

## Capitulum XIV - Novus Dies

### Present Active Participle

Participles are adjectives formed from verbs. They are very common in Latin and show tense and voice. This chapter introduces the Present Active Participle.

In English, the Present Active Participle is formed by adding *-ing* to the verb. As adjectives, participles modify nouns:

Let sleeping dogs lie.

As verbs, participles may also govern nouns:

I saw him chopping the wood.

Participles in English are invariable. In Latin they have number, case, and gender and follow a Third Declension pattern:

	Singular			Plural		
	Masc	Fem	Neuter	Masc	Fem	Neuter
Nom.	<i>-ns</i>	<i>-ns</i>	<i>-ns</i>	<i>-ntēs</i>	<i>-ntēs</i>	<i>-ntia</i>
Gen.	<i>-ntis</i>	<i>-ntis</i>	<i>-ntis</i>	<i>-ntium</i>	<i>-ntium</i>	<i>-ntium</i>
Dat.	<i>-ntī</i>	<i>-ntī</i>	<i>-ntī</i>	<i>-ntibus</i>	<i>-ntibus</i>	<i>-ntibus</i>
Acc.	<i>-ntem</i>	<i>-ntem</i>	<i>-ns</i>	<i>-ntēs</i>	<i>-ntēs</i>	<i>-ntia</i>
Abl.	<i>-ntī (-e)</i>	<i>-ntī (-e)</i>	<i>-ntī (-e)</i>	<i>-ntibus</i>	<i>-ntibus</i>	<i>-ntibus</i>

The Present Active Participle is used throughout this chapter. Here are a few examples:

*Gallus canēns novum diem salūtat.* The crowing rooster greets the new day.

*Dāvus cubiculum intrāns interrogat . . .* Davus, entering the bedroom, asks . . .

*Servus puerum bibentem aspicit.* The slave watches the boy drinking.

*In aurem puerī dormientis clāmat.* He shouts in the ear of the sleeping boy.

Note that Latin uses participles where English uses a simple adjective:

*caput valens:* a healthy head

*membra valentia:* healthy limbs

*filium aegrōtantem:* a sick son

## Ablative Absolute

Latin uses an ablative phrase (usually a noun or pronoun modified by a participle) to express the *time* or *circumstance* of an action. The construction is called the Ablative Absolute. The following examples appear in this chapter:

*Mārcus fenestrā apertā dormit.* Marcus sleeps with his window open.

*Quīntus oculīs apertīs iacet.* Quintus lies with his eyes open.

*Mārcus pedibus nūdīs ante lectum stat.* Marcus stands with bare feet in front of the bed.

Although the Ablative Absolute is semantically related to the sentence (*i.e.*, it adds meaning) it is not grammatically dependent on any word in the sentence. Hence its name *absolute* (from *absolūtus*, free or unconnected). It is sometimes referred to in older grammars as the Ablative of Attendant Circumstance (*i.e.*, describing the circumstances surrounding the action of the main verb).

## Pronouns

This chapter introduces a number of new pronouns:

*uterque, utraque, utrumque*, each (of two)

*neuter, neutra, neutrum*, neither

*alter, altera, alterum*, the other, another

*ūter, ūtra, ūtrum?* which?

A number of personal pronouns attach themselves to the preposition *cum*:

*mēcum* - with me

*tēcum* - with you

*sēcum* - with himself, herself, itself, themselves

This chapter also introduces the dative forms of the personal pronoun:

*mihi* - to me

*tibi* - to you

## Vocabulary

**omnis, -e**, all; each

**inquit**, he, she says

**quōmodo** *adv* how

**adhūc** *adv* still, yet

**solēo, -ēre**, to be accustomed

**nihil** *indecl* nothing

**hodiē** *adv* today

**an** *conj* or; whether