UNIT 14

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SOME LEFTOVERS - MORE TENSES

14.1 Time Values
Although you have already covered the Perfect, Present and Future Tenses, there are still left more subtle divisions of time within these three broad concepts. This can be represented graphically. If we consider time as a line stretching from somewhere in the Past to the Future with all the intermediate Tenses as points upon it, it will look like this :

pluperfect   imperfect   perfect   present   future perfect   future
_____   _____   _____   _____   _____   _____   _____

Let us take a brief glance at the three remaining Tenses - the Pluperfect, Imperfect and Future Perfect - which it is not necessary to study in depth, that is with all the permutations of Indicative and Subjunctive, Active and Passive of each category.   It will suffice to recognise these Tenses from their endings and understand how they are used in broad outline.

14. 2 The Pluperfect

The Pluperfect in English often contains the word *had* (e.. *had* finished) and expresses an action or state which occurred before another one. Therefore we can say that the Pluperfect is a stage behind the main action in a sentence. As the Pluperfect is formed in exactly the same way for all Verbs, even irregular ones, in all Conjugations, one example suffices to illustrate the pattern. All you need to do is to add the endings (emboldened) to the stem of any Perfect Tense thus :

14.3 PLUPERFECT INDICATIVE ACTIVE

VENIRE - TO COME	
*vener**am*** - I had come	*vener**amus*** - we had come
*vener**as*** - you had come	*vener**atis*** - you (pl) had come
*vener**at*** - he/she/it had come	*vener**ant*** - they had come

Exercise 1 Translate the following Verbs which are in the Pluperfect :

1. *videram* 2. *laboraverant* 3. *timueramus* 4. *ascenderat* 5. *erraveratis*

Reading Practice

Multi enim ex Judaeis, qui <u>venerant</u> ad Mariam, et Martham, et <u>viderant</u> quae fecit Jesus, crediderunt in eum	Many of the Jews who <u>had come</u> to Mary and Martha, and <u>had seen</u> the things which Jesus did, believed in Him.
Fecit ergo Noe omnia quae <u>mandaverat</u> ei Dominus	Noah therefore did all the things that the Lord <u>had commanded</u> him.

14.4 PLUPERFECT SUBJUNCTIVE ACTIVE

In certain cases the Subjunctive must be used to express the Pluperfect Tense as, for example, in the very frequent case of 'when' (*cum*), as will be illustrated below. This is formed in the same way as the Pluperfect Indicative by adding the appropriate endings (emboldened) to the stem of the Perfect Tense thus :

ven**issem**	ven**issemus**
ven**isses**	ven**issetis**
ven**isset**	ven**issent**

(Another way of forming the Pluperfect which achieves exactly the same result is to add the endings **-m, -s, -t, -mus, -tis, -nt** to the **Perfect Infinitive**, in this case *venisse*.   See **8.2** and **8.3**.)

In the sentence *cum pervenisset ad locum* (When He had come to the place) the Subjunctive form of the Verb *pervenire*, 'to arrive', is used because that is required to express the Pluperfect with *cum*. Here are some more examples of this usage :

cum tetigisset auriculum ejus, sanavit eum	when He had touched his ear, He healed him
cum accepisset Jesus acetum, dixit Consummatum est	When Jesus had taken the vinegar, He said It is consummated
milites ergo cum crucifixissent eum	the soldiers therefore when they had crucified Him
ad Jesum autem cum venissent	After they were come to Jesus

Note that with the Verbs 'come' and 'go' English sometimes substitutes 'was' or 'were' for 'had'. But the sense of the Pluperfect, that is one action preceding another, remains unchanged.

14.5   The Concept of the Imperfect Tense

The Imperfect Tense is used for a number of reasons, all to convey a *description* of what was going on or how someone felt. Thus it is contrasted with the Perfect Tense which indicates that an action has taken place and is completed.   Hence the title of Imperfect ('incomplete') and Perfect ('complete') for the two Tenses.
The Imperfect Tense is used for the following reasons:

1. to express a *continuous* action in the past, that is one going on for a certain time, as distinct from an action completed in one go. Thus it is often translated as 'I *was* do*ing*, they *were* speak*ing* etc.'
2. to express *habitual* action in the past, and so gives the idea of what a person *used to do*.
3. to *describe* a state of affairs, usually with the Verb 'to be' eg. 'it *was* a long way', the city *was* on a hill'.
4. to give an idea of what was in a person's mind, what thoughts or impressions they had, how they felt etc. eg. 'they were afraid', 'they did not know', 'they thought' etc.

