

Via Facilis

Chapter 8

Imperfect Indicative Active/Passive,
1st and 2nd Conjugation Verbs
Imperfect Indicative Active of *sum*

I. A New Tense

A. *aliquid antiquū*...A Quick Review

In Chapter 3, you learned the order of operations to form the **present indicative active and passive** of first and second conjugation verbs as follows:

- 1) Recall the four principal parts of the verb
- 2) Go to principal part #2
- 3) Remove the –re to find the present stem
- 4) Add the personal endings

laudō, laudāre, laudāvī, laudātus	moneō, monēre, monuī, monitus
Present stem: (laudā/re→) laudā-	Present stem: (monē/re→) monē-
+ ō s t mus tis nt (active personal endings)	
+ r ris/re tur mur minī ntur (passive personal endings)	

You also saw that the present stem itself breaks down into two parts:

- 1) the base
- 2) the thematic vowel

laud/ā/s	laud/ā/ris or re
you are praising	you are (being) praised
mon/ē/s	mon/ē/ris or re
you are warning	you are (being) warned

B. ...*et aliquid novī*

Now consider the following. Some forms you know, some you don't. Pay careful attention to **all** forms of the Latin verbs and the components of their English equivalents:

I praise, am praising
laud/ō
laud/ā/**ba**/m
I was praising
I used to praise

I am (being) praised
laud/or
laud/ā/**ba**/r
I was (being) praised
I used to be praised

You praise, are praising
laud/ā/s
laud/ā/**bā**/s
You were praising
You used to praise

You are (being) praised
laud/ā/ris or re
laud/ā/**bā**/ris or re
you were being praised
you used to be praised

(he/she/it) praises, is praising
laud/a/t
laud/ā/**bā**/t
(he/she/it) was praising
(he/she/it) used to praise

(he/she/it) is (being) praised
laud/ā/tur
laud/ā/**bā**/tur
(he/she/it) was being praised
(he/she/it) used to be praised

we praise, are praising
laud/ā/mus
laud/ā/**bā**/mus
we were praising
we used to praise

we are (being) praised
laud/ā/mur
laud/ā/**bā**/mur
we were being praised
we used to be praised

y'all praise, are praising
laud/ā/tis
laud/ā/**bā**/tis
y'all were praising
y'all used to praise

y'all are (being) praised
laud/ā/minī
laud/ā/**bā**/minī
y'all were (being) praised
y'all used to be praised

(they) praise, are praising
laud/a/nt
laud/ā/**bā**/nt
(they) were praising,
(they) used to praise

(they) are (being) praised
laud/a/ntur
laud/ā/**bā**/ntur
(they) were being praised,
(they) used to be praised

I warn, am warning
mon/e/ō
mon/ē/**bā**/m
I was warning
I used to warn

I am (being) warned
mon/e/or
mon/ē/**bā**/r
I was (being) warned
I used to be warned

You warn, are warning
mon/ē/s
mon/ē/**bā**/s
You were warning
You used to warn

You are (being) warned
mon/ē/ris or re
mon/ē/**bā**/ris or re
you were being warned
you used to be warned

(he/she/it) warns, is warning
mon/e/t
mon/ē/**ba**/t
(he/she/it) was warning
(he/she/it) used to warn

(he/she/it) is (being) warned
mon/ē/tur
mon/ē/**bā**/tur
(he/she/it) was being warned
(he/she/it) used to be warned

we warn, are warning
mon/ē/mus
mon/ē/**bā**/mus
we were warning
we used to warn

we are (being) warned
mon/ē/mur
mon/ē/**bā**/mur
we were being warned
we used to be warned

y'all warn, are warning
mon/ē/tis
mon/ē/**bā**/tis
y'all were warning
y'all used to warn

y'all are (being) warned
mon/ē/minī
mon/ē/**bā**/minī
y'all were (being) warned
y'all used to be warned

(they) warn, are warning
mon/e/nt
mon/ē/**ba**/nt
(they) were warning,
(they) used to warn

(they) are (being) warned
mon/e/ntur
mon/ē/**ba**/ntur
(they) were being warned,
(they) used to be warned

The Present Indicative, 1st and 2nd conjugations

Active	Passive	Active	Passive
Laudō	Laudor	Moneō	Moneor
Laudās	Laudāris/re	Monēs	Monēris/re
Laudat	Laudātur	Monet	Monētur
Laudāmus	Laudāmur	Monēmus	Monēmur
Laudātis	Laudāminī	Monētis	Monēminī
Laudant	Laudantur	Monent	Monentur
"I praise, am praising ," etc.	"I am (being) praised ," etc.	"I warn, am warning ," etc.	"I am (being) warned ," etc.

