GLOSSARY OF ANATOMICAL TERMS - 1987
by
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Notes: Each entry is related to its Latin (L.) or Greek (G.) derivation, and the accented syllable (or syllables), as stressed in English, is followed by a ('). Adjectives and participles functioning as adjectives are noted as adjectives. The terminology approved at the 1980 meeting of the International Committee on Anatomical Nomenclature is used, with the anglicized equivalents.

Vertebrae and cranial nerves are designated by Roman numbers.

Abbreviations used:

A./aa. 
adj. 
adv. 
cf. 
e.g. 
G. 
L. 
lig./ligg. 
m./mm. 
n./nn. 
n. 
pl. 
v./vv. 
v. 
vx. 

Artery, arteries 
adjective 
adverb 
compare 
for example 
Greek 
Latin 
ligament(s) 
muscle(s) 
nerve(s) 
noun 
plural 
vein(s) 
verb 
vessels

A (a)
abdom'en or abdom'en 
ab'domen (adj. - abdom'inal).
abduc'tion 
L. ab = from, and ductum = led, hence, movement from. (v. - abduct).
access'ory 
adj. L. accessum = added, hence, supplementary.
accommoda'tion 
L. ad = to, and modus = measure, hence, adaptation of the optical power (focussing) of the eye for shorter distances.
acetab'ulum 
L. acetum = vinegar (cf. acetic), and abulum = small receptacle, hence, a vinegar cup, hence, the socket for the head of the femur (adj. - acetab'ular).
acous'tic 
adj. G. akoustikos, related to hearing.
acro'mion 
G. akros = summit (cf. Acropolis) and omos = shoulder, hence, the tip of the shoulder.
adduc'tion 
L. ad = to, and ductum = led, hence, movement towards (v. - adduct).
adhes'ion 
L. ad = to, and haesus = stuck, hence, stuck to, e.g., a. in'terthalam'ica - variable and functionally insignificant.
adrener'gic 
adj. L. ad = at, ren = kidney, and G. ergon = work, hence, stimuli which cause the adrenal (suprarenal) gland to produce adrenaline. Used to specify neurons or pathways which use adrenaline as a transmitter.
afferent adj. L. ad = to, and ferent = carrying (cf. ferry), hence, carrying to, e.g., axons carrying information from retina to lateral geniculate nucleus are afferents to that nucleus.

agg'er (a'jer) nasi L. = eminence of the nose.

tag'onist G. agonistes = rival, hence, a muscle in apparent contest with another. Used for a prime mover.

a'la L. wing, hence a wing-like process (pl. - a'lae).

albugin'ea L. albus = white, G. gen = form, hence, like boiled white of an egg.

alimen'tary adj. L. alimentum = food, e.g., alimentary canal.

allocor'tex G. allos = other (than usual), and L. cortex = bark, hence non-laminated external grey matter. It refers to paleo- or archi-cortex, as distinct from neocortex.

alve'olus L. a basin, hence any small hollow (pl. - alve'oli. adj. - alve'olar).

al'veus L. = tray. The allusion is unclear. The alveus is a layer of fibres on the free surface of the hippocampus.

ambig'uus adj. L. = doubtful (nucleus ambiguus).

ampul'la L. = a two-handed flask, a local dilatation of a tube.

amyg'daloid adj. G. amygdala = almond, and -oëides = like, hence, amygdaloid body is an almond-shaped mass.

anaesthe'sia G. - an = negative, and aisthesis = sensation, hence, loss of sensation (adj. - anaesthet'ic).

analge'sia G. an = negative, and algesis = pain, hence insensibility to pain (adj. - analge'sic).

anastomo'sis G. ana = of each, and stoma = mouth, hence the end-to-end continuity of 2 vessels (adj. - anastomo'tic).

anatom'ical position see position.

ana'tomy G. ana = up, and tome = a cutting, hence cutting up of a body.

anco'neus G. ancon = elbow, hence the muscle attached to the (lateral surface of the) olecranon.

an'euryism G. angeion = blood vessel, and eurys = wide, hence a pathological dilatation of a blood vessel.

angiog'raphy G. angeion (v.s.), and graphe = a record, hence a picture of a blood vessel which has been injected with a dye or radiopaque material.

anhidro'sis (anhydrosis, anidrosis) G. an = negative, and hidros = sweat, hence absence of sweating, typical of skin deprived of its sympathetic innervation.

an'kle the region between the leg and the foot.

an'esa L. a handle or loop. Applicable to nerves.

antag'onist G. anti = against, and agonistes = rival, hence a muscle which may oppose an agonist.

anteflex'ion L. ante = before, and flexere = to bend, hence anterior angulation between the body and cervix of the uterus.

ante'rior comparative of L. ante = before, in front.

antever'sion L. ante = before, and versum = turned, hence, the anterior angulation between cervix uteri and the vagina.

antidro'mic adj. G. a = negative, and dromos = current, hence conducting in the opposite direction to the usual.

an'trum G. antron - cave, hence a space in a bone or organ.

an'ulus or ann'ulus L. anus = ring.

a'nis L. a ring. (adj. - a'nal).

ap'oneuro'sis G. apo = from, and neuron = tendon (later applied to nerve cell and its fibres), used for sheet-like tendons. (adj. - aponeuro'tic).

apoph'y'sis G. apo = from, and physis = growth, hence, a bony process - reserved for the articular process of a vertebra (adj. - apoph'y'si'al).

appen'dix L. supplement.
aq'ueduct  L. aqua = water, and ductus = drawn or led off, hence a channel for conducting fluid, e.g. the cerebral aqueduct of the midbrain, which transmits fluid from the 3rd to the 4th ventricle.

arach'noid  adj. G. arachne = spider, and -oeides = like, hence like a spider's web. This middle layer of the three meninges is spread web-like over the brain when the dura has been removed.

ar'bor vi'tae  L. arbor = tree, and vita = life, hence, resembling the tree of life. This colourful term is used to describe the pattern of cerebellar folia seen in a median section.

ar'chicerebell'um  G. archi = first, hence the oldest part of the cerebellum, which is the flocculonodular lobe.

ar'chipall'ium  G. archi = first, and pall'ium = cloak, hence the cortex which developed first in vertebrates. Often synonymous with hippocampal formation.

ar'chistria'tum  G. archi = first, and L. stria'tum = streaked or fluted.

ar'cus  L. an arch, hence, ar'cuate - L. arcua'tum = curved or arched.

ar'ea  a part of a surface.

are'ola  L. small, open space.

arm  the upper limb, between shoulder and elbow.

arrec'tor  L. adrec'tus = raised, hence, arrector pi'li = a hair-raising muscle.

art'ery  L. arte'ria (which originally meant air- or wind-pipe, and later a blood vessel carrying blood away from the heart).

artic'ula'tion  L. ar'tus = joint, hence, artic'ulate - to form a joint.

ar'yte'noid  G. arytain'a = pitcher, and -oeides = like, hence the arytenoid cartilage because it curves like a spout.

as'pect  a view of more than one surface.

as'pera  L. rough.

as'trocyte  G. as'tron = star, and ky'tos = cell, hence a star-shaped (neuroglial) cell.

atax'ia  G. a = negative, and tax'is = order, hence inability to co-ordinate the voluntary muscles.

at'lasc  G. at'lao = I sustain. Atlas was a mythical god who sustained the globe on his shoulders. The 1st vertebra sustains the skull, and its upper surface bears 2 concavities which suggest Atlas' palms, not shoulders.

a'trium  L. = entrance hall (adj. - at'rial).

at'trophy  G. a = negative, and tro'phe = food, hence wasting from starvation.

aus'cultate  L. auscul'to = to listen to, hence, ausculta'tion, the act of listening to a bodily activity.

aur'icle  L. auric'ula = a little ear.

au'tonom'ic  adj. G. auto = self, and no'mos = law, hence self-regulating.

ax'illa  L. armpit.

ax'is  L. ax'is = the central line of a body or part thereof, especially the imaginary line around which rotation takes place.

ax'on  L. axis = axis, hence the main process of a neuron conducting impulses away from the cell body.

az'ygos  adj. G. a = negative, and zy'gos = paired, hence, unpaired.

B (b)

bas'ilar  adj. L. bas'is = base.

basil'ic  adj. G. basil'ikos = royal (king-sized).

bi'ceps  L. bis = double, and caput = head, hence 2-headed (adj. - bicipital).

bi'f'f'd  adj. L. bis = double, and fin'do = to split.
bi'furcate  L. bis = double, and fur'co = fork, hence to divide into two.
bipen'nate  adj. L. bis = double, and pin'na = feather, hence converging from 2 sides.
body  the main part.
bor'der  see margin.
bra'chium  L. arm (adj. - bra'chial).
bra'chiocephal'ic  L. bra'chium = arm, and G. keph'ale = head, hence a blood vessel related to the upper limb and head.
branch'ia  G. = gills (adj. - branch'ial).
breg'ma  from a G. word implying moist, referring to the site of the anterior fontanelle (q.v.), a little fountain, the site of junction of the coronal and sagittal sutures, where the brain can be felt pulsating in infancy.
brev'is  L. = short - cf. brief.
bronch'iole  diminutive of bronch'us (q.v.).
bronch'us  derivation unhelpful - a branch of the trachea (adj. - bronch'ial).
bucc'al  adj. L. buc'ca = cheek
bucc'inator  L. trumpeter - hence the muscle which blows air out from the cheek under pressure.
bul'bus  L. = bulb or onion.
bul'la  L. bubble.
bur'sa  G. a purse, hence a flattened sac containing a film of fluid.

