

Sallust Bellum Iugurthinum 21

The battle between Iugurtha and Adherbal.

Iugurtha has invaded Adherbal's country, and this one must confront him:

Adherbal ubi intellegit eo processum, uti regnum aut relinquendum esset aut armis retinendum, necessario copias parat et Iugurthae obvius procedit. Interim haud longe a mari, prope Cirtam oppidum utriusque exercitus consedit et, quia diei extremum erat, proelium non inceptum.

Finally, the battle takes place:

Sed ubi plerumque noctis processit, obscuro etiam tum lumine milites Iugurthini, signo dato, castra hostium invadunt; semisomnos partim, alios arma sumentis fugant funduntque; Adherbal cum paucis equitibus (5) Cirtam profugit, et ni multitudo togatorum fuisset, quae Numidas insequentis moenibus prohibuit, uno die inter duos reges coeptum atque patratum bellum foret.

Iugurtha seems to be in a hurry to win, but the Roman senate tries to put peace between them:

Igitur Iugurtha oppidum circumscedit, vineis turribusque et machinis omnium generum expugnare aggreditur, maxime festinans tempus legatorum antecapere, quos ante proelium factum ab Adherbale Romam missos audiverat. Sed postquam senatus de bello eorum accepit, tres adulescentes in Africam legantur, qui ambos (10) reges adeant, senatus populique Romani verbis nuntient: "Velle et censere eos ab armis discedere, de controversiis suis iure potius quam bello disceptare: ita seque illisque dignum esse".

Vocabulary

procedo, -ere	TO MOVE FORWARD	patro, -are	TO ACCOMPLISH
retineo, -ere	TO KEEP	vinea, -ae	MANTLET
necessario	UNAVOIDABLY	aggredior, -i	TO UNDERTAKE
obvius, -a, -um	IN THE WAY	festino, -are	TO HURRY
plerusque, -raque, -rumque	THE LARGEST PART	antecapio, -ere	TO ANTICIPATE
semisomnus, -a, -um	HALF-ASLEEP	lego, -are	TO SEND AS AMBASSADOR
sumo, -ere	TO TAKE	censeo, -ere	TO ESTIMATE
fundo, -ere	TO SCATTER	discepto, -are	TO ARBITRATE

□ Language points on the first paragraph

✧ The omission of some words in compound verbal forms may pose some difficulty. // **Processum** is part of a difficult impersonal expression (so, no subject).

1/ What two meanings can **ubi** have? // What word is to be mentally supplied with **processum**? // Is **uti** here a form of the verb **utor**? // What is the supine of the verb to which **relinquendum** belongs? // Why is **esset** in subjunctive?

2/ What is the meaning of **copias** in singular? // Why is **lugurthae** in dative?

3/ What word is to be mentally supplied with **inceptum**? // What other word could we use instead of **quia** keeping the same meaning? // Express this **quia** clause as a historic **cum**.

□ Language points on the second paragraph

✧ On line 5, the function of **partim** may pose some difficulty. // The long conditional period at the end of the paragraph has the difficulty of an internal relative clause and of some omission in the apodosis.

4/ Express the **ubi** clause as a historic **cum**. // What is the gender of **lumine**? // What other Latin word has the same meaning as **lumine**?

5/ In what case is **sumentis**? // What is the difference between the verbs **fugare** and **fugere**?

6/ **Ni** stands here for a longer word. Which one? // Why is **moenibus** in ablative? // What kind of conditional period do we see here?

7/ What would be the usual Latin form for **foret**? // And for the infinitive **fore**?

□ Language points on the third paragraph

✧ On line 11, the subjunctive clause **senatus...** is juxtaposed to the former subjunctive clause, without the expected connective **atque**. // The Oratio Obliqua at the end has the usual omission of what would have been the introductory verb ("They said", for instance) and, moreover, an additional omission of the accusative that would be the subject of the infinitives **velle** and **censere**.

8/ To what kind of verb does **aggreditur** belong?

9/ Of what verb is **tempus** direct object?

10/ What other verb could you use instead of **accepit** keeping the same sense? // From what verb is **legantur**?

11/ In what case is **senatus**? // Why are **adeant** and **nuntient** in subjunctive? // What would be the grammatical subject of the infinitives **velle** and **censere**? // What other meanings does the preposition **de** have?

12/ In what case are **se** and **illis**?