Exercise I

1. With the soldiers having been joined by an agreement [ablative absolute], this city alone will not be destroyed; it has already sustained many hardships.

2. With another war having been brought against the province [ablative absolute], the enemies tried to inflict fires upon the houses and temples of the whole city.

3. All day long [accusative of duration], those people tried to find (their) companion of great boldness [genitive of description], whom the rather cruel servants had carried off by force.

4. With the sun greater by many parts [ablative of degree] than the whole earth [comparative conjunction], I beg that [indirect command] you teach me more about this (subject).

5. My sister’s [dative of possessor] name is of great glory [ablative of description] among everyone; You saw her with your own eyes often wandering along the shore.

6. There are as many moods/affectations in our hearts as there are forms in the world.

7. According to the habit and example of the Roman people [ablative of cause], he says that he cannot [negat posse] grant passage through the province to anyone [ulli–dative, indirect object]. [NB: Where English uses ‘say’, ‘said’, etc. to introduce a negative clauses (he says that he would not . . . ), Latin transfers the negative and uses the verb nego to introduce a positive clause (he denies that he would . . . ).]

8. With the gods knowing that I am not culpable [ablative absolute], I will boldly be fearless [literally: I, bold, will lack fear].

9. With the country (being) free [ablative absolute], I will not offer myself to death.

10. With these things having been said by the companion [ablative absolute], at first light the king responded that liberty had been offered and granted by the gods to the citizens.

11. There are as many opinions as there are men [or vice-versa—note that the phrase vice versa is itself an ablative absolute, ‘with the position having been turned around’]

12. With so many soldiers attacking the town [ablative absolute], the husband of the queen was a better keeper of the treasury [literally: money] than of the kingdom.

13. Why will such a rumor [literally: a rumor of this kind] spread [literally: go] through the whole town?

14. The king of the province is said to have fled with a large sum of money and taken himself to Rome [accusative of place to which].
15.  
a. When the cruel king flees to Rome [ablative absolute], some of the citizens cry out for joy, others keep silent in fear.

b. With the cruel king fled to Rome [ablative absolute], some of the citizens cried out for joy, other kept silent in fear. [Remember: the present participle refers to an action contemporaneous to the main verb. Hence, the present participle is translated as present in the 15a; as past in 15b.]

16. Friendship must be sought in and of itself.

17. With that man departing, the matter was begun [literally: the matter began to be carried out].

18. With the soldiers giving themselves to flight, you had begun to praise which of the leaders [of the ones leading]? Neither!

19. With a single sign having been given [ablative absolute], joyfully [ablative of manner] we discovered that for the citizens [dative of reference] there was as much boldness [partitive genitive] as was sufficient.

20. Hold on [singular active imperative]! You have borne things much [ablative of degree] more burdensome.

21. If you offer servitude to no one, you are considered honorable.

22. Many live by that custom and example.

23. Those who know nothing fear fortune; [but] wise men endure it. [NB: In the first clause understand ‘ei qui’ (‘those who’) but since they are in the same case (i.e., nominative) the ‘ei’ is suppressed and the ‘qui’ is left to do the work of both.]

24. The enemies of the greatest strength, joined to their own allies, attacked the town.

25. With many fighting for the town [ablative absolute], the inhabitants were not afraid.

26. The good man, famous for his most excellent skills, was an asset to the citizens.

27. The guardians will need greater skill and diligence [literally: for the guardians there will be need of greater skill and diligence], if they drive the evil men from the city. [future-more-vivid conditional]

28. A friend seems constant/reliable in inconstant/unreliable times [literally: in an inconstant matter].

29. Bestow [plural active imperative] character and skills (upon them), if you want your sons to be of the greatest virtue.

30. With the plans having been made more reliable [ablative absolute], he took the gifts from the king and brought them to his own country.

31. The soldier, joined to (another) soldier in friendship, waged war with great courage.

32. The wife came as an aid to that guardian [double dative], a man of the greatest courage and famous for his character [ablative of description], so that he might not be condemned for the destruction of the city [genitive of charge], which was destroyed by the treachery of the enemies [literally:
for the city having been destroyed by the treachery of the enemies]. She advised him that [indirect command] the plans of the enemy were bad for the city.

33. Some of the people wisely fled home; some, on account of bravery, waged war.

34. In the whole world [orbis terrarum: the world] we never saw as many people wandering as live in this city. One man wants to wage war against the rather brave people; another (wants) to conquer the whole world without skill or aid; no man says that he could not do everything. [Note the double negative—quite common in Latin: no man denies, i.e., every man affirms.]

35. With the enemy having been joined by a treaty, one of the fighters [of those fighting] said that he [se] had never wanted [negabat umquam optavisse] to wage war; (he said that) he had had to wage war [war had had to be waged by him] on account of the strength and evil character of the king.

36. Why did the teacher instruct the man who had gone astray to be led into the light by words of the wise.

37. With a sign having been given [ablative absolute], the women of the greatest beauty took flight [conducted themselves into flight].

38. With the war having been completed [ablative absolute], many things have been restored to us having been conquered.

39. With such a danger having been inflicted upon the town [ablative absolute], the inhabitants’ tears made the mother more certain of ruin. The mother was a women of famous virtue, but she was not able to endure such evils.

40. He took the sword from the hands of the man having been killed and he brought the having been removed (sword) against the breast of the other enemy approaching him [ad se] from the right.

41. He conquered with as much strength as he could muster [literally: with as much strength as he was able].

42. With the men fighting fiercely, the king turned away the burning pupils [orbes] of his eyes to the walls.