C (c)
caecum (cecum)  L. = blind.
calcan'eus  L. calx = heel, hence the bone of the heel.
cal'car  L. a spur.
cal'car av'is  L. the spur of a bird, hence a spur-like elevation.
calf  the soft tissue swelling at the back of the leg.
callos'um  L. cal' lum = hard.
calva'ria  L. cal'va = bald head, hence the part of the skull containing the brain - i.e. cranium minus the facial skeleton.
cal'lix  L. a wine-cup.
canal'  L. canal'is = a water-pipe or canal.
canalic'ulus  diminutive of canal.
can'cellous  adj. L. cancelli = grating or lattice.
ca'nine  adj. L. can'is = dog.
can'thus  G. kan'thos - used at first for rim of eye, then angle between ends of rims.
capill'ary  L. capillar'is = hair-like, hence a very thin blood vessel.
cap'sule L. cap'sa = box, hence an enclosing sheet.
cap'itate adj. Having a cap'ut (q.v.).
capit'ulum diminutive of caput.
car'diac adj. G. kar'dia = heart.
cari'na L. a keel.
car'næae L. car'nea = fleshy.
caro'tid G. kar'oo, to put to sleep, because compression of the common or internal carotid a. may cause coma.
car'pus G. wrist (adj. - car'pal).
car'tilage L. gristle, hence, cartilag'inous = adj.
carun'cle diminutive of L. caro = flesh, hence, a small fleshy elevation.
cau'da L. tail. (adj. - cau'date - having a tail).
c. equi'na a horse's tail.
c'a'verous L. containing caverns or cave-like spaces.
cav'ity L. cav'itas = a hollow.
cav'um L. cave.
cen'tral adj. L. cent'rum = centre.
cen'rum L. centre.
cephal'ic adj. G. keph'ale - head.
cerebell'um diminutive of L. cer'ebrum = brain.
cer'ebrum L. = brain, adj. cerebral.
cer'u'men L. ce'ra = wax.
cer'vix L. = neck (adj. - cervi'cal).
chias'ma G. kiasma = cross. (The G. letter chi = c).
cho'ana G. = funnel (pl. - choan'ae).
chon'dral adj. G. chon'dros = cartilage.
chor'da L. = cord.
chor'roid adj. G. chorion = skin, hence, like a membrane.
chyle G. juice
cil'iüm L. = eyelid, hence, an eyelash (adj. - cil'iary, or ci'liat'ed).
ciner'eum L. cin'eris, of ashes
cing'u l um L. girdle or belt, adj. - cin'gulate.
cir'cumflex verb and adj. L. cir'cum = around, and flex'e = to bend, hence, bend or bent around.
cister'na L. = a cistern
claus'trum L. clau'sum = closed, hence a barrier
clav'icle diminutive of L. clav'is = key - old Roman key was S-shaped.
cleido G. kleisis, a closing (by a key of a lock) = related to clavicle.
clin'oid adj. G. kline = bed, -oid = like, hence, like a bed-post
cli'vus L. = slope (cf. declivity).
clunes pl. of L. clunis = buttocks, nates
coc'chyx G. kokkyx = cuckoo, whose bill the coccyx resembles.
coch'lea L. = snail, hence the spiral cochlea, adj. - coch'lear
coc'liciac adj. G. koil'ia = belly.
coeru'leus adj. L. blue, hence, loc'us coeru'leus, a group of nerve cells in the rostral pons coloured blue or black by melanin.
collat'eral adj. L. con = together, and latus = side, hence, alongside.
collic'ulus diminutive of L. col'lis = hill.
col'hum L. = neck (cf. collar).
colum'na L. = column, or pillar.
col'lon G. ko'lon = large intestine
com'itans adj. L. = accompanying.
com'missure L. con = together, and mis'sum = sent, hence fibres which cross between symmetrical parts
commun'icans adj. L. = communicating.
cor'acoid adj. G. kor'ax = a crow, hence, like a crow's beak.
cor'pus L. = body, pl. - cor'pora.
cor'rugator L. con = together, and ruga = wrinkle, hence a muscle that produces wrinkles.
cortex
L. = bark, adj. cortical.
costa
L. = rib. adj. - costal.
cox'a
L. = hip, hence os coxae = the hip bone.
cran'ium
G. kran'ion = skull. (In anthropology = skull minus mandible) adj. - cranial.
cremas'ter
g. = suspender, hence the muscle which suspends the testis.
crib'riform
adj. L. crib'rum = sieve, hence, sieve-like.
cric'oïd
adj. G. krik'o = ring, hence, ring-like, i.e. circular.
crist'a
L. = crest, cris'ta gal'li = the (median) crest of a cock.
cru'ciate
adj. L. crux = cross, hence, crossed like the letter X.
crus
L. = leg. pl.: cru'ra.
cub'ital
adj. L. cub'itus = elbow.
cub'oïd
adj. G. kuboid'es = cube-shaped.
cul'men
L. = summit (cf. culminate).
cun'eiform
adj. L. cun'eus = wedge, hence wedge-shaped.
cu'pula
L. = dome.
cusp
L. cusp'is = a pointed elevation.
cuta'neous
adj. L. cut'i = skin.
cyst
G. kyst'is = bladder, adj. - cyst'ic.

D (d)
de'clive
L. decliv'itas = slope (cf. clivus).
decussa'tion
L. decussa'tus = crossed like the letter X.
depth
further from the surface.
def'erens
adj. L. = carrying down.
degluti'tion
L. deglut'i = to swallow, hence the act of swallowing.
del'toid
adj. G. del'ta (D). The capital has a triangular shape (cf. the delta of the Nile river).
den'drite or den'dron
G. = a tree, hence like the branches of a tree.
dens
L. = tooth (cf. dentist), adj. - den'tal.
den'tate
L. dens = tooth, hence, having a toothed margin.
depress'
L. de = prefix implying descent, and press'um = pressed, hence to press down, and depression = downward movement or a concavity on a surface.
der'matome
G. der'ma = skin, tome = a cutting or division, hence a segment of skin supplied by a single spinal ganglion.
der'mis
G. = skin, adj. - der'mal.
detu'sor
L. detru'sio = thrust away.
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<th>Word</th>
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<tr>
<td>diaphragm</td>
<td>G. dia = across, and phrag'ma = wall, hence, a partition, adj. diaphragmat'ic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>diaph'ysis</td>
<td>G. dia = apart, and physis = growth, hence, the body of a long bone between the growing regions near the ends.</td>
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<td>dias'tole</td>
<td>G. dia = apart, and stell'ein = sending, hence sending the walls of the heart apart, i.e. relaxation or dilatation. Adjective - diastol'ic.</td>
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<td>dienceph'alon</td>
<td>G. dia = between, and enkeph' alos = brain, hence in general the structures surrounding the 3rd ventricle. adj. - diencephal'ic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>digas'tric</td>
<td>adj. G. dia = double, and gas'ter = belly, hence, 2-bellied.</td>
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<td>dig'it</td>
<td>L. dig'itus = a finger or toe, usually excepting the pollex or hallux, adj. - dig'ital.</td>
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<tr>
<td>dip'loë</td>
<td>G. = fold, hence the cancellous bone between the inner and outer tables of the skull. adj. - diplo'ic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>diplo'pia</td>
<td>G. diplo'os = double, and op'sis = vision, hence double vision.</td>
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<tr>
<td>dis'cus</td>
<td>L. = disc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>dist'al</td>
<td>adj. L. di = apart, and stans = standing, hence, standing apart, implying farther from a given point, usually the root of a limb.</td>
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<tr>
<td>divertic'u'ulum</td>
<td>L. = by-road, hence a blind tubular process or sac.</td>
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<tr>
<td>dor'sal</td>
<td>adj. L. dor'sum = back.</td>
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<tr>
<td>duc'tus</td>
<td>L. = duct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>duode'num</td>
<td>L. duodenum'ius = twelve, because it is 12 FBs long.</td>
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<tr>
<td>du'ra</td>
<td>adj. L. = hard (cf. durable); dura mater, the tough covering membrane of the central nervous system.</td>
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<tr>
<td>dyspha'gia</td>
<td>G. dys = difficult, and phagein = to eat, hence, difficulty in swallowing.</td>
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**E (ε)**

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>ectop'ic</td>
<td>G. ek = out, and topos = place, hence out of place.</td>
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<tr>
<td>edge</td>
<td>border or margin of a surface.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ef'ferent</td>
<td>adj. L. ex = out, and ferens = carrying, hence, conducting from.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>el'bow</td>
<td>the junction between arm and forearm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>el'evate</td>
<td>L. eleva'tus = raised up, hence, to raise up, and eleva'tion = a raised part.</td>
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<td>emboliform'is</td>
<td>adj. G. embolus = wedge or blocking matter.</td>
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<tr>
<td>em'inence</td>
<td>L. em'inens = projecting, hence, a projection (usually smooth).</td>
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<tr>
<td>emissary</td>
<td>adj. L. e = out, and emiss'um = sent out; emissary v., one connecting intra- with extra-cranial venous channels.</td>
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<tr>
<td>enceph'alon</td>
<td>G. en = within, and keph' alos = head, hence, the brain.</td>
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<tr>
<td>en'docar'dium</td>
<td>G. en'do = within, and kar'dia = heart, hence, the endothelial lining of the chambers of the heart.</td>
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</table>
en'docra'niun G. en'do = within, and kranion = skull, hence, the outer endostial layer of the dura mater.

