

Year 2 Term 2 Week 7 Day 3
Grammar: subjunctive mood, third conjugation



Latin Without Tears pages 226b-228a introduces the subjunctive mood, third conjugation.

Perhaps the most famous examples of the use of the subjunctive in all literature come from the opening chapter of the Bible. In Genesis 1:2 God says, *fiat lux*, in v6 *fiat firmamentem*, in v14 *fiant luminaria* – “let there be...” We use the word “fiat” in English to mean an absolute decree and I suspect this may be linked with the use of the word in Genesis.

Bible Example:

Et audivi aliam vocem e coelo dicentem, “Exite ex ea, popule mi, ne participes sitis peccatorum eius, et ex plagis eius accipiatis.” Revelation 18:4

I think you can translate the first phrase without help: try it. *Exite* is imperative. *Popule mi* is vocative. The next phrase is complicated, just take it that it means “that you do not be partakers of her sins.” *Accipiatis* is subjunctive: “you may not (because of the *ne*) receive/accept of her plagues.”