

# Activity and Inactivity

## WORD LIST

boisterousness	chaotic	complacency	dynamic	monotony
restive	static	steadfast	tranquility	velocity

The words in this lesson identify states of activity and inactivity, as well as the feelings and values that we attach to them. You might use these words to describe a *boisterous* game, a rocket with great *velocity*, or a *tranquil* moment.

1. **boisterousness** (boi'star-əs-nəs) *noun* from Middle English *boistres*, "rude; rough"

Noisy, rough, and undisciplined behavior

- The local fans were known for their **boisterousness** on game days.

**boisterous** *adjective* The neighbors called the police to stop the **boisterous** party.

2. **chaotic** (kā-ōt'ik) *adjective* from Greek *khaos*, "disorder; confusion"

Totally confused and lacking in order

- The crowd became **chaotic** as people rushed to take shelter from the sudden storm.

**chaos** *noun* The wild little cousins turned Keri's neat bedroom into **chaos**.

3. **complacency** (kəm-plā'sən-sē) *noun* from Latin *complacere*, "to please"

Self-satisfaction without awareness of danger or trouble

- As a result of the manager's **complacency**, competitors were able to take away much of the store's business.

**complacent** *adjective* After Brad made the honor roll, he became **complacent** and stopped studying.



chaotic

4. **dynamic** (dī-nām'ik) *adjective* from Greek *dunamis*, "power"

Energetic; vigorous; quick moving

- The young couple made a **dynamic** team in the tango competition.

**dynamo** *noun* The new president was a **dynamo**, who doubled the company's sales within a year.

5. **monotony** (mə-nōt'n-ē) *noun* from Greek *mono-*, "one" + *tonus*, "tone"

Boring repetition or sameness

- Bryan disliked the **monotony** of practicing scales on the piano.

**monotonous** *adjective* Susie and Ben took on the **monotonous** task of polishing the silverware before the holidays.

6. **restive** (rēs'tiv) *adjective* from Latin *stare*, "to stand"

Uneasy; impatient under restriction

- Living under a strict military curfew, people became **restive**.

**restiveness** *noun* Grandmother noticed Joan's **restiveness** when bad weather kept her from playing outside for almost a month.

7. **static** (stāt'ik) *adjective* from Greek *statikos*, "causing to stand"

Still; without motion

- It is difficult to assume a **static** posture for more than a few minutes.

8. **steadfast** (stēd'fāst') *adjective* from Old English *stede*, "place" + *faest*, "fixed"

Steady; firmly loyal; constant

- The **steadfast** ally did not desert the king, even during times of great trouble.

**steadfastness** *noun* **Steadfastness** of purpose helps us to accomplish big and small goals.

9. **tranquility** (trāng-kwīl'ī-tē) *noun* from Latin *tranquillus*, "peaceful"

Calm; peace and quiet

- The pond in the willow grove had a magical air of peace and **tranquility**.

**tranquil** *adjective* Blessed with a **tranquil** temperament, she rarely lost her temper.

**tranquilize** *verb* To quiet or calm, often by giving medicine

- The veterinarian said it would be best to **tranquilize** the cat before taking it on an airplane.

10. **velocity** (və-lōs'ī-tē) *noun* from Latin *velocitas*, "fast"

Swiftness; speedy motion

- Light travels at an astonishing **velocity**.

Static is electricity that makes clothes cling and causes slight shocks. It is also interference on a TV set. To get static means "to get complaints."

## ANALOGIES

On the answer line, write the letter of the answer that best completes each analogy. Refer to Lessons 15–17 if you need help with any of the lesson words.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Execute is to order as \_\_\_\_\_.
- |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. walk is to hop        | c. hope is to believe    |
| b. accomplish is to task | d. monotonous is to dull |
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Unearth is to inter as \_\_\_\_\_.
- |                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| a. open is to close      | c. car is to velocity   |
| b. dynamic is to chaotic | d. plan is to apportion |
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Secluded is to hidden as \_\_\_\_\_.
- |                               |                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| a. intrigued is to fascinated | c. silent is to boisterous |
| b. comfortable is to restive  | d. hot is to cold          |
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Running is to vigorous as \_\_\_\_\_.
- |                    |                           |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| a. cow is to milk  | c. reading is to tranquil |
| b. foot is to shoe | d. speaking is to mouth   |