

# LESSON 7 MOVEMENT

# 7

Words are like broadcasting systems. A poor system sends weak signals. The better the system, the stronger the signal. Well-chosen words send strong signals and clear messages that listeners or readers can receive without difficulty.

A sharply focused word leaves a strong impression. As you compare the choices in the following sentences, ask yourself which word or phrase is more vivid.

A horse *goes* / *gallops*.

The ballerina *danced* / *spun*.

I *sat* / *slumped* in my seat.

Like the verbs above, most words in this lesson are vivid. Try picturing the movements described in some of them. Which words are the easiest to see in your mind?

## WORD LIST

brisk  
fleet  
linger  
mingle  
nimble  
perpetual  
saunter  
scurry  
stride  
totter

## DEFINITIONS

After you have studied the definitions and example for each vocabulary word, write the word on the line to the right.

1. **brisk** (brĭsk) *adjective* a. Lively; energetic. b. Sharp or keen in speech or manner. c. Refreshing. 1. \_\_\_\_\_

**Related Words** *briskly* adverb; *briskness* noun

**Example** My grandparents take a *brisk* walk every evening.

2. **fleet** (flēt) *adjective* Moving swiftly; rapid. *noun* A group of vehicles, such as taxis or fishing boats. 2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Related Word** *fleetness* noun

**Example** Gazelles and cheetahs are *fleet* animals.

3. **linger** (lĭng'gər) *verb* a. To delay in leaving. b. To remain alive; last. 3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Related Word** *lingeringly* adverb

**Example** The movie's ending *lingered* in my mind.

4. **mingle** (mĭng'gəl) *verb* a. To become mixed or blended. b. To mix in or join with others. 4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Example** The smells of pine and lilies *mingled* in the air.

5. **nimble** (nĭm'bəl) *adjective* a. Moving quickly and lightly. b. Clever; quick-thinking. 5. \_\_\_\_\_

**Related Words** *nimbleness* noun; *nimbly* adverb

**Example** With her *nimble* fingers, my grandmother finished knitting the sweater in record time.

6. **perpetual** (pə-r-pĕch' 00-əl) *adjective* a. Continuing without interruption; constant. b. Lasting a very long time or forever.

**Related Word** *perpetually* *adverb*

**Example** Mosquitoes are a *perpetual* nuisance to summer campers.

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. **saunter** (sōn'tər) *verb* To walk in a relaxed and carefree way; stroll.

**Example** Under a lazy summer sun, children played in the sand, and couples *sauntered* along the beach.

7. \_\_\_\_\_

8. **scurry** (skūr'ē) *verb* To run hurriedly; scamper.

**Example** Hearing steps, the quail chicks *scurried* for cover.

8. \_\_\_\_\_

MEMORY CUE: *Scurry* suggests *hurry*.

9. **stride** (strīd) *noun* a. A long step or the distance covered in such a step. b. A step forward; an advance. *verb* To walk energetically and with long steps.

**Example** A toddler must run to keep up with an adult's *stride*.

9. \_\_\_\_\_

10. **totter** (tōt'ər) *verb* a. To sway as if about to fall. b. To walk unsteadily. c. To seem about to collapse.

**Related Word** *tottery* *adjective*

**Example** Babies learning to walk *totter* whenever they stand.

10. \_\_\_\_\_