Laudā ba m	Laudā ba r	Monē ba m	Monē ba r
Laudā bā s	Laudā bā ris/re	Monē bā s	Monē bā ris/re
Laudā ba t	Laudā ba tur	Monē ba t	Monē ba tur
Laudā bā mus	Laudā bā mur	Monē bā mus	Monē bā mur
Laudā bā tis	Laudā bā minī	Monē bā tis	Monē bā minī
Laudā ba nt	Laudā ba ntur	Monē ba nt	Monē ba ntur
"I was praising, used to praise ," etc.	"I was (being) praised, used to be praised," etc.	"I was warning, I used to warn," etc.	"I was (being) warned, I used to be warned," etc.

QUAESTIŌ

Quid est "-bā-"
What is -bā- ?

RESPŌNSUM

-bā- is the Imperfect Indicative Tense Sign

And what does the Imperfect Tense show?

The Imperfect (**im-** = "not"; **perfectum**= "completed") Tense denotes habitual or on-going action in the Past. From the point of view of the Past, the action is still going on.

The order of operations to form the Imperfect Indicative active and passive is:

- 1) Recall the four principal parts of the verb
- 2) Go to principal part #2
- 3) Remove the -re to find the present stem
- 4) Add the Imperfect Indicative Tense Sign

- bā-

- 5) Add the active/passive personal endings

Caveat Lector

1. The Present and Imperfect Indicative Active Personal Endings are identical **except in the 1st Person Singular**, where the Present Indicative Active Personal Ending is **-ō** and the Imperfect Indicative Active Personal Ending is **-m**. This **-m** ending is related to the **-m** in **sum**, esse, fuī, futūrus.*
2. The Present and Imperfect Indicative Passive Personal Endings are identical.
3. The **ā** of **-bā-** is always long **except** directly before **final -m, -r, -t, -nt, -ntur** (i.e., when any of these letters or letter combinations ends a verb)
4. No vowel can remain long directly before **final -m, -r, -t, -nt, -ntur** (“final” = when any of these letters or letter combinations ends a verb)

Exercitia

A. On a separate piece of paper, copy out the chart below. Then fill it in.

Person	Active Personal Endings Imperfect Indicative	Passive Personal Endings Imperfect Indicative
1 st Singular		
2 nd Singular		
3 rd Singular		
1 st Plural		
2 nd Plural		
3 rd Plural		

B. Divide the verb forms below into their respective components. Then change the **tense** of each form from Present to Imperfect.

Example: laudāris: laud/ā/ris → laud/ā/**bā**/ris = laudābāris

1. amor: ____/____/____/____ → ____/____/____/____ = _____
2. dōnāris: ____/____/____ → ____/____/____/____ = _____
3. vocātur: ____/____/____ → ____/____/____/____ = _____

4. habēminī: ____/____/____ → ____/____/____/____ = _____

5. monentur: ____/____/____ → ____/____/____/____ = _____

6. terrēminī: ____/____/____ → ____/____/____/____ = _____

7. tenēmur: ____/____/____ → ____/____/____/____ = _____

8. superātur: ____/____/____ → ____/____/____/____ = _____

9. movēre: ____/____/____ → ____/____/____/____ = _____

10. videor: ____/____/____ → ____/____/____/____ = _____

C. Divide the verb forms below into their respective components. Then change their **tense** from Imperfect to Present.

Example: laudābās: laud/ā/bā/s → laud/ā/s = laudās

1. donābam: ____/____/____/____ → ____/____/____ = _____

2. monēbās: ____/____/____/____ → ____/____/____ = _____

3. habēbat: ____/____/____/____ → ____/____/____ = _____

4. vocābāmus: ____/____/____/____ → ____/____/____ = _____

5. superābātis: ____/____/____/____ → ____/____/____ = _____

6. vidēbant: ____/____/____/____ → ____/____/____ = _____

7. movēbat: ___/___/___/___ → ___/___/___ = _____

8. superābās: ___/___/___/___ → ___/___/___ = _____

9. tenēbam: ___/___/___/___ → ___/___/___ = _____

10. terrēbāmus: ___/___/___/___ → ___/___/___ = _____

D. Change the **tense** of the following verb forms as follows:

1. Present → Imperfect - if the tense is present, change it to imperfect
2. Imperfect → Present - if the tense is imperfect, change it to present

Example: movēmus → movē**b**āmus
parā**b**āminī → parāminī

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. monēmus | 7. moneō |
| 2. ornābāminī | 8. monēbāmur |
| 3. docentur | 9. ornābātis |
| 4. parābat | 10. monēbar |
| 5. vocās | 11. terrēbam |
| 6. parābātur | 12. vocābāre |

E.

