send
mitt-es	You will send
mitt-et	He, she, it will send
mitt-émus	We will send
mitt-étis	You (pl.) will send
mitt-ent	They will send

Group 4

Imperfect

dormié-bam	I was sleeping
dormié-bas	You were sleeping
dormié-bat	He, she, it was sleeping
dormie-bámus	We were sleeping
dormie-bátis	You (pl.) were sleeping
dormi-ébant	They were sleeping

Future

dórmi-am	I will sleep
dórmi-es	You will sleep
dórmi-et	He, she, it will sleep
dormi-émus	We will sleep
dormi-étis	You (pl.) will sleep
dórmi-ent	They will sleep

Now try some sentences:

semper mittebamus epistulas vobis.
quando fessus sum, dormiam.
manebas me prope flumen.
quando te iterum aspiciam?
veniunt, et alii venient quoque.

We always used to send you letters.
When I'm tired, I'll sleep.
You were waiting for me by the river.
When will I see you again?
They're coming, and others will come too.

Part 3: Conjugations 1–4, Pluperfects and Future Perfects

The pluperfect is further back in the past than the perfect; your go-to translation word is ‘had’. The future perfect imagines a completed action in the future: I will have made, etc. Both these tenses use the perfect stem and have very regular sets of endings. While you will meet them, they are rare enough to be considered bonus tenses here: be able to recognize them, but focus your attention elsewhere.

Group 1

Pluperfect

cantáv-eram	I had sung
cantáv-eras	You had sung
cantáv-erat	He, she, it had sung
cantav-erámus	We had sung
cantav-erátis	You (pl.) had sung
cantáv-erant	They had sung

Future Perfect

cantáv-ero	I will have sung
cantáv-eris	You will have sung
cantáv-erit	He, she, it will have sung
cantav-erímus	Will will have sung
cantav-erítis	You (pl.) will have sung
cantáv-erint	They will have sung

Group 2

Pluperfect

docú-eram	I had taught
docú-eras	You had taught
docú-erat	He, she, it had taught
docu-erámus	We had taught
docu-erátis	You (pl.) had taught
docú-erant	They had taught

Future Perfect

docú-ero	I will have taught
docú-eris	You will have taught
docú-erit	He, she, it will have taught
docu-erímus	We will have taught
docu-erítis	You (pl.) will have taught
docú-erint	They will have taught

Group 3

Pluperfect

mís-eram	I had sent
mís-eras	You had sent
mís-erat	He, she, it had sent
mis-erámus	We had sent
mis-erátis	You had sent
mís-erant	They had sent

Future Perfect

mís-ero	I will have sent
mís-eris	You will have sent
mís-erit	He, she, it, will have sent
mis-erímus	We will have sent
mis-erítis	You will have sent
mís-erint	They will have sent

Group 4

Pluperfect

dormív-eram	I had slept
dormív-eras	You had slept
dormív-erat	He, she, it had slept
dormiv-erámus	We had slept
dormiv-erátis	You (pl.) had slept
dormív-erant	They slept

Future Perfect

dormív-ero	I will have slept
dormív-eris	You had slept
dormív-erit	He, she, it will have slept
dormiv-erímus	We will have slept
dormiv-erítis	You will have slept
dormív-erint	They will have slept

Now try some sentences:

magna et pulchra creáverant.
mox duas horas saltávero.
in mari frigido natáveras.
cras dona míserit.
audíveram omnem fábulam.

They had created many great and beautiful things.
Soon I will have danced for two hours.
You had swam in the cold sea.
Tomorrow she will have sent the presents.
I had heard the whole story.

Part 4: Irregulars (sum and possum, eo and volo, fero and fio).

*an asterisk denotes a set of forms that are regular

(present) (perfect) (imperfect) (future) (pluperf.) (fut. perf.)