en'dolymph G. en'do = within, and L. lymph'a = clear water, hence the fluid within the membranous labyrinth of the internal ear.

en'dome'trim G. en'do = within, and me'tra = uterus, hence the mucosal lining of the uterine lumen.

epen'dyma G. = an upper garment. It may refer to a vest or singlet, i.e. an undergarment, hence, the lining membrane of the ventricles of the brain and central canal of the spinal cord.

epicar'dium G. ep'i = upon, and kar'dia = heart, hence, the visceral layer of serous pericardium which covers the heart.

epicon'dyle G. ep'i = upon, and kon'dylos = knuckle, hence a prominence on a condyle of the humerus or femur.

epicra'nial adj. G. ep'i = upon, and kra'nion = skull, hence, the epicranial aponeurosis (galea) connecting frontalis mm. to occipitalis mm.

epidi'dymis G. ep'i = upon, and did'ymos = testis, hence, the organ perched posterosuperior to the testis.

epidu'ral adj. G. ep'i = upon, L. du'ra = tough, hence, external to dura mater.

epigas'trium G. ep'i = upon, and gas'ter = belly, hence, the upper median zone of the abdomen.

epiglot'tis G. ep'i = upon, and glot'tis = larynx, hence the uppermost part of the larynx.

epiph'ysis G. ep'i = upon, and phy'sis = growth, hence, the end of a long bone beyond the cartilaginous growth disc, adj. - epiphysi'al.

epiplo'ic adj. G. epiplo'on = a net, which the greater omentum resembles with fat entangled in it.

erec'tor L. erec'tus = straight or upright.

eth'moid adj. G. eth'mos = sieve, hence, like a sieve; an unpaired skull bone.

ever'sion L. e = out, and ver'sum = turned, hence turned outwards.

exophthal'mos G. ex'o = out, and ophthal'mos = eye, hence, prominent eyeball.

extend' L. exten'do = extend or stretch out, hence, exten'sion = extended or straightened, hence, the position opposite to the flexed or bent position.

exter'nal adj. L. = exter'nus = outward, hence, further from the inside.

ex'traperitone'al adj. L. ex'tra = outside, G. per'i = around and tein'ein = stretched, hence outside the serous membrane stretched around the inside of the abdominal wall and around the viscera.

ex'trapyram'idal L. ex'tra = outside, and pyramidal (q.v.), hence descending nerve tracts that do not traverse the pyramids of the medulla.

extrin'sic L. extrin'secus = from without, hence (usually) a muscle (usually) originating outside the part on which it acts.
F (f)

fabel'la
-diminutive of L. fa'ba = a bean, hence, a sesamoid bone found in the lateral head of gastrocnemius.

fa'cet
-L. fa'cies = face, hence a small smooth bony surface, either coated with articular cartilage or the site of a tendinous attachment (cf. a facet on a diamond).

facil'itate
-L. fa'cilis = easy, hence, to make easy.

falx
-L. = sickle, hence, the sickle-shaped falx ce'rebri and falx cerebel'li, adj. - fal'ciform.

fas'cia
-L. = band or bandage, hence the fibrous wrapping of muscles - deep f., or the subcutaneous layer of fatty connective tissue - superficial f., adj. fas'cial.

fasci'culus
-diminutive of L. fas'cis = bundle, hence, a bundle of nerve or muscle fibres.

fasti-gius
-L. fasti'gium = summit, hence the peak of the 4th ventricle, adj. - fasti'gial.

fa'u'ces
-L. = throat, adj. - fa'u'cial.

fe'mur
-L. = thigh, adj. - femoral.

fenes'tra
-L. = window.

fi'bril
-diminutive of L. fi'bra = a fibre.

fi'bre
-L. fibra = a fibre, adj. L. fibro'sus = fi'brous.

fi'bula
-L. = brooch, which the tibia and fibula resemble, the fibula representing the movable pin, adj. - fi'bular.

fi'lament
-L. filament'um = a delicate fibre, adj. - filamen'tous.

fi'lum
-L. = a thread. Fi'lum termina'le = a thread of pia continuous with the lower end of the spinal cord.

fim'bria
-L. = a fringe, hence, fim'bria hippocam'pi, a scalloped band of fibres alongside the hippocampus.

fiss'ure
-L. = a cleft.

fixa'tor
-L. fix'us = fixed, hence, a muscle which fixes a part.

flac'cid
-adj. L. flac'cidus = weak or slack

fla'vum
-adj., L. fla'vus = yellow.

flex
-L. flex'um = bent, hence, flex'or, a muscle which bends a part of the body, and flex'ion = the act of flexing.

flex'ure
-L. flex'ura = a bending.

floc'culus
-diminutive of L. floc'cus, a tuft. Hence resembling a picture of a little cloud, with a woolly top and a flat base, as in floc'culus cer'ebel'li.

foe'tus (fe'tus)
-the developing mammal in utero; in Man, after the 2nd month in utero, adj. - foe'tal or fe'tal.

fo'lia
-plural of L. fo'lium = leaf.

fol'licle
-L. folli'culus = a little bag. adj. - folli'cular.
fontanelle' French diminutive of L. fons = fountain, associated with the palpable pulsation of the brain in the anterior fontanelle of an infant.

for'a'men L. = hole.

for'ceps L. = tongs.

fore'arm the upper limb between the elbow and the wrist.

for'nix L. = arch (hence fornica'tion, because the Roman prostitutes plied their profession beneath the arches of the bridges over the river Tiber).

fos'sa L. = a ditch or trench, hence a concavity in bone, or an organ, or on a lining surface.

fo'vea L. = a pit (usually smaller than a fossa).

fo've'ola diminutive of fo'vea.

fren'ulum diminutive of fre'num.

fre'num L. bridle or curb.

fron'tal adj. L. frontis = of the forehead, or coronal.

fun'diform adj. L. fundus = bottom or base (cf. fundamental), hence, sling-shaped.

fun'dus L. = bottom or base. (But note that the fundus of the stomach and uterus are at the top, and the fundus of the eye and of the bladder are posterior!).

fun'i'culus diminutive of L. fu'nis = cord (used usually for bundles of nerve fibres).

fu'siform adj. L. fu'sus = spindle, hence, spindle-shaped.

G (g)

ga'lea L. = helmet, hence, ga'lea apo'neuro'tica - the aponeurosis of occipitofrontalis m.

gal'lus L. = cock, hence, cris'ta gal'li, the cock's comb.

gam'ma the 3rd letter of the G. alphabet, typically used in a naming sequence - al'pha, be'ta, gam'ma, del'ta, etc.

gang'lion G. = swelling, referring to a peripheral collection of nerve cells. adj. - ganglion'ic.

gastric, gastro G. gas'ter = belly or stomach.

gastrocne'mius G. gas'ter = belly, and kne'me = leg, hence, the bulging muscle of the calf.

gemel'lus L. diminutive of gem'inus = twin.

ge'nial adj. G. gen'eion = chin

genic'u'late see geniculum.

genic'u'ulum L. genic'ulare = to flex the knee, hence, a bent knee.

gen'i'tal adj. L. genital'is = reproductive, hence, genital'ia, the sexual organs.

gem'nu L. = knee.
gin'giva L. = gum (of tooth).
gir'dle a ring of bones which may be complete or incomplete.
glabe'l'la diminutive of L. gla'ber = bald, hence a smooth bony prominence between the eyebrows.
gland L. glans = an acorn, adj. - glan'dular; a secreting organ.
gland'ula diminutive of L. glans = acorn.
gle'noid adj. G. gle'ne = socket
gli'a G. = glue, hence, an adhesive connective tissue.
glo'bus L. = a globe.
glomer'ulus L. glomera're = to roll up, from glo'mus = a ball of thread (cf. conglomeration).
glos'sa G. tongue, adj. - glos'sal
glot'tic - adj. See glottis.
glot'tis G. = larynx, hence, the boundaries of ri'ma glot'tidis.
glu'te'al adj. G. glou'tos = rump or buttock.
glu'te'us G. glute'os = rump or buttock. One of 3 muscles of the buttock, adj. - glu'te'al.
gon'ad G. = reproduction, hence a gland producing gametes - ovary or testis, adj. - gonad'al.
grac'ilis adj. L. = slender
granula'tion diminutive of L. gra'num = a grain.
grav'id adj. L. grav'ida = pregnant.
gris'eum adj. L. gris'eus = bluish or pearly grey.
gubernac'ulum L. something which governs or directs, like a rudder (cf. gubernatorial).
gy'rus G. gy'ros = circle, hence a coil of brain cortex.

