

## Uses of Licet

1. Summary of Use
  - 1.1. **licet** is an **impersonal** verb, appearing only “in the third personal singular, the infinitive and the gerund” (AG, 207)
  - 1.2. **licet** takes the **dative** whenever it governs a finite phrase or clause
    - 1.2.1. **licet** also offers the **dative** (or *rarely* an **accusative**) to the subject of this phrase
  - 1.3. **licet** may be translated **it is allowed, is permitted, may be done**
2. Summary of Forms
  - 2.1. Indicative
    - 2.1.1. **licet / licēbat / licēbit / licuit / licuerat / licuerit**
  - 2.2. Subjunctive
    - 2.2.1. **liceat / licēret / licuerit / licuisset**
  - 2.3. Et Cetera
    - 2.3.1. **licēre / licuisse / licitum est / licitūrum est / licēns**
3. Basic Uses
  - 3.1. Formal
    - 3.1.1. No bathing in the fish-pond: **lavāre in cētārium nōn licet.**
    - 3.1.2. They ask that they may do this: **rogant ut id sibi facere liceat.**
    - 3.1.3. You speak as though it were not permitted: **loquēris quasi nōn licēret.**
  - 3.2. Hortatory
    - 3.2.1. let all terrors menace me: **licet omnēs mihi terrōres impendeat.**
      - 3.2.1.1. this use may have **concessive** force, appearing where one would expect a concession with **ut**
      - 3.2.1.2. if concessive, it should be translated ‘though all terrors might menace me’
4. Review
  - 4.1. **Licet** may take--
    - 4.1.1. the simple **infinitive**
    - 4.1.2. the infinitive with **accusative** subject
    - 4.1.3. the infinitive with **dative** of interest
    - 4.1.4. the subjunctive, usually without **ut** (concessive **licet**)

The Essential AG: 207, 527

Famous Phrase: **videlicet** (contraction of **videre licet**, it is permitted to see)  
[further contracted and anglicized as **viz.** expressing ‘plainly,’ ‘namely,’ or ‘as follows’]