14.6   IMPERFECT INDICATIVE ACTIVE

1st Conjugation	2nd Conjugation	3rd Conjugation	4th Conjugation
SPERARE - TO HOPE	*DOCERE* - TO TEACH	*REGERE - TO RULE*	*AUDIRE - TO HEAR*
*spera**bam*** -	*doce**bam*** -	*rege**bam*** -	*audi**ebam*** -

I was hoping / used to hope, etc.	I was teaching / used to teach etc.	I was ruling / used to rule etc.	I was hearing / used to hear etc.
spera**bas**	doce**bas**	rege**bas**	audie**bas**
spera**bat**	doce**bat**	rege**bat**	audie**bat**
spera**bamus**	doce**bamus**	rege**bamus**	audie**bamus**
spera**batis**	doce**batis**	rege**batis**	audie**batis**
spera**bant**	doce**bant**	rege**bant**	audie**bant**

A notable example of the Imperfect Tense is found in the first line of the hymn traditionally associated with Good Friday entitled *Stabat Mater dolorosa* which depicts the Mother of Sorrows standing at the foot of the Cross.

Learn these Verbs in the Imperfect Tense :

IRE - TO GO	*ibam, ibas, ibat, ibamus, ibatis, ibant* ('was or were going / used to go')
ESSE - TO BE	*eram, eras, erat, eramus, eratis, erant* ('was / were / used to be')

14.7 IMPERFECT INDICATIVE PASSIVE / DEPONENT

To form the Imperfect Tense of either a Passive or Deponent Verb, simply replace the endings in the table above by the following :
-bar, -baris, -batur, -bamur, -bamini, -bantur

Vocabulary

consuetudino, -inis - custom	*mons Olivarum* - Mount of Olives
stupeo, -ere, -ui (2) - to be astonished	*tamquam* - as
aspernor, -ari, (1) - to despise	*dolentes* - sorrowing
subditus, -a, -um - subject, obedient	*byssus, -i* - fine linen
purpura, -ae - purple cloth	*epulor, -ari* (1) - to feast
quotidie - daily	*splendide* - splendidly
mendicus, -i - beggar	*iaceo, -ere, -ui* (2) - to lie
canis. -is - dog	*lingo, -ere, linxi, linctum* (3) - to lick
ulcus, ulceris - sore, ulcer	*expugno, -are, -avi, -atum* (1) - attack
convalesco, -ere, -ui - (3) - to gain strength	*vexo, -are, -avi, -atum* (1) - to annoy, harrass
immundus, -a, -um - dirty, unclean	*tegula, -ae* - roofing tile
domi - at home	*egressus* - having gone out
scio, -ire, -ivi, -itum (4) - to know	*austerus, -a, -um* - austere

14.8 How the Imperfect Tense is used

Here are some illustrations of how the Imperfect works in practice :

• **actions that were performed continuously over an unspecified period of time :**

ecce pater tuus, et ego dolentes quaerebamus te   behold Thy father and I have sought Thee sorrowing

et qui <u>vexabantur</u> a spiritibus immundis, <u>curabantur</u>. Et omnis turba <u>quaerabat</u> eum tangere: quia virtus de illo <u>exibat</u>, et <u>sanabat</u> omnes

and those who <u>were troubled</u> by unclean spirits <u>were cured</u>. And all the multitude <u>sought</u> to touch Him : for virtue <u>went out</u> of Him, and <u>healed</u> them all

<u>Loquebar</u> de testimoniis tuis in conspectu regum, et non <u>confundebar</u> : et <u>meditabar</u> in mandatis tuis

I <u>spoke</u> of Thy testimonies before kings, and I <u>was not ashamed</u> : I <u>meditated</u> also on Thy commandments

• **<u>describing the scenario or background for the action of a story</u>** :

homo quidam <u>erat</u> dives, qui <u>induebatur</u> purpura de bysso : et <u>epulabatur</u> quotidie splendide : et <u>erat</u> quidam mendicus, nomine Lazarus, qui <u>jacebat</u> ad januam ejus...et nemo illi <u>dabat</u> : sed et canes <u>veniebant</u>, et <u>lingebant</u> ulcera ejus

