

INERTIA

Boredom, Idleness, Indolence, Laziness, Procrastination and Sloth

1. ESSENCE

- 2411 Idleness is the holiday of fools.
Chesterfield (1694-1773)
- 2412 Idleness is the Dead Sea that swallows all virtues.
Franklin (1706-1790)
- 2413 Indolence is the sleep of the mind.
Vauvenargues(1715-1747)
- 2414 Procrastination is the art of keeping up with yesterday.
Donald Marquis (1878-1937)

2. OPPOSITES

- 2415 To be idle is a short road to death
and to be diligent is a way of life;
foolish people are idle,
wise people are diligent.
Buddha (B.C. 568-488)
- 2416 To-morrow I will live, the fool does say:
to-day itself's too late; the wise lived yesterday.
Martial (43-104 A.D.)
- 2417 Indolence of which a man is conscious, and indolence of
which he is unconscious, are a thousand miles apart.
Unconscious indolence is real indolence; conscious
indolence is not complete indolence, because there is still
some clarity in it... Unconscious indolence is like a
sickness without symptoms; it is not noticed.
Lu Yen (fl. 800 A.D.)
- 2418 Sloth makes all things difficult, but industry all easy;
and he that riseth late must trot all day, and shall scarce
overtake his business at night; while laziness travels so
slowly that poverty soon overtakes him.
Franklin (1706-1790)
- 2419 An idler is a watch that wants both hands;
As useless if it goes as when it stands.
Cowper (1731-1800)

- 2420 Necessity is the constant scourge of the lower classes,
ennui of the higher ones.
Schopenhauer (1788-1860)
- 2421 Sow kindly acts and thou shalt reap their fruition.
Inaction in a deed of mercy becomes an action in a deadly
sin.
H. P. Blavatsky (1831-1891)

3. INSIGHT

- 2422 Thou seest how sloth wastes the sluggish body,
as water is corrupted unless it moves.
Ovid (B.C. 43-18 A.D.)
- 2423 While we are postponing, life speeds by.
Seneca (B.C. 3-65 A.D.)
- 2424 Surely man was not created to be an idle fellow; he was not
set in this universal orchard to stand still as a tree.
Thomas Dekker (1577-1632)
- 2425 Of all our faults, the one that we excuse most easily
is idleness.
La Rochefoucauld (1613-1680)
- 2426 Sloth, like rust, consumes faster than labor wears,
while the key often used is always bright.
Franklin (1706-1790)
- 2427 Too much idleness, I have observed, fills up a man's time
much more completely, and leaves him less his own master,
than any other sort of employment whatsoever.
Burke (1729-1797)
- 2428 There is no progress whatever. Everything is just the same
as it was thousands, and tens of thousands, of years ago.
The outward form changes. The essence does not change. Man
remains just the same
Gurdjieff (1873-1949)
- 2429 Rivers and mountains may change...
Human nature never.
Chinese Proverb

4. POSITIVE

- 2430 Never do to-day what you can put off till to-morrow.
Delay may give clearer light as to what is best to be done.
Aaron Burr (1756-1836)

- 2431 There is, by God's grace, an immeasurable distance between late and too late.
Anne Swetchine (1782-1857)
- 2432 Where duty is plain delay is both foolish and hazardous; where it is not, delay may be both wisdom and safety.
Tryon Edwards (1809-1894)
- 2433 Periods of wholesome laziness, after days of energetic effort, will wonderfully tone up the mind and body. It does not involve loss of time, since after a day of complete rest and quietness you will return to your regular occupation with renewed interest and vigor.
Grenville Kleiser (1868-1953)

5. NEGATIVE

- 2434 The slothful man is a burden to himself, his hours hang heavy on his head; he loitereth about, and knoweth not what he would do.
Akhenaton? (c. B.C. 1375)
- 2435 The man who procrastinates struggles with ruin.
Hesiod (B.C. 800?)
- 2436 He who knoweth the precepts by heart,
but faileth to practice them,
Is like unto one who lighteth a lamp
and then shutteth his eyes.
Nagarjuna (c. 100-200 A.D.)
- 2437 Iron rusts from disuse, stagnant water loses its purity, and in cold weather becomes frozen; even so does inaction sap the vigors of the mind.
Leonardo Da Vinci (1452-1519)
- 2438 Procrastination brings loss, delay danger.
Erasmus (1466-1536)
- 2439 In delay we waste our lights in vain; like lamps by day.
Shakespeare (1564-1616)
- 2440 Absence of occupation is not a rest;
a mind quite vacant is a mind distressed.
Cowper (1731-1800)
- 2441 The procrastinator is not only indolent and weak but commonly false too; most of the weak are false.
Lavater (1741-1801)

- 2442 Life is a short day; but it is a working day. Activity may lead to evil, but inactivity cannot lead to good.
Hannah More (1745-1833)
- 2443 Nature knows no pause in progress and development, and attaches her curse to all inaction.
Goethe (1749-1832)
- 2444 Indolence and stupidity are first cousins.
Antoine de Rivaroli (1753-1801)
- 2445 The man who never alters his opinion is like standing water, and breeds reptiles of the mind.
William Blake (1757-1828)
- 2446 Idleness is emptiness;
the tree in which the sap is stagnant, remains fruitless.
Hosea Ballou (1771-1852)
- 2447 Ennui has made more gamblers than avarice, more drunkards than thirst, and perhaps as many suicides as despair.
Colton (1780-1832)
- 2448 There is no remedy for time misspent;
No healing for the waste of idleness,
Whose very languor is a punishment
Heavier than active souls can feel or guess.
Aubrey De Vere (1814-1902)
- 2449 The foolish and the dead alone never change their opinions.
James Lowell (1819-1891)
- 2450 The only horrible thing in the world is ennui. That is the one sin for which there is no forgiveness.
Oscar Wilde (1854-1900)
- 2451 It is only a step from boredom to disillusionment,
which leads naturally to self-pity,
which in turn ends in chaos.
Manly P. Hall (born 1901)

6. ADVICE

- 2452 Flee sloth, for the indolence of the soul is the decay of the body.
Cato the Younger (B.C. 95-46)
- 2453 That destructive siren, sloth, is ever to be avoided.
Horace (B.C. 65-8)

2454 Life is not long, and too much of it must not pass in idle
deliberation how it shall be spent.
Johnson (1709-1784)

2455 When it is time to turn over in bed, it is time to turn out.
Wellington (1769-1852)

7. POTPOURRI

2456 We excuse our sloth under the pretext of difficulty.
Quintilian (35-90 A.D.)

2457 By the streets of "by and by", one arrives at the house
of "never".
Cervantes (1547-1616)

2458 To-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow, creeps in this
petty pace from day to day; to the last syllable of
recorded time; and all our yesterdays have lighted fools
the way to dusty death.
Shakespeare (1564-1616)

2459 Procrastination is the thief of time:
Year after year it steals, till all are fled,
And to the mercies of a moment leaves
The vast concerns of an eternal scene.
Young (1683-1765)

2460 Fix'd like a plant on his peculiar spot,
To draw nutrition, propagate and rot.
Pope (1688-1744)

2461 Society is now one polished horde,
Formed of two mighty tribes, the Bores and the Bored.
Byron (1788-1824)

2462 How dull it is to pause, to make an end,
To rust unburnish'd, not to shine in use!
As tho' to breathe were life!
Alfred Tennyson (1809-1892)

2463 In idle dreams I like to rest
preferring the unmanifest.
Monique Louise De Nelle (born 1945)