

BANISH BORING WORDS!

Leilen Shelton

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Teaching
Resources

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Transitions



Z-Z-Z-Z-Z **Boring:** So, dogs make the perfect family pet.

Interesting: Without a doubt, dogs make the perfect family pet.

For the Beginning

A bad	At the beginning	Initially	One important
A good	Before	In the beginning	The first
An important	Early on	In the first place	To begin
As soon as	First	It started when	To start
At first	First of all	One	Yesterday

For the Middle

A better	Another important	Furthermore	Next
Accordingly	A second	However	Second
Additionally	At the same time	In addition	Secondly
After	A worse	In fact	Shortly thereafter
After that	Before long	In the meantime	Soon after
Afterward	Besides	Later	Suddenly
All at once	During	Later on	Then
All of a sudden	Equally important	Likewise	The next
Along with	Following this	Meanwhile	The second
Also	For example	More importantly	When
Another	For instance	Moreover	While

For the End

Accordingly	For this reason	Later on	Therefore
A final	Furthermore	Moreover	The worst
After	Hence	Most importantly	Thus
After that	In brief	Obviously	To conclude
All at once	In conclusion	Of course	To summarize
All in all	In fact	On the whole	To sum up
All of a sudden	In other words	Shortly thereafter	To this end
As a result	In short	Since	Ultimately
At last	In summary	Soon after	Undeniably
At the end	In the end	The best	Undoubtedly
Clearly	Last	The final	When
Consequently	Last of all	The last	With this in mind
Eventually	Lastly	The most important	Without a doubt
Finally	Later	Then	Without question

Essay Verbs for Writing About...



Boring: The article “Butterflies” is about the migration habits of butterflies.

Interesting: The article “Butterflies” investigates the migration habits of butterflies.

Characters

attempts	determines	experiences	learns	strives
battles	discovers	faces	realizes	struggles
competes	encounters	figures out	recognizes	undergoes
copers	endeavors	finds out	seeks	understands
deals with	endures	grapples with	sets out	undertakes

Compare/Contrast Texts

analyzes	contrasts	emphasizes	explores	identifies
classifies	considers	examines	focuses on	presents
compares	deals with	explains	highlights	points out

Descriptions

depicts	describes	illustrates	portrays	presents
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Informational/Expository Texts

analyzes	defines	explores	identifies	provides
answers	describes	features	informs	reports
classifies	examines	focuses on	investigates	reveals
deals with	explains	highlights	presents	traces

Messages/Lessons

advises	expresses	illustrates	reminds	stresses
demonstrates	focuses on	implies	reveals	suggests
emphasizes	illuminates	points out	shows	teaches

Narrative Stories

chronicles	describes	follows	presents	retells
deals with	details	illustrates	recounts	tells about
depicts	explores	narrates	relates	traces

Persuasive Texts

addresses	contends	discourages	exposes	reasons
advises	convinces	disputes	focuses on	recommends
argues	criticizes	emphasizes	insists	refutes
asserts	deals with	encourages	points out	rejects
claims	defends	evaluates	praises	suggests
confronts	denies	examines	proposes	supports

Movements



Z-Z-Z-Z-Z **Boring:** The soccer player moved fast.
Interesting: The soccer player streaked past opponents and sprinted toward the goal.

Fast			Slow		
biked	jerked	skittered	ambled	loitered	staggered
bolted	jolted	slammed	biked	lollygagged	stalked
bounded	jostled	slapped	brewed	lounged	stamped
burst	jumped	slashed	coasted	lugged	stepped
bustled	kicked	sliced	crawled	lumbered	stomped
charged	knocked	smacked	crept	lurked	straggled
chased	lashed	smashed	cruised	marched	strayed
clamored	leapt	snapped	dawdled	meandered	strode
crashed	lunged	snatched	dillydallied	moped	stroked
darted	mauled	sped	dragged	moseyed	strolled
dashed	nabbed	sprang	drifted	napped	strutted
dodged	outpaced	sprinted	dripped	paced	swaggered
dove	outran	stampeded	edged	plodded	swayed
erupted	plunged	streaked	floated	popped	tiptoed
flailed	pounced	swiped	flowed	poked	toddled
fled	quickenened	swooped	frolicked	prowled	trailed
flew	raced	tackled	froze	relaxed	traipsed
frisked	ran	tore	gallivanted	roamed	traversed
galloped	rode	trotted	glided	rocked	treaded
grabbed	rushed	whirred	hiked	roved	trekked
grasped	scampered	whisked	hobbled	sauntered	tromped
gunned	scooted	whizzed	inched	shuffled	trooped
hastened	scrambled	wrestled	jogged	skipped	trudged
hightailed	scurried	yanked	journeyed	slinked	undulate
hurried	scuttled	zapped	lagged	slithered	ventured
hustled	shot	zigzagged	limped	slogged	waited
jabbed	shoved	zipped	lingered	slowed	walked
jammed	skipped	zoomed	loafed	snuck	wallowed
			lobbed	sputtered	wandered