

those which belong to the predicative, and those which belong to the accident. For this purpose the three following rules are to be observed.

Rule I.—In order to find the theme put *who, which, or what*, before the predicative conjunction; and ask the question—Who was? Which strikes? What shall have been read? The answer is the theme.

Rule II.—To find the predicative put *who, which, or what*, after the predicative conjunction; and ask the question—Love whom? Strikes which? May confess what? The answer is the predicative.

Rule III.—To find the accident put *when, where, why, how, by which, or with whom*, after the predicative conjunction; and ask the question—Is where? Reads when? Thinks why? Considers how? Acts by which? Goes with whom? The answer is the accident.

For an illustration of these rules, a passage is here selected from Rollin, because, though exceptional in structure, it possesses many of the characteristics of both the Greek and Latin styles of composition; in so far, at least, as the ellipsis is a particular feature of these languages.

“PAPYRUS.—This is a plant from the root of which shoot out a great many triangular stalks, to the height of six or seven cubits. The ancients writ at first upon palm leaves; next on the inside of the bark of trees, from whence the word LIBER, or book, is derived; after that, upon tables covered over with wax, on which the characters were impressed with an instrument called Stylus, sharp pointed at one end to write with, and flat at the other, to efface what had been written. * * * At last the use of paper was introduced, and this was made of the bark of Papyrus, divided into thin flakes or leaves, which were very proper for writing; and this Papyrus was likewise called Byblus.”*

In the analysis of this passage for the purpose of illustrating the distinction between the three parts of a sentence, it may be well to comprehend, at the same time, the difference between principal and parenthetical sentences, and also the contrast between correct and superfluous diction. With this view we shall present, in the three following modes of exemplification; first, the division of the words in themes, predicates and accidents; second, the principal sentences, exclusive of those which are parenthetical; and third, the principal and parenthetical sentences; supplying what is elliptical; and marking by italics, through all the examples, the words which are superfluous.

	THE THEME.	THE PREDICATE.	THE ACCIDENCE.
	Papyrus.		
	This	is	a plant
	a great many triangular stalks	shoot	(from the root of which
or			out to the height of six
			seven cubits)
	The ancients	writ	at first
			upon palm leaves;
			next on the inside of the bark of trees,
			(from whence
or	the word LIBER	is	derived;)
	book	is	derived;)
		(covered	after that
			upon tables
	the characters	were	impressed
		(called Stylus,
		(pointed
		(to write
		(flat
		(to efface
	(what	had	been written.) * * *
			At last
and	the use of paper	was	introduced,
	this	was made of the bark of Papyrus,	
or		(divided into thin flakes
			leaves,)
	(which	were	proper
			very
and	this Papyrus	was	called Byblus
			likewise.

* Rollin's Ancient History, Vol. I., Chap. 6.