1. sum, esse, fui, futurum, 'to be'

sum	fui*	eram	ero	fúeram*	fúero*
es	fuísti	eras	eris	fúeras	fúeris
est	fuit	erat	erit	fúerat	fúerit
sumus	fúimus	erámus	érimus	fuerámus	fuerímus
estis	fuístis	erátis	éritis	fuerátis	fuerítis
sunt	fuérunt	erant	erunt	fúerant	fúerint

2. possum, posse, potui, 'to be able' [often just a compound of pos/pot + forms of sum]

possum	pótui*	póteram	pótero	potúeram*	potúero*
potes	potuísti	póteras	póteris	potúeras	potúeris
potest	pótuit	póterat	póterit	potúerat	potúerit
póssumus	potúimus	poterámus	potérimus	potuerámus	potuerímus
potéstis	potuístis	poterátis	potéritis	potuerátis	potuerítis
possunt	potuérunt	póterant	póterint	potúerant	potúerint

3. eo, ire, ii, itum, 'to go'

eo	ii	ibam	ibo	íeram	íero
is	isti	ibas	ibis	íeras	íeris
it	iit	ibat	ibit	íerat	íerit
imus	iimus	ibámus	íbimus	ierámus	ierímus
itis	istis	ibátis	íbitis	ierátis	ierítis
eunt	íerunt	ibant	ibunt	íerant	íerint

4. volo, velle, volui, 'to wish', 'to want' [cf. the verbs *nolo* 'I do not want' and *malo* 'I prefer']

volo	vólui*	volébam*	volam*	volúeram*	volúero*
vis	voluísti	volébas	voles	volúeras	volúeris
vult	vóluit	volébat	volet	volúerat	volúerit
vólumus	volúimus	volebámus	volémus	voluerámus	voluerímus
voluístis	voluístis	volebátis	volétis	voluerátis	voluerítis
volunt	voluérunt	volébant	volent	volúerant	volúerint

5. fero, ferre, tuli, latum, 'to carry' 'to bear (physically or emotionally)'

fero	tuli*	ferébam*	feram*	túleram*	túlero*
fers	tulísti	ferébas	feres	túleras	túleris
fert	tulit	ferébat	feret	túlerat	túlerit
férimus	túlimus	ferebámus	ferémus	tulerámus	tulerímus
fertis	tulístis	ferebátis	ferétis	tulerátis	tulerítis
ferunt	tulérunt	ferébant	ferent	túlerant	túlerint

6. fio, fieri, factus sum, 'to become', 'to be made', 'to happen'

fio	—	fiébam*	fiam*	—	—
fis	—	fiébas	fies	—	—
fit	—	fiébat	fiet	—	—
fimus	—	fiébámus	fiémus	—	—
fitis	—	fiébátis	fiétis	—	—
fiunt	—	fiébant	fient	—	—

Now try some sentences:

quocúmque ibis, ibo quoque.

illa fit dux pópuli eius.

potes me iuváre cum his cistis?

fessi sumus post iter longum.

vis nobiscum édere et bíbere?

Wherever you'll go, I'll go too.

She is becoming a leader of her people.

Can you help me with these boxes?

We're tired after a long journey.

Do you want to eat and drink with us?

Part 5: Impersonals

Latin has several verbs that you'll meet only in the third person singular (and sometimes plural) form(s). They include verbs to do with the weather, to do with feelings, and to do with circumstances of right and wrong, proper and improper behaviour etc. You should aim to learn these on the go, making a note of every new impersonal verb you meet, together with its particular construction. Here are some to get you started.

pluit	'it's raining'
ningit	'it's snowing'
vesperáscit	'it's getting late'
placet	'it pleases' (who is pleased goes in the dative case: this is the main way to say you like someone or something in Latin).
licet	'it is permitted' (who is permitted goes in the dative case)
necesse est	'it is necessary'
míseret	to feel pity (accusative of the one who pities; what they pity in the genitive).
páenitet	to feel regret (constructed as míseret, above)
pudet	to feel shame (constructed as míseret, above)

Now try some sentences:

licit nobis ambuláre in hoc horto.	We are allowed to walk in this garden.
placent rosae mihi.	I like roses.
míseret me illórum.	I pity those men.
non me pudet tui.	I am not ashamed of you.
necesse est ire et vidére.	It's necessary to go and see.

