

LESSON 12

Vade mecum.

Go with me.

Base Words

advent	deviate	itinerant
circumvent	devious impervious	itinerary
convene	intervene	telepathy

ITER, ITINERIS <Latin>“journey”

1. **itinerant**

adj. Traveling from place to place, especially to perform some duty or work; transient.

Johnny Appleseed led an **itinerant** life wandering through the Ohio Valley to give out apple seeds and saplings.

n. A person who travels from place to place.

Members of most herding tribes are **itinerants**, constantly on the move to find fresh grazing lands.

2. **itinerary**

n. 1. A route of travel.

As interpreter and guide for the Lewis and Clark expedition, Sacajawea followed an **itinerary** that took her along the Missouri River, across the Rocky Mountains, to the Pacific Ocean.

2. A plan or record of a journey.

The team planning to climb Annapurna drew up a detailed **itinerary** of their route, base camps, and supply depots.

itinerate, v.

VENIO, VENIRE, VENI, VENTUM <Latin>“to come”

3. **advent** [*ad* <Latin>“to” + **ven**]

n. 1. Arrival or coming into being.

The change in foliage from green to red and yellow announces the **advent** of autumn.

2. (capitalized) The period beginning four weeks before Christmas, the birth of Christ.

During **Advent** Christians prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ.

4. **circumvent** [*circum* <Latin>“around” + **ven**]

v. 1. To avoid; to evade by cleverness.

Finding herself alone in a strange place, Viola in *Twelfth Night* **circumvents** discovery of her identity by disguising herself as a boy.

2. To avoid by passing around.

Freeways that **circumvent** cities ease traffic congestion downtown.

Other Forms: **circumvention**, n.

5. **convene** [con=cum<Latin>“with,” “together with” + **ven**]

v. To assemble, especially for a meeting.

The First Continental Congress, which **convened** in 1774 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, began drafting the *Declaration of Independence*.

Other Forms: **convention**, n.

6. **intervene** [inter <Latin>“between” + **ven**]

v. 1. To occur between events or periods.

One year **intervened** between the launching of the Soviet satellite *Sputnik* (1957) and the American satellite *Explorer* (1958).

2. To come between, thereby easing a situation.

Mary Poppins **intervenes** in the lives of the Banks children to make medicine palatable and adventures frequent.

3. To interfere or to interrupt.

In *Treasure Island* Long John Silver **intervenes** just as the young hero Jim devises ways to outwit him.

Other Forms: **intervention**, n.

TELE <Greek> "at a distance"

7. **telepathy** [**tele** + *pathos* <Greek> "passion, suffering"]

n. Communication from one mind to another without speech, writing, or other sensory means.

Although a continent apart, the twins insisted that they could communicate through **telepathy**.

Other Forms: **telepathic**, adj.; **telepathically**, adv.

NOTA BENE: Although the Greek word *tele* has existed for thousands of years, most of its English derivatives have appeared since 1860, reflecting the surge of scientific and photographic inventions. Some are even more recent: *telegenic* means "possession of qualities appealing on television" and a *telethon* is a television broadcast soliciting support for a cause and lasting several hours.

VIA <Latin> "way," "street," "road"; "journey"

8. **deviate** [*de* <Latin> "away from" + **via**]

v. To turn aside from a course, norm, pattern, or subject.

We try to get our English teacher to **deviate** from the lesson by asking about new books or movies.

Other Forms: **deviant**, adj. and n.; **deviation**, n.

9. **devious** [*de* <Latin> "away from" + **via**]

adj. 1. Winding; roundabout.

In *Walkabout* an aboriginal leads home by a **devious** route two children lost in the Australian outback.

2. Underhanded; deceptive.

The two detectives, Miss Marple and Hercule Poirot, are quick to identify **devious** characters in Agatha Christie's mysteries.

Other Forms: **deviousness**, n.

10. **impervious** [*im = in* <Latin> "not"; *per* <Latin> "through" + **via**]

adj. 1. Not penetrable by light rays, moisture, etc. The new raincoats are impervious to water.

2. Incapable of being influenced or affected.

Florence Nightingale was impervious to her family's objections that a career in nursing was unladylike.

Other Forms: **imperviousness**, n.

Familiar Words

convey	convenient	obvious	venturesome
convent	eventful		

Challenge Words

contravene	revenue	trivia	viaduct
envoy	telemetry	venue	