H (h)
haben'ula diminutive of L. habe'na = rein.
hal'lux L. hal'lex = great toe (hallu'cis = of the great toe).
ham'ate adj. L. ha'mus = a hook, hence, hooked.
ham'strings the tendons of the muscles of the ham - i.e. of the back of the thigh - felt posterior to the knee when the leg is flexed against resistance (semimembranosus, semitendinosus and biceps femoris).
ham'ulus diminutive of L. ha'mus = hook.
hau'stra L. = saccules
helicotre'ma G. he'lix = a coil, and tre'ma = hole, hence the aperture at the apex of the bony cochlea whereby scala vestibuli communicates with scala tympani.
he'lix G. = coil
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<tr>
<th>Term</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>hemianop'ia</td>
<td>G. hem'i = half, an = negative, op'sis = vision, hence loss of half of the field of vision.</td>
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<td>(hemianop'sia)</td>
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<tr>
<td>hemipare'sis</td>
<td>G. hem'i = half, pare'sis = paralysis, used usually to denote weakness rather than paralysis.</td>
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<tr>
<td>hemiple'gia</td>
<td>G. hem'i = half, ple'gia = stroke, hence, paralysis of one half of the body.</td>
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<tr>
<td>hem'isphere</td>
<td>G. hem'i = half, sphai'ra = ball, hence, half of a sphere.</td>
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<td>he'par</td>
<td>G. = liver. adj. - hepat'ic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>her'nia</td>
<td>L. = a protrusion. adj. - her'nial.</td>
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<tr>
<td>hia'tus</td>
<td>L. = a gap (like that between some people's ears).</td>
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<td>hi'lum</td>
<td>L. = the point of attachment of a seed, hence the part of an organ where the vessels and nn. are attached; adj. - hi'lar.</td>
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<td>hind'brain</td>
<td>the part of the brain inferior to tentorium cerebelli, comprising medulla oblongata, pons and cerebellum.</td>
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<td>hip</td>
<td>the lateral prominence of the hip bone and greater trochanter.</td>
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<td>hippocam'pus</td>
<td>G. hippocam'pos = a sea-horse, hence, the curled shape of the hippocampus in coronal section; adj. hippocam'pal.</td>
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<td>homo'logous</td>
<td>adj. G. hom'os = same, and log'os = word, hence a part with similar morphology but different function.</td>
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<td>horizon'tal</td>
<td>adj. - parallel to the horizon.</td>
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<tr>
<td>horn</td>
<td>a projection, often pointed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>hu'merus</td>
<td>L. = the arm-bone.</td>
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<tr>
<td>hu'mour</td>
<td>L. humor = liquid, hence the aqueous and vitreous humour of the eyeball.</td>
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<td>hy'aline</td>
<td>adj. G. hy'alos = glassy.</td>
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<td>hydroceph'alus</td>
<td>G. hy'dor = water, koi'los = head. cf. cephalic.</td>
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<td>hy'men</td>
<td>G. = membrane; across the virginal vagina.</td>
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<td>hy'oid</td>
<td>adj. G. = U-shaped.</td>
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<tr>
<td>hyperacu'sis</td>
<td>G. hy'per = over, and akou'sis = hearing, hence excessive sensivity to sound.</td>
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<tr>
<td>hypoglos'sal</td>
<td>adj. G. hy'po = under, and glos'sa = tongue.</td>
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<tr>
<td>hypoph'y sis</td>
<td>G. hy'po = down, phy'sis = growth, hence, a downgrowth (from the brain). However, this is not the whole truth. Part is an upgrowth from the pharynx. adj. - hypoph'y si'al.</td>
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<tr>
<td>hypothal'amus</td>
<td>G. hy'po = under, and thal'amus (q.v.), refers to part of diencephalon.</td>
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<td>I (i)</td>
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<tr>
<td>il'eum</td>
<td>G. eil'ein = twisted. adj. - il'eal.</td>
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<td>il'ium</td>
<td>L. the bone of the flank, adj. - il'iac</td>
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<tr>
<td>i'ma</td>
<td>adj. L. = lowest, hence a. thyroidea i'ma.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
im'par L. = unpaired.
inci'sor L. inci'sum = cut up.
incisu'ra L. = notch.
in'cus L. = anvil, hence the anvil-shaped ossicle of the middle ear.
in'dex L. = a pointer, hence, the fore-finger
indu'sium L. = tunic.
infe'rior adj. L. = lower down, hence, farther from the head end.
in'fra L. = below.
infundi'bulum L. = funnel.
in'guinal adj. L. inguen = groin.
inhibi'tion L. inhi'bitus = restrained, hence, reduction of the excitability of a synapse.
in'nervate L. in = into, and ner'vus = nerve, hence, to supply a nerve to a part.
in'sert L. inser'tio = to join into, implant, hence, to attach; noun - inser'tion.
inspec'tion L. inspec'tus = examined, hence, visual examination.
in'sula L. = island.
integ'ument L. in = on, teg'men = roof, hence the skin coat.
in'tercala'ted adj. L. in'ter = between, and cala'tum = inserted, hence interposed.
in'terdi'gitate L. in'ter = between, and di'gitus = a digit. Hence, to interlock like fingers.
inter'nal adj. L. inter'nus = inward, hence, nearer the inside.
in'ternun'cial adj. L. in'ter = between, nun'cius = messenger.
in'tersti'tial adj. L. in'ter = between, and sis'tum = set, hence, set between.
tentes'tine L. intes'tinum = the digestive tube beyond the stomach.
in'tima L. = innermost.
in'tra L. = within.
in'trafu'sal adj. L. in'tra = within, fu'sus = spindle.
intrin'sic adj. L. = on the inside.
i'ris L. = a rainbow.
is'chium G. is'chion = socket, because the ischium contributes more than either the ilium or pubis to the acetabulum.
i'so G. = equal.
isth'mus G. isth'mos - a narrow passage.

J (j)
jeju'num L. jeju'nus = empty, adj. - jeju'nal.
joint the meeting of 2 or more bones or cartilages, at which movement is possible.
jugular adj. L. jugulum = neck.
ju'gum L. = yoke (cf. conjugal).
jux'ta L. = near.

K (k)
kinociliium G. ki’neo = to move (cf. kinetic), and cilium L. = eyelash, hence protoplasmic thread of hair process in cupula of crista ampullaris of a semicircular duct.
knee the junction of the thigh and the leg.
ko’niocor’tex G. konis = dust, and L. cor’tex = bark, hence, sensory cortex containing mostly granular layers.

L (l)
labium L. = lip (pl. la'bia), adj. - la'bial.
labrum L. = rim.
labyrinth G. labyrin'thos = maze, adj. - lsbyrin'thine.
lac'rimonial adj. L. lac'rima = a tear (drop).
lacta'tion L. lact'ans = suckling. Hence, the act of secreting milk.
lac'tic adj. L. lac = milk.
lactiferous adj. L. lac = milk, and fer're = to carry.
lac'u'na L. la'cus = lake, hence, a small pond or gap, adj. lacunar.
lamb'doid adj. G. lamb'da, representing a capital 'L' and written as an inverted V; hence, like that letter.
lamel'la diminutive of L. lam'ina = plate; hence, a small plate.
lam'ina L. = plate, either a layer of nervous tissue, like the laminae of the lateral geniculate body, or a connective tissue membrane, like lamina cribrosa sclerae, or of bone, as in vertebral laminae; hence, laminec'tomy = lamina + G. ek'tome = excision - excision of the vertebral laminae to give access to the spinal cord; adj. - lam'inar.
la'rynx G. = voice-box, adj. - larynge'al.
lateral adj. L. la'tus = side, hence, nearer the side.
lattiss'imus superlative of adj. L. la'tus = wide, hence, latiss'imus dor'si m., the widest muscle of the back; earlier name was anitersor - wiper of the anus.
leg the lower limb between the knee and the ankle.
lemnis'cus G. lemnis'kos = a band or ribbon (applied to nerve fibres).
len'sis'cus = a transparent body with one or both surfaces curved to redirect light rays, adj. - len'tiform or len'ti'cular.
leptomen'inx (pl. l.-menin'ges) G. lep'to = delicate, and men'inx = membrane. Usually refers to pia and arachnoid.
leva'tor L. = elevator.
lien  L. = spleen, adj. - li'enal.
lig'a ment  L. ligamen'tum = bandage, usually tying parts to each other, adj. - ligamen'tous.
lim'bus  L. = a margin, usually curved, hence, limbus of cornea, its circular junction with the sclera, adj. - lim'bic; limbic lobe of the brain comprises structures which encircle the junction of the diencephalon and telencephalon.
l'i men  L. = a threshold, hence, sublim'inal - below threshold.
lin'ea  L. = line.
lin'gua  L. = tongue, adj. lin'gual.
lin'gula  diminutive of lin'gua, hence, a little tongue, adj. - ling'ular.
lis'sencephal'ic  adj. G. lis'sos = smooth, hence, a cerebrum lacking sulci.
lo'bul e  Diminutive of lob'us.
lo'bus  G. lo'bos = lobe, adj. - lo'bar.
lob'ulus  L. diminutive of lob'us, hence, a lobule.
lo'cus  L. a place (cf. location, locate, dislocate).
 loin  L. lum'bus - the part of the back between the ribs and the hip bone.
lon'gitu'dinal  adj. L. longitu'do = length, hence, lengthwise.
lon'gus  adj. L. = long, hence, longiss'imus (superlative) = the longest.
lum'bar  adj. - see loin.
lum'brical  L. lum'bricus = worm, hence worm-shaped muscles of the palm.
lu'men  L. = opening, hence the space within a tube.
lu'rate  adj. L. lu'na = moon, hence, crescentic.
lu'teum  adj. L. = yellow.
lymph  L. lymph'a - clear spring water.
lympha'tic  a vessel carrying lymph.