Part 6. Passives 1: Present and Perfect

Here we'll take four verbs and put them into the six tenses we've already met (present, perfect, imperfect, future, pluperfect, future perfect), but this time in the *passive voice*. 'I send' becomes 'I am sent', 'They praised' becomes 'They were praised' etc. Remember that not all verbs or parts of verbs will go into the passive (there is no passive version of *esse*, for instance, and you won't normally need to say 'I was walked' or 'she was sung').

As with the active forms, we'll begin with the present and perfect, and these are the two to focus on. The present has a regular set of passive endings which will quickly become familiar, while the perfect is a two-part (or 'periphrastic') tense. It will always have two parts: the first comes from the fourth principal part, and the second from the verb 'to be'. The first part needs to agree with the subject: *amatus est*, *amata est*, *amati sunt* are the Latin for 'he was loved', 'she was loved' and 'they were loved' respectively.

Once you've got a handle on the present and perfect – and depending on your goals – have a look at the imperfect and future, and then the pluperfect and future perfect forms. These tenses are both regular and less common than the present and perfect, so they should be straightforward.

Group 1

amári, 'to be loved' (from *amáre* 'to love')

Present

am-or	I am loved
amá-ris	You are loved
amá-tur	He, she, it is loved
amá-mur	We are loved
amá-mini	You (pl.) are loved
amá-ntur	They are loved

Perfect

amát-us <i>or</i> -a sum	I was loved
amát-us <i>or</i> -a es	You were loved
amát-us, -a, <i>or</i> -um est	He, she, it was loved
amát-i <i>or</i> -ae sumus	We were loved
amát-i <i>or</i> -ae estis	You (pl.) were loved
amát-i, -ae <i>or</i> -a sunt	They were loved

Imperative (ordering) forms: amá-re be loved! (singular) amá-mini be loved! (pl.)

Group 2

vidéri, 'to be seen' 'to seem' (from *vídeo* 'to see'). 'Seem' is the regular meaning of the passive.

Present

vide-or	I seem
vidé-ris	You seem
vidé-tur	He, she, it seems
vidé-mur	We seem
vidé-mini	You (pl.) seem
vidé-ntur	They seem

Perfect

vis-us <i>or</i> -a sum	I seemed
vis-us <i>or</i> -a es	You seemed
vis-us, -a, <i>or</i> -um est	He, she, it seemed
vis-i <i>or</i> -ae sumus	We seemed
vis-i <i>or</i> -ae estis	You (pl.) seemed
vis-i, -ae, <i>or</i> -a sunt	They seemed

Imperative (ordering) forms: vidé-re seem! (singular) vidé-mini seem! (pl.)

Group 3

tegi, 'to be covered' (from *tego*, 'to cover')

Present

teg-or	I am covered
tége-ris	You are covered
tégi-tur	He, she, it is covered
tégi-mur	We are covered
tegi-mini	You (pl.) are covered
tegi-ntur	They are covered

Perfect

tect-us <i>or</i> -a sum	I was covered
tect-us <i>or</i> -a es	You were covered
tect-us, -a, <i>or</i> -um est	He, she, it was covered
tect-i <i>or</i> -ae sumus	We were covered
tect-i <i>or</i> -ae estis	You (pl.) were covered
tect-i, -ae <i>or</i> -a sunt	They were covered

Imperative (ordering) forms: tége-re be covered! (singular) tegé-mini be covered! (pl.)

Group 4

audíri 'to be heard' (from *aúdio*, 'to hear')

Present

aúdi-or	I am heard
audí-ris	You are heard
audí-tur	He, she, it is heard
audí-mur	We are heard
audí-mini	You (pl.) are heard
audiú-ntur	They are heard

Perfect

audít-us <i>or</i> -a sum	I was heard
audít-us <i>or</i> -a es	You were heard
audít-us, -a, <i>or</i> -um est	He, she, it was heard
audít-i <i>or</i> -ae sumus	We were heard
audít-i <i>or</i> -ae estis	You (pl.) were loved
audít-i, -ae, <i>or</i> -a sunt	They were heard

Imperative (ordering) forms: audí-re be heard! (singular) audí-mini be heard! (pl.)