1. Identify (i.e., tell) the tense of the following verb forms.
2. Divide each verb into its base, thematic vowel, tense sign, and personal ending.
3. Then translate.

Example:

Tenēbar

ten/ē/bā/r

base: ten- = have, hold

thematic vowel: ē, indicates 2nd conjugation verb

tense sign: -bā-, indicates imperfect indicative

personal ending: -r = "I", passive voice

Translation: I was being/used to be held

1. movēbam

____/____/____/____

base: ____ = _____

thematic vowel: ____, indicates _____

tense sign: ____, indicates _____

personal ending: ____ = _____, ____ voice

Translation: _____

movēbās

____/____/____/____

base: ____ = _____

thematic vowel: ____, indicates _____

tense sign: ____, indicates _____

personal ending: ____ = _____, ____ voice

Translation: _____

2. movēbat

____/____/____/____

base: ____ = _____

thematic vowel: ____, indicates _____

tense sign: ____, indicates _____

personal ending: ____ = _____, ____ voice

Translation: _____

3. movēbāmur

_____/_____/_____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

4. movēbāminī

_____/_____/_____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

5. movēbantur

_____/_____/_____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

6. superābar

_____/_____/_____/_____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

7. superābāris or superābāre

_____/_____/_____/_____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

8. superābātur

_____/_____/_____/_____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

9. superābāmus

_____/_____/_____/_____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

10. superābātis

_____/_____/_____/_____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

11. superābant

_____/_____/_____/_____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

12. docēbantur

_____/_____/_____/_____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

13. docēbātis

_____/_____/_____/_____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

14. docēbāmur

_____/_____/_____/_____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

15. docēbat

____/____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

16. docēbāris or docēbāre

____/____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

17. docēbam

____/____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

18. amābāmur

_____/_____/_____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

19. amābās

_____/_____/_____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

20. docēbāminī

_____/_____/_____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

21. spectābant

_____/_____/_____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

22. vocābantur

_____/_____/_____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

23. terrēbātur

_____/_____/_____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

24. implēbat

_____/_____/_____/_____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

25. parābāris

_____/_____/_____/_____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

26. ambulābātis

_____/_____/_____/_____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

27. dabāre

_____/_____/_____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

28. dōnābās

_____/_____/_____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

29. stābātis

_____/_____/_____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

30. timēbam

_____/_____/_____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

31. vidēbar

_____/_____/_____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

32. vidēbāmur

_____/_____/_____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

33. vidēbāmus

____/____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

34. vidēbātur

____/____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

35. ornābantur

____/____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

36. ornābant

_____/_____/_____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

37. ornābat

_____/_____/_____/____/____

base: _____ = _____

thematic vowel: _____, indicates _____

tense sign: _____, indicates _____

personal ending: _____ = _____, _____ voice

Translation: _____

II. The Imperfect Indicative Active of *ESSE*

As in the Present Indicative Active, *sum, esse, fuī, futūrus* continues to be irregular in the Imperfect Indicative Active:

eram (er/ā/m) “I was, used to be”	erāmus (er/ā/mus) “we were, we used to be”
erās (er/ā/s) “you were, you used to be”	erātis (er/ā/tis) “y’all were, y’all used to be”
erat (er/ā/t) “(he/she/it) was, used to be”	erant (er/ā/nt) “(they) were, (they) used to be”

The “-ā-” here is the same element as that in the **-bā-** of the imperfect of regular verbs. The personal endings are also the same in both: **-m, -s, -t, -mus, -tis, -nt**
Compare with the present indicative active:

Sum “I am”	Sumus “we are”
Es “you are”	Estis “y’all are”
Est (he/she/it) is	Sunt (they) are

Ad Notandum

Why the Er- stem instead of Es- in the Imperfect of *sum*?

The Imperfect of *sum* is in fact built off the **es-** stem. **-s-** between two vowels (**intervocalic -s-**) in Latin tended to change to **-r-**. Hence, *eram* ← **esām*.

