



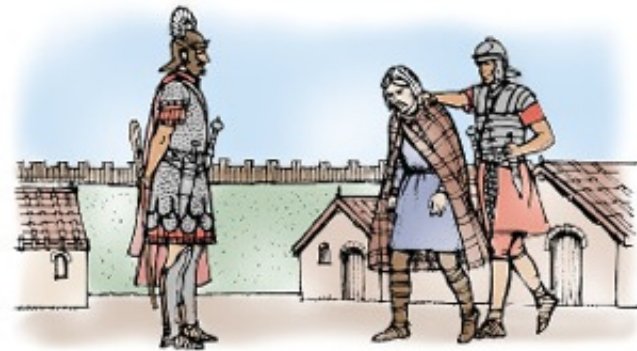
## Dēvae



- 1 miles legiōnis secundae per castra ambulābat. subito iuvenem ignōtum prope horreum latentem cōspexit. “heus tū,” clāmāvit miles, “quis es?” iuvenis nihil respondit. miles iuvenem iterum rogāvit quis esset. iuvenis fūgit.



- 2 miles iuvenem petīvit et facile superāvit. “furcifer!” exclāmāvit. “quid prope horreum facis?” iuvenis dīcere nōlēbat quid prope horreum faceret. miles eum ad centuriōnem dūxit.



- 3 centuriō, iuvenem cōspicātus, “hunc agnōscō!” inquit. “explōrātor Britannicus est, quem saepe prope castra cōspexī. quō modō eum cēpistī?” tum miles explicāvit quō modō iuvenem cēpisset.



- 4 centuriō, ad iuvenem conversus, “cūr in castra vēnistī?” rogāvit. iuvenis tamen tacēbat. centuriō, ubi cognōscere nōn poterat cūr iuvenis in castra vēnisset, militem iussit eum ad carcerem dūcere.

iuvenis, postquam verba centuriōnis audīvit, “ego sum Vercobrix,” inquit, “filius p̄ncipis Deceanglōrum. vōbīs nōn decōrum est mē in carcere tenēre.” “filius p̄ncipis Deceanglōrum?” exclāmāvit centuriō. “libentissimē tē videō. nōs tē diū quaerimus, cellamque optimam tibi in carcere parāvimus.”



## Strýthiō

*optiō per castra ambulat. Strýthiōnem, iam Dēvam regressum, cōspicit.*

optiō: heus Strýthiō! hūc venī! tibi aliquid dīcere volō.  
 Strýthiō: nōlī mē vexāre! occupātus sum. Modestum quaerō, quod puella eum exspectat.  
 optiō: mī Strýthiō, quamquam occupātissimus es, dēbēs maximā cum dīligentiā mē audīre. centuriō tē iubet ad carcerem statim festīnāre.  
 Strýthiō: īnsānit centuriō! innocēns sum.  
 optiō: tacē! centuriō Modestum quoque iussit ad carcerem festīnāre.  
 Strýthiō: deōs testēs faciō. innocentēs sumus. nūllum facinus commīsimus.  
 optiō: caudex! tacē! centuriō vōs ambōs carcerem custōdīre iussit.  
 Strýthiō: nōlī mē vituperāre! rem nunc intellegō! centuriō nōs vult custōdēs carceris esse. decōrum est centuriōnī nōs ēligere, quod fortissimī sumus.  
 optiō: (*susurrāns*) difficile est mihi hoc crēdere.  
 Strýthiō: quid dīcis?  
 optiō: quamquam fortissimī estis, dīligentiam quoque maximam praestāre dēbētis. nam inter captīvōs est Vercobrix, iuvenis magnae dignitātis, cuius pater est p̄nc̄eps Deceanglōrum. necesse est vōbīs Vercobrigem dīligentissimē custōdīre.  
 Strýthiō: nōlī anxius esse, mī optiō. nōbīs nihil difficile est, quod fortissimī sumus, ut anteā dīxī. ego et Modestus, cum in Āfricā mīlītārēmus, nōn ūnum hominem, sed tōtam p̄vīnciam custōdiēbāmus.  
*exeunt. optiō centuriōnem quaerit, Strýthiō amīcum.*