<u>there was</u> a certain rich man who <u>dressed</u> in purple and fine linen : and <u>feasted</u> sumptuoulsly every day: and <u>there was</u> a certain beggar named Lazarus, who <u>lay</u> at his gate.. and no one <u>gave</u> to him : but the dogs <u>came</u>, and <u>licked</u> his sores

• **<u>personal attributes indicating character or identity</u>** :

et descendit cum eis, et venit Nazareth : et <u>erat</u> subditus illis

and He went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and <u>was</u> subject to them

qui <u>vocabatur</u> Judas

he that <u>was called</u> Judas

• **<u>what used to happen, but no longer applies</u>**

<u>persequebar</u> Ecclesiam

<u>I persecuted</u> the Church

• **<u>describing a frame of mind</u>** :

dixit Jesus ad quosdam, qui in se <u>confidebant</u> tamquam justi, et <u>aspernabantur</u> ceteros, parabolam istam

Jesus spoke this parable to some who <u>trusted</u> in themselves as just, and <u>despised</u> other

<u>sciebas</u> quia ego homo austerus sum

<u>thou knewest</u> that I am an austere man

Vocabulary

collis, -is - hill	*parturio, -ire, -ivi, -itum* (4) - to give birth
flumen. -inis - river	*cardo, -inis* - hinge
orbis terrae - world (lit. circle of the earth)	*adsum, adesse, adfui* - to be present
gyrus, -i - circular course	*vallo, -are, -avi, -atum* (1) - to build around
aethera - the upper air, sky	*libro, -are, -avi, -atum* (1) - to keep in
equilibrium	
appendo, -ere, -endi, -ensum (3) to weigh	*cuncta* - all things (N. Pl. of *cunctus* - all)
compono, -ere, -posui, -positum (3) - to put together	*cum eo* - with him
fundamentum -i - foundation	*delecto, -are, -avi, -atum* (1) - to delight
singulus, -a, -um - each, every, single	

• **actions that have no fixed time limits to mark beginning or ending** :

ante colles ego parturiebar: adhuc terram non fecerat, et flumina, et cardines orbis terrae. Quando preparabat caelos, aderam : quando certa lege et gyro vallabat abyssos : quando aethera firmabat sursum, et librabat fontes aquarum : quando circumdabat mari terminum suum, et legem ponebat aquis, ne transirent fines suos : quando appendebat fundamenta terrae. Cum eo eram cuncta componens : et delectabar per singulos dies

before the hills I was brought forth ; He had not yet made the earth, nor the rivers, nor the poles of the world. When He prepared the heavens, I was there: when with a certain law and compass He enclosed the depths : when He established the sky above, and poised the fountains of waters ; when He compassed the sea with its bounds, and set a law to the waters that they should not pass their limits ; when He balanced the foundations of the earth, I was with Him forming all things and was delighted every day

14.9 Contrast between Perfect and Imperfect

The following examples show clearly the complete contrast between the two time values of the Perfect and Imperfect Tenses.

In the first example, the blind man recovered his sight in one single and complete action, but following Jesus was an activity which required an indeterminate time scale.

In the second example the scene is set for the action. First we see Jesus sitting with the Pharisees and the persistent efforts of some who were trying to gain His attention before the sudden and unexpected irruption on to the scene of the invalid.

et confestim vidit, et sequebatur illum

and immediately he saw, and followed Him

Jesus sedebat docens. Et erant Pharisaei sedentes...Et ecce viri portantes in lecto hominem, qui erat paralyticus : et quaerebant eum inferre, et ponere ante eum. Et non invenientes qua parte illum inferrent prae turba, ascenderunt supra tectum, et per tegulas summiserunt eum cum lecto in medium ante Jesum. Quorum fidem ut vidit, dixit : Homo, remittuntur tibi peccata tua

Jesus sat teaching. And there were Pharisees sitting by...And behold men brought in a bed a man who had the palsy : and they sought means to bring him in, and to lay him before Him. And when they could not find by what way they might bring him in because of the multitude, they went up upon the roof, and let him down through the tiles with his bed into the midst before Jesus. Whose faith when He saw, He said : Man, thy sins are forgiven thee.

Reading Practice　　　　　**Conversion of St Paul** :

Et continuo in synagogis praedicabat Jesum, quoniam hic est filius Dei. Stupebant autem omnes, qui audiebant, et dicebant : Nonne hic est, qui expugnabat in Jerusalem eos qui invocabant nomen istud?...Saulus autem multo magis convalescebat, et confundebat Judaeos, qui habitabant Damasci, affirmans quoniam hic est Christus

And immediately he preached Jesus in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God. And all that heard him were astonished, and said : Is not this he who persecuted in Jerusalem those who called upon this name?...But Saul increased much more in strength, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, affirming that this is the Christ.

