LATIN PROSE COMPOSITION EXERCISES (BASIC)

PURPOSE CLAUSES

1. My father sent a slave to buy this book.

2. The girls are working carefully in order not to be punished.

3. The boy ran in order to arrive home more quickly.

4. The Romans are making a plan by which to defeat the enemy.

5. I sent the children into the garden so that they would hear nothing.

6. We come to school to learn.

7. Mucius went to the camp to kill the king.

8. He hid himself so as not to be seen.

9. The Gauls are advancing in order to capture Rome.

10. The enemy advanced to attack the city.

INDIRECT COMMANDS

1. I shall order the slaves not to shout.

2. My sister encouraged me to eat all the food.

3. The general ordered the soldiers to set out immediately.

4. The teacher persuaded us to work.

5. The girl was ordered to read that book.

6. My uncle ordered the sailors to prepare the ship.

7. He asked me to cross the sea with him.

8. The others were urging the old man to go back.

9. They begged him not to despite the danger.

10. But he ordered the sailors not to change the course.

RESULT CLAUSES

1. **The soldier is so brave that he fears nothing.**

2. **We were so tired that we did not want to go out.**

3. **The book is so short that I have already read it.**

4. **The horses ran too quickly for me to catch them.**

5. **The storm was so great that the ships were destroyed.**

6. **We have run so quickly that we are tired.**

7. **The storm was so great that we did not come.**

8. **I had bought so many books that I could not carry them.**

9. **They are so stupid that they have learned nothing.**

10. **So wide was the river that we could not build a bridge.**

INDIRECT QUESTIONS

1. I asked the girl what she was carrying.

2. The teacher is asking whether anyone has seen the book.

3. The general soon found out how many soldiers were sleeping.

4. No-one knew what had happened there.

5. The boys went to find out who is able to run most quickly.

6. I do not know why he has done this.

7. The master asked the boy what he had seen.

8. He does not realize how great the danger was.

9. We saw at once how great the danger was.

10. Find out if he is willing to go with us.

INDIRECT STATEMENTS

1. The boy said that he had found the money in the wood.

2. We think that the city is being well defended.

3. The messenger promised that the king would soon arrive.

4. The old man said that the letter had been sent previously.

5. The girl said that she had not seen anyone in the street.

6. The girl promised that the horse would be looked after.

7. The consul said that the enemy would never defeat us.

8. I swear never to deceive you.

9. We believe that this law is going to be changed.

10. It is related that Homer was blind.

ABLATIVE ABSOLUTES

1. When they had heard the messenger's words, the citizens rejoiced.

2. While the dog was sleeping, the robber entered the house.

3. After the senator had spoken, there was silence.

4. The soldiers advanced when the signal had been given.

5. While the women were guarding the walls, the men were drinking wine.

6. The work having been finished, we left the city.

7. Having prepared a large fleet, Octavianus joined battle with Antonius.

8. After defeating the Gauls, Caesar demanded many hostages.

9. Learning these facts, the queen resolved to die.

10. Having lost the money, the boy was afraid to return to his mother.

TEMPORAL CLAUSES

1. After we caught sight of a ship approaching, we made a fire.

2. We shall stay in Rome until we see the emperor.

3. I was walking to the forum when I caught sight of my friend.

4. The robber escaped before the old man could catch him.

5. I told my son to stay at home until he received my letter.

6. From the time when he arrived, the slave has said nothing.

7. When the old man had read his wife's letter, he was much happier.

8. I killed the dog before it could kill me.

9. The women were amazed when they heard who had received the prize.

10. When my brother arrives, we shall make a journey to Rome.

CONDITIONAL CLAUSES

1. **If the boy did that, he was stupid.**

2. **If my father were here, he would be helping us.**

3. **If the allies had arrived, we should not have been defeated.**

4. **If I see the robber again, I shall shout.**

5. **If you were to fall into the water, it would be difficult to save you.**

6. **If you have my book, give it back to me!**

