**Chapter XIV Morphology!!!!**

# Imperfect Verbs

# Sidebar Notes

Imperfect Verbs:

\*THINK: I started painting a picture. It is **not perfect yet**, because I haven’t finished painting it.

\*\* Do NOT write an imperfect verb as I \_\_\_\_\_\_ed. That is PAST TENSE.

\*\*\* -batis and –bas were both translated as *you were/kept/used to/began to \_\_\_\_\_\_*. The difference is that in Latin, -batis is used when talking to multiple people, and –bas is used when talking to only one. In English, there used to be an equivalent to batis (thou) but is not used today.

Imperfect Application:

\* Conj: conjugation

An **imperfect verb** describes an ongoing action. It describes an action

that may have been started, but not yet finished. \* In English, we

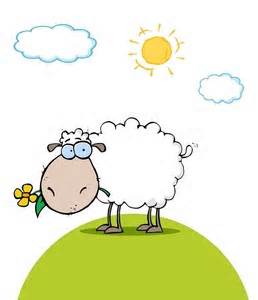
translate an imperfect verb one of the for following ways: I was\_\_\_\_\_ing,

I used to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, I kept \_\_\_\_\_\_ing, or I began to \_\_\_\_\_\_. \*\* In Latin,

However, you only change the ending of the word. The Latin endings are:

**-bam, -bas, -bat, -bamus, -batis, -bant.** You can remember these as the

“sheep tense” because there is always a “ba”.



For example,

**BA**M, **BA**S, **BA**T, **BA**MUS, **BA**TIS, **BA**NT!

**laborābam** could

be translated as

I was working,

I kept working,

I used to work,

or I began to

work. But how do you know which “ba” to

use? It’s simple! In Latin, the endings

change depending on **person**. This means

that “I work” would be written differently in Latin than “You work” would

be written. The chart below shows us when to use which “ba”.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Latin | English |
| -bam | I was/kept/used to/began to \_\_\_\_\_ |
| -bas | You were/kept/used to/began to \_\_\_\_ |
| -bat | He was/kept/used to/began to \_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| -bamus | We were/kept/used to/began to \_\_\_\_ |
| -batis\*\*\* | You were/kept/used to/began to \_\_\_\_ |
| -bant | They were/kept/used to/began to \_\_\_ |

Now THAT makes more sense! Now, let’s apply these endings in actual

Imperfect verbs!

# Imperfect Application

Now we know how to recognize an imperfect verb thanks to our friend the sheep.

But how do we write an imperfect verb? This varies based onthe **conjugation** of

the verb, which we learned about in chapter 10. Butthose were present tense

verbs! Now we will do the same thing but with imperfects:

1. Write the infinitive of the verb (habēre).
2. Take the base of the verb (hab).
3. If the verb is 1st conj. \*, write an **ā**, if it is 2nd or 3rd, write an **ē**, if it is

3rd-IO or 4th conjugation, write an **iē** (habēre is a 2nd conjugation verb, so I

would write habē).

1. Add an imperfect ending: bam, bas, bat, bamus, batis, or bant. (habēbam)

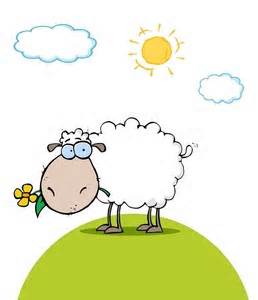
How about irregular verbs? Those are a little different, and you just have to memorize them. However, most irregular verbs follow the same pattern. The irregular verb sum, esse would be eram, eras, erat, eramus, eratis, erant as an irregular. These are the endings for most imperfect verbs.

# Imperfect Paradigms

Imperfect verbs, just like present tense verbs, have paradigms. Let’s take a look:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Latin | English |
| habitābam | I was living |
| habitābas | You were living |
| habitābat | He/she/it was living |
| habitābamus | We were living |
| habitābatis | You were living |
| habitābant | They were living |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| iubēbam | I was ordering |
| iubēbas | You were ordering |
| iubēbat | He/she/it was ordering |
| iubēbamus | We were ordering |
| iubēbatis | You were ordering |
| iubēbant | They were ordering |
| gerēbam | I was wearing |
| gerēbas | You were wearing |
| gerēbat | He/she/it was wearing |
| gerēbamus | We were wearing |
| gerēbatis | You were wearing |
| gerēbant | They were wearing |
| effugiēbam | I was fleeing |
| effugiēbas | You were fleeing |
| effugiēbat | He/she/it was fleeing |
| effugiēbamus | We were fleeing |
| effugiēbatis | You were fleeing |
| effugiēbant | They were fleeing |
| dormiēbam | I was sleeping |
| dormiēbas | You were sleeping |
| dormiēbat | He/she/it was sleeping |
| dormiēbamus | We were sleeping |
| dormiēbatis | You were sleeping |
| dormiēbant | They were sleeping |



Good Job and Good Luck!!!