

UNIT SEVEN

VAL, VAIL

Latin VALERE, VALITURUS, "to be strong"

III One way to say goodbye to someone in Latin was to say "Vale!" This literally means, "Be strong!"

VALIANT (val' yənt) *adj.* Brave; courageous
Although the King of Scotland was a *valiant* warrior, he was no match for the Princess of Portugal.

syn: fearless

ant: cowardly

VALOR (val' ər) *n.* Noble courage
The *valor* with which Arthur faced his difficult illness was just one more example of his strong personality.

syn: heroism

ant: cowardice

AVAIL (ə vāɪ) *v.* To help; to be of use
L. ad, "towards," + valere = *towards strength*
Niles' great wealth did not *avail* him when it came to avoiding a lengthy prison sentence.

syn: benefit

FORT

Latin FORTIS, "strong"

FORTITUDE (fōrt' ə tōōd) *n.* Strength of mind; bravery
Valerie strongly objected to Lee's claim that women had less natural *fortitude* than men.

FORTE (fōr' tā; fōrt) *n.* Strong point; skill
Although Fred had been a math teacher at the school for many years, his real *forte* lay in counseling.

syn: strength

ant: weakness

DUR

Latin DURUS, "tough, hard"
DURARE, DURATUM, "to last"

ENDURING (en dōōr' ing) *adj.* Not diminishing; lasting
The family reunion in July has been an *enduring* tradition for us since my grandfather first organized it in 1924.

ant: fleeting

DURABLE (dōōr' ə bəl) *adj.* Able to last; strong
Kinsey and Nadia's friendship was so *durable* that it survived major arguments, long-distance moves, and many other major changes.

ant: obsolete

III The forte pronounced "for-tay" is a musical term meaning "loud." Forte meaning "strong point, skill" may be pronounced this way too, but is usually pronounced "fort."

DURATION (dūr ā' shən) *n.* The period of time taken by something
Because his seat had been taken, Rodney was forced to stand for the *duration* of the concert.

ROB

Latin **ROBUR**, **ROBUSTUS**, "oak, strength"

CORROBORATE (kə rob' ə rā) *v.* To back up; support

L. con, "together," + robur = *to strengthen together*

Jan's own experience with raccoons *corroborated* the story that the ranger was now telling.

syn: confirm

ant: contradict

ROBUST (rō bust) *adj.* Strong and hearty

A minor adjustment in diet helped change the weak, lifeless goldfish into *robust*, thriving creatures.

syn: thriving

ant: weak

SOLID

Latin **SOLIDARE**, **SOLIDATUM** "to make solid"

CONSOLIDATE (kən sol' ə dāt) *v.* To gather and combine

L. con, "together," + solidatum = *to bring together firmly*

In an effort to *consolidate* information gathered from several different sources, the sheriff's office developed a new, statewide database.

syn: unite

ant: separate

SOLIDARITY (sol ə dar' ə tē) *n.* Support or sympathy; unity

The human rights organization expressed *solidarity* with those people still in the government prison.

syn: togetherness

ant: division



Sometimes, **SOLIDARITY** is a **RARITY**.