Now try some sentences:

illi ab ómnibus amántur.
in somnis vídeor cúrrere.
solum flóribus tectum est.
vox puéllae per urbem audíta est.
tristis vidéris hódie: quare?

Those men are loved by everyone.
In my dreams I seem to be running.
The ground was covered with flowers.
The girl's voice was heard throughout the city.
You seem sad today: why?

A note about deponent verbs

Deponent verbs are verbs which are passive in form, but active in meaning. As such, their forms match onto the four passive verbs conjugated here. Once you know which group a deponent verb belongs to, you'll be able to know its forms by reverting to *amor*, *vídeor*, *tegor* or *aúdior*. Note that the passive verb used here for group 2 – *vídeor* – commonly has the deponent meaning 'seem'.

hortor, hortári, hortátus sum	'I encourage'	goes like <i>amári</i>
fáteor, fatéri, fassus sum	'I admit'	goes like <i>vídeor</i>
loquor, loquí, locútus sum	'I talk'	goes like <i>tegor</i>
pártior, partíri, partus sum	'I share'	goes like <i>audíri</i>

Part 7. Passives 2: Imperfect, Future, Pluperfect, Future Perfect

Group 1

Imperfect

amá-bar	I used to be loved
ama-báris	You used to be loved
ama-báтур	He, she, it used to be loved
ama-bámur	We used to be loved
ama-bámini	You (pl.) used to be loved
ama-bántur	They used to be loved

Future

amá-bor	I will be loved
amá-beris	You will be loved
amá-bitur	He, she, it will be loved
amá-bimur	We will be loved
ama-bímini	You (pl.) will be loved
ama-búntur	They will be loved

Pluperfect ('had been')

amát-us <i>or</i> -a eram	I had been loved
amát-us <i>or</i> -a eras	You had been loved
amát-us, -a, -um erat	He etc. had been ...
amát-i <i>or</i> -ae erámus	We had been loved
amát-i <i>or</i> -ae erátis	You (pl.) had been...
amát-i, -ae, -a erant	They had been loved

Future Perfect ('will have been')

amát-us <i>or</i> -a ero	I will have been loved
amát-us <i>or</i> -a eris	You will have been loved
amát-us, -a, -um erit	He etc. will have been ...
amát-i <i>or</i> -ae érimus	We will have been loved
amát-i <i>or</i> -ae éritis	You (pl.) will have been ...
amát-i, -ae, -a erunt	They will have been loved

Group 2

Imperfect

vidé-bar	I used to seem
vide-báris	You used to seem
vide-báтур	He, she, it used to seem
vide-bámur	We used to seem
vide-bámini	You (pl.) used to seem
vide-bántur	They used to seem

Future

vidé-bor	I will seem
vidé-beris	You will seem
vidé-bitur	He, she, it will seem
vidé-bimur	We will seem
vide-bímini	You (pl.) will seem
vide-búntur	They will seem

Pluperfect

vis-us <i>or</i> -a eram	I had seemed
vis-us <i>or</i> -a eras	You had seemed
vis-us, -a, -um erat	He, she, it had seemed
vis-i <i>or</i> -ae erámus	We had seemed
vis-i <i>or</i> -ae erátis	You (pl.) had seemed
vis-i, -ae, -a erant	They had seemed

Future Perfect

vis-us <i>or</i> -a ero	I will have seemed
vis-us <i>or</i> -a eris	You will have seemed
vis-us, -a, -um erit	He etc. will have seemed
vis-i <i>or</i> -ae érimus	We will have seemed
vis-i <i>or</i> -ae éritis	You (pl.) will have seemed
vis-i, -ae, -a erunt	They will have seemed

Group 3

Imperfect

tegé-bar	I used to be covered
tege-báris	You used to be covered
tege-báthur	He, she, it used to be ...
tege-bámur	We used to be covered
tege-bámini	You (pl.) used to be covered
tege-bántur	They used to be covered

Future

teg-ar	I will be covered
teg-éris	You will be covered
teg-étur	He, she, it will be covered
teg-émur	We will be covered
teg-émini	You (pl.) will be covered
teg-éntur	They will be covered

Pluperfect

tect-us <i>or</i> -a eram	I had been ...
tect-us <i>or</i> -a eras	You had been ...
tect-us, -a, -um erat	He, she, it had been ...
tect-i <i>or</i> -ae erámus	We had been ...
tect-i <i>or</i> -ae erátis	You (pl.) had been ...
tect-i, -ae, -a erant	They had been ...

