

UNIT 9

PERFECTLY PASSIVE- THE PERFECT INDICATIVE PASSIVE

9.1 When the Perfect Indicative Passive is needed

The same distinction between Active and Passive Verbs (See 3.1) applies for this Tense, as it does for all others. The Perfect Indicative Passive is used to indicate not what someone *did* but what he or she *underwent* as a result of someone else's action.

9.2 How it is formed

Verbs in the Perfect Indicative Passive have the following characteristics :

1. They are **compound** ie. made up of **two** parts :
 - a **Past Participle**
 - the appropriate form of the **Present Tense** of the Verb 'to be'
2. The Past Participle, which functions as an adjective, is **inflected**, that is, it changes its ending to agree in number and gender with its accompanying Noun or Pronoun.

9.3 The 4th Part of the Verb

For the first time you will be making use of the **4th Part of the Verb**, known as the **Supine** which, as its name infers, does not actually *do* very much, but it is, however, not entirely useless for it is the basis for a good deal of activity. Here it is useful for a special purpose, that is to form the Past Participle. This it does by presenting a model - always ending in **-um** - from which the Past Participle takes shape. All you have to do is to drop the **-um** ending of the Supine and substitute the appropriate inflected ending. If we take, for example, the Verb 'to send' :

*mitto, mittere, misi, **missum***

we can see that the 4th Part *missum* gives us a Past Participle *missus, -a, -um* as in the statement:
Fuit homo missus a Deo - There was a man sent from God

But that, however, is only *one* component of the Perfect Indicative Passive, for the Past Participle *alone* is not a Verb. In order to qualify for that status it must be accompanied by the appropriate form of the Verb 'to be'. This is how it is formed in all Conjugations :

MASCULINE	FEMININE	NEUTER
<i>missus sum</i>	<i>missa sum</i>	
<i>missus es</i>	<i>missa es</i>	
<i>missus est</i>	<i>missa est</i>	<i>missum est</i>
<i>missi sumus</i>	<i>missae sumus</i>	
<i>missi estis</i>	<i>missae estis</i>	
<i>missi sunt</i>	<i>missae sunt</i>	<i>missa sunt</i>

Here is an illustration of how this Verb is used :

Missus est Angelus Gabriel a Deo - The Angel Gabriel was sent from God

Learn the following Past Participles and their meaning :

percussus - stricken	from <i>percutio, -ere, percussi, percussum</i> (3) - to strike
inventus - found	from <i>invenio, -ire, inveni, inventum</i> (4) - to find
assumptus - taken up	from <i>assumo, -ere, assumpsi, assumptum</i> (3) - to take up
probatus - approved	from <i>probo, -are, -avi, probatum</i> (1) - to approve:
reputatus - reputed	from <i>reputo, -are, -avi, reputatum</i> (1) - to reckon, count
firmatus - established	from <i>firmo, -are, -avi, firmatum</i> (1) - to establish :
abscissus - cut off	from <i>abscindo, -ere, abscidi, abscissum</i> (3) - to cut off
scriptus - written	from <i>scribo, -ere, scripsi, scriptum</i> (3) - to write
adjutus - helped	from <i>adjuvo, -are, adjuvi, adjutum</i> (1) - to help

Reading Practice

Now read these sentences which contain Verbs in the Perfect Indicative Passive, noting the inflection of the Past Participle

Percussus sum sicut fenum - I have been smitten like grass

Beatus vir, qui inventus est sine macula - Blessed is the man who has been found without stain

Assumpta est Maria in caelum - Mary has been taken up into heaven

sicut probati sumus a Deo - as we were approved by God

cum sceleratis reputatus est - He was reputed with the wicked

et sic in Sion firmata sum - and so I was established in Sion

Verbo Domini caeli firmati sunt - By the word of the Lord the heavens were established

abscissus est de terra viventium - He was cut off from the land of the living

sicut scriptum est - as it is written

In Deo speravit cor meum, et adjutus sum - In God hath my heart trusted, and I have been helped

Vocabulary

<p><i>porta, -ae</i> - gate, door <i>ferreus, -a, -um</i> - of iron <i>aperio, -ire, aperui, apertum</i> (4) - to open <i>claudio, -ere, clausi, clausum</i> (3) - to shut <i>vestimentum, -i</i> - garment <i>contero, -ere, contrivi, contritum</i> (3) - to destroy, break <i>passer, -eris</i> - sparrow <i>eripio, -ere, eripui, ereptum</i> (3) to snatch, take away <i>lapido, -are, -avi, -lapidatum</i> (10) - to stone <i>seco, ere, secui, sectum</i> (3) - to cut to pieces <i>morior, mori, mortuus sum</i> - to die (Deponent Verb - see next section) <i>reprobo, -are, -avi, reprobatum</i> (1) - to reject <i>curo, -are, -avi, curatum</i> - to cure</p>	<p><i>janua, -ae</i> - door <i>ultra</i> - of its own accord <i>nix, nivis</i> - snow <i>albus, -a, -um</i> - white <i>claudus, -a, -um</i> - lame <i>laqueus, -i</i> - snare, trap <i>venantium</i> - of the hunters <i>gladius, -i</i> - sword <i>occisio, -onis</i> - slaughter <i>testimonium, -i</i> - testimony <i>paralyticus, -a, -um</i> - paralytic <i>vinco, -ere, vici, victum</i> (3) - conquer</p>
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Exercise 1

