

Nota Bene: V

V

vacillate: to waver between opinions

vacuous: without content; lacking any intelligence

vade mecum: go with me; a convenient companion; a handbook

vagary: an unexpected or seemingly capricious turn of events

vagueness: a property of a predicate expressing the idea that small changes in an object make no difference to the applicability of the predicate

valid: a deductive argument whose premises, if they were all true, would provide conclusive grounds for the truth of its conclusion

vanguard: the most advanced groups (e.g., of a military force or social movement)

vapid: flat, flavorless

variegated: changing in color

venal: corrupt, mercenary

veneer: a superficial or deceptive covering

venerable: dignified and worthy of admiration

veni, vidi, vici: I came, I saw, I conquered

veracious: truthful, earnest

verbiage: unnecessary words

verbose: wordy

verdant: green (with plant life)

veritable: authentic, true

vernacular: the mode of expression in language accepted in a given circle

vertigo: a feeling of dizziness and disorientation

versus: against

vestige: a remaining sample of something no longer common

vexation: irritation

via: by the way of

via media: the middle path

vicarious: arising from the experiences of others rather than one's own experience

vice versa: the terms being changed; a situation where the order or meaning is reversed

villain: from villanus, a farm hand

vindicate: prove correct

vindictive: mean-spirited

virile: forcefully masculine in terms of drive and energy

visage: the face; appearance

vis-à-vis: face to face

visceral: deeply felt

viscid: sticky

vitiate: to pollute, to impair

vitriolic: acidic (literally and figuratively)

vituperative: verbally abusive, insulting

viva voce: with the voice

vivacious: spirited

vociferous: marked by noisy exclamation

volatile: potentially unstable

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volubility: quality of being overly talkative, glib

voluntarism: the view that asserts the primacy of will over intellect (as explanatory of human behavior, God's nature, or the universe as a whole):

voluptuous: sensually enjoyable

voracious: greedily hungry

vox populi, vox dei: the voice of the people is the voice of God