M (m)
mac'roscop'ic  adj. G. mak'ros = large, and sko'pein = to examine; hence, large enough to be seen with the naked eye, e.g., pertaining to gross anatomy.
ma'cula  L. = spot (cf. immaculate - spotless); adj. - macular.
malle'olus  diminutive of L. mall'eus = hammer, adj. - malle'o lar.
mam'ma  L. = breast; adj. - mam'mary.
mammi'l a  diminutive of mam'ma; adj. - mammi'lary.
man'dible  L. mandere = to chew; hence, the movable lower jaw; adj. - mandib'u lar.
man'u'br i um  L. = handle; adj. - man'u'bral.
ma'nus  L. = hand (cf. manual).
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<td>mar'gin</td>
<td>the edge or border of a surface; adj. - mar'ginal.</td>
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<td>mas'setter</td>
<td>G. = chewer; adj. - masseter'ic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>mas'toid</td>
<td>adj. G. mas'tos = breast or teat.</td>
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<tr>
<td>maxil'la</td>
<td>L. = jaw-bone; now used only for the upper jaw; adj. - maxil'lary.</td>
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<td>mea'tus</td>
<td>L. = passage; adj. - mea'tal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>me'dial</td>
<td>adj. L. me'dius = middle; hence, nearer the median plane.</td>
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<td>me'dian</td>
<td>L. media'nus = in the middle.</td>
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<td>me'diasti'num</td>
<td>derivation doubtful, but possibly from L. me'dius = middle, and stans = standing; hence, a median vertical partition, adj. - me'diasti'nal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>medul'la</td>
<td>L. = marrow; applied to part of an organ deep to its cortex, and to the spinal cord and adjoining part of brain stem, which may have been thought to be the marrow of the vertebral column, adj. - med'ullary pertains to the medulla of an organ or medulla oblongata.</td>
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<td>mem'brane</td>
<td>L. membrana = a thin sheet; adj. - mem'branous.</td>
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<td>menin'ges</td>
<td>plural of G. meninx = a membrane; adj. - meninge'al.</td>
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<tr>
<td>menis'cus</td>
<td>L. men'is - a small crescent.</td>
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<tr>
<td>men'tal</td>
<td>adj. - L. mentum = chin; or L. mens = mind</td>
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<tr>
<td>mes'enceph'alon</td>
<td>G. me'sos = middle, and enkeph'alos = brain; adj. - mes'enceph'al'ic.</td>
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<td>mes'entry</td>
<td>G. me'sos = middle, and en'teron = intestine; hence, the peritoneal fold which tethers the centrally situated small intestine; adj. - mesenter'ic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>me'sial</td>
<td>adj. - medial, used in dental anatomy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>me'sosal'pinx</td>
<td>G. me'sos = middle, and sal'pinx = tube; hence, the intermediate part of the broad lig.</td>
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<tr>
<td>met'acar'pus</td>
<td>G. met'a = after, and kar'pus = wrist; adj. - met'acar'pal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>metaph'yisis</td>
<td>G. meta = after, and phys'is = growth; hence, the end of the shaft of a bone alongside the epiphysial or growth cartilage; adj. - metaphysi'al.</td>
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<tr>
<td>met'atar'sus</td>
<td>G. meta = after, and tarsos = ankle; hence, the bones beyond the tarsus. adj. - met'atar'sal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>metop'ic</td>
<td>adj. G. met'opon = forehead.</td>
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<td>min'imus</td>
<td>L. = smallest.</td>
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<td>mio'sis</td>
<td>G. meio'sis = lessening; hence, pupillary constriction; adj. - miot'ic.</td>
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<td>modal'ity</td>
<td>L. mo'dus = mode; hence, a form of sensation - e.g. touch, pain, sight.</td>
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<td>modi'olus</td>
<td>L. a cylindrical borer with a serrated edge; hence, like a screw; the central stem of the bony cochlea.</td>
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<td>mo'lar</td>
<td>adj. L. mo'la = mill.</td>
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<td>mons</td>
<td>L. = mountain; mons pubis, the soft tissue bulge over the female pubes.</td>
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<td>morphol'ogy</td>
<td>G. mor'phos = form, and log'o = word or relation; hence, study of pattern of structure; adj. - morpholog'ical.</td>
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<tr>
<td>multi'fidus</td>
<td>L. mul'tus = much, and fin'dere - to split.</td>
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musc'le

L. mus'culus, diminutive of G. mus = mouse, the body and head of which represent the main belly of a muscle, and the tail, the tendon.

mydri'asis

G. = dilatation of the pupil

my'elin

G. my'elos = marrow; hence, white fatty sheath of an axis cylinder; adj. - my'elinat'ed.

my'lohy'oid

G. my'lo = molar, and hyoe'i'des = U-shaped.

my'ocar'dium

G. mys = muscle, and kar'dia = heart, adj. - my'ocar'dial.

my'otome

G. mys = muscle, and tome = a cutting or division; hence, a group of muscles innervated by a single spinal segment.

N (n)

na'ris

L. = nostril (plural - na'res).

na'sal

adj. L. na'sus = nose; hence, pertaining to the nose.

na'tal

adj. L. na'tus = born; hence, relating to birth.

nates

pl. of L. natis = buttocks, clunes.

navic'u'lar

adj. L. navic'u'la = a little ship (cf. naval); hence, the tarsal bone which is concave posteriorly, resembling a boat.

ne'o

G. prefix - ne'os = new.

ne'ona'tal

adj. G. ne'os = new, and L. na'tos = born; hence, new-born.

ne'opal'lium

G. ne'os = new, and pal'lium - L. = cloak; hence, the cerebral cortex which developed more recently than the archipallium or olfactory cortex.

nerve

L. ner'vus = tendon; later reserved for a peripheral bundle of fibres which conduct impulses from or to the central nervous system.

neu'ral

adj. G. neu'ron = nerve.

neuro'glia

G. neu'ron = nerve, and glo'ia = glue; hence, the connective tissue of the central nervous system; adj. - neurogli'al.

neu'rohypoph'ysis, or posterior lobe of hypoph'ysis

G. hypo = down, and physis = growth; hence, the posterior part of the hypophysis evaginated inferiorly from the diencephalon, and its stalk.

neu'rolem'ma

G. neu'ron = nerve, and lem'ma = peel or rind; hence, the covering layer of a nerve.

neu'ron

G. = nerve; refers to the nerve cell body, with its axon and dendrites; adj. - neuro'nal.

nor'ma

L. = pattern or rule, or aspect; adj. normal - according to rule.

notch

an indentation in the margin of a structure. Etymology uncertain.

no'tochord

G. no'tos = back, and chor'de = cord; hence, the primitive axial skeleton around which the vertebrae develop, parts persisting in the nuclei pulposi.

nu'cha

Fr. nuque = nape or back of the neck; adj. - nu'chal.

nu'cleus

L. = kernel or nut; may refer to the vital centre of a cell body, or to a cluster of neuron cells in the C.N.S.; adj. - nu'clear.
O (o)

o'bex  
L. = barrier; hence, the coronal fold of ependyma over the lower angle of the 4th ventricle.

oblique'  
adj. L. obliq'uus; slanting, or deviating from the perpendicular or the horizontal.

ob'longa'ta  
L. oblong'us = oblong; medulla oblongata.

ob'turator  
L. ob'tura'tus = stopped up; whence, a structure which closes a hole.

oc'ciput  
L. ob- = prominent (cf. ob-vious), and caput = head; hence, the prominent convexity of the back of the head; adj. - occi'pital.

occlu'sion  
L. occlu'sum = closed up; hence, apposition of reciprocal teeth, or the blocking of any tubular structure; adj. - occlu'sal.

oesoph'agus  
G. = gullet (passage from pharynx to stomach); adj. - oesophage'al.

olec'ranon  
G. o'lene = ulna, and kranion = upper part of head; hence, the upper end of the ulna.

olfact'ory  
adj. L. olfac'to = smell.

ol'ive  
L. ol'iva - the oval fruit of the olive tree; oval eminence on medulla oblongata; adj. - ol'ivaryi.

omen'tum  
L. = apron; adj. - omen'tal.

o'mohy'oid  
G. o'mos = shoulder; hence, a muscle attached to the scapula and hyoid.

oper'culum  
L. lid or cover; hence, oper'culum in'sulae, the cerebral cortex covering and hiding the insula (the 5th lobe of cerebral cortex).

ophthalm'ic  
adj. G. ophthal'mos = eye.

oppose'  
L. oppos'itum = put against; hence, to resist or place in contact with, and opposition - the action of opposing.

op'tic  
adj. G. op'tos = seen; hence, pertaining to sight.

o'ra serra'ta  
L. o'ra = margin, and ser'ra = saw; hence, the serrated anterior edge of the functional part of the retina.

or'bit  
L. or'bis = circle; the name given to the bony socket in which the eyeball rotates; adj. - or'bital.

or'ifice  
L. orific'i um = opening.

os  
either L. os = bone; adj. - oss'eous; or L. os = mouth, adj. - o'ral.

oss'icle  
L. ossic'ulus, diminutive of os = bone.

os'sify  
L. os = bone, and fac'io = make; hence, to form bone; and os'sifica'tion, the process of bone formation.

