

ŌLIM in Lȳdiā regnābat rex, Croesus nōmine, inter omnēs gentēs propter dīvitias nōtus. Lȳdia Asiae regio erat, Persiae fīnitima. Nec procul, trans mare Aegaeum, Graeci incolēbant. Deos Graecos adōrābat Croesus, et saepe ad ōrāculum Delphicum dōna pretiōsissima mittēbat ; aurum argentumque aliāsque rēs pretiōsissima mittēbat, nam omnium rēgum erat dīvitissimus. Itaque Graeci Croesum amābant, et saepe viātōrēs ad Lȳdiae ōram nāvīgābant. Inter viātōrēs forte Solōn, vir sapientissimus, ad Croesi hospitium vēnit. Sapientior erat quam omnēs patriae suae cīvēs. Ubi dīvitias Croesi et omnēs rēs pulcherrimas laudāvit, tum Croesus, “ O hospes,” inquit, “ nōne mē omnium hominum beātissimum vocās ? Nōne ego beātior sum quam omnēs patriae tuae cīvēs ? ” Sed Solōn, “ O Croese,” respondit, “ Hodiē sine dubio beātus es ; ōlim tamen fortasse cūrae gravissimae tē vexābunt. Nēminem, adhūc vīvum, beātum voco.”

argentum, -i, *n.*—silver.

aurum, -i, *n.*—gold.

beātus, -a, -um—happy, prosperous.

Croesus, -i, *m.*—Croesus, king of Lydia.

cūra, -ae, *f.*—care.

Cyros, -i, *m.*—Cyrus, king of Persia.

dīvitiae, -ārum, *f. pl.*—riches.

gravis, -e—heavy, grievous.

Lȳdia, -ae, *f.*—Lydia, a district of Asia Minor.

Persia, -ae, *f.*—Persia.

quam—than, how.

respondeo, 2, -di, -sum—I reply.

sapiens, -entis—wise.

Solōr, -ōnis, *m.*—Solon, an Athenian.

vexo, 1—I trouble, harass.

viātōr, -ōris, *m.*—traveller.

vīvus, -a, -um—alive, living.

Look out for adjectives in this exercise and remember they can have positive, comparative and superlative forms. If you want to revise you can find the lessons on comparison of adjectives in Year 1 Term 3 Weeks 5 and 6 Day 2.

Translate and compare with my attempt on the next page.



Once in Lydia, a king reigned called Croesus, noted among all people on account of [his] wealth. Lydia was a kingdom of Asia bordering on Persia. Not far off across the Aegean sea lived the Greeks. Croesus worshipped the Greek gods and often sent most precious gifts to the Oracle of Delphi. He sent silver and gold and other most precious things for he was the richest of all kings. And so the Greeks loved Croesus and often travellers sailed to the Lydian shore. Among the travellers, by chance, Solon, a most wise man, came to the guest chamber of Croesus. He was wiser than all the citizens of his country. When he praised the wealth of Croesus and all [his] most beautiful things, then Croesus said, “ O Croesus, today without doubt you are happy, one day perhaps however, the greatest troubles will worry you. No one who is still living therefore do I call happy.”