**optiō** *optio (military officer, ranking below centurion)*  
**castra** *military camp*

5

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**commīsimus: committere**

*commit*

15

**ambōs: ambō** *both*

20

**praestāre** *show, display*  
**captīvōs: captīvus**

*prisoner, captive*

25

**cuius** *whose (genitive of qui)*

**p̄vīnciam: p̄vīncia** *province*

30



*Legionary helmet from the River Thames, with shield boss from the Eighth Legion, found in the River Tyne.*

## Modestus custōs

Modestus et Strýthiō, carcerem ingressī, cellās in quibus captīvī erant īnspiciēbant. habēbat Strýthiō tabulam in quā nōmina captīvōrum scrīpta erant. Modestus eum rogāvit in quā cellā Vercobrix inclūsus esset. Strýthiō, tabulam īnspiciēns, cognōvit ubi Vercobrix iacēret, et Modestum ad cellam dūxit. Modestus, cum ad portam cellae advēnisset, incertus cōstitit.

Strýthiō “cūr cellam intrāre timēs?” inquit. “vīnctus est filius p̄nc̄ipis Deceanglōrum. tē laedere nōn potest.”

cum Strýthiō haec dīxisset, Modestus īrātus exclāmāvit,

“caudex, p̄nc̄ipis filium nōn timeō! cōstitī quod tē exspectābam. volō tē mihi portam aperīre!”

cum portam Strýthiō aperuisset, Modestus rūsus haesitāvit.

“obscura est cella,” inquit Modestus anxius. “fer mihi lucernam.”

Strýthiō, vir summae patientiae, lucernam tulit amīcōque trādidit. ille, cellam ingressus, ē cōspectū discessit.

in angulō cellae iacēbat Vercobrix. Modestus, cum eum vīdisset, gladium dēstrīxit. tum, ad mediam cellam p̄gressus, Vercobrigem vituperāre coepit. Vercobrix tamen contumeliās Modestī audire nōn poterat, quod graviter dormiēbat.

subitō arānea, ē tēctō cellae lāpsa, in nāsū Modestī incidit et trāns ōs cucurrit. Modestus, ab arānea territus, ē cellā fūgit, vehementer clāmāns.

Strýthiō, quī extrā cellam stābat, attonitus erat. nesciēbat enim cūr Modestus clāmāret.

“Strýthiō! Strýthiō!” clāmāvit Modestus. “claudite portam cellae. nōbīs necesse est summā cum dīligentiā Vercobrigem custōdīre. etiam arāneae eum adiuvant!”

Strýthiō, cum portam clausisset, Modestum territorum rogāvit quid accidisset.

“Modeste,” inquit, “quam pallidus es! num captīvum timēs?”

“minimē! pallidus sum, quod nōn cēnāvī,” respondit.

“vīsne mē ad culīnam īre et tibi cēnam ferre?” rogāvit Strýthiō.

“optimum cōsiliū est!” inquit alter. “tū tamen hīc manē.

melius est mihi ipsī ad culīnam īre, quod coquus decem dēnariōs mihi dēbet.”

haec locūtus, ad culīnam statim cucurrit.

**cellās: cella** *cell*

5

**incertus** *uncertain*  
**cōstitit: cōsistere** *halt, stop*  
**vīnctus: vīncire** *bind, tie up*

10

**haesitāvit: haesitāre** *hesitate*  
**obscura: obscurus** *dark, gloomy*  
**lucernam: lucerna** *lamp*

15

**patientiae: patientia** *patience*  
**cōspectū: cōspectus** *sight*  
**angulō: angulus** *corner*  
**p̄gressus** *having advanced*  
**contumeliās: contumēlia**

20

*insult, abuse*

**arānea** *spider*  
**tēctō: tēctum** *ceiling, roof*  
**lāpsa: lāpsus** *having fallen*

25

**trāns** *across*  
**ōs** *face*

30

**pallidus** *pale*

**hīc** *here*

35



## About the language 1: indirect questions

1 In Unit 1, you met sentences like this:

“quis clāmōrem audīvit?”      “ubi habitat rēx?”  
 “Who heard the shout?”      “Where does the king live?”