Future Perfect

tect-us <i>or</i> -a ero	I will have been ...
tect-us <i>or</i> -a eris	You will have been ...
tect-us, -a, -um erat	He etc. will have been ..
tect-i <i>or</i> -ae érimus	We will have been ...
tect-i <i>or</i> -ae éritis	You (pl.) will have been
tect-i, -ae, -a erunt	They will have been

Group 4

Imperfect

audié-bar	I used to be heard
audie-báris	You used to be heard
audie-báthur	He etc. used to be ...
audie-bámur	We used to be heard
audie-bámini	You (pl.) used to be ...
audie-bántur	They used to be heard

Future

aúdi-ar	I will be heard
audi-éris	You will be heard
audi-étur	He, she, it will be heard
audi-émur	We will be heard
audi-émini	You will be heard
audi-éntur	They will be heard

Pluperfect

audít-us <i>or</i> -a eram	I had been heard
audít-us <i>or</i> -a eras	You had been heard
audít-us, -a, -um erat	He, she, it ...
audít-i <i>or</i> -ae erámus	We had been heard
audít-i <i>or</i> -ae erátis	You (pl.) ...
audít-i, -ae, -a erant	They had been ...

Future Perfect

audít-us <i>or</i> -a ero	I will have been heard
audít-us <i>or</i> -a eris	You will have been heard
audít-us, -a, -um erat	He, she, it ...
audít-i <i>or</i> -ae érimus	We will have been heard
audít-i <i>or</i> -ae éritis	You (pl.) will have been ...
audít-i, -ae, -a erunt	They will have been ...

Now try some sentences:

clamor in via audítus erat.
illae visae erant benignae.
templum novum valde amábitur
illo témpore, urbs nova creabáthur.
quae dicta erant ante advéni?

A shout had been heard in the street.
Those women had seemed kind.
The new temple will be greatly loved.
At that time a new city was being created.
What things had been said before I arrived?

Part 8: Conjugations 1–4, Subjunctives Active and Passive

Aids to recognition: remember that present subjunctives are a combination of stem + thematic vowel(s) + ending, and that you can almost always find the present infinitive form within an imperfect subjunctive (the exception is deponent verbs). The perfect and pluperfect active subjunctives use the perfect stem; look for the characteristic double ‘s’ to identify the pluperfect active. The perfect and pluperfect passives are two-part forms with *esse* in pres. or perf. subjunctive.

Group 1

Present Active	Present Passive	Imperfect Active	Imperfect Passive
cante-m	ame-r	cantáre-m	amáre-r
cante-s	amé-ris	cantáre-s	amaré-ris
cante-t	amé-tur	cantáre-t	amaré-tur
canté-mus	amé-mur	cantaré-mus	amaré-mur
canté-tis	amé-mini	cantaré-tis	amaré-mini
cante-nt	amé-ntur	cantáre-nt	amaré-ntur

Perfect Active	Perfect Passive	Pluperfect Active	Pluperfect Passive
cantáv-erim	amát-us/a sim	cantav-íssem	amát-us/a essem
cantáv-eris	amát-us/a sis	cantav-ísses	amát-us/a esses
cantáv-erit	amát-us/a/um sit	cantav-íisset	amát-us/a/um esset
cantav-erímus	amát-i/ae simus	cantav-issémus	amát-i/ae essémus
cantav-erítis	amát-i/ae sitis	cantav-issétis	amát-i/ae essétis
cantáv-erint	amát-i/ae/a sint	cantav-íssent	amát-i/ae/a essent

