Cambridge Latin Course  
North American 5th Ed.  
Unit 1  

ÜTILITĀS LATĪNAE  
English Vocabulary Building!  
Stage 1  

The following short passages in English each contain a word that comes from one of the Latin vocabulary words you learned in this stage. Please read them closely and think about a possible meaning of that underlined word; if you are working together with a classmate, take a moment to discuss this before you start writing. Make observations, as you would a work of art. Note context clues. (Jot down notes, even, on a separate sheet of paper.)

These English words that come from Latin are called derivatives. Done jotting down notes? Okay...

Begin by providing the Latin root of this English derivative.  

Next, please label the English derivative's part of speech as it is being used in the passage. (You will note that some words have more than one passage; this means that the same word may, for example, be both a noun and an adjective, or a noun and a verb.)

Finally, to check your work, please use learnersdictionary.com, which provides clear and succinct explanations of words and their uses, and choose the definition that most closely connects with its usage in that particular passage. Write this down. 

As examples, the first two have been done for you.

1. collaborate (from the Latin labōrat)  

“The Ready, Set, Design workshop provides an opportunity for students to solve a real-life problem using the same stages of the design process as working designers. Organized into teams, students actively observe, collaborate, build prototypes with the props provided in our Design Challenge Kit, present their designs, and critique the results.” (“How Design in the Classroom Works,” CooperHewitt.com, retrieved Sept. 2017)

(verb)  

to work with another person or group in order to achieve or do something

“Just after the war, when it was safe again to speak and write freely, Jean-Paul Sartre claimed that the French, especially French writers and artists, had only two choices under Nazi occupation: to collaborate or to resist. He had chosen the latter, naturally.” (“Who Did Not Collaborate?” Ian Buruma, The New York Review of Books, Feb. 24, 2011)

(verb)  

(disapproving) to give help to an enemy who has invaded your country during a war

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1 Some of the short passages have been adapted from their original texts.

Updated in 2017 by Benjamin J. Joffe.
2. **deviate**

“After the shock of last Friday night’s commotion, most people here appear to have been stunned, subdued and eager to find out what really happened. But despite the presence of soldiers in combat dress and tanks on the streets, most people did not deviate much from ordinary routines.” (“Shock Past, Seoul Goes About Its Business,” James P. Sterba, The New York Times, Nov. 2, 1979)

3. **filial**

“Christopher Tolkien’s studies of medieval languages and literatures, his training as an editor of manuscripts, as well as his intimate and first-hand knowledge of his father’s writings made him an ideal candidate for the task of deciphering, ordering, commenting on, and finally editing the vast bulk of papers in J.R.R. Tolkien’s literary production. It is due to this unique combination of talents and filial duty that we now have this rare tool for research at our disposal.” (J.R.R. Tolkien Encyclopedia, Michael D.C. Drout, 2006)

4. **horticulture**

“Our agriculture and horticulture destroy a weed just here and there and cultivate perhaps a score or so of wholesome plants, leaving the greater number to fight out a balance as they can.” (The Time Machine, H.G. Wells, 1895)

5. **laborious**

“The piles or stakes, which were as heavy as I could lift, were a long time in cutting and preparing in the woods, and more, by far, in bringing home; so that I spent sometimes two days in cutting and bringing home one of those posts, and a third day in driving it into the ground; for which purpose I got a heavy piece of wood at first, but at last bethought myself of one of the iron crows; which, however though I found it, made driving those posts or piles very laborious and tedious work.” (The Life and Adventures of Robinson Crusoe, Daniel Defoe, 1719)

6. **impervious**

“Seen from a distance in such weather, Coketown lay shrouded in a haze of its own, which appeared impervious to the sun’s rays.” (Hard Times, Charles Dickens, 1854)
6. **impervious** (cont.)

“My ideal political party believes in modest government, self-reliance and a decent social safety net. I regret that when it comes to politics, many people are swayed by emotion, and are **impervious** to facts and common sense. Unlike me, of course.” (“Are Your Politics Hard-Wired?” Margaret Wente, *The Globe and Mail*, Apr. 16, 2011)

7. **sedentary**

“Health Canada has published guidelines for reducing the time that some young people spend in **sedentary** activities. Specifically, it is recommended that children decrease the time spent watching TV, playing computer games, and surfing the Internet by at least 30 minutes per day.” (*Youth Physical Activity and Sedentary Behavior, Alan L. Smith and Stuart Biddle, 2008*)

“Before the influence of Europeans, there were two types of natives in the plains area. The nomadic tribes subsisted by hunting bison, which they followed on foot, carrying their belongings by means of dog-drawn travois. The **sedentary** tribes, on the other hand, lived in villages along permanent streams from the Dakotas to Texas, and had a stable agricultural economy that was based primarily on the cultivation of maize.” (“Colonial House, Interactive History: 1628 Across the Continent,” John Uhl, PBS.org, 2004)

8. **servile**

“...here I stand, your slave,
A poor, infirm, weak, and despised old man:
But yet I call you **servile** ministers,
That have with two pernicious daughters join’d
Your high engender’d battles ’gainst a head
So old and white as this. O! O! ’tis foul!"

*(King Lear, William Shakespeare, 17th Cent.)*