Exercise 2　　Fill in the blanks with the appropriate form of the Imperfect Tense :

stupebant	ibat	stabant	sedebat	audiebant	jacebat

1. *Maria autem domi_____*

but Mary <u>sat</u> at home

2. *_____ autem omnes qui eum _____ super prudentia et responsis ejus*

and all that <u>heard</u> Him <u>were astonished</u> at His wisdom and His answers

3. *_____ autem principes sacerdotum, et scribae*

and the chief priests and the scribes <u>stood by</u>

4. *egressus Jesus, _____ secundum consuetudinem in montem Olivarum*

Jesus going out <u>went</u> according to His custom to the Mount of Olives

5. *tulit lectum in quo _____*
_

he took up the bed on which <u>he lay</u>

14.10 Some uses of the Imperfect Subjunctive

You will find this form of the Verb used only in specified cases of past time, the most common of which are :

• after *cum* ('when')
• after *ut* ('so that')
• after *qui* (someone/anyone')

14.11   THE IMPERFECT SUBJUNCTIVE

A quick and handy way to form this tense is to add to the **Present Infinitive** the following endings :
-m, -s, -t, -mus, -tis, -nt for Active Verbs and **-r, -ris, -tur, -mur, -mini, -ntur** for Passive Verbs
eg. *essem, haberetis, regerent, audiret* etc

Reading Practice

ut <u>non remanerent</u> in cruce corpora sabbato

that the bodies <u>might not remain</u> upon the cross on the Sabbath

rogaverunt Pilatum ut <u>frangerentur</u> eorum crura, et <u>tollerentur</u>

they asked Pilate that their legs <u>might be broken</u>, and that <u>they might be taken away</u>

Duo homines ascenderunt in templum ut <u>orarent</u>

two men went up into the temple to pray (lit. so that <u>they might pray</u>)

ut enim <u>probaret</u> vos, venit Deus, et ut terror illius <u>esset</u> in vobis, et <u>non peccaretis</u>

for God is come that <u>He might prove</u> you, and that the dread of Him <u>might be</u> in you, and <u>you should not sin</u>

cum <u>clamarem</u> ad Dominum

when <u>I cried</u> to the Lord

quaesivi, et non fuit qui <u>adjuvaret</u>	I sought, and there was none to give aid (lit. not anyone who <u>might help</u>)

14.12   Introducing *SI* and *NISI* ('IF' AND 'IF NOT')

Since the message of salvation conveyed to us in both the Old and New Testaments is embedded in the many conditions we must observe in order to be deemed worthy, it should come as no suprise that the Scriptures abound in expressions containing the words *si* and *nisi*. All 'conditional' type sentences, ie. containing if/if not, come in two parts as, for instance 'If you love Me, keep My commandments' which involves the use of two Verbs. In this Unit we will be dealing with the most common form of 'if' sentences where the 'if' clause contains a Verb in the **Future Perfect** Tense.

14.13   THE FUTURE PERFECT TENSE

This is formed by adding the Future Tense of the Verb 'to be' (see **10.2**) to the stem of the Perfect Indicative (see **8.3**) . So you get : *vocav**ero**, monu**eris**, dux**erit**, reg**erimus**, aud**ieritis**, fu**erint***
<u>Note</u> how **-erint** is used instead of the expected **erunt** eg. *vocaverint*

Look out for the **Future Perfect** Tense after *si* and *nisi* :

et <u>si</u> <u>venerit</u> in secunda vigilia	and <u>if he shall come</u> in the second watch
<u>nisi</u> Dominus <u>aedificaverit</u> domum	<u>unless</u> the Lord <u>build</u> the house