7. **The work will be easy if you learn the words.**

8. **If the king were still alive, he would be amazed at these buildings.**

9. **If the old man wrote this letter, he is very wise.**

10. **The boy would have received a prize if he had not cheated.**

GERUNDS AND GERUNDIVES

1.   I want to learn the art of speaking wisely.

2.   Those words must be heard by the citizens.

3.   The boy is eager to win.

4.   You must wait here, slave.

5.   The old man went out in order to buy food.

6.   By working I became rich.

7.   I wrote a letter in order to complain.

8.   This book must be thrown into the fire.

9.   The boys will have to run as quickly as possible.

10.   We sent soldiers to attack the city.

QUI + SUBJUNCTIVE CLAUSES

(a)   purpose   (b) result   (c) causal   (d) concessive   (e) generic

1.   The citizens, being unwilling to allow Catiline to become consul, elected Cicero.

2.   The Athenians sent me to consult the oracle of Apollo.

3.   I have been sent here to work with you.

4.   Though not large, the island of Delos is very beautiful.

5.   You are not one to blame me without cause.

6.   Caesar left three cohorts to harass the enemy.

7.   My father, though he had been born poor, was held in honour by all his fellow citizens.

8.   There were some who thought otherwise.

9.   The consul condemned his own son to death for having taken part in the conspiracy.

10.   Although Hannibal routed the Romans again and again, he was defeated in the last battle.

CAUSAL CLAUSES

1. **The guards, who had been awake all night, were tired.**

2. **Because Caesar was unable to cross the river, he was very angry.**

3. **We accused the slaves on the grounds that they had stolen the wine.**

4. **The master was glad because his pupils had sung well.**

5. **Because the cavalrymen rode well, they were praised by all.**

6. **Our master did not drink the wine because it was disgusting.**

7. **The pupils did not understand the teacher because he spoke too fast.**

8. **We have been unjustly blamed for deserting you in such a crisis.**

9. **The Gauls said that Caesar had advanced because he wished to attack.**

10. **The general thought his soldiers were brave because they had fought many battles.**

CONCESSIVE CLAUSES

1.   **Although Cicero spoke wisely, he was liked by nobody.**

2.   **However beautiful it is, the tree must be cut down.**

3.   **Even if the journey were shorter, we would not promise to come.**

4.   **However short the journey is, we shall be tired.**

5.   **Although the children were all silent, the teacher was still terrified.**

6.   **Even if we had sent for a doctor at once, he would have come in vain.**

7.   **My father, though he had been born poor, was held in honour by all.**

8.   **Even if I were rich, I would still want to learn many things.**

9.   **Although you may run, you can't hide.**

10.   **Even if we were to go to the town, we would not be able to buy grain.**

QUIN CLAUSES

(a) alt. indirect statement   **(b) clauses of prevention**   **(c) = qui non / ut non**

1.   **The storm prevented us from setting sail yesterday**

2.   **We no longer doubted that our ships had been wrecked**

3.   **Everyone knows that Romans are braver than natives**

4.   **He never comes to dinner without bringing a gift**

5.   **My opponents did not hesitate to accuse me of treason**

6.   **There was no-one who did not trust the new consul**

7.   **The terrified soldiers were with difficulty restrained from fleeing**

8.   **There is no doubt that all these boys will receive rewards**

9.   **Nobody is so brave as to despise all kinds of dangers**

10.   **We tried to prevent the old man from drinking so much wine**

CLAUSES OF PROVISO

1. **Do not fear so long as you are telling the truth**

2. **Provided that we do not delay, we shall arrive in time**

3. **Provided that no-one disagrees, we will try to kill Caesar**

4. **As long as the teacher likes the wine, he will praise us greatly**

5. **So long as the city is defended, we ought not attack it**

6. **We shall help you provided that you do not return here**

7. **So long as the enemy hand over their arms, we shall make peace**

8. **Provided that the Romans defeat the Gauls, they will be masters of the world**

9. **So long as they stay in Rome, they will be safe**

10. **I will praise you without end provided that you complete this task for me**