

Forming the Subjunctive

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1 About the Subjunctive

The subjunctive is used in a wide variety of situations in Latin. These use cases must be memorized. The general description of the subjunctive is that it expresses things as-yet unfulfilled. English often uses words like: “may”, “might”, “would”, “should” [Whe05][186]

There are **4** subjunctive tenses[Whe05][187]:

1. Present
2. Imperfect
3. Perfect
4. Past-Perfect

2 Subjunctive Uses Covered in Wheelock

- 28** Jussive Subjunctive and Purposes clauses
- 29** Result clauses
- 30** Indirect questions
- 31** **cum** clauses
- 32** Proviso clauses
- 33** Conditions (in three types)
- 36** Jussive noun clauses
- 38** Relative clauses of characteristic
- 40** Fear clauses

3 Conjugation of the Present Subjunctive

1. Take the 2nd principle part, the present active infinitive
2. Identify the conjugation type
3. Remove the ending of the verb
4. Modify the stem vowel(s) according to the mnemonic: “We fear a liar”; *alternatively*, consult TABLE 1, *infra*.
5. Apply:
 - (a) The standard [m,s,t,mus,tis,nt] endings to the subjunctive base
 - (b) The standard *passive* [r,ris,tur,mur, minī, ntur] endings to the subjunctive base

Table 1: EXAMPLES OF PRESENT, ACTIVE INFINITIVE TO PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE CONJUGATION

Conjugation	P.A. Infinitive	Base	Subjunctive Stem	Subjunctive Base	Singular Forms	Plural Forms
First	laudāre	laudā	a → e	laudē	laudem laudēs laudet lauder laudēris laudētur	laudēmus laudētis laudent laudēmur laudēminī laudentur
Second	monēre	monē	e → ea	moneā	moneam moneās moneat monear moneāris moneātur	moneāmus moneātis moneant moneāmur moneāminī moneantur
Third	agere	age	e → a	aga	agem agēs aget agar agāris agātur	agēmus agētis agent agāmur agāminī agantur
Third-“IO”	capere	cape	e → iā	capia	capiam capiās capiat capiar capiāris capiātur	capiāmus capiātis capiant capiāmur capiāminī capiantur
Fourth	audire	audī	ī → iā	audiā	audiam audiās audiat audiar audiāris audiātur	audiāmus audiātis audiant audiāmur audiāminī audiantur
Irregular “sum ”					sum sīs sit	sīmus sītis sint
Irregular “possum”					possum possīs possit	possīmus possītis possint

4 Conjugation of the Imperfect Subjunctive

1. Take the present active infinitive
2. Make the last ‘e’ as long
3. Add :
 - (a) The present system personal endings
 - (b) The present system *passive* personal endings

5 Conjugation of the Perfect Subjunctive

1. Take the perfect stem
2. Remove the ending ī
3. Add “erī”
4. Add
 - (a) The standard [m,s,t,mus,tis,nt] endings to the subjunctive base
 - (b) The standard 4th principal part + the subjunctive present of “sum”

[Whe05][202]

6 Conjugation of the Pluperfect Subjunctive

1. Take the perfect stem
2. Remove the ending ī
3. Add “issē”
4. Add
 - (a) The standard [m,s,t,mus,tis,nt] endings to the subjunctive base
 - (b) The standard 4th principal part + the subjunctive imperfect of “sum”

[Whe05][202]

References

[Whe05] Frederic M. Wheelock. *Wheelock’s Latin, 6th ed., Revised*. Harper Collins, 2005.

Table 2: EXAMPLES OF PRESENT, ACTIVE INFINITIVE TO PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE CONJUGATION

First	laudāre	laudārē	laudārem laudārēs laudāret laudārer laudārēris laudārētur	laudārēmus laudārētis laudārent laudārēmur laudārēminī laudārentur
Second	monēre	monērē	monērem monērēs monēret monērer monērēris monērētur	monērēmus monērētis monērent monērēmur monērēminī monērētur
Third	agere	agerē	agerem agerēs ageret agerēr agerēris agerētur	agerēmus agerētis agerent agerēmur agerēminī agerentur
Third- "IO" caperent	capere	caperē	caperem caperēs caperet caperer caperēris caperētur	caperēmus caperētis caperēmur caperēminī caperentur
Fourth	audīre	audīrē	audīrem audīrēs audīret audīrer audīrēris audīrētur	audīrē audīrē audīrent audīrēmur audīrēminī audīrentur

Table 3: EXAMPLES OF PRESENT, ACTIVE INFINITIVE TO PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE CONJUGATION

Conjugation	P.A. Infinitive	Base	Subjunctive Stem	Singular Forms	Plural Forms
First	laudāre	laudāvī	laudāverī. . .	laudāverim laudāverīs laudāverit laudatus sim laudatus sim laudatus sis	laudāverīmus laudāverītis laudāverint laudatus simus laudatus sitis laudatus sint
Second	monēre	monuī	monuerī. . .	monuerim monuerīs monueris monitus sim monitus sim monitus sis	monuerīmus monuerītis monuerint monitus simus monitus sitis monitus sint
Third	agere	ēgī	ēgerī. . .	ēgerim ēgerīs ēgerit actus sim actus sim actus sis	ēgerīmus ēgerītis ēgerint actus simus actus sitis actus sint
Third-“IO”	capere	cēpī	cēperī. . .	cēperim cēperīs cēperit captus sim captus sim captus sis	cēperīmus cēperītis cēperint captus simus captus sitis captus sint
Fourth	audire	audīvī	audiverī. . .	audiverim audiverīs audiverit auditus sim auditus sim auditus sis	audiverīmus audiverītis audiverint auditus simus auditus sitis auditus sint

Table 4: EXAMPLES OF PRESENT, ACTIVE INFINITIVE TO PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE CONJUGATION

Conjugation	P.A. Infinitive	Base	Subjunctive Stem	Singular Forms	Plural Forms
First	laudāre	laudāvī	laudāverī. . .	laudāvissē laudāvissēs laudāvisset laudatus sim laudatus sim laudatus sis	laudāvissēmus laudāvissētis laudāvissent laudatus simus laudatus sitis laudatus sint
Second	monēre	monuī	monuerī. . .	monuissē monuissēs monuisset monitus sim monitus sim monitus sis	monuissēmus monuissētis monuissent monitus simus monitus sitis monitus sint
Third	agere	ēgī	ēgerī. . .	ēgissē ēgissēs ēgisset actus sim actus sim actus sis	ēgissēmus ēgissētis ēgissent actus simus actus sitis actus sint
Third-“IO”	capere	cēpī	cēperī. . .	cēpissē cēpissēs cēpisset captus sim captus sim captus sis	cēpissēmus cēpissētis cēpissent captus simus captus sitis captus sint
Fourth	audire	audīvī	audiverī. . .	audivissē audivissēs audivisset auditus sim auditus sim auditus sis	audivissēmus audivissētis audivissent auditus simus auditus sitis auditus sint