The Special Datives

To this point, the functions of the Dative Case have been

1. Indirect Object of *give*, *tell*, *show* verbs

2. Dative with Special Adjectives *friendly* to, *unfriendly* to, *similar* to, *dissimilar* to, *equal* to, *suitable* for, *near* to, *dear* to, *pleasing* to, etc.

3. Dative with Special Intransitive Verbs *parco*, *mando*, *impero*, *noceo*, *resisto*, *studeo*, etc.

4. Dative with Certain Compound Verbs *praesum*, *praeficio*, *occurro*, etc. (often verbs with prefixes of *ob-* and *prae-*)

Two new Dative Case functions, sometimes called *Special Datives*, are explained in Unit XIII. These are the <u>Dative of Purpose</u> and the <u>Dative of Reference</u>.

1. **Dative of Purpose.** Sometimes, the idea of *purpose* can be stated in a single noun. In such a case, the Dative Case form of the noun is used. It answers the question, "*For* what purpose does something exist?" Note how we often ask, "What is that *for*?"

    > The consul donated money *for a reward*.
    > Consul pecuniam *praemio* donavit.

Seven common Latin nouns are often used as (*for*?!) the Dative of Purpose:

Principal Parts	Dative Singular Form	Meaning
cura, -ae, f.	curae	for a concern
auxilium, -I, n.	auxilio	for a help
impedimentum, -I, n.	impedimento	for an obstacle
praemium, -I, n.	praemio	for a reward
praesidium, -I, n.	praesidio	for a guard
subsidium, -I, n.	subsidio	for a support
usus,, -us, m.	usui	for a use

NOTA BENE: These are not the only nouns which may be used for purpose; they are only the most common. Sometimes a plural Dative Case form is used for purpose.

> Catullus poeta scripsit puellas esse *curis*.
> Catullus, a poet, wrote that girls *served as sources of trouble*.

Often the Dative of Purpose is used with the state-of-being verb, and seems almost to replace a Predicate Nominative:

> Milites erant *praesidio*.
> The soldiers were *for a garrison*.
> The soldiers were *a garrison*.
> The soldiers *served as a garrison*.

Sometimes, transitive verbs can be accompanied by the Dative of Purpose.

> Caesar legionem in Gallia *praesidio* <u>reliquit</u>.
> Caesar left a legion in Gaul as (for) a garrison.

2. <u>Dative of Reference</u>. A noun naming a person or persons receiving advantage or disadvantage is expressed in the Dative Case, and is called a Dative of Reference. This function may answer a question such as, "*For whom* was the action done?" or "For whose benefit?"

Note carefully this distinction:

> I am giving money *to you*.   (Indirect Object with *giving* verb)
>
> I have some money *for you*. (Dative of Reference; when you *get* it, you will benefit. But I'm not giving it to you yet.)
>
> Romani templa *deis deabusque* aedificaverunt.
> The Romans built temples *for (for the advantage of) the gods and goddesses*.

3. <u>Double Dative</u>. Because nouns used as Datives of Purpose suggest either advantage or disadvantage, they are often used together with the Dative of Reference. When this occurs, the construction is called the Double Dative.

Caesar legionem *praesidio provinciae* reliquit.
Caesar left a legion for a *garrison* for [the people of] the *province*.
                        PURPOSE   **REFERENCE**

Special Notes about the Dative of Purpose, Dative of Reference, Double Dative.

1. The Dative of Purpose is a "short cut" for a purpose clause;, you will, however, still see many purpose clauses.

2. Just because there is a Dative of Purpose, there will not necessarily be a Double Dative construction; conversely, there does not have to be a Dative of Purpose just because there is a Dative of Reference.

Quiz #23: The vocabulary words in the Words to Master list on Page 118.