

## Lesson 7B

### In Catilinam 1.4

cupio, patres conscripti, me esse clementem, cupio in tantis rei publicae periculis me non dissolutum videri, sed iam me ipse inertiae nequitiaeque condemno. castra sunt in Italia contra populum Romanum in Etruriae faucibus conlocata, crescit in dies singulos hostium numerus; eorum autem castrorum imperatorem ducemque hostium intra moenia atque adeo in senatu videtis intestinam aliquam cotidie perniciem rei publicae molientem.

#### *Translation A Louis Lord (Loeb) 1953 (1937)*

I wish, Conscript Fathers, to be merciful. I wish not to seem lax when the perils of the state are so great, but now I condemn myself for inaction and remissness. There is in Italy a camp of enemies of the Roman people, situated in the passes of Etruria, their number is increasing daily; but you behold the commander of that camp and the leader of the enemy inside the walls and even in the senate plotting daily from within the city the destruction of the state.

#### *Translation B Michael Grant (Penguin) 1973 (1969)*

Members of the Senate, my desire is to be merciful. Yet in this grave national emergency I also do not want to seem negligent; and as things are I blame myself for the culpable inaction. Inside Italy, within the passes of Etruria, there is a camp occupied by men who plan the destruction of the Roman people. The number of these enemies increases every day. But as for the real commander of that camp, the leader of the hostile force, he is to be seen within our own walls and even inside the Senate itself, plotting every day, from this interior vantage point, some form of ruin for our country.

#### *Translation C C.D. Yonge (Bell) 1911 (1851-2)*

I wish, O conscript fathers, to be merciful; I wish not to appear negligent amid such danger to the state; but I do now accuse myself of remissness and culpable inactivity. A camp is pitched in Italy, at the entrance of Etruria, in hostility to the republic; the number of the enemy increases every day; and yet the general of that camp, the leader of those enemies, we see within the

walls - ay, and even in the senate - planning every day some internal injury to the republic.

## Questions

1. Identify fully the forms of the following words, and say why that form is used here. Give the dictionary form and meaning. Match each one (except *tantis* and *castra*) with its equivalent in the three translations, and comment on any differences between these and the Latin (and each other).

1. clementem
2. castra
3. hostium
4. imperatorem
5. tantis
6. faucibus
7. eorum
8. intestinam

2.

1. Identify the word that agrees with *tantis* and translate the whole phrase.
2. Identify the word that agrees with *castra* and translate the whole phrase.

Find the equivalent phrase in the three translations and comment on any differences between these and the Latin (and each other).

3. Find the Latin for the following (from translation A):

1. "plotting daily from within the city the destruction of the state"
2. "when the perils of the state are so great"

Give a close translation of the Latin, and compare the Latin, in terms of both sense and style, with the translations in *all three* versions above (A, B and C).

4. cupio, patres conscripti, me esse clementem, cupio in tantis rei publicae periculis me non dissolutum videri, sed iam me ipse inertiae nequitiaeque condemno.

1. Give the dictionary forms and find the meanings of the following:
  - a. dissolutum
  - b. inertiae
  - c. nequitiae (what does the *-que* at the end mean?)
2. Translate this sentence.
3. Comment on any features of expression and style you notice in the sentence. What effect do you think these features might have?
4. Compare the Latin to the versions of this in translations A B, and C in terms of
  - a. the sense
  - b. the style