osteol'ogy  
G. os'teon = bone, and log'y = a field of study.

o'tic  
adj. G. o'tos = ear.

o'tolith  
G. otos = ear, and lith'os = stone; hence, calcareous particles in the utricle and saccule of the membranous labyrinth.

o'vary  
L. o'vum = egg; hence, the organ containing ova (the largest cells in the female).

o'vum  
L. egg (plural - o'va).
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<td>pach'ymen'inx</td>
<td>G. pach'ys = thick, and men'inx = membrane; hence, the thick membrane covering the C.N.S., i.e., dura mater.</td>
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<tr>
<td>pal'ate</td>
<td>L. pala'tum = palate, adj. - pala'tal or pal'atine.</td>
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<tr>
<td>pa'leo</td>
<td>G. pal'aios = old; hence, pa'leo cerebel' lum, the earliest stage in the evolution of the cerebellum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pal'lidus</td>
<td>adj. L. = pale.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pal'lium</td>
<td>L. = cloak; hence, the cerebral cortex forming the outer covering of the cerebral hemisphere.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>palma</td>
<td>L. palma = palm; adj. palm'ar - L. palmaris.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>palpate'</td>
<td>L. palpa're = to touch, and palpa'tus = touched; hence, to examine by feeling, and palpa'tion, such an examination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pal'pebra</td>
<td>L. = eyelid, probably from palpita're = to flutter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pampin'iform</td>
<td>adj. L. pampi'nus = tendril.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pan'creas</td>
<td>G. = sweetbread, derived from G. pan = all, and cre'as = flesh; adj. - pancreat'ic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>papil'la</td>
<td>L. = nipple or teat; adj. - papil'lary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>paraesthe'sia</td>
<td>G. par'a = beside, and aisthe'sia = sensation; hence, abnormal sensation, usually burning or pricking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pa'rame'trium</td>
<td>G. par'a = beside, and me'tra = womb; hence, the connective tissue alongside the body of the uterus, within the broad lig.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pa'raple'gia</td>
<td>G. par'a = beside, and pleg'e = a stroke; hence, paralysis of the lower limbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pa'ralenal</td>
<td>adj. G. par'a = beside, L. ren = kidney; hence, beside the kidney, e.g., pa'ralenal fat, the fatty capsule of the kidney.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pa'raraster'nal</td>
<td>adj. G. par'a = beside, and ster'non = chest; hence, the pa'raraster'nal line is a vertical line about midway between the sternal edge and the midclavicular line.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pa'rasympathe'tic</td>
<td>adj. G. par'a = beside, syn = with, and path'os = feeling; hence, the division of the autonomic nervous system complementary to the sympathetic system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pa'rafthy'roid</td>
<td>adj. G. par'a = beside, and thy'roid; hence, beside the thyroid gland.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pare'sis</td>
<td>G. = relaxation, but has come to mean partial paralysis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pari'etal</td>
<td>adj. L. parieta'lis, pertaining to par'ies = wall.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>paro'tid</td>
<td>adj. G. par'a = beside, and o'tos = of the ear; hence, beside the ear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>par'ous</td>
<td>adj. L. pa'rio = I bear (children); hence, adj. applied to woman who has borne one or more children (cf. nullip'arous, multip'arous).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pars</td>
<td>L. = part.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>patel'la</td>
<td>L. a small pan; adj. - patel'lar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pec'ten</td>
<td>L. comb.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
pec'tinate adj. (from pecten) applied to structures having the appearance of parallel teeth arising from a straight back (mm. pectina'ti), or the sellar appearance of the superior pubic ramus, which may have resembled the body of antique combs.

pec'toral or pectora'lis adj. L. pectoris = of the front of the chest.

ped'icle diminutive of L. ped'is = of the foot.

ped'is L. = of the foot.

pedun'cle variation of pedicle.

pellu'cidum adj. L. per = through, and lu'cere - to shine; hence, translucent.

pel'vis L. = basin; adj. - pelvic.

pe'nis L. = tail; the male organ of copulation.

penna'tus or pen'nate or pin'nate adj.s. L. pen'na = feather; hence, a muscle whose fibres approach the tendon from one direction is unipennate; from two, bi'pennate, and from more than two, multi'pennate.

per'ianal adj. G. per'i = around, and L. a'anus = lower opening of alimentary canal.

per'icar'dium G. per'i = around, and kar'di a = heart; hence, the membranes enclosing the heart.

per'icra'nium per'i - G. around, and kra'ni on = skull; hence, the external periosteum of the skull.

per'ichon'drium per'i - G. = around, and chon'dros = cartilage; hence, the membrane covering cartilage.

per'ilymph per'i - G. around, and lymph'a - L. = clear water; hence, the fluid in the bony labyrinth surrounding the membranous labyrinth (and continuous with C.S.F.).

per'ine'um G. the caudal aspect of the trunk between the thighs, or, the region of the trunk below the pelvic diaphragm; adj. - per'ine'al.

per'iodon'tal adj. G. per'i = around, and o'dont = tooth.

per'ios'teum per'i - G. = around, and os'teon = bone; hence, the membrane around a bone.

per'iper'al adj. (cf. periphery) - G. per'i = around, and phe'ro = carry; hence, away from the centre.

per'istal'sis per'i - G. around, and stel 'lein - to constrict; hence, a circular constriction passing as a wave along a tube; adj. - per'istal'tic.

per'itone'um G. per'itei'no = to stretch around; hence, the membrane stretched around the internal surface of the walls and the external aspect of some of the contents of the abdomen; adj. - per'itone'al.

per'one'al adj. G. per'one = clasp - see fibula.

pes L. = foot.

pe'trous or petro'sal adj. L. petro'sus = rocky.

phal'anx L. = row of soldiers; hence, one of the small bones of a digit, plural - phal'anges.; adj. - phal'ange'al.
pharynx  G. = throat; adj. - phar'ynge'al.
philtrum  G. phil'tron - the median sulcus of the upper lip. Derivation doubtful.
phonation  G. pho'ne = sound or voice; hence, the production of either.
phrenic  G. phren = diaphragm or mind; hence, diaphragmatic (cf. schizophrenic).
pi'a  L. = faithful, hence, the membrane which faithfully follows the contour of the brain and spinal cord.
pilus  L. = a hair.
pine'al  adj. L. pin'ea = a pine cone; hence, the pineal gland which is cone-shaped.
piriform  adj. L. pi'rum = a pear; hence, pear-shaped.
pisiform  adj. L. pi'sum = a pea; hence, pea-shaped.
plane  L. pla'nus = flat; hence, a real or imaginary flat surface
plan'ta  L. the sole of the foot; adj. - plan'tar or planta'ris.
platy'sma  G. = flat object; hence, the flat subcutaneous muscle extending from below the clavicle to the mouth.
pleura  G. = a rib. Later used to name the serous membrane lining the chest walls and the lung on each side.
plexus  L. = a network or plait.
pli'ca  L. plica're = to fold; hence, a fold.
pollex  thumb
pons  L. = bridge; adj. - pon'tine; part of the brain stem.
poplite'us  L. pop'les = the ham or thigh, and sometimes, the knee; adj. poplite'al, referring to the fossa posterior to the knee or its contents.
portus  L. a pore or foramen; hence, the openings of the acoustic meatuses.
porta  L. = a gate, also L. porta're = to carry; hence, the portal system carries venous blood from the alimentary tract to the por'ta hep'atis; adj. - port'al.
posterior  adj. L. post = behind (in place or time).
posture  L. pos'itus = placed; hence, the position of the body as a whole at a given moment, e.g. erect, recumbent, prone, supine, sitting, kneeling.
precun'eus  L. pre = before, and cun'eus = wedge; hence, the parietal lobule anterior to the cuneus.
prep'ucce  L. praepu'tium = foreskin (of penis or clitoris).
proce'rus  L. slender, elongated; hence, the vertical slip of muscle between the medial part of frontalis and the root of the nose.
pro'cess, proces'sus  L. going forwards, used to indicate growing out, i.e., an outgrowth, usually of bone, e.g., the zygomatic process of the temporal.
prom'ontory  L. promontor'iump = a headland, i.e., part of land jutting into the sea - used for a bony prominence.
prone  L. prona'tus = bent forwards; hence, recumbent face-down posture; hence, to pro'nate = to turn the hand so that the palm faces posteriorly.

pro'priocep'tive  L. propri'us = one's own, and cap'tum = taken; hence, sensory impulses received by the joints and muscles within one's own body.

prosec'tor  L. pro = before, and sec'tum = cut. One who prepares a dissection for demonstration.

pro'senceph'alon  pro - L. = in front, and enkephalos - G. brain; hence, the part of the brain rostral to the midbrain.

pros'tate  G. pro = before, and L. = sta'tum = stood; hence, something which stands before - the prostate stands before the urinary bladder.

protract'  L. protract'us = drawn out; hence, to put forwards (e.g., shoulder or mandible). Protrac'tion - the act of protracting.

protrude'  L. protru'do = thrust forwards, e.g. the tongue; protru'sion - the act of protruding.

protu'berance  L. protu'bero = I bulge out; hence, a bulging bony feature (see tuber).

prox'imal  adj. L. prox'ieme = nearest; hence, nearer to the root of a limb.

pso'as  G. = loin.

