

## UNIT FIVE

**HUM**

Latin HUMUS, "ground, earth"

III The English words humble and humility both come from humus. To be humble, or to show humility, you must be close to the ground rather than proudly raising yourself above others.

**HUMILITY** (hū mil' ə tē) *n.* Lack of pride; modesty

Although the leader had influenced the lives of thousands of people, he always spoke with the utmost *humility*.

**EXHUME** (ək zōōm') *v.* To remove from the ground; dig upL. ex, "out of," + humus = *out of the ground*

In order to prove his theory about the murder, the District Attorney ordered that the body be *exhumed*.

*ant:* bury

The detective *ZOOMED* to *EXHUME* the body.

**STELL**

Latin STELLA, "star"

**STELLAR** (stəl' ər) *adj.* Excellent; outstanding

For her *stellar* performance in her first year at the company, Emily was honored with a special luncheon.

*ant:* subpar**ASTR**

Greek ASTRON, "star"

III Astronomy is literally the "study of stars," a field of learning which covers outer space and objects in outer space. Something astronomical can relate to this study or can be as huge as the stars are high.

**ASTRONOMICAL** (as trə nŏm' ə kəl) *adj.* Enormous; immense

The *astronomical* cost of gasoline forced many citizens to start taking the bus.

*syn:* huge*ant:* tiny

**NEB, NIMB**

Latin NEBULA, "cloud"  
NIMBUS, "cloud"

**NEBULOUS** (neb' yōō lās) *adj.* Not definite; vague  
When the student gave a *nebulous* answer to the question, his teacher asked him for more information.  
*syn:* uncertain *ant:* clear; understandable

**NIMBUS** (nim' bās) *n.* A cloud  
The *nimbus* of fog around the crest of the mountain lingered until a wind came up and blew it away.

III A nebula is a cloud of gas and dust in outer space; its shape constantly changes.

**CELES**

Latin CAELUM, "sky"

**CELESTIAL** (se les' shəl) *adj.* Having to do with the sky or heavens  
As a child, Inez was always on the lookout for angels and other *celestial* beings.

**TERR**

Latin TERRA, "earth, ground"

**TERRESTRIAL** (te res' trē əl) *adj.* Earthly; of or from land  
Studies of the mysterious creature have failed to determine whether it is mainly *terrestrial* or not.

*ant:* extraterrestrial

**INTER** (in ter') *v.* To put into the ground; to bury

L. in, "in," + terra = *in the ground*

The solemn ceremony ended when the body had been *interred*, and the priest had given the blessing.

**SUBTERRANEAN** (sub ter ā' nē ən) *adj.* Beneath the ground

L. sub, "beneath," + terra = *under the earth*

Because the money was hidden deep in a *subterranean* cavern, it was not discovered for many years.

*ant:* aboveground