

Aesop's Fable of the Lion and the Mouse: II

Here is the story we looked at some weeks ago, Aesop's 'Fable of the Lion and the Mouse'. Look at it again - if you want you can read the English version over the page - then work through the exercises.

Leo est. Leo fessus est. Leo sub arbore in umbra dormit. Mus atque est. Mus celer est, et in arbore habitat. Mus nescit leonem illic dormire, et domo exiens leonem dormientem casu excitat. Leo excitatus iratus est. Leo iratissimus est! Mus perterritus est!

Leo iratus murem perterritumprehendens, rugit, 'Tu, Mus, me excitavisti! Iratus sum! Iratissimus sum! Te necabo!'

Mus perterritus leoni supplicans clamitat, 'Leo magne, mea culpa non est. Haec mea domus est. Ego nesciebam te hic dormire. Etiam ego parvus sum, et tu magnus es. Injustum est me necare!' Leo persuasus murem dimittit. Non multo post, Leo, currens in silva, in rete incidit. Exire non potest. Iratus et perterritus, rugit et clamat. Mus Leonem audit. Mus Leoni succurrit. Mus rete rodit et rodit et rodit, et tandem Leonem liberat. Leo liberatus celer est. Exinde Leo et Mus amici sunt.

fessus = tired	arbor = tree	umbra = shade
atque = also	celer = lively	habitare = to live
illic = there / in that place	domus = house	exire = go out
excitare = to wake up	iratus = angry	iratissimus = very angry
perterritus = terrified	prehendere = to catch	rugire = to roar
supplicare = to beg	clamitare = to shout	magnus = big/great
mea culpa = my fault	hic = here	parvus = small
persuasus = persuaded	haec = this	non multo post = not long later
currere = to run	dimittere = to let go	incidere = fall into
succurrere = to help	rete = net	dormire = to sleep
silva = forest	exinde = from then on	nescire = to not know
rodere = chew	tandem = at last	casu = by chance
liberare = to set free	amicus = friend	injustum = unfair
	audire = to hear	

There is a lion. **The lion is tired.** The lion is sleeping under a tree in the shade. There is also a mouse. The mouse is cheerful, and he lives in the tree. **The mouse does not know the lion is sleeping there,** and going out of his house he accidentally wakes up the sleeping lion. **The woken up lion is angry.** The lion is very angry! The mouse is terrified!

The angry lion, catching the terrified mouse, roars, 'You woke me up, Mouse! I am angry! I will kill you!'

The terrified mouse, begging the lion, shouts, 'Great lion, it is not my fault. This is my house. **I did not know you were sleeping there.** Also, I am small, and you are big. It is unfair to kill me!'

The lion, persuaded, lets the mouse go. Not long later, the lion, running in the wood, falls into a net. **He cannot get out.** Angry and terrified he roars and shouts. The mouse hears the lion. The mouse runs to help the lion. The mouse chews and chews and chews the net, and at last he frees the lion. **The freed lion is cheerful.** From then on the lion and the mouse are friends.

Exercises:

1: Look at the phrases above that are bold and underlined. Use your detective skills to find the same phrases in the Latin passage. Write them out below. The first one has been found for you.

The lion is tired. Leo fessus est.

The mouse does not know the lion is sleeping there. _____

The lion is very angry! _____

I did not know you were sleeping there. _____

He cannot get out. _____

The freed lion is cheerful. _____

2. Have a look at the sentences below in English and Latin.

Leo fessus est. The lion is tired.	Fabula dicit leonem fessum esse. The fable says that the lion is tired.
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Mus perterritus est. The mouse is terrified.	Fabula dicit murem perterritum esse. The fable says that the mouse is terrified.
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The sentences on the left are **direct statements**. This is when we say something directly. For instance, 'I am bored' is a direct statement.

The sentences on the right are called **indirect statements**. This is when we report something, or when we talk about something indirectly. Indirect statements are useful for **reported speech** in stories, and for summarising information. Indirect statements follow a verb of saying or knowing. Normally they have the word 'that' in them, but sometimes we can leave this out.

For instance: 'He says [that] he is bored' or 'I know [that] it is silly.'

Look at the sentences below and sort them into direct and indirect statements. The first one has been done for you.

	Direct	Indirect
1. The lion is very angry.	✓	
2. I know that the mouse is scared.		
3. The story says the lion was angry.		
4. I did not know you were asleep.		
5. The film is exciting.		

3. Look at the following direct statements. Use the verbs of saying and knowing below to fill in the blanks and turn them into indirect statements. The first one has been done for you.

Verbs: *to find out* *to think* *to know* *to shout*

Direct statement

- The lion was angry. She thought that the lion was angry.
- They were going home. _____
- The Romans had a big empire. _____
- Dragons are scary. _____
- The food was delicious. _____

The sentences on the left are **direct statements**. This is when we say something directly. For instance, 'I am bored' is a direct statement.

The sentences on the right are called **indirect statements**. This is when we report something, or when we talk about something indirectly. Indirect statements are useful for **reported speech** in stories, and for summarising information. Indirect statements follow a verb of saying or knowing. Normally they have the word 'that' in them, but sometimes we can leave this out.

For instance: 'He says [that] he is bored' or 'I know [that] it is silly.'

Look at the sentences below and sort them into direct and indirect statements. The first one has been done for you.

4. In Latin indirect statements are shown using an **accusative and infinitive construction**. Just like in English, they go with verbs of saying or knowing:

Direct

Indirect

Leo rugit.
The lion roars.

Fabula dicit leonem rugire.
The fable says that the lion roars.

Mus rodit.
The mouse is scared.

Fabula dicit murem rodere.
The fable says that the mouse chews.

The sentences fit together like this:

Leo rugit → Nominative Leo 3rd person singular rugit.

The lion roars → Nominative Fabula 3rd person singular dicit accusative leonem infinitive rugire.

Use the information here to help you transform the sentences below from direct statements to indirect statements in Latin.

Nouns:

	Nominative Singular	Accusative Singular
Lion	leo	leonem
Mouse	mus	murem
Boy	puer	puerum
Girl	puella	puellam
Goddess	dea	deam

Verbs:

	Infinitive
Roar	rugire
Shout	clamare
Sleep	dormire
Pray	orare
Sing	cantare

Leo rugit.

Dicit *leonem rugire*.

They were going home.

Dicit _____

The Romans had a big empire.

Dicit _____

Dragons are scary.

Dicit _____

The food was delicious.

Dicit _____