pter'ion  G. pter'on = wing; hence, the region where the tip of the greater wing of the sphenoid meets or is close to the parietal, separating the frontal from the squamous temporal; alternatively the region where these 4 bones meet.

pter'ygoid  adj. G. pter'yx = wing, and oid = shape; hence, wing-shaped.

pto'sis  G. = fall; hence, drooping of an eyelid, or descent of an internal organ.

pu'berty  L. pu'ber = adult; hence, the time when hair appears in the pu'bic region - i.e., near the pu'bis - as a secondary sexual characteristic.

puden'dal  adj. L. puden'dus = shameful; hence, pertaining to the external genitalia.

pul'monary  adj. L. pul'mo = lung.

pulp  L. pul'pa = a soft part of the body or tooth.

pulvinar  L. pulvinus = rounded cushion; the posterior end of the thalamus.

pu'pil  L. pupil'la = the central black orifice in the iris; adj. - pupil'lary.

puta'men  L. = peel, husk or shell of fruit or seed (the external part of the lentiform nucleus).

py'elogram  G. py'elos = basin, and gramma =diagram; hence, radiograph of the renal pelvis (and usually of the ureter) after filling with contrast medium.

pylor'us  G. = gate-keeper; hence, the part of the pyloric canal containing the sphincter, which guards the opening into the duodenum; adj. - pylor'ic.

pyr'amid  G. pyr'amis = a pyramid (solid with 3- or more-sided base, and flat sides meeting at the apex), adj. - pyram'idal.
Q (q)
quadra'tus L. = square or rectangular.
quad'riceps L. quad'ri - pertaining to 4, and cap'ut = head; hence, a 4-headed muscle.

R (r)
radi'a'tion L. radia'tus = radiant; hence, divergence from a common centre (cf. radius).
ra'dius L. = spoke of a wheel, which rotates around the hub; hence, the lateral bone of the forearm, which rotates (though around an almost vertical axis); adj. - ra'dial.
ra'dix L. = root.
ram'ify L. ra'mus = a branch; and fac'ere = to make; hence, to branch.
ra'mus L. = branch; hence, a branch of a nerve.
ra'phe G. a seam; hence, the line of junction of the edges of 2 muscles or areas of skin.
re'cess L. reces'sus = a secluded area or pocket; hence, a small cavity set apart from a main cavity.
rec'tum adj. L. rec'tus = straight. (The rectum was named in animals where it is straight - which it is not in Man).
reflect' L. reflec'to = to bend back; hence, reflection = a turning or folding back.
re'flex an involuntary response - muscular or secretory - to a stimulus mediated by the C.N.S.
re'nal adj. L. ren = kidney.
re'te L. a net; hence, a network of veins or tubules.
retic'u'ulum L. diminutive of re'te; adj. - retic'u'lar.
ret'i'na derivation uncertain - the innermost of the 3 layers of the eyeball.
retinac'u'ulum L. = a tether; hence, a thickened band of deep fascia which retains tendons or the patella.
re'tro prefix - L. = backwards.
ret'roflex'ion ret'ro - L. backwards, and flex'ion = bent; hence, the position of being bent backwards, applied to the angulation of the body of the uterus on the cervix.
ret'rover'sion ret'ro - L. backwards, and ver'sion = turned; hence, the position of being turned backwards, applied to the angulation of the cervix uteri on the vagina.
rhi'nenceph'alon rhin'ion, G. = nostril, and enkeph'alos = brain; hence, the part of the brain concerned with smell (relatively large in lower animals).
rhom'benceph'alon  rhom'bos - G. = rhom'boid, and enkeph'alos = brain; hence, the hind-brain - the medulla oblongata, pons and cerebellum, which enclose the rhom'boid fos'sa (the floor of the 4th ventricle).

ri'ma  L. = chink; hence, e.g., ri'ma palpebra'rum = the chink between the free edges of the eyelids.

risor'ius  L. ri'sor = scoffer; hence, m. risor'ius is the facial muscle which expresses laughter by drawing the corner of the mouth laterally.

rostral  see rostrum.

ros'trum  L. beak, which decorated the Roman orator's platform; hence, a platform or beak-like structure; adj. - ros'tral, implying nearness to the ros'trum of corpus callosum.

rotate'  L. ro'ta = wheel; hence, to turn, and rota'tion, the act of turning.

ru'ga  L. = a wrinkle.

S (s).

sac  L. sac'cus = a sack.

sac'cule  L. sac'culus, diminutive of sac'cus.

sa'crum  L. sac'er = sacred (probably considered so because of its size).

sag'ittal  adj. L. sag'itta = arrow, because the sag'ittal suture is notched posteriorly, like an arrow, by the lambdoid sutures.

sal'ivary  adj. L. sali'va = spit.

sal'pinx  G. = trumpet; hence, the uterine or auditory tube, each of which is trumpet-shaped.

saph'enous  adj. G. saphe'nes = obviously visible. The saphenous vv. become very apparent when varicose.

sartor'ius  L. = tailor; hence, sartorius mm., which produce the posture in which tailors once worked, squatting on the floor.

sca'la (pl. sca'lae)  L. = stairs; hence the parallel spiral passages which wind up to, or down from, the cupula of the bony cochlea.

sca'lene, scale'nus  adj. G. skale'nos = uneven, an apt description of the shape of scalenus anterior and scalenus medius mm.

sca'phoid  adj. G. ska'phe = skiff; hence the carpal which is hollowed out on its distal surface for the head of the capitate; also the fossa occupied by tensor veli palatini m.

scap'ula  G. skap'to = I dig, because of the resemblance to a spade.

sciat'ic  adj. G. isch'i'on = hip-joint. Ischiad'ikos meant pertaining to the ischium or hip - later changed to sciat'ic. (The ischium earns its name because it forms > 2/5 of the acetabulum, whereas the ilium contributes < 2/5, and the pubis only 1/5). The sciatic nerve lies on the ischium.

scler'a  G. skle'ros = hard; hence the tough, outer layer of the eyeball; adj. - scler'al.

scro'tum  possibly derived from L. scor'teus = leather; adj. - scro'tal.
secrete'  L. secre'tus = separated; hence, to produce a chemical substance by glandular activity - adj. secretory; noun, secretion.

sel'la  L. = saddle; adj. - sellar, sel'la tur'cica = Turkish saddle.

dem'en  L. = seed; adj. - sem'inal (seminal vesicle).

dem'iluna'ris  adj. L. sem'i = half, and lu'na = moon; hence, having a half-moon shape.

dem'imembrano'sus  adj. L. sem'i = half, and membра'na = membrane; hence, the ham muscle of which the upper half is membranous.

dem'itendino'sus  adj. L. semi' = half, and ten'do = I stretch; hence, the ham muscle of which the lower half is tendinous.

dep'tum  L. saep'tum = fenced in; hence, a dividing fence or partition.

derratus  adj. L. = notched like the edge of a saw (serrate).

desamoid  adj. G. sesamo'des, -oid = like; like grains of sesame, hence, small bone in tendon at site of friction.

dial'ogram  G. si'alon = saliva, and gram'ma = a diagram; hence, a radiograph of a salivary duct.

dig'moid  adj. G. sig'ma, the form used at the end of a word having an S-shape; hence, S-shaped.

dis'ter  adj. L. = left-sided.

sine'us  L. = a hollow or space which may contain air, venous or arterial blood, lymph or serous fluid; adj. sinus'oid.

sole  the lower surface of the foot - see sole'us.

sole'us  adj. L. sole'a = flatfish or sandal; hence m. sole'us which does not enter the sole of the foot, but resembles the fish.

somat'ic  adj. G. so'ma = the body; hence, pertaining to the body frame but not to its viscera.

spasm  G. spas'mos = an involuntary contraction of a muscle; adj. - spastic, or spasmodic.

sperm'a  G. = seed or semen, adj. spermat'ic.

sphe'noid  adj. G. sphen = wedge, and -o'eides = shape; hence the unpaired bone which is wedged into the base of the skull between the unpaired frontal and occipital.

sphinc'ter  G. sphink'ter = a tight binder; hence, a circular muscle which closes an orifice; adj. - sphincter'ic.

spine  L. spi'na = a thorn; hence, a sharp process, or a lay term for the vertebral column; adj. spinous, spinal.

splanchnic  adj. G. splanchnon = a viscus or internal organ; hence pertaining to viscera.

spleen  L. splen; hence; adj. - splen'ic.

sple'nium  G. splen'ion = a bandage. Hence, sple'nus capi'tis m., with its finely-woven fibres and its quarter-spiral twist from a coronal to a sagittal plane. The splenium of corpus callosum resembles a partly rolled bandage.
spongiosum adj. G. spon'gia = a sponge.

squa'ma L. = a scale (as of fish or reptile); adj. - squa'mous.

sta'pes L. = stirrup; adj. - stape'dial, stape'dius.

stel'late adj. L. stel'la = star.

ster'num G. ster'non = chest or breast; adj. stern'al.

stom'ach G. stoma'chos = gullet or oesophagus, later applied to the wider part of the digestive tract just below the diaphragm; adj. - gas'tric.

strabis'mus G. strabis'mos = squinting; hence, inability to focus both eyes on a given point.

stra'tum L. = a covering sheet, or layer.

stri'a L. = furrow, applied to a streak or stripe.

