

Horātius iam in hostibus sōlus manēbat. Sed adhūc impavidus in flūminis rīpā stābat, et Tiberim ōrāvit : “ O Tiberīne pater, tē omnēs Rōmānī adōrāmus ; tē patrem vocāmus ; tū hodiē Rōmānī militis vītā conservābis, et undīs tuīs tūtum portābis.” Dixit, et in spūmōsās Tiberis undās dēsiluit. Multīs vulneribus et onere armōrum fessus, vix in undīs spūmōsīs natāvit, sed Tiberīnus pater tam fortem Rōmānum ad alteram rīpam tulit et tūtum ad cīvēs sollicitōs portāvit. Magna fuit ira Etruscōrum, magnum gaudium Rōmānōrum. Nōmen igitur Horātiī inter Rōmānōs et per tōtum orbem terrārum semper erat nōtum et praeclārum, quod pro patriā fortiter pugnāverat. Et omnēs Rōmānī Tiberim flūmen semper adōrābant, et ad flūminis rīpās dōna libenter ferēbant, quia omnium Rōmānōrum est pater, et urbem Rōmam fortemque Rōmānum ē ferōcibus Etruscīs conservāvit.

Amātisne Graecās Rōmānāsque fābulās ? Si fābulae vōs dēlectant, vōs verba mea in tabulīs scribite, et magistrō vestrō recitāte. Ita fābulās praeclārās semper memoriā tenēbitis. Post paucōs annōs vōs, iam adolescentēs, multās aliās fābulās legētis.

dēsilio, 4, -silui, -sultum—I jump
down.

dico, 3, dixi, dictum—I say.

hodiē—to-day.

nōmen, -inis, n.—name.

onus, -eris, n.—burden.

ripa, -ae, f.—bank.

Tiberinus, -i, m.—the god of the
river Tiber.

tuli—*part of* “fero.”

vix—scarcely.

vulnus, -eris, n.—wound.

For help with translating *in*, a note on the formation of questions in Latin and a reminder about the imperative mood of verbs see Y2T3W7D3, your last grammar lesson. This lesson will also help with other aspects of this lesson. My attempt is on the next page.

Horatius now remained alone **within** the enemy. But so far he was standing undaunted **on** the bank of the river and he prayed to the god of the River Tiber, “O Father Tiber, all we Romans worship you. We call you father. Today you will preserve the life of a Roman soldier and carry him safe with your waves.” He spoke and jumped down **into** the foamy waves of the Tiber. Tired by many wounds and by the burden of armour he scarcely swam, **upon** the foamy waves but Father Tiber bore so brave a Roman to the other bank and carried (him) safe to the worried citizens. Great was the anger of the Etruscans, great [was] the joy of the Romans.

Therefore the name of Horatius was always recognised and famous among the Romans and through the whole earth because he fought bravely for [his] country. And all Romans always worshipped the River Tiber and willingly brought gifts to the banks of the river because it is the father of all Romans and it preserved the Roman city and the brave Roman from the fierce Etruscans.

Do you like Greek and Roman stories? If [the] stories delight you, write my words on tablets and read them aloud to your teacher. Thus you will hold the famous stories with [your] memory/ by heart. After a few years, you (now young) will read many other stories.

Did you spot the *-ne* question? What about the imperatives? I have highlighted the occurrences of *in*. Make sure you understand why I decided to translate them as I did.

This story is most famous in English as retold in the heroic poem, “How Horatius Kept the Bridge” by Thomas Babington Macaulay. You can read it here: <https://englishverse.com/poems/horatius> .