In each example, a question is being asked. These examples are known as **direct questions**.

2 In Stage 25, you have met sentences like this:

centuriō nesciēbat **quis clāmōrem audīvisset**.  
*The centurion did not know who had heard the shout.*  
 equitēs cognōvērunt **ubi rēx habitāret**.  
*The horsemen found out where the king was living.*

In each of these examples, the question is *referred* to, but not asked directly. These examples are known as **indirect questions**. The verb in an indirect question in Latin is subjunctive.

3 Compare the following examples:

<i>direct questions</i>	<i>indirect questions</i>
“quid Vercobrix fēcit?” “What has Vercobrix done?”	mīlitēs intellēxērunt quid Vercobrix fēcisset. <i>The soldiers understood what Vercobrix had done.</i>
“quis appropinquat?” “Who is approaching?”	custōs nesciēbat quis appropinquāret. <i>The guard did not know who was approaching.</i>
“ubi sunt barbarī?” “Where are the barbarians?”	Rōmānī cognōvērunt ubi barbarī essent. <i>The Romans found out where the barbarians were.</i>

4 Further examples of direct and indirect questions:

- a “quis puerum interfēcit?”
- b nēmō sciēbat quis puerum interfēcisset.
- c “ubi pecūniam invēnērunt?”
- d iūdex mē rogāvit ubi pecūniam invēnissent.
- e Salvius nesciēbat cūr Quīntus rēgem adiuvāret.
- f Cogidubnus cognōvit quō modō Cephalus venēnum comparāvisset.
- g Quīntus scīre voluit quid in templō esset.
- h Salvius tandem intellēxit quō Quīntus et Dumnorix fugerent.

In each of the *indirect* questions state whether the subjunctive is imperfect or pluperfect.

## Modestus perfuga

### I

Modestus, ēgressus ē culinā ubi cēnam optimam cōsūmpserat, ad carcerem lentē redībat.

ubi carcerī appropinquāvit, portam apertam vīdit. permōtus, “dī immortalēs!” inquit. “Strýthiō, num portam carceris apertam reliquistī? nēminem neglegentiōrem quam tē nōvī.”  
 carcerem ingressus, portās omnium cellārum apertās invēnit. cum hoc vīdisset,

“ēheu!” inquit. “omnēs portae apertae sunt! captīvī, ē cellīs ēlāpsī, omnēs fūgērunt!”

Modestus rem anxius cōgitāvit. nesciēbat enim quō captīvī fūgissent; intellegere nōn poterat cūr Strýthiō abesset.

“quid facere dēbeō? periculōsum est hīc manēre ubi mē centuriō invenire potest. mihi fugiendum est. ō Strýthiō, Strýthiō! coēgistī mē statiōnem dēserere. mē perfugam fēcistī. sed deōs testēs faciō. invītus statiōnem dēserō.”

**permōtus** *alarmed, disturbed*

5

10

**mihi fugiendum est** *I must flee*

15

**statiōnem: statīō** *post*





## II

Modestus, haec locūtus, subitō sonitum audīvit. aliquis portam cellae Vercobrigis aperīre et exīre temptābat!

“mihi ē carcere fugiendum est,” aliquis ē cellā clāmāvit.

Modestus, cum haec audīvisset, ad portam cellae cucurrit et clausit.

“Vercobrix, tibi in cellā manendum est!” clāmāvit Modestus. “euge! nōn effūgit Vercobrix! cum captīvum habeō! euge! nunc mihi centuriō nocēre nōn potest, quod captīvum summae dignitātis in carcere retinū.”