Group 2

Present Active	Present Passive	Imperfect Active	Imperfect Passive
dócea-m	videa-r	docére-m	vidére-r
dócea-s	videá-ris	docére-s	videré-ris
dócea-t	videá-tur	docére-t	videré-tur
doceá-mus	videá-mur	doceré-mus	videré-mur
doceá-tis	videá-mini	doceré-tis	videré-mini
dócea-nt	videá-ntur	docére-nt	videré-ntur

Perfect Active	Perfect Passive	Pluperfect Active	Pluperfect Passive
docú-erim	vis-us/a sim	docu-íssem	vis-us/a essem
docú-eris	vis-us/a sis	docu-ísses	vis-us/a esses
docú-erit	vis-us/a/um sit	docu-íisset	vis-us/a/um esset
docu-erímus	vis-i/ae simus	docu-issémus	vis-i/ae essémus
docu-erítis	vis-i/ae sitis	docu-issétis	vis-i/ae essétis
docú-erint	vis-i/ae/a sint	docu-íssent	vis-i/ae/a essent

Group 3

Present Active	Present Passive	Imperfect Active	Imperfect Passive
mitta-m mitta-s mitta-t mittá-mus mittá-tis mitta-nt	tega-r tegá-ris tegá-tur tegá-mur tegá-mini tegá-ntur	míttire-m míttire-s míttire-t mitteré-mus mitteré-tis míttire-nt	tégere-r tegeré-ris tegeré-tur tegeré-mur tegeré-mini tegeré-ntur
Perfect Active	Perfect Passive	Pluperfect Active	Pluperfect Passive
mís-erim mís-eris mís-erit mis-erímus mis-erítis mís-erint	tect-us/a sim tect-us/a sis tect-us/a/um sit tect-i/ae simus tect-i/ae sitis tect-i/ae/a sint	mis-íssem mis-ísses mis-ísset mis-issémus mis-issétis mis-íssent	tect-us/a essem tect-us/a esses tect-us/a/um esset tect-i/ae essémus tect-i/ae essétis tect-i/ae/a essent

Group 4

Present Active	Present Passive	Imperfect Active	Imperfect Passive
dórmia-m dórmia-s dórmia-t dormiá-mus dormiá-tis dórmia-nt	aúdia-r audiá-ris audiá-tur audiá-mur audiá-mini audiá-ntur	dormíre-m dormíre-s dormíre-t dormiré-mus dormiré-tis dórmire-nt	audíre-r audiré-ris audiré-tur audiré-mur audiré-mini audiré-ntur
Perfect Active	Perfect Passive	Pluperfect Active	Pluperfect Passive
dormív-erim dormív-eris dormív-erit dormiv-erímus dormiv-erítis dormív-erint	audít-us/a sim audít-us/a sis audít-us/a/um sit audít-i/ae simus audít-i/ae sitis audít-i/ae/a sint	dormiv-íssem dormiv-ísses dormiv-ísset dormiv-issémus dormiv-issétis dormiv-íssent	audít-us/a essem audít-us/a esses audít-us/a/um esset audít-i/ae essémus audít-i/ae essétis audít-i/ae/a essent

Now try some sentences:

cármina cantémus in hoc bello loco.
'Quid vis?' 'ut aúdiar'.
ámbulo ad óppidum ut epístulas mittam.
cum verba eius audivissémus, rísimus.
cum agri nive tecti essent, vénimus intro.

Let's sing songs in this nice place.
'What do you want?' 'That I be heard'
I'm walking to the town to send letters.
After we had heard her words, we laughed.
When the fields had been covered with snow, we
came inside.

