

Ablative Absolute:

Present Active Participles

- Ablative absolutes are often made with present active participles. They have the same range of meanings (when, since, although) but active.
- NOTE: This is WAY EASIER than Perfect Passive Participle ablative absolutes we have already done, but much less common.

Part I: Forming Present Active Participle Phrases.

Make the sentences into a present active participle phrases.

(1) Form the participle

- stem
- characteristic vowel
- -ns, -ntis plus 3rd declension endings

(2) Make the participle agree with the subject (Nominatives only.) Examples

- femina videns (feminine singular)
- feminae videntes (feminine plural)
- moenia cadentia (neuter plural)
- etc.

(4) Other Note: Remember that the present tense can be translated (e.g.) **videt** = **he sees**, **he is seeing**, and that the second translation (called the progressive) is different from the participle **videns**, **seeing**, which has no **est**.

ex. 1 **Ajax fortiter oppugnat.** Ajax attacks bravely. **oppugnans** Ajax, attacking bravely

ex. 2 **aliī Graecī post eum in proeliō currunt.** The other Greeks are running after him into battle. **currentes** The other Greeks, running after him into battle...

ex. 3. **currūs Graecōrum cito trāns terram volant.** The chariots of the Greeks fly quickly across the land. **volantes** The chariots of the Greeks, flying quickly across the land...

1. **Graecī ut volūcrēs Trōiānōs oppugnant.** The Greeks attack the Trojans like birds (i.e. as thick and fast as a flock of birds (or for that matter, flying insects).
2. **deī Graecōs adiuvant.** The gods are helping the Greeks.
3. **Graecī malum fātum Trōiānīs parant.** The Greeks are preparing doom for the Trojans.
4. **Graecī casūs Trōiānōrum rident.** The Greeks mock the downfall of the Trojans (or even, slaughter of the Trojans).
5. **Troiānī ubique cadunt.** Trojans are falling everywhere.
6. **Graecī ferōciter multōs interficiunt.** The Greeks savagely kill many people.
7. **Graecī fēminās capiunt.** The Greeks capture the women.
8. **et senēs et adolescentēs urbem dēfendunt.** Both old men and teens defend the city.
9. **ignēs in casās ardent.** Fires are burning in the houses.

10. **Trōiānī nōn fugiunt.** *The Trojans do not flee.*
11. **immo Trōiānī fugiunt.** *No really, the Trojans are running away.*
12. **fēminae ad deōs clāmant.** *Women cry out to the gods.*
13. **virī fortēs Graecōs urbe prōhibent.** *Strong men keep the Greeks out of the city.*
14. **virī liberōs uxōribus committunt.** *Men entrust their children to their wives.*
15. **et puerī et fēminae arma tollent.** *Both children and men are taking up arms.*
16. **parentēs miserī liberōs vocant.** *Unhappy parents call their children.*
17. **Trōiānī mortem familiārum vident.** *The Trojans witness the deaths of their families.*
18. **Graecī fēminās in servitūtem trahunt.** *The Greeks drag the women off into slavery.*
19. **Graecī clementiā carent.** *The Greeks lack mercy.*
20. **Graecī eōs interficiunt.** *The Greeks kill them.*
21. **nihil eōs iuvat.** *Nothing helps them.*
22. **deī eōs nōn iuvant.** *The gods do not help them.*

Part 2 : Putting it all together

(i) Make subject and participle ablative. PARTICIPLES HAVE 3rd

Ablative endings (masc. and neuter the same)

number	1st decl.	2nd decl.	3rd decl.	4th decl.	5th decl.
singular	-ā	-ō	-ē	-ū	-ē
plural	-īs	-īs	-ībus	-ībus	-ēbus

(ii) Add the ablative absolute meanings :

- when
- while
- after
- since
- because
- although

(iii) Add one of the following main clauses (or invent your own) (you can just use the letter). THESE MAIN CLAUSES DO NOT CHANGE (even though some are the same as the participle phrases).

- A. Trōiānī nullam spem habuērunt. The Trojans had no hope.
- B. urbem conservāre nōn poterant.
- C. mox omnēs interfectī sunt.
- D. Aenēās Trōiānōs ad nāvēs duxit.
- E. Trōiānī cum virtute urbem defendunt.
- F. vītam miseram exspectābant.
- G. Graecī saevissime urbem dēlēvērunt.
- H. deī eōs nōn iuvant.

1. Graecīs ut volūcrēs Trōiānōs oppugnantibus [oppugnantes]... The Greeks, attacking the Trojans like birds ... {Because, since, when, while, although} the Greeks are attacking the Trojans like birds ...
2. deī Graecōs adiuvantibus. The gods helping the Greeks...
3. Graecī malum fātum Trōiānīs _____ [parantes]. The Greeks, preparing doom for the Trojans...
4. Graecī casūs Trōiānōrum _____ [ridentes]. The Greeks, mocking the downfall of the Trojans (or even, slaughter of the Trojans)...
5. Trōiānī ubique _____ [cadentēs]. Trojans, falling everywhere...
6. Graecī ferōciter multōs _____ [interficiētēs]. The Greeks savagely killing many people...
7. Graecī fēminās _____ [capientēs]. The Greeks capturing the women...

8. **et senēs et adolescentēs urbem** _____ [**dēfendentēs**]. Both old men and teens defending the city...
9. **ignēs in casīs** _____ [**ardentēs**]. Fires are burning in the houses...
10. **Trōiānī nōn** _____ [**fugientēs**]. The Trojans, not fleeing...
11. **immo Trōiānī** _____ [**fugientēs**]. No really, the Trojans, running away...
12. **fēminae ad deōs** _____ [**clāmantēs**]. Women, crying out to the gods...
13. **virī fortēs Graecōs urbe** _____ [**prōhibentēs**]. Strong men keeping the Greeks out of the city...
14. **virī liberōs uxōribus** _____ [**committentēs**]. Men entrusting their children to their wives...
15. **et puerī et fēminae arma** _____ [**tollentēs**]. Both children and men, taking up arms...
16. **parentēs miserī liberōs** _____ [**vocantēs**]. Unhappy parents calling their children...
17. **Trōiānī mortem familiārum** _____ [**videntēs**]. The Trojans witnessing the deaths of their families...
18. **Graecī fēminās in servitūtem** _____ [**trahentēs**]. The Greeks dragging the women off into slavery...
19. **Graecī clementiā** _____ [**carentēs**]. The Greeks lacking mercy...
20. **Graecī eōs** _____ [**interficiētēs**]. The Greeks killing them.
21. **nihil eōs** _____ [**iuvāns**]. Nothing helping them...
22. **deī eōs nōn** _____ [**iuvantēs**]. The gods not helping them...

Special Cases : sum, esse

Oops, there is no participle form of the verb sum, esse. What do you do to make an ablative absolute ?

Answer : leave out sum, esse and pretend it's there.

- **fratrēs Hectōris sunt ducēs.** *frātribus Hectōris dūcibus ...*
- **fēminae sunt miserae** *feminīs miserīs, virī nihil fēcērunt...*
- **Trōiānī militēs fortēs sunt.** *Trōiānīs militibus fortibus, Graecī ab urbe pellunt...*

And with possum :

Oops, can 't even say these, no participles, no faking it, think of another way to say it.

- **Trōiānī fugere nōn possunt.**
- **paucae mātērēs liberōs salvēre possunt.**