Modestus autem anxius manēbat; nesciēbat enim quid Str̄ythiōnī accidisset. subitō pugiōnem humī relictum cōspexit.

“heus, quid est? hunc pugiōnem agnōscō! est pugiō Str̄ythiōnis! Str̄ythiōnī dedī, ubi diem nātālem celebrābat. ēheu! cruentus est pugiō. ō mī Str̄ythiō! nunc rem intellegō. mortuus es! captīvī, ē cellīs elāpsī, tē necāvērunt. ēheu! cum ego tuam cēnam in culinā cōnsūmerem, illī tēcum pugnābant! ō Str̄ythiō! nēmō infēlicior est quam ego. nam tē amābam sicut pater filium. Vercobrix, quī in hāc cellā etiam nunc manet, poenās dare dēbet. heus! Vercobrix, mē audī! tibi moriendum est, quod Str̄ythiō meus mortuus est.”

## III

*Modestus in cellam furēns irrumpit. captīvum, quī intus latet, verberāre incipit.*

captīvus: Modeste! mī Modeste! dēsine mē verberāre! nōnne mē agnōscis? Str̄ythiō sum, quem tū amās sicut pater filium.

Modestus: Str̄ythiō? Str̄ythiō! num vīvus es? cūr vīvus es? sceleste! furcifer! ubi sunt captīvī quōs custodiēbās?

Str̄ythiō: fūgērunt, Modeste. mē dēcēpērunt. coēgērunt mē portās omnium cellārūm aperīre.

Modestus: ēheu! quid facere dēbēmus?

Str̄ythiō: nōbīs statim ē carcere fugiendum est; centuriōnem appropinquantem audiō.

Modestus: ō Str̄ythiō! ō, quam infēlix sum!

*amīcī ē carcere quam celerrimē fugiunt.*

**aliquis** *someone*

5

**nocēre** *harm*

10

**relictum: relinquere** *leave*

**cruentus** *bloodstained*

15

**tibi moriendum est**

*you must die*

20

**vīvus** *alive, living*

10

## About the language 2: more about the imperfect and pluperfect subjunctive

**1** In Stages 24 and 25, you have met the 3rd person singular and plural (“he,” “she,” “it,” and “they”) of the imperfect and pluperfect subjunctive. For example:

nēmō sciēbat ubi Britannī **latērent**.

*Nobody knew where the Britons were lying hidden.*

centuriō, cum hoc **audīvisset**, saeviēbat.

*When the centurion had heard this, he was furious.*

**2** Now study the forms of the 1st person (“I,” “we”) and the 2nd person (“you”) of the imperfect and pluperfect subjunctive.

SINGULAR	IMPERFECT	PLUPERFECT
<i>1st person</i>	portārem	portāvissē
<i>2nd person</i>	portārēs	portāvissēs
<i>3rd person</i>	portāret	portāvisset
PLURAL		
<i>1st person</i>	portārēmus	portāvissēmus
<i>2nd person</i>	portārētis	portāvissētis
<i>3rd person</i>	portārent	portāvissent

**3** Translate the following examples:

- a** custōdēs nōs rogāvērunt cūr clāmārēmus.
- b** nesciēbam quō fūgissēs.
- c** cum in Britannīā militārem, oppidum Aquās Sūlis saepe vīsītāvī.
- d** cum cēnam tuam cōnsūmerēs, centuriō tē quaerēbat.
- e** rēx nōbīs explicāvit quō modō vītā suam servāvissētis.
- f** cum nōmina recitāvissē, hospītēs ad rēgem dūxī.
- g** amīcus meus cognōscere voluit ubi habitārētis.
- h** puella nōs rogāvit cūr rem tam difficilem suscepissēmus.

In each sentence state whether the subjunctive is 1st or 2nd person singular or plural and whether it is imperfect or pluperfect.



