

USES OF THE SUBJUNCTIVE

1. To express the **result** of a situation or action,

a. after **ut** or **ut nōn**:

Athēna eōs adeō amābat ut eīs oleam daret.

Athena loved them so much that she gave the olive tree to them.

b. in a relative clause:

nēmō tam pauper est quī nōn possit aliīs subvenīre.

Nobody is so poor that he can't help others.

2. To express the **purpose** of an action,

a. after **ut** or **nē**:

lyram in terrā dēposuī, ut saltārem.

I put down my lyre on the ground, so that I might dance.

b. in a relative clause:

ego amīcum mīsī, quī dōnum deō daret.

I sent a friend to give a gift to the god.

3. To express a **characteristic** of the antecedent in a relative clause:

quī aethera carpere possent crēdīt̄ esse deōs.

Those who could fly through the air, he thought were gods.

4. In **indirect commands**, after **ut** or **nē**:

medica eum monuit nē bracchium movēret.

The doctor warned him not to move his arm.

5. In **indirect questions**:

pater senem rogāvit cūr imāginēs fēcisset.

My father asked the old man why he had made the sculptures.

6. In **subordinate clauses within indirect speech**:

vīsa esse in arduō, quae plāna fuerint, memorant.

They recall that things were seen on high, which had been level ground.

7. **After cum** meaning when, since, or because:

Lūcīlius et parentēs tacēbant, cum nūntius advēnisset.

Lucilius and his parents were silent, because the messenger had arrived.



8. After **dum** meaning *until*:

mē diū cēlābam dum fūrēs obdormīrent.

I hid for a long time until the thieves fell asleep.

9. With **verbs of fearing**, after **ut** or **nē**:

Balbus timēbat nē in proeliō vulnerārētur.

Balbus was afraid that he might be wounded in battle.

10. With **verbs of hesitating, doubting**, etc., after **quō minus** (or **quōminus**):

nec apud ducēs Vitelliānōs dubitātum est quō minus pācem concēderent.

Nor did Vitellius' leaders hesitate to accept peace.

11. Independently, with a **hortatory** or **jussive** force:

rūmōrēs senum ūnius assis aestimēmus.

Let's value old men's gossip at a single penny.

12. Independently, to express **potential**:

audīrēs ululātūs fēminārum, īnfantūm quirītātūs, clāmōrēs virōrum.

You could hear the wailing of women, the cries of babies, the shouts of men.

13. Independently, or after **utinam**, in **wishes** and **polite requests (optative)**:

utinam liceat collō complexa tenēre brāciola.

If only it may be allowed to keep your little arms wrapped around my neck.

14. Independently, in **deliberative questions**:

quid facerēmus?

What were we to do?

15. In **conditional sentences**, to suggest that fulfilment of the condition is unlikely or impossible:

sī pānem ēmissēs, vīnum portāvissem.

If you had bought the bread, I would have brought the wine. (But you didn't.)

16. After **quīn** meaning *from, that, that ... not, who ... not, which ... not* (see p. 210):

nē dubitēs quīn haec animātū turbida sit vīs.

You shouldn't doubt that this is the wild force of the wind.



A fragment from the decorative frame of a fresco from the first century AD.