

LESSON 11 – “Travel”

Sic transit gloria mundi.

Thus passes away the glory of this world. – THOMAS À KEMPIS

Base Words

aberration	erratic	transgress	transitory
ambience	exodus	transient	translucent
episode	obituary	transitive	

TRANS <Latin> “across”

1. transgress [trans +

v. To go beyond or over set limits; to break a rule.

According to the Bible, Adam and Eve **transgressed** God’s command when they ate fruit from the tree of knowledge.

Other Forms: **transgression**, n.

2. transitive [trans + *it= ire* <Latin> “to go”]

adj. (grammar) Describing an action carried from subject to verb to object; needing a direct object to complete the meaning of the verb.

The following sentence contains a **transitive** verb: “The tornado destroyed the town.”

NOTA BENE: Some verbs can be both *transitive* (taking a direct object) and *intransitive* (not needing a direct object to complete the meaning). For example, in “The champion broke the record” broke is *transitive* and in “The glass broke” it is *intransitive*. Some verbs rarely, if ever, require a direct object: lie (meaning “to lie down”), sleep, and die. They are *intransitive verbs*.

3. transitory [trans + *it = ire* <Latin> “to go”]

adj. Lasting for only a short while.

In comedy, problems are **transitory**: misfortune ends and conflicts are resolved.

4. translucent [trans + *lux* <Latin> “light”]

adj. Permitting light to pass through, but not transparent.

Sunlight through the **translucent** stained glass windows made colorful designs on the white walls.

translucence, n.; **translucently**, adv.

EO, IRE, IVI, ITUM <Latin> “to go”

5. ambience [*amb* <Latin> “on both sides” + **it**]

n. Environment; the surrounding atmosphere.

Many writers have described the **ambience** of Venice: its canals and gondolas, its squares and palaces.

Other Forms: **ambient**, adj.

6. obituary [*ob* <Latin> “because” + **it**]

n. Notice of a death with biographical information.

The **obituary** of Harriet Beecher Stowe included mention of her nine children and her novel *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*.

7. transient [trans <L “across” + **it**]

adj. 1. Passing quickly; transitory.

Summer vacations are all too **transient**.

2. Staying only a short time.

Youth hostels cater to **transient** guests.

n. A person or thing having a short stay.

Canada geese are only **transients** in the Midwest, resting on their migration to the north.

Other Forms: **transience**, n.

ERRO, ERRARE, ERRAVI, ERRATUM <Latin> “to wander,” “to stray”

8. **aberration** [ab<Latin> “away from” + **err**] n. Straying from what is normal or accepted.
Their fourth daughter became a lawyer, an **aberration** in this family of doctors.
Other Forms: **aberrant**, adj.

9. erratic
adj. Irregular or inconsistent in movement, habit, quality, or ideas.
Because Alice meets so many strange characters like The Queen of Hearts and The Mad Hatter, her journey through Wonderland is highly **erratic**.
Other Forms: **erratically**, adv.

HODOS <Greek> “journey”

10. **episode** [*epi* <Greek> “upon, to” + **hodos**]
n. An incident in a person’s life or in a story or play.
The **episode** in *The Secret Garden* where lonely Mary Lennox discovers a hidden garden begins a story of friendship, believable magic, and the will to live.
Other Forms: **episodic**, adj.; **episodically**, adv.

11. **exodus** [*ex* <Latin> “from, out of” + **hodos**]
n. 1. Mass departure or emigration.
The Spanish Civil War in the 1930s caused an **exodus** of refugees escaping to France.
2. (capitalized) The departure of the Israelites from Egypt with their leader Moses.
The second book of the Bible tells the story of the **Exodus** from Egypt to the promised land of Canaan.

Familiar Words

ambition	transfer	transfusion	transplant
perish	transfix	transit	
trance	transform	transmission	

Challenge Words

extradition	introit	transcribe	transition
intransigent	transcend	transfigure	transmutation