## Word patterns: more adjectives and adverbs

### 1 Study the following nouns:

dominus, leaena, dea, domina, filia, captīvus, filius, captīva, leō, deus.

Organize these nouns in pairs and write them out in two columns headed *male* and *female*.

### 2 Add the following nouns to your columns. Some meanings are given to help you.

saltātrīx (*dancing girl*), vēnātor (*hunter*), avus (*grandfather*), vēnātrīx, victor, avia, victrīx, ursus (*bear*), lupa (*she-wolf*), lupus, ursa, saltātor.

### 3 Which two endings here indicate the masculine form of a Latin noun? What are the feminine equivalents for those two endings?

## Practicing the language

### 1 This exercise is based on the story **Modestus custōs** on [page 75](#). Read the story again. Complete each of the sentences below with one of the following groups of words. Then translate the sentence. Use each group of words once only.

cum Modestus extrā cellam haesitāret  
 cum Modestus ad culīnam abiisset  
 cum carcerem intrāvissent  
 cum arānea in nāsum dēcidisset  
 cum lucernam tulisset  
 cum Modestus vehementer clāmāret

- a Modestus et Str̄ythiō, . . . . . , cellās captīvōrum īnspiciebant.
- b . . . . . , Str̄ythiō eum rogāvit cūr timēret.
- c Str̄ythiō, . . . . . , Modestō trādīdit.
- d . . . . . , Vercobrix graviter dormiēbat.
- e . . . . . , Modestus fūgit perterritus.
- f . . . . . , Str̄ythiō in carcere mānsit.

### 2 Complete each sentence with the correct participle from the list below. Then translate the sentence.

missōs, līberātī, territa, regressam, tenentēs, passus

- a captīvī, ē cellīs subitō . . . . . , ad portam carceris ruērunt.
- b Britannī, hastās in manibus . . . . . , castra oppugnāvērunt.
- c ancilla, ā dominō īrātō . . . . . , respondere nōn audēbat.
- d Cogidubnus, tot iniūriās . . . . . , Rōmānōs vehementer vituperāvit.
- e māter puellam, ē tabernā tandem . . . . . , pūnīvit.
- f centuriō militēs, ex Itāliā nūper ab Imperātore . . . . . , īnspexit.

### 3 Translate each English sentence into Latin by selecting correctly from the list of Latin words.

#### a *The kind citizens had provided help.*

cīvis	benignī	auxilium	praebuērunt
cīvēs	benignōs	auxiliī	praebuerant

#### b *They arrested the soldier in the kitchen of an inn.*

mīlitem	per culīnam	tabernae	comprehendunt
mīlitis	in culīnā	tabernārum	comprehendērunt

#### c *Master! Read this letter!*

domine	haec	epistula	lege
dominus	hanc	epistulam	legis

#### d *The words of the soothsayer frightened him.*

verbum	haruspis	eum	terruit
verba	haruspici	eōs	terruērunt

#### e *The old men departed, praising the brave messenger.*

senēs	discēdunt	fortem	nūntium	laudāns
senum	discessērunt	fortī	nūntiōs	laudantēs

#### f *How can we avoid the punishments of the gods?*

quō modō	poenae	deōrum	vītantēs	possumus
quis	poenās	deīs	vītāre	poterāmus



## The legionary soldier

The soldiers who served in the legions formed the elite of the Roman army (**exercitus**). Each soldier (**miles**) was a Roman citizen and full-time professional who had signed on for twenty-five years. Roman soldiers were highly trained in the skills of infantry warfare and were often specialists in other fields as well. In fact a Roman legion, consisting normally of about 5,000 foot soldiers, was a miniature army in itself, capable of constructing forts and camps, manufacturing its weapons and equipment, and building roads. On its staff were engineers, architects, carpenters, smiths, doctors, medical orderlies, clerks, and accountants.

