

88. Uses of the Subjunctive Mood

The subjunctive is used after verbs expressing hope, wish, desire, command or doubt such as **sperare** - to hope, **desiderare** - to desire, **volere** - to want, and **dubitare** - to doubt. But verbs that express certainty or fact used in the affirmative sense (and not negative) require the indicative, such as **essere sicuro** - to be sure, **essere certo** - to be certain, and **sapere** - to know. And if the subject of both verbs in the sentence is the same, use **di** with the infinitive instead of the subjunctive.

Dubito che loro vengano. I doubt that they'll come.

Spero che lei vinca. I hope that she wins.

Non so se i musei siano aperti. I don't know if the museums are open.

So che i musei sono aperti. I know that the museums are open.

Non credo di averlo perso. I don't think that I lost it.

The subjunctive is also used after impersonal expressions, usually **essere** and an adjective or adverb, unless they state a fact. Some common expressions are **è necessario** - it's necessary, **è meglio** - it's better, **è possibile** - it's possible, and **è probabile** - it's probable.

The indicative is used after these expressions of certainty: **è certo** - it's certain, **è sicuro** - it's sure, and **è vero** - it's true.

Certain conjunctions require the subjunctive as well, such as **sebbene** - even though, **benché** - although, **affinché** - so that, **prima che** - before, **purché** - provided that, as long as and **nel caso che** - in the event that. The subjunctive is also used after a relative superlative **che**, and after **il primo.. che**, **l'ultimo..che**, and **il solo...che**.

89. Possessive Pronouns

The possessive pronouns replace a noun, and they have the same forms as the possessive adjectives. They always require an article, unless the possessive pronoun follows the verb **essere**, in which case it is omitted.

Non parlo a tua madre. Parlo alla mia. I'm not talking to your mother. I'm talking to mine.

Questa macchina è mia. This car is mine.

90. The Farm

farm	la fattoria
windmill	il mulino a vento
barn	il granaio
cottage	il villino
hay	il fieno
corral	il recinto
stable	la stalla
barrel	il barile
lasso	il laccio
saddle	la sella
stool	lo sgabello
hoe	la zappa
rake	il rastrello
pitchfork	il forcone
shovel	la pala
tractor	il trattore
silo	il silo
loft	il fienile
chicken coop	il pollaio
farmhouse	la cascina

91. Historical Past

The historical past or past absolute is used to indicate a completed action, and is used mainly in writing and rarely in speech. It is not a compound tense, and is formed by dropping the regular stems of the verbs and adding these endings:

-are		-ere		-ire	
-ai	-ammo	-ei	-emmo	-ii	-immo
-asti	-aste	-esti	-este	-isti	-iste

-ò -arono -è -erono -ì -irono

Avere and essere and many other verbs are irregular in the historical past:

avere	essere	fare	dire				
ebbi	avemmo	fui	fummo	feci	facemmo	dissi	dicemmo
avesti	aveste	fosti	foste	facesti	faceste	dicesti	diceste
ebbe	ebbero	fu	furono	fece	fecero	disse	dissero
dare	bere	stare					
diedi	demmo	bevvi	bevemmo	stetti	stemmo		
desti	deste	bevesti	beveste	stesti	steste		
diede	diedero	bevve	bevvero	stette	stettero		

The following verbs are irregular only in the io, lui/lei and loro forms.

The verbs are all either -ere or -ire verbs, so use the irregular stem for these three forms and add these endings: -i, -e, -ero. Use the regular stem and regular endings for the other three forms.

infinitive	irregular stem	infinitive	irregular stem
chiedere	chies-	rispondere	rispos-
chiudere	chius-	sapere	sepp-
conoscere	conobb-	scegliere	scels-
decidere	decis-	scrivere	scriss-
leggere	less-	vedere	vid-
mettere	mis-	venire	venn-
nascere	nacqu-	vivere	viss-
prendere	pres-	volere	voll-

The past perfect of the historical past is formed the same way as the past perfect of the indicative. Just add the past participle to the historical past of avere or essere.