stria'tum adj. L. stria'tus = furrowed; hence, cor'pus stria'tum, the caudate and lentiform nuclei connected by grey strands which traverse the internal capsule, giving the strands a striated appearance.

stro'ma G. = bed or mattress, deep to the covers; hence, the supporting framework of an organ, as distinct from its special parenchyma.

sty'loid adj. G. sty'los = an instrument for writing, and -oeid'es = like; hence a pen- or pencil-like structure.

suc'cus L. = juice (s. entericus, the secretion of the small intestine).

sul'cus L. = a groove.

su'percil'iary adj. L. su'per = above, and cil'ia = eyelid; hence, pertaining to the eyebrow.

su'perfic'ial adj. L. su'per = above, and fa'cies = surface; hence, nearer the surface.

su'perior adj., comparative of L. su'perus = above.

su'pine adj. L. supi'nus, recumbent on the back. Hence, also, the position of the hand with the dorsum facing posteriorly.

su'pina'tion the act of turning the back of the hand to face posteriorly; verb - su'pinate.

su'pra L. prefix = superior to.

sur'al adj. L. sura = the calf.

sustentac'ulum L. = a support, which sustains; s. tali - the ledge on the calcaneus supporting part of the talus.

su'ture L. su'tura = a seam; the fibrous joints between cranial bones.

sympathet'ic G. syn = with, and pathos = feeling; hence, the peripheral part of the autonomic nervous system which arises in the thoracolumbar region of the spinal cord and communicates with other nerves.

sym'physis G. syn = with, and phy'sis = growth; hence a joint where union between the bones is by fibrocartilage - used for median joints. (Symphysis of the mandible is exceptional, the 2 halves fusing before the age of 2).

syn'apse G. syn = with, and ap'tein = to join; hence, the zone through which an impulse passes from one neuron to another.
syn'chondro'sis  G. syn = with, and chon'dros = cartilage; hence, the union of 2 bones by cartilage.
syndesmosis  G. syn = with, and desmos = a band; hence, the union of 2 bones by fibrous tissue.
syn'drome  G. syn = with, and drom'os = running; hence, a group of signs and symptoms which is characteristic of a certain pathology.
syner'gist  G. syn = with, and er'gon = work; hence a muscle which cooperates with others in producing a given movement.
synovia  G. syn = with, and ovum = egg; hence the fluid in freely movable joints resembling egg-white; adj. syno'vial.
sys'tole  G. = contraction; hence the contraction of cardiac muscle.

T (t)
tae'nia (te'nia)  L. a tape or ribbon.
ta'lus  L. = ankle-bone; hence, the tortoise-shaped tarsal of the talocrural (ankle) joint.
tape'tum  L. a carpet or coverlet; hence the roof of the posterior horn of the lateral ventricle.
tar'sus  G. tarsos = a flat surface; hence the flat part of the foot, and later, the bones of the foot posterior to the metatarsals, adj. tarsal.
tec'tum  L. = roof; hence the roof of the midbrain.
teg'men  L. = covering (cf. integument = the skin).
tegmen'tum  L. = covering.
te'la  L. a web; e.g., a fold of pia mater containing a choroid plexus.
tele'enceph'alon  G. telos = end, and enkephalos = brain; hence the rostral part of the developing brain. (With the diencephalon, it makes up the prosencephalon).
tem'poral  L. tempus = time; hence, the temporal area of the scalp, where grey hair first appears, marking the progress of ageing.
ten'don  L. tendo = I stretch out.
ten'sor  L. tensus = stretched; hence a muscle which produces tension.
tentor'ium  L. = tent; tentorium cerebelli.
te'res  L. = rounded, cylindrical.
tes'tis, tes'ticle  L. a testis, the male gonad.
thel'amus  G. = bedroom - derivation rather obscure, though the posterior end of the thalamus is rounded and named pulvinar = cushion.
the'nar  G. = palm of hand; hence, the ball of the thumb.
tho'rax  G. = the chest, adj. thora'cic.
throm'bus  G. = a clot.
thy'mus  G. = sweetbread.
thy'roid G. thyreos = shield, and -oeides = shape; hence, shaped like a shield (which shields the glottis).
tib'ia L. = the shin-bone, adj. tib'ial.
ton'sil L. tonsilla = tonsil (e.g., palatine t.).
to'rus L. = a bulge.
trabec'ula diminutive of L. trabs = a beam; hence the supporting fibres of a structure.
trache'a G. tracheia = rough, referring to its corrugations.
tract L. tractus = an elongated strand of wool or dough; hence a pathway for nerve fibres.
tra'gus L. = goat, because of the beard-like tuft of hair on its internal aspect.
trans'verse perpendicular to the long axis.
trape'zium G. trape'zion = a trapezium - a quadrilateral with 2 sides parallel; hence, trapezius m., the diamond-shape of both trapezii mm. together.
trap'ezoid resembling a trapezium.
tri'ceps L. tres = 3, and cap'ut = head; hence a 3-headed muscle
trigem'inal L. trigem'inus = triplets; hence, cranial n. V, with 3 large divisions.
tri'gone L. trigo'num = a triangle.
trique'tral L. trique'trus = 3-cornered.
triti'cea L. tri'ticum = a grain of wheat; hence, the tiny cartilage in the lateral thyrohyoid lig.
trochan'ter G. = a runner; hence, the bony landmark, the greater trochanter, which moves so obviously in running.
troch'lea G. trochi'lia = a pulley.
trun'cus L. = trunk (of a tree).
tu'ber see tuberosity.
tu'bercle, tu'berculum L. diminutive of tuber, a small prominence, usually bony.tuberos'ity - tuber'culum L. tu'ber = a swelling or lump, usually large and rough.
tuberos'ity L. tuberositas = lumpy
tu'nica L. shirt; hence a covering.
tym'panum L. = a drum.

U (u)
ul'na L. = elbow or arm; hence, the medial bone of the forearm.
umbili'cus L. = the navel.
un'mbo L. = the boss on the centre of a shield, umbo of tympanic membrane.
un'cus L. = hook; adj. - uncinate.
un'gual pertaining to L. unguis = finger-nail.
ure'ter G.oureter = passage from kidney to bladder.
ure'thra  G. ourethra = passage from bladder to exterior.
ute'rus  L. = womb.
u'tricle  diminutive of uterus.
u'veula  diminutive of L. u'va = grape.

V (v)
vag'i'na  L. = sheath; hence, invagina'tion is the acquisition of a sheath by pushing inwards into a membrane, and evagina'tion is similar but produced by pushing outwards.
va'gus  L. = wandering; hence, cranial n. X, which leaves the head and neck to traverse the thorax and upper part of the abdomen.
val'late  L. valla'tus = walled; hence, the large papillae on the tongue which are depressed below the surface and are surrounded by a groove which is itself bounded by a wall.
vallec'u'la  diminutive of L. val'lis = a fossa.
valve  L. val'va = the segment of a folding-door.
val'vula  diminutive of L. valva.
vas  L. = vessel (plural = va'sa).
vas'cular  L. vas'culum, diminutive of vas; hence, pertaining to blood vessels.
vein  L. ve'na; adj. ve'nous.
ve'lum  L. = curtain; veli = of a curtain.
ven'ter  L. = belly; hence, ven'tral, pertaining to the belly side.
ven'tricle  diminutive of L. ven'ter, a small belly.
ver'miform  L. ver'mis = a worm, and for'ma = shape; hence, worm-shaped.
ver'mis  L. = worm; hence, the segmented median part of the cerebellum.
ver'tebra  L. ver'to = I turn; hence, one of the movable bones of the backbone which seems to be shaped for rotation.
ver'tex  L. = summit; hence the highest point on the skull.
ver'tical  perpendicular (at a right angle) to the horizontal.
ve'sica  L. = bladder; adj. vesi'cal.
vesic'u'la  diminutive of ve'sica; sem'inal ve'sicle.
ves'tibule  L. vestib'ulum = entrance hall.
vibris'sa  L. vibra're = to vibrate; hence, the hairs in the nasal vestibule which vibrate in the current of air.
vil'lus  L. a hair; hence, a vascular, hair-like process, usually projecting from a mucous surface.
vin'cula  L. = fetters (singular: vin'culum); hence, the delicate vascular synovial bands passing to a tendon in the digits.
vis'cus  L. = an internal organ (plural, vis'cera), adj. vis'ceral.
vit'reous  L. vit'reus = glassy.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>vo'mer</td>
<td>L. = plough-share; hence, the bone of the nasal septum which is split in two at its upper edge.</td>
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<tr>
<td>vortico'sae</td>
<td>L. vor'tex = whirl; hence the whirl-like arrangement of the 4 vv. vortico'sae leaving the eyeball.</td>
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<tr>
<td>vul'va</td>
<td>L. = the external female genitalia.</td>
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<tr>
<td>xiph'oid</td>
<td>G. xiph'os = a sword, and -oeides = shape; hence, sword-shaped.</td>
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<tr>
<td>zo'na</td>
<td>L. = a belt; hence, a circular band.</td>
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<tr>
<td>zon'ule</td>
<td>diminutive of zona.</td>
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<tr>
<td>zygomatic</td>
<td>G. zy'gon = yoke; hence, the bone joining the maxillary, frontal, temporal and sphenoid bones.</td>
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<tr>
<td>zy'gote</td>
<td>G. zy'gon = yoke; hence the fusion of the male and female gametes.</td>
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