### Recruitment

An investigating board (**inquisitiō**) would first ensure that a new recruit was a Roman citizen and that he was given a medical examination. Vegetius, who wrote a military manual in the fourth century AD, laid down guidelines for choosing recruits:

**A young soldier should have alert eyes and should hold his head upright. The recruit should be broad-chested with powerful shoulders and brawny arms. His fingers should be long rather than short. He should**

*Building camps and erecting bridges were among the skills required of the army. In this picture, auxiliary soldiers stand guard while soldiers from the legions do engineering work.*

**not be pot-bellied or have a fat bottom. His calves and feet should not be flabby; instead they should be made entirely of tough sinew. Smiths, carpenters, butchers, and hunters of deer and wild boar are the most suitable kind of recruit. The whole well-being of the Roman state depends on the kind of recruits you choose; so you must choose men who are outstanding not only in body but also in mind.**

### Training, armor, and weapons

After being accepted and sworn in, the new recruit was sent to his unit to begin training. This was thorough, systematic, and physically hard. First the young soldier had to learn to march at the regulation pace for distances of up to 24 Roman miles (about 22 statute miles or 35 kilometers). Physical fitness was further developed by running, jumping, swimming, and carrying heavy packs. Next came weapons training, starting with a wooden practice-sword, wicker shield, and dummy targets and progressing to actual equipment. Vegetius again:

**They are also taught not to cut with their swords but to thrust. The Romans find it so easy to defeat people who use their swords to cut rather than thrust that they laugh in their faces. For a cutting stroke, even when made with full force, rarely kills. The vital organs are protected by the armor as well as by the bones of the body. On the other hand, a stab even two inches deep is usually fatal.**

Besides the short stabbing sword (**gladius**) worn on the right, the legionary was armed with a dagger (**pugio**) worn on the left, and a javelin (**pilum**). The legionary shield (**scūtum**) was a 3-foot-long (1 meter), curved rectangle made of strips of wood glued together and covered with hide. Soldiers learned to handle their shields correctly and to attack dummy targets with the point of their swords.

Another phase of weapons training was to learn to throw the pilum. This had a wooden shaft 5 feet (1.5 meters) long and a pointed iron head of 2 feet (60 centimeters). The head was cleverly constructed so that the first 10 inches (25 centimeters) of tempered metal penetrated the target, but the rest, untempered, was fairly soft and liable to bend. When the javelin was hurled at an enemy, from a distance of 25–30 yards (23–28 meters), its point penetrated and stuck into his shield, while the neck of the metal head bent and the shaft hung down. This not only made



*A centurion, a legionary, and the aquilifer (eagle-bearer) of the legion.*



the javelin unusable, so that it could not be thrown back, but also made the encumbered shield so difficult to manage that the enemy might have to abandon it altogether.

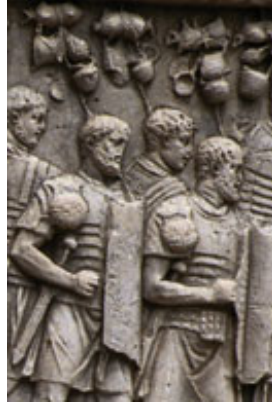
By the time of our stories, the legionary soldier was wearing segmented armor of metal strips (**lōrica segmentāta**) with leather straps and buckle fastenings over a woolen tunic. The military belt (**cingulum**) was worn at all times, even without the armor. At first the Roman soldier did not wear trousers, but short leggings were gradually adopted. The legionary helmet was padded on the inside and designed to protect the head, face, and neck without obstructing hearing or vision. Strong military sandals (**caligae**) with very thick soles and iron hobnails were designed to withstand weight and miles of marching.

When the recruit could handle his weapons competently and was physically fit, he was ready to leave the barracks for training in the open countryside. This began with route marches on which he carried not only his body armor and weapons but also a heavy pack which weighed about 90 pounds (40 kilograms), and which included dishes, water bottle, woolen cloak, several days' ration of food, and equipment for making an overnight camp, such as a saw, an ax, and a basket for moving earth. Much importance was attached to the proper construction of the camp at the end of the day's march, and the young soldier was given careful instruction and practice. Several practice camps and forts have been found in Britain.