Vocabulary

evanesco, -ere evanui (3) - to vanish, pass away	*pluvia, -ae* - rain

Reading Practice

haec omnia tibi dabo, <u>si</u> cadens <u>adoraveris</u> me	all these will I give Thee <u>if</u> falling down <u>Thou wilt adore</u> me
si <u>ambulavero</u> in medio tribulationis, vivificabis me	<u>Though I walk</u> in the midst of troubles, Thou wilt revive me
si <u>ascendero</u> in coelum, tu illic es	<u>if I ascend</u> up into heaven, Thou art there
si <u>descendero</u> in infernum, ades	<u>if I go down</u> into hell, Thou art there
<u>si non lavero</u> te, non habebis partem meam	<u>if I shall not wash thee</u>, thou shalt have no part in Me
<u>si</u> sal <u>evanuerit</u>, in quo salietur?	<u>if</u> the salt shall lose its savour (lit. <u>shall fade away</u>), wherewith shall it be salted?
<u>nisi</u> Dominus <u>custodierit</u> civitatem, frustra vigilat qui custodit eam	<u>except</u> the Lord <u>keep</u> the city, he watcheth in vain that keepeth it
si <u>occiderimus</u> fratrem nostrum	<u>if we should kill</u> our brother

si in preceptis meis <u>ambulaveritis</u>, et mandata mea <u>custodieritis</u>, et <u>feceritis</u> ea, dabo vobis pluvias temporibus suis

<u>if you walk</u> in My precepts, and <u>keep</u> My commandments, and <u>do</u> them, I will give you rain in due season

<u>nisi manducaveritis</u> carnem Filii hominis, et <u>biberitis</u> ejus sanguinem, non habebitis vitam in vobis

<u>unless you eat</u> the flesh of the Son of Man, and <u>drink</u> His blood, you shall not have life in you

<u>si custodierint</u> filii tui testamentum meum, et testimonia mea haec, quae docebo eos...

<u>if</u> thy children <u>shall keep</u> My covenant, and My testimony that I shall teach them...

14.14 Future Perfect with *cum* (when)

As a rule, the Future Perfect Tense is used after *cum* instead of the straightforward Future :

beati estis <u>cum maladixerint</u> vobis, et persecuti vos <u>fuerint</u>, et <u>dixerint</u> omne malum adversum vos

blessed are you <u>when they shall revile you</u>, and <u>persecute</u> you, and <u>speak</u> all that is evil against you

beatus ille servus, quem, <u>cum venerit</u> dominus ejus, invenerit sic facientem

blessed is that servant, whom, <u>when</u> his lord <u>shall come</u>, he shall find so doing

beatus vir, qui suffert tentationem : quoniam, <u>cum probatus fuerit</u>, accipiet coronam vitae

blessed is the man that suffereth temptation : for <u>when he hath been proved</u> he shall receive the crown of life

14.15 Future Perfect with *qui*

In this section we will be looking at ways of expressing 'whoever / whatever' etc. This concept appears under a variety of forms ranging from the simple **qui** (he who...) and **omnis qui** (everyone who...) to the more elaborate forms ending in **-cumque** (who/whomsoever, whatsoever etc.)

Reading Practice

<u>qui</u> autem <u>negaverit</u> me coram hominibus

<u>he that shall deny</u> Me before men

<u>qui</u> ergo <u>solverit</u> unum de mandatis istis minimis, et <u>docuerit</u> sic homines, minimus vocabitur in regno caelorum

<u>he</u>, therefore, <u>that shall break</u> one of these least commandments, and <u>shall</u> so <u>teach</u> men, shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven

<u>qui</u> autem <u>fecerit</u>, et <u>docuerit</u>, hic magnus vocabitur in regno caelorum

but <u>he that shall do</u> and <u>teach</u>, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven

<u>qui vicerit</u>, dabo ei sedere mecum in throno meo

<u>to him that shall overcome</u>, I will give to sit with Me on My throne

<u>qui crediderit</u>, et <u>baptizatus fuerit</u>, salvus erit

<u>he that shall believe</u> and <u>be baptised</u> will be saved

<u>omnis qui reliquerit</u> domum, vel fratres, aut sororem, aut patrem, aut matrem, aut uxorem, aut filios, aut agros propter nomen meum...

<u>everyone that hath left</u> brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for My name

<u>omnis quicumque invocaverit</u> nomen Domini, salvus erit

<u>anyone who shall invoke</u> the name of the Lord shall be saved

quicumque voluerit inter vos major fieri, sit vester minister : et qui voluerit inter vos primus esse, sit vester servus

quodcumque ligaveris super terram, erit ligatum et in caelis : et quodcumque solveris super terram, erit ligatum in caelis

quoscumque invenieritis, vocate ad nuptias

quicumque enim fecerit voluntatem Patris mei

whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant : and whoever wants to be first must be your slave

whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven : and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven

whomsoever you shall find, call to the wedding

whoever shall do the will of My Father