Exercitium

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. aqua est. | 25. fēmina erat. |
| 2. est aqua. | 26. erat fēmina. |
| 3. aqua erat. | 27. rēgīna erat. |
| 4. erat aqua. | 28. erat rēgīna. |
| 5. aquam amat. | 29. fēmina erat rēgīna. |
| 6. aquam amābat. | 30. rēgīna erat fēmina. |
| 7. aquae sunt. | 31. fēminam monēbat. |
| 8. sunt aquae. | 32. fēminae erant. |
| 9. aquae erant. | 33. erant fēminae. |
| 10. erant aquae. | 34. rēgīnae erant. |
| 11. aquās amant. | 35. erant rēgīnae. |
| 12. aquās amābant. | 36. fēminae erant rēgīnae. |
| 13. fābulae sunt. | 37. rēgīnae erant fēminae. |
| 14. sunt fābulae. | 38. fēminās monent. |
| 15. fābulae erant. | 39. fēminās monēbant. |
| 16. erant fābulae. | 40. vir est. |
| 17. fābulās parat. | 41. est vir. |
| 18. fābulās parābat. | 42. est magister. |
| 19. fēmina est. | 43. magister est. |
| 20. est fēmina. | 44. vir est magister. |
| 21. rēgīna est. | 45. magister est . |
| 22. est rēgina. | 46. vir erat. |
| 23. fēmina est rēgīna. | 47. erat vir. |
| 24. rēgīna est fēmina. | 48. magister erat. |

49. erat magister.
50. magister erat vir.
51. vir erat magister.
52. virum spectābat.
53. virī erant magistrī.
54. magistrī erant virī.
55. virōs spectābant.
56. gladius erat.
57. erat gladius.
58. gladium vidēbās.
59. puerī erant.
60. erant puerī.
61. puerōs vidēbant.
62. puerī vidēbantur.
63. āra erat.
64. erat āra.
65. āram ornābātis.
66. ārae erant.
67. erant ārae.
68. ārās ornābāmus.
69. ventus est.
70. est ventus.
71. ventus erat.
72. erat ventus.
73. parātur ventus.
74. ventus parābātur.
75. ventum parat.
76. ventum parābat.
77. ventī sunt.
78. sunt ventī.
79. ventī erant.
80. erant ventī.
81. liber est.
82. est liber.
83. liber erat; erat liber.
84. librī erant; erant librī.

Building Blocks

In these building blocks begins the **story of Aeneas**, based on *The Aeneid* of Publius Vergilius Maro which he – Vergil - wrote from 31 b.c. down to his death in 19 b.c. The *Aeneid* is one of the most famous stories in ancient literature. It tells the story of Aeneas, a prince of Troy, son of Anchises and the goddess Venus: his escape from the destruction of Troy, his travels and search for Hesperia (Italy), the trials and tribulations which his divine enemy Juno, queen of the gods, compelled him to endure in his quest for a higher destiny, appointed by the Fates: to found the beginnings of Rome, the greatest city the world had ever known. Building blocks in following chapters will continue Aeneas' story.

Translate the **boldfaced blocks**. If you require clarification, use the non-bold for guidance.

1. est.
2. fābula.
3. in librō
4. in librō fābula est.
5. poētae
6. fābula poētae in librō est.
7. ōlim (**ōlim**: adverb = “**once upon a time**”)
8. ōlim erat.
9. vir
10. **ōlim vir erat.**

11. habēbat
12. fēminam
13. fēminam habēbat
14. et
15. nātum
16. fēminam et nātum habēbat.
17. Sed
18. patria
19. virī
20. superābātur
21. sed patria virī superābātur
22. ab inimīcīs
23. sed patria virī ab inimīcīs superābātur. (inimīcus, -ī, m. – personal enemy)
24. Sed patria virī...ab inimīcīs superābātur.
25. īnsidiīs
26. sed patria virī īnsidiīs ab inimīcīs superābātur.
27. **sed patria virī īnsidiīs ab inimīcīs superābātur.**

28. sed patria virī īnsidiīs inimīcōrum superābātur.

29. vir
30. parābat.

31. fugam
32. vir fugam parābat.
33. ē patriā
34. vir fugam ē patriā parābat.
35. cum populō
36. **vir cum populō fugam ē patriā parābat.**

37. vir cum populō
38. ambulābat
39. diū (diū: adverb = “for a long time”)
40. diū vir cum populō ambulābat
41. per terrās
42. prōvinciās
43. per terrās et prōvinciās

44. diū vir cum populō per terrās et prōvinciās ambulābat.

45. tandem (tandem: adverb = “finally, at last”)
46. in harēnā (harēna, harēnae, f. – sand, shore)
47. erant.
48. **tandem in harēnā erant.**

49. deus
50. sed
51. sed deus
52. vocābat
53. sed deus vocābat
54. virum
55. sed deus virum vocābat
56. in undās
57. sed deus virum in undās vocābat.
58. cum populō
59. **sed deus virum cum populō in undās vocābat.**

60. itaque (itaque: adverb = “and so, therefore”)
61. nāvigābat
62. vir
63. vir nāvigābat
64. et
65. erat
66. et vir erat
67. nauta
68. et vir nauta erat
69. **itaque vir nāvigābat et nunc erat nauta.**