Irregulars

*an asterisk denotes a regular set of forms

(present active) (imperfect active) (perfect active) (pluperfect active)

esse

sim	esse-m*	fú-erim*	fu-íssem*
sis	esse-s	fú-eris	fu-íesses
sit	esse-t	fú-erit	fu-íisset
simus	essé-mus	fu-erímus	fu-issémus
sitis	essé-tis	fu-erítis	fu-issétis
sint	esse-nt	fú-erint	fu-íissent

posse

possim	posse-m*	potú-erim*	potu-íssem*
possis	posse-s	potú-eris	potu-íesses
possit	posse-t	potú-erit	potu-íisset
póssimus	possé-mus	potu-erímus	potu-issémus
póssitis	possé-tis	potu-erítis	potu-issétis
possint	posse-nt	potú-erint	potu-íissent

velle

velim	velle-m*	volú-erim*	volu-íssem*
velis	velle-s	volú-eris	volu-íesses
velit	velle-t	volú-erit	volu-íisset
velímus	vellé-mus	volu-erímus	volu-issémus
velítis	vellé-tis	volu-erítis	volu-issétis
velint	velle-nt	volú-erint	volu-íissent

ire

eam	ire-m*	í-erim*	issem*
eas	ire-s	í-eris	isses
eat	ire-t	í-erit	isset
eámus	iré-mus	i-erímus	issémus
eátis	iré-tis	i-erítis	issétis
eant	ire-nt	í-erint	issent

Now try some sentences :

eámus foras ut stellas videámus.
issem, si potúissem ire.
velim aliquid novi.
ah, nunc scio ubi sim.
sint félices in illa terra nova.

Let's go outside to see the stars.
I would have gone, if I'd been able to go.
I would like something new.
Ah, now I know where I am.
May they be happy in that new land.

Part 9: Participles

(present active) (perfect passive) (future active) (gerundive)

Group 1

cantans, cantántis amát-us/a/um cantatúr-us/a/um amand-us/a/um

Group 2

docens, docéntis vis-us/a/um doctúr-us/a/um vidend-us/a/um

Group 3

mittens, mitténtis tect-us/a/um misúr-us/a/um tegend-us/a/um

Group 4

dormiens, dormiéntis audít-us/a/um dormitúr-us/a/um audiénd-us/a/um

Now try some sentences:

celériter natántes, ad oram vénimus.
amo te ridéntem atque saltántem vidére.
epístulis missis, ignem incendi.
cenatúrus, líberos in culínam vocávi.
'omnia nobis temptanda sunt', dixísti.

Swimming quickly, we came to the shore.
I love to see you laughing and dancing.
When the letters had been sent, I lit a fire.
About to eat, I called the children into the kitchen.
'We have to try everything', you said.

Part 10 : Quiz

Can you identify the following forms? You'll find the answers on the next page.

- | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. saltémus | 2. sarcirémus | 3. habuérint | 4. mansíssem |
| 5. cógita | 6. iacebátis | 7. natant | 8. docti essent |
| 9. vult | 10. póssitis | 11. es | 12. irem |
| 13. cucurrísti | 14. dícimur | 15. cúpiunt | 16. amétur |
| 17. scio | 18. salírem | 19. audiéntem | 20. factum est |

Key

1. First person plural, present active subjunctive, from *saltáre*, to dance.
2. First person plural, imperfect active subjunctive, from *sarcíre*, to stitch.
3. Third person plural, perfect active indicative, from *habére*, to have.
4. First person singular, pluperfect active subjunctive, from *manére*, to stay.
5. Singular active imperative, from *cogitáre*, to think.
6. Second person plural, imperfect active indicative, from *iacére*, to lie down.
7. Third person plural, present active indicative, from *natáre*, to swim.
8. Third person plural, pluperfect passive subjunctive, from *docére*, to teach.
9. Third person singular, perfect active indicative, from *velle*, to want.
10. Second person plural, present active subjunctive, from *posse*, to be able.
11. Second person singular, present active indicative, from *esse*, to be.
12. First person singular, imperfect active subjunctive, from *ire*, to go.
13. Second person singular, perfect active indicative, from *cúrrere*, to run.
14. First person plural, present passive indicative, from *dícere*, to say.
15. Third person plural, present active indicative, from *cúpere*, to want.
16. Third person singular, present passive subjunctive, from *amáre*, to love.
17. First person singular, present active indicative, from *scire*, to know.
18. First person singular, imperfect active subjunctive, from *salíre*, to jump.
19. Present active participle, masculine or feminine accusative singular, from *audíre*, to hear.
20. Third person singular, perfect passive indicative neuter, from *fácere*, to make or do.