



Unit 14 Grapes and Grape Cultivation

* Glossary

Anchor: to secure firmly in position

Slender: small in circumference

**The structure of the grapevine**

The structure of the grapevine is really quite simple and is basically composed of the following elements.

Root system

In addition to **anchoring** the vine to the soil, roots absorb water and nutrients, store carbohydrates and other foods and nutrients for the vine's future use and produce hormones that control plant functions.

The root system of a mature grapevine consists of a woody framework of older roots from which permanent roots grow in all directions into the ground. The roots are typically multi-branching, producing lateral roots that can further branch into smaller lateral roots.

**The trunk**

The trunk is semi-permanent and supports the above ground vegetative and reproductive structures of the vine. A trunk is easy to identify because it originates at or near the ground like the trunks on other woody plants. There can be one, two or several trunks on a grapevine. When a trunk divides into branches, these branches are called arms. Arms are rough-barked portions of the vine other than the trunk.

Shoots and canes

The shoots are the principal unit of vine growth and the principal focus of many viticultural practices. Shoots are stem-like green growths arising from the bud and consist of stems, leaves and fruit. They also produce tendrils, that are **slender** structures that coil around smaller objects to provide support for growing shoots.

Canes are simply mature, woody shoots. They have enlarged areas along them called nodes. Canes can be pruned to varying lengths.

[Adapted from: E.W. Hellman, *Grapevine Structure and Function*, 2016, www.gencowinemakers.com]



Understanding the text

1. Read the text and translate the following terms. Use the dictionary when necessary.

- 1. Roots:
- 2. Trunk:
- 3. Branch:
- 4. Shoot:
- 5. Stem:
- 6. Leaves:
- 7. Tendril:
- 8. Cane:

2. Find ten verbs related to the structure of the grapevine. One has been done as an example.

- 1. **Be composed of**
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

3. Read the text and fill in the grid with the appropriate information.

Part of a grapevine	Characteristics	Function (when mentioned)
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.