

Civēs Rōmānī intereā pontem summīs vīribus excīdunt. Mox pontem in flūmen prosternent. Tum Lartius et Herminius hastās in hostem iaciunt, et summīs vīribus per pontem in tūtum locum ruunt. Horātius autem adhūc in extrēmō ponte stat, et sōlus in Etruscōs ferōciter pugnat. Rōmānī autem, iam terrōris plēnī, “O Horātī, retrō,” exclāmant, “retrō—nunc tūta est via; mox nullus pons trans flūmen erit, et hostēs tē vincent et necābunt.” Sed magnō fragōre pons in flūmen cecidit, et inter undās spūmōsās omnia

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ad pontum natābant.

**iacio, -ere, -iēci, iactum—**I throw.

**retrō—**back, backward.

**spūmōsus, -a, -um—**foamy.

**tūtus, -a, -um—**safe.

**vīs, pl., vīres, f.—**force, strength :  
**summīs vīribus—**with all  
 one's strength.

Be careful with tenses here. Don't just assume everything is in the past! Also watch out for the prepositions *in* and *ad*. *In* can mean different things depending on the case of the noun that follows it. You should make sure you know this list:

*in* + ablative “in, at, on, upon, from” (location)

*in* + dative “within, while in” (time)

*in* + accusative “into, to” “about” “according to” “against.”

*Ad* is always followed by the accusative and can mean “on” as well as “to.”

Make your translation and then compare with my attempt on the next page.

The Roman citizens, meanwhile, are cutting [you could also have “cut” here but not if you were thinking of the past tense – we don't say “cutted” in English so the past “cut” is the same as the present “cut”!] down the bridge with all their strength. Soon they will overthrow the bridge into the water. Then Lartius and Herminius throw [their] spears at the enemy and rush with all their strength across the bridge to the/a safe place. Horatius, however, still stands at the end of the bridge and fiercely fights alone against the Etruscans. The Romans, however, full of terror, cry out, “O Horatius, back.! Back – now the way is safe, soon there will be no bridge (or “not be any bridge”) across the river and the enemy will conquer/defeat you and will kill you.” But the bridge fell into the river with a great crash and everything on the bridge was floating among the foamy waves.