1. What does Wisdom (*Sapientia*) say about herself in Ecclesiasticus ?

Ab initio, et ante saecula, creata sum

2. What happened as the Angel led Peter out of prison?

Venerunt ad portam ferream...quae ultra aperta est

3. What stopped the foolish bridesmaids from gaining access to the wedding?

clausa est janua

4.

What did Peter, James and John witness in the company of Jesus?

transfiguratus est ante eos

5. To what does Psalm cxxiii, 7 compare God's power to rescue us from sin?

Anima nostra sicut passer, erepta est de laqueo venantium : laqueus contritus est, et nos liberati sumus

6. What does St Paul say about the sufferings of those who followed Christ?

lapidati sunt, secti sunt, tentati sunt, in occisione gladii mortui sunt

7. What shows that they were pleasing to God?

testimonio fidei probati, inventi sunt in Christo Jesu Domino nostro

8. What metaphor does Christ use to illustrate the way He was received?

Hic est lapis qui reprobatus est

9. Which miracles does this extract refer to?

multi autem paralytici et claudi curati sunt

9.4 Two special cases : *facio* and *video*

Consider both the Active and Passive forms of these two Verbs :

ACTIVE	PASSIVE
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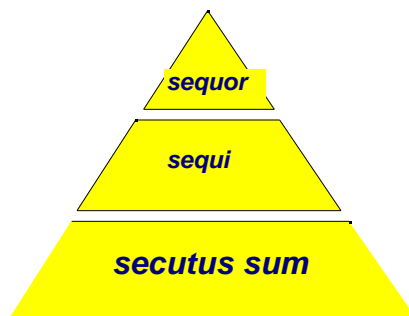
<i>facio, -ere, feci, factum</i> - to do, to make	<i>fio, fieri, factus sum</i> - to be made, to become
<i>video, -ere, visi, visum</i> - to see	<i>videor, videri, visus sum</i> - to seem, appear

It is important to note that in either case the Passive form has an 'extended' meaning. The first Verb, besides the Passive meaning 'made' or 'done', can also be translated by 'became' or 'been' as the sense demands, and the second has the meaning 'seem', 'seemed' etc. as in the following examples :

<i>ET HOMO <u>FACTUS EST</u></i>	AND <u>HE WAS MADE</u> MAN
<i>et Verbum caro <u>factum est</u></i>	and the Word <u>was made</u> flesh
<i>et <u>facta est</u> tranquillitas magna</i>	and there came (lit. <u>was made</u>) a great calm
<i>haec in Bethania <u>facta sunt</u> trans Jordanem</i>	These things <u>were done</u> in Bethania beyond the Jordan
<i>Domine, refugium <u>factus es</u> nobis a generatione et progenie</i>	Lord, <u>Thou hast been</u> our refuge from generation to generation
<i>Dominus <u>factus est</u> obediens usque ad mortem</i>	the Lord <u>became</u> obedient unto death
<i>vestimenta autem ejus <u>facta sunt</u> alba sicut nix</i>	His garments <u>became</u> white as snow
<i><u>Visi sunt</u> oculi insipientium mori</i>	In the sight of the unwise <u>they seemed</u> to die

9.5 DEPONENT VERBS

You will already be familiar with the peculiarity of Deponent Verbs which look like and behave exactly as Passive Verbs but are in fact translated as Active Verbs. The Perfect Tense is modelled on the Passive forms mentioned above. Note that there is no 4th Part :



This is how it is conjugated :

<i>secutus sum</i> - I followed	<i>secuti sumus</i> - we followed
<i>secutus es</i> - thou didst follow	<i>secuti estis</i> - you followed
<i>secutus est</i> - he /she followed	<i>secuti sunt</i> - they followed

and here are some examples of its use : *vos, qui secuti estis me* - you who have followed Me

Judaei ergo...secuti sunt eam - The Jews therefore...followed her

Note also the compound form *persequor, persequi, persecutus sum* - to persecute :

and the example : *et nos persecuti sunt* - and they have persecuted us

Learn the following Deponent Verbs paying special attention to the Past Participle :

