

**Caesar De Bello Gallico III, 3-4**The 12<sup>th</sup> Legion, commanded by Galba, is attacked.*Galba realises that the enemy is going to attack, and something must be done:*

His nuntiis acceptis Galba, cum neque opus hibernorum munitionesque plene essent perfectae neque de frumento reliquoque commeatu satis esset provisum quod deditioe facta obsidibusque acceptis nihil de bello timendum existimaverat, consilio celeriter convocato sententias exquirere coepit.

*In the meeting, his generals make some proposals:*

Quo in consilio, cum tantum repentini periculi praeter opinionem accidisset ac iam omnia fere superiora loca multitudine armatorum completa conspicerentur neque subsidio veniri neque commeatus supportari (5) interclusis itineribus possent, prope iam desperata salute non nullae eius modi sententiae dicebantur, ut impedimentis relictis eruptione facta isdem itineribus quibus eo pervenissent ad salutem contenderent.

*Finally they take a decision and the battle begins:*

Maiori tamen parti placuit, hoc reservato ad extremum casum consilio interim rei eventum experiri et castra defendere. Brevi spatio interiecto, vix ut iis rebus quas constituissent conlocandis atque administrandis tempus daretur, hostes ex omnibus partibus signo dato decurrere, lapides gaesaeque in vallum coicere. (10)

*At first the Romans put up a fight, but this does not last much:*

Nostri primo integris viribus fortiter propugnare neque ullum frustra telum ex loco superiore mittere, et quaecumque pars castrorum nudata defensoribus premi videbatur, eo occurrere et auxilium ferre, sed hoc superari quod diuturnitate pugnae hostes defessi proelio excedebant, alii integris viribus succedebant.

**Vocabulary**

<b>hiberna, -orum</b>	WINTER-QUARTERS	<b>gaesum, -i</b>	IRON JAVELIN
<b>commeatus, -us</b>	SUPPLIES	<b>coicio</b>	TO THROW
<b>provideo, -ere</b>	TO CARE FOR	<b>propugno, -are</b>	TO RESIST
<b>deditio, -onis</b>	SURRENDER	<b>frustra</b>	IN VAIN
<b>exquiro, -ere</b>	TO INQUIRE	<b>nudo, -are</b>	TO EXPOSE
<b>conspicio</b>	TO PERCEIVE	<b>premo, -ere</b>	TO PRESS UPON
<b>supporto, -are</b>	TO CONVEY	<b>diuturnitas, -atis</b>	DURATION
<b>impedimenta, -orum</b>	BAGGAGE	<b>defessus, -a, -um</b>	TIRED
<b>eruptio, -onis</b>	BREAKING OUT	<b>succedo, -ere</b>	TO TAKE THE PLACE OF
<b>intericio, -ere</b>	TO THROW BETWEEN		

### □ Language points on the first paragraph

✧ A very long **cum** sentence with its own subordinate clause. // Observe the distance between the subject of the main clause and its verb. // Some compound passive forms are in inverse order, which may make it difficult to spot them.

1/ How is this kind of **cum** called? // From what verb does **perfectae** come?

2/ What is the difference between **relictus** and **reliquus**? // What verbal tense is **esset provisum**?

3/ Which word (ellided here) must we supply to go with **timendum**? // What peculiarity does the verb **coepit** have?

### □ Language points on the second paragraph

✧ Again, a very long **cum** clause, in fact three (the **cum** has not been repeated for the second and third ones); the third one, moreover, is divided by the two **neque**. //

4/ What kind of **cum** is this one? // Why is **repentini periculi** in genitive? // What is the difference between **ferre** and **ferre**?

5/ Why is **multitudine** in ablative? // Why is **subsidio** in dative? // Why is **veniri** in passive, if it is an intransitive verb?

6/ What does **non nullae** mean? // What kind of clause is introduced by **ut**?

7/ In which other ways can **isdem** be written? // Why is **contenderent** in subjunctive?

### □ Language points on the third paragraph

✧ Placuit has two subjects: two infinitives. // The position of the relative sentence on line 9 seems to make it difficult to see the structure, but it could hardly been positioned anywhere else.

8/ To what declension does **eventum** belong?

9/ **Brevi spatio interiecto**: does this have a geographical or temporal meaning? // Why is **constituissent** in subjunctive?

10/ Why are **decurere** and **coicere** in infinitive?

### □ Language points on the fourth paragraph

✧ Apart from the relative clause (although not a normal relative clause) and the **quod** clause at the end, there are no special difficulties in this paragraph.

11/ What is the nominative for **viribus**?

12/ What kind of pronoun is **quaecumque**? // What is the syntactical function of **nudata**? // Why is **defensoribus** in the case it is? // Which verbal form is **premi**? // What is the function of the accusative **hoc**?

13/ What kind of clause is introduced by **quod**?