**Life and work of a soldier**

The fully trained legionary did not spend all or even much of his time on combat duty. Most of it was spent on peacetime duties, such as building or road making, and he was given free time and leave. During the first century AD at least, he had good prospects of surviving until his term of service expired. He was generally stationed in a large legionary fortress somewhere near the frontiers of the empire in places such as Deva (Chester), Eboracum (York), Bonna (Bonn), and Vindobona (Vienna) which were key points in the Roman defenses against the barbarians.

Many of the daily duties and activities were the same wherever the soldier was stationed. Inscriptional evidence gives us insights into the everyday life of a soldier. A duty roster, written on papyrus and covering the first ten days in October possibly in the year AD 87, lists the names of thirty-six soldiers in the same unit in a legion stationed in Egypt. C. Julius Valens, for example, was to spend 2 October on guard duty, 5 and 6 October in the armory, and 7 October in the bathhouse, probably stoking the furnace.



*Soldiers marching with their kit slung from stakes.*



*A carving of a legionary soldier, employed on harvesting duties.*



*The Ermine Street Guard demonstrating legionaries' training. Clockwise from top left: replica of a sword found in Britain; swords were used to thrust, not slash; the pilum; practice with wooden swords and wicker shields.*





### Pay and promotion

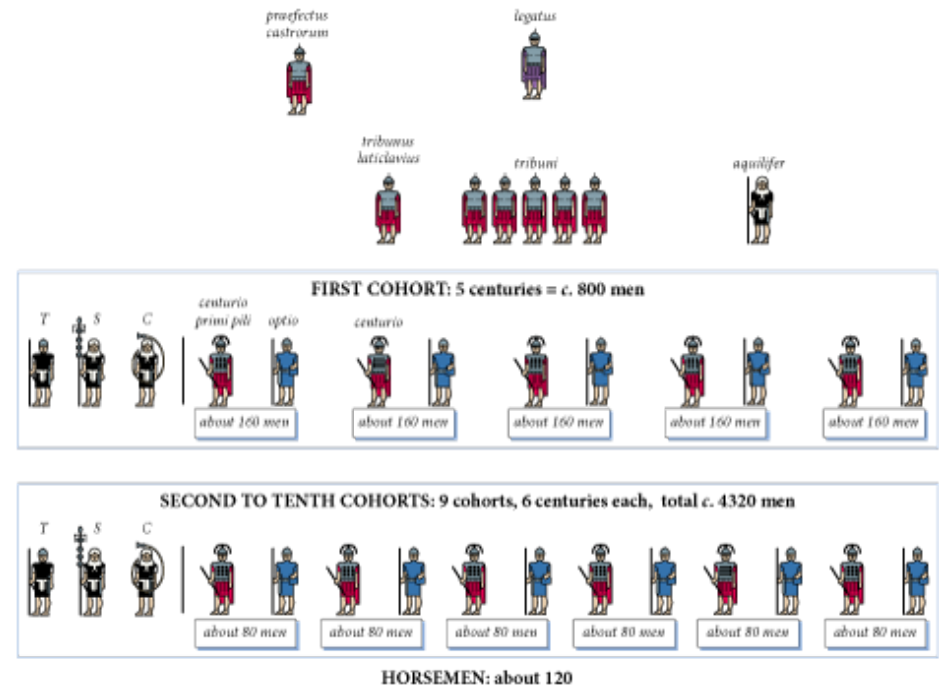
In both war and peacetime the soldier received the same rate of pay. In the first century AD, up to the time of the Emperor Domitian (AD 81–96), this amounted to 225 denarii per annum; Domitian improved the rate to 300 denarii. These amounts were gross pay; before any money was handed to the soldier certain deductions were made. Surprising though it may seem, he was obliged to pay for his food, clothing, and equipment. He would also leave some money in the military savings bank. What he actually received in cash may have been only a quarter or a fifth of his gross pay. Whether he felt badly treated is difficult to say. Certainly we know of cases of discontent and – very occasionally – mutiny, but pay and conditions of service were apparently not bad enough to discourage recruits. Any soldier could hope for promotion, in which case his life began to change in several ways. He was paid more and he was exempted from many of the duties performed by the ordinary soldier. In addition, any soldier could look forward to an honorable discharge at the end of twenty to twenty-five years of service with a lump sum of 3,000 denarii or an allocation of land.

