

Xenophon Anabasis 1 (8, 24-29)**Cyrus fights and dies at the Battle of Cunaxa**

After a quick movement to avoid being encircled, Cyrus charges against his brother's cavalry and defeats them:

Ἐνθα δὴ Κῦρος δείσας μὴ ὀπισθεν γινόμενος κατακόπη τὸ Ἑλληνικὸν ἐλαύνει ἀντίος, καὶ ἐμβαλὼν σὺν τοῖς ἑξακοσίοις νικᾷ τοὺς πρὸ βασιλέως τεταγμένους καὶ εἰς φυγὴν ἔτρεψε τοὺς ἑξακισχιλίους, καὶ ἀποκτεῖναι λέγεται αὐτὸς τῇ ἑαυτοῦ χειρὶ Ἄρταγέρσην τὸν ἄρχοντα αὐτῶν. ὡς δ' ἡ τροπὴ ἐγένετο, διασπείρονται καὶ οἱ Κῦρου ἑξακόσιοι εἰς τὸ διώκειν ὀρμήσαντες· πλὴν πάνυ ὀλίγοι ἀμφ' αὐτὸν κατελείφθησαν, σχεδὸν οἱ ὀμοτράπεζοι καλούμενοι.

(5)

Now Cyrus charges against his brother himself but is wounded and dies:

Σὺν τούτοις δὲ ὢν καθορᾷ βασιλέα καὶ τὸ ἀμφ' ἐκεῖνον στίφος· καὶ εὐθύς οὐκ ἠνέσχετο, ἀλλ' εἰπὼν "τὸν ἄνδρα ὀρῶ" ἴετο ἐπ' αὐτὸν καὶ παίει κατὰ τὸ στέρνον καὶ τιτρώσκει διὰ τοῦ θώρακος, ὡς φησι Κτησίας ὁ ἰατρός, ὃς καὶ ἰάσασθαι αὐτὸς τὸ τραῦμά φησι. Παίοντα δ' αὐτὸν ἀκοντίζει τις παλτῶ ὑπὸ τὸν ὀφθαλμὸν βιαίως· καὶ ἐνταῦθα μαχόμενοι καὶ βασιλεὺς καὶ Κῦρος καὶ οἱ ἀμφ' αὐτοὺς ὑπὲρ ἑκατέρου, ὅποσοι μὲν τῶν ἀμφὶ βασιλέα ἀπέθνησκον Κτησίας λέγει· παρ' ἐκείνῳ γὰρ ἦν· Κῦρος δὲ αὐτὸς τε ἀπέθανε καὶ ὀκτὼ οἱ ἄριστοι τῶν περὶ αὐτὸν ἔκειντο ἐπ' αὐτῶ.

(10)

Sudden reaction of one of Cyrus' servants seeing him dead:

Ἄρταπάτης δ' ὁ πιστότατος αὐτῶ τῶν σκηπτούχων λέγεται, ἐπειδὴ πεπτωκότα εἶδε Κῦρον, καταπηδήσας ἀπὸ τοῦ ἵππου περιπεσεῖν αὐτῶ. καὶ οἷ μὲν φασὶ βασιλέα κελεῦσαί τινα ἐπισφάζαι αὐτὸν Κύρῳ, οἱ δ' αὐτὸν ἐπισφάξασθαι σπασάμενον τὸν ἀκινάκην· εἶχε γὰρ χρυσοῦν.

(14)

Vocabulary

δείδω	TO FEAR	παίω	TO STRIKE
ἑξακόσιος, -α, -ον	SIX HUNDRED	στέρνον, -ου	CHEST
ἑξακισχίλιος, -α, -ον	SIX-THOUSAND	παλτόν, -οῦ	LIGHT SPEAR
τροπή, -ῆς	ROUT	σκηκτοῦχος, -ου	WAND-BEARER
σχεδόν	JUST	καταπηδάω	TO JUMP DOWN
ὀμοτράπεζος, -ον	MESSMATE	ἐπισφάζω	TO SLAUGHTER
στίφος, -ους	COLUMN	σπάω	TO DRAW
ἀνέχομαι	TO HOLD ONESELF UP	ἀκινάκης, -ου	SHORT SWORD

□ Language points on the first paragraph

✧ Be careful: the subject of **κατακόπη** is not Cyrus, and the role of **τὸ Ἑλληνικόν** is also difficult to see // There is an example of the personal construction with **λέγεται**. // There is an articular infinitive. // Observe the combination of historic presents with past tenses: the author goes from one to the other one as he wants.

- 1/ The verb from which **δείσας** comes has two perfects: which ones? // And what is peculiar about these two perfects? // Why is **μή** used instead of **οὐ** here? // What kind of aorist is **ἐμβαλὼν**?
- 2/ In what tense is the infinitive **ἀποκτείνειν**?
- 3/ Could **ἑαυτοῦ** have been written outside the group *noun + article*? // What other word could have been used instead of **ὡς**? // What is the meaning of **καί** here?
- 4/ Why must the article **τό** be neuter? // From what verb is **κατελείφθησαν**?

□ Language points on the second paragraph

✧ The participle **μαχόμενοι** refers to more than one term. /// In this paragraph there are some imperfects that we would have expected to be aorists, and observe again the alternance between historic presents and past tenses, like for instance on line 7.

- 6/ What is peculiar in the augment of **ἠνέσχετο**? // Who is meant by **τὸν ἄνδρα**?
- 7/ What is the tense of **ἔτετο**? // What is the meaning of **κατά** here? // Why does **ὡς** have an accent?
- 8/ What other verb could have been used instead of **ἰάσασθαι**, keeping the same sense?
- 9/ Why does Xenophon use the pronoun **ἑκατέρου** instead of **ἐκάστου**? // Why does **ὀπόσοι** have this initial **ὀ**-? // What kind of genitive (in syntactical sense) is **τῶν**?
- 10/ What other preposition could have been used instead of **παρά** with the same meaning, and also with a dative? // Who is meant by **ἐκεῖνω**? // Why is the accent of **αὐτός** acute, instead of **αὐτός**?

□ Language points on the third paragraph

✧ Another example of personal construction with **λέγεται**. // The function of the dative **Κύρω** is difficult to see. // Pay attention to the infinitive **ἐπισφάξασθαι**: its use in middle voice is key in order to understand the sentence.

- 12/ Why is **αὐτῷ** in dative? // What tense is **πεπτοκότα** and from which verb?
- 13/ What tense is **περιπεσεῖν** and from which verb? // Why do the articles **οἱ** have accents here? // What is the infinitive of **φασί**? // Does the infinitive **κελεῦσαι** have a subject? // What is the function of **τινα**? // Is **αὐτόν** subject or direct object of **ἐπισφάξασθαι**?
- 14/ What word does **χρυσῶν** refer to? // What kind of declension does **χρυσῶν** follow?