



TAKE NOTE

gradior, loquor, morior These three verbs belong to a group of verbs called deponents, which have passive forms but active meanings. Deponent verbs will be introduced in a later chapter.

taberna The word *taberna* in both classical and medieval Latin means any kind of shop but in medieval Latin the specialized meaning “wineshop” becomes common. From this source comes the English “tavern.”

virtūs The meaning of *virtūs* in the Christian writers of the later Roman period already had a specifically Christian meaning. In addition to the Roman sense of “manliness,” “uprightness” and “courage,” it also denotes “piety” and “sanctity.” This meaning persists in medieval Latin.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Why is the poet comparing himself to a leaf?
2. What does the poet say about dying?
3. What are the poet’s thoughts at the end of the passage?



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This document will expire May 31, 2017.

Foliū sum similis, dē quō lūdunt ventī.