Each centurion was assisted by an **optiō** or deputy who would take control of the century if the centurion were absent or lost in battle. There was also in each century a **signifer** (standard-bearer) and a **tesserarius**, who organized the guards and distributed the passwords, and one or two clerks. The centurions were the backbone of the legion. Most of them had long experience in the army and had risen from the ranks because of their courage and ability. There were sixty of them, each responsible for the training and discipline of a century. As a symbol of rank, each centurion carried a **vitis** or cane with which he could punish his soldiers. The importance of the centurions was reflected in their pay, which was probably about 1,500 denarii per annum. The most senior centurion of the legion was the **primus pilus**, a highly respected figure; he was at least fifty years old and had worked his way up through the various grades of centurion. He held office for one year, then received a large payment and was allowed to retire; or he might go on still further to become the **praefectus castrorum** (the commander of the camp), the highest-ranking officer to serve his entire career in the army.



*Centurion in the Ermine Street Guard, wearing his decorations and his helmet with transverse plume and leaning on his vine-staff (vitis).*

### Diagram of a legion



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### The auxiliaries

The heavily armed legionaries formed the best-trained fighting force in the Roman army but they needed to be supplemented by large numbers of specialized troops. These were provided by men from different parts of the empire who had developed particular skills, for example, archers from Arabia and slingers from Majorca and Minorca. The most important and prestigious were the cavalry, who were regularly used in battle to support the infantry. They were usually positioned on each side of the legionaries from where they could protect the center, launch attacks themselves, or pursue defeated enemy forces.

Auxiliaries were paid less than legionary soldiers. However, when they completed their service, those who were not already Roman citizens were granted citizenship. This was another way of making people in the provinces feel loyalty to Roman rule.

**Key**  
*T = tesserarius*  
*S = signifer*  
*C = cornicen (horn player)*  
*Each cohort had one of each of these.*  
*Each century had a centurion and an optio.*





## Vocabulary checklist 25

<b>accidō, accidere, accidi</b>	<i>happen</i>
<b>aliquis</b>	<i>someone</i>
<b>aperiō, aperire, aperuī, apertus</b>	<i>open</i>
<b>autem</b>	<i>but</i>
<b>castra, castrōrum, n. pl.</b>	<i>military camp</i>
<b>cōgō, cōgere, coēgī, coactus</b>	<i>force, compel</i>
<b>cōfidō, cōfidere</b>	<i>trust</i>
<b>dignitās, dignitātis, f.</b>	<i>importance, prestige</i>
<b>explicō, explicāre, explicāvī,</b> <b>explicātus</b>	<i>explain</i>
<b>extrā</b>	<i>outside</i>
<b>lateō, latēre, latuī</b>	<i>lie hidden</i>
<b>nescio, nescīre, nescīvī</b>	<i>not know</i>
<b>nōmen, nōminis, n.</b>	<i>name</i>
<b>perītus, perīta, perītum</b>	<i>skillful</i>
<b>poena, poenae, f.</b> <b>poenās dare</b>	<i>punishment</i> <i>pay the penalty,</i> <i>be punished</i>
<b>rūsus</b>	<i>again</i>
<b>scelestus, scelesta, scelestum</b>	<i>wicked</i>
<b>suāvis, suāvis, suāve</b>	<i>sweet</i>
<b>testis, testis, m. f.</b>	<i>witness</i>



*A Roman soldier's dagger.*