<i>lucror, lucrari, lucratus sum</i> - to gain, profit	<i>superlucror, -ari, superlucratus sum</i> - to gain over and above
<i>lacrimor, -ari, lacrimatus sum</i> - to weep	<i>mori, mori, mortuus sum</i> - to die
<i>contristor, -ari, contristatus sum</i> - to become sad	<i>loquor, loqui, locutus sum</i> - to speak
<i>adipiscor, adipisci, adeptus sum</i> - to obtain	<i>orior, oriri, ortus sum</i> - to rise
<i>(ad)miror, -ari, (ad)miratus sum</i> - to be astonished, wonder	<i>indignor, -ari, indignatus sum</i> - to be angry
<i>miserior, misereri, misertus sum</i> - to have mercy, take pity	<i>patior, pati, passus sum</i> - to suffer
<i>operor, -ari, operatus sum</i> - to work	
<i>laetor, -ari, laetatus sum</i> - to rejoice	

Exercise 2a Translate the following :

1. *falsum testimonium locuti sunt*
2. *Laetatus sum*
3. *et videntes* (seeing Him) *admirati sunt*
4. *Gloria Domini super te orta est*
5. *Credidi, propter quod* (therefore) *locutus sum*
6. *Mortuus est Lazarus*

Exercise 2b

1. How did Peter feel when the cock crowed?

Contristatus est Petrus

2. What was Jesus's reaction on hearing of the death of Lazarus?

lacrimatus est Jesus

3. Was this prayer heard?

Audivit Dominus et misertus est mihi

4. What did the good servant say to his master?

ecce alia quinque (5) talenta superlucratus sum

5. What did St Paul say the Saints (*Sancti*) have achieved through the power of faith?

Sancti per fidem vicerunt regna, operati sunt justitiam, adepti sunt repromissiones

6. On the return of the Prodigal Son, how did his brother react?

indignatus est

7. What did Moses do in the sight of God?

Precatus est Moyses in conspectu Domini Dei sui

8. What does the Creed affirm about the Holy Ghost?

locutus est per prophetas

Vocabulary

<i>virginalis, -e</i> - virginal	<i>aula, -ae</i> - court, chamber
<i>eligo, -ere, elegi, electum</i> (3) - to choose	<i>dignor, -ari, dignatus sum</i> - to deign
<i>sine</i> - without	<i>tactus, -us</i> - touch, contact
<i>domina, -ae</i> - mistress, lady	<i>radix, radicis</i> - root
<i>gaudeo, -ere, -</i> - to rejoice	<i>speciosus, -a, -um</i> - beautiful
<i>valde</i> - exceedingly	<i>decorus, -a, -um</i> - fitting, beautiful
<i>exoro, -are, -avi, -atum</i> - to plead	<i>nascor, nasci, natus sum</i> - to be born
<i>visum, -i</i> - vision, dream	

Reading Practice

multa enim passa sum hodie per visum propter eum for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of Him (Pilate's wife)

<i>Deus, qui virginalem aulam beatae Mariae, in qua habitares eligere <u>dignatus es</u>...</i>	O God, who <u>didst vouchsafe</u> to choose the chaste chamber of the blessed Virgin Mary in which to dwell...
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<i>Benedicta et venerabilis es, Virgo Maria : quae sine tactu pudoris* <u>inventus es</u> mater Salvatoris</i>	Thou art blessed and venerable, O Virgin Mary, who without intercourse with man <u>didst become</u> (lit. wast found to be) the mother of our Saviour
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FROM THE OFFICE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	
COMPLINE OF THE PURIFICATION UNTIL EASTER	
<i>Ave, Regina coelorum, Ave, Domina Angelorum, Salve radix, salve porta, Ex qua mundo lux <u>est orta</u></i>	Hail, O Queen of Heaven enthroned! Hail, by angels mistress owned! Root of Jesse! Gate of morn! Whence the world's true Light <u>was born</u> .
<i>Gaude, Virgo gloriosa, Super omnes speciosa. Vale, o valde decora! Et pro nobis Christum exora!</i>	Glorious Virgin, joy to thee, Loveliest whom in heaven they see : Fairest thou where all are fair! Plead with Christ our sins to spare.

<i>Jesu, tibi sit gloria qui <u>natus es</u> de Virgine</i>	Glory be to Thee, O Jesus, who <u>wast born</u> of a Virgin
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<i><u>ET INCARNATUS EST DE SPIRITU SANCTO EX MARIA VIRGINE ; ET HOMO FACTUS EST. crucifixus etiam pro nobis : sub Pontio Pilato passus, et sepultus est</u></i>	AND HE WAS MADE FLESH OF THE HOLY GHOST OF THE VIRGIN MARY : AND WAS MADE MAN. He <u>was</u> also <u>crucified</u> for us, <u>suffered</u> under Pontius Pilate and <u>was buried</u> .
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**pudor is* both 'modesty' and 'shame', which Pope Pius XI described as "nature's two protectors of chastity", and their absence as a stumbling block to the practice of virtue.