

## Word Completion Task

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The first use of these materials was in a set of studies on the effects of brief exposure to violent video games on a variety of aggression-related variables. It was also used in several music lyric studies. Both articles are referenced below. **Researchers may use these materials free of charge for research purposes, with proper citation to one of the references listed below.**

Most of the 98 word fragments in this list have several possible correct completions. Fifty of the fragments can yield words that are clearly aggression-related. There may be aggressive completions possible for some of the remaining 48 fragments, but we have not found any yet.

There are several ways to administer the Word Completion Task. For example, in one of our studies participants were told that they were looking at a list of words with letters missing, and that their task was to fill in the blanks to make complete words. Participants were given three minutes to complete as much of the word task as they could. Participant responses were coded into the following categories: aggressive words, neutral words, ambiguous words, and non-words.

One could give participants more time, less time, or an unlimited amount of time to work on the task. This task could easily be computerized so that the researcher could control how long each word fragment appears on the screen before moving on to the next word.

Scoring can also be done in a variety of ways. The next few pages list completions that our participants have created, coded into the following four categories: neutral, ambiguous, aggressive, and non-words. The final pages list the word fragments in two duplicate columns. We simply cut each sheet in half after printing these stimuli to create two narrow "booklets" from each 8 1/2" x 11" set of pages. This conserves paper and printing costs.

We hope you find this task useful in your research. I would love to see copies of your research papers that use this task. Please send them to me at:

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Thank you!

Anderson, C.A., Carnagey, N.L., & Eubanks, J. (2003). Exposure to violent media: The effects of songs with violent lyrics on aggressive thoughts and feelings. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 84*, 960-971.

Anderson, C. A., Carnagey, N. L., Flanagan, M., Benjamin, A. J., Eubanks, J., & Valentine, J. C. (2004). Violent video games: Specific effects of violent content on aggressive thoughts and behavior. *Advances in Experimental Social Psychology, 36*, 199-249.

Carnagey, N. L., & Anderson, C.A. (2005). The effects of reward and punishment in violent video games on aggressive affect, cognition, and behavior. *Psychological Science, 16*, 882-889.

### Coding Key for the Word Completion Task

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Ambiguous</b>	<b>Aggressive</b>	<b>Non-Words</b>
1)	behind behave Bahama behold behalf behest		behead	
2)	insure ensure endure		injure	infere indure
3)	exceed expect extent extend except excess expert expend extern excels			expell  excell
4)	mutter muster		murder mugger	muller mudder multer murmer
5)	pride prime prize prude prove price prune prose probe			prode prise
6)	speak		spear	
7)	flipper flitter flicker flirter flivver			
8)	explore		explode	

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Ambiguous</b>	<b>Aggressive</b>	<b>Non-Words</b>
9)	warm worm whim whom		wham	
10)	kite kiss kilt king kids kind kiwi kink kilo		kick kill	
11)	tape type tips tops taps tope typo			topo tups
12)	hare hire hard here hers hero have horn hark	hurl	hurt harm	
13)	after alter aster actor altar			acter
14)	chore chose		choke	
15)	sample simple simply simper			
16)	attach attics		attack	

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Ambiguous</b>	<b>Aggressive</b>	<b>Non-Words</b>
17)	compact compost comport	complot		compeat compart
18)	dessert desires deserve destiny desired designs despair despite descent descend desktop	deserts	destroy despise	despire deshell desiree
19)	shale shall shelf shell shalt shill			shole
20)	short		shoot shout	
21)	repeat report repent		rapist	raport
22)	strife stroke stripe strive stride		strike	

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Ambiguous</b>	<b>Aggressive</b>	<b>Non-Words</b>
23)	line lyre lore love live lose lone like life lake lane lime lope laze lace lame lice late	lure		
24)	born barn		burn	
25)	stereo sterno			
26)	person		prison poison	
27)	poster pastor	pester		
28)	mingle muggle		mangle	
29)	blind blond blend bland			
30)	snore		snare	
31)	bye bee			
32)	hat hut hot		hit	

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Ambiguous</b>	<b>Aggressive</b>	<b>Non-Words</b>
33)	grape grope	gripe		
34)	smock		smack	smuck
35)	smile smoke		smite	smere smore
36)	kneel known knits knees knack kneed	knave knock	knife	
37)	tone tune	tine		
38)	saab slab scab stub	snob slob	stab snub	
39)	short shore share shirt shirk	shark sharp		
40)	drain drawn		drown	
41)	plane prone prune phone			
42)	angel angle anglo		anger angry	
43)	flirt fleet float flint			
44)	first filet		fight	

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Ambiguous</b>	<b>Aggressive</b>	<b>Non-Words</b>
45)	pack pick puck peck			
46)	hare have hale	haze	hate	
47)	ant act art apt			
48)	cat cot		cut	
49)	won win wan			
50)	ate ale are age ace aye awe	ape		axe ave
51)	try cry dry fry wry	pry		
52)	was way wax wad wag wan		war wap	wat
53)	fame		fume	
54)	slip slop		slap	

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Ambiguous</b>	<b>Aggressive</b>	<b>Non-Words</b>
55)	book back beak buck bank bunk	bark balk		
56)	ripe rope		rape	
57)	forest		foment	
58)	offset offers office		offend	
59)	lemon logon			licon
60)	crawl		cruel	
61)	create			
62)	starry sturdy	stormy		
63)	match mitch			
64)	furry forty farms first forks forge forms forth fares ferry farts forum forgo farse forte	fires	force fired	faves firey
65)	taste trite			teste



<b>Item #</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Ambiguous</b>	<b>Aggressive</b>	<b>Non-Words</b>
66)	nifty ninth nutty nests newts north		nasty	ninty
67)	window			
68)	winked worked walked		wicked	
69)	vision			
70)	engage		enrage	
71)	screen			
72)	hotrod		hatred	
73)	telephone			telophase
74)	dismissed discussed	disgusted		disensued
75)	central control			
76)	provide		provoke	provise
77)	pinball			
78)	outcome outside outline outdate	outdone	outrage	
79)	call	cell		
80)	rode ride		rude	
81)	manage			

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Ambiguous</b>	<b>Aggressive</b>	<b>Non-Words</b>
82)	insect insure inside insert insane insole instep	insist	insult	
83)	side soda suds			sade
84)	bolt bait boat bunt blot beet bout best	boot butt  belt bust brat	beat	
85)	bronze breeze			brouse
86)	revert	revolt		revent
87)	cool cook coon coop			
88)	sony stay sway sexy spry		slay	savy sasy
89)	deer door dear dour			
90)	smock		smack	smuck
91)	fruit front frost			

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Ambiguous</b>	<b>Aggressive</b>	<b>Non-Words</b>
92)	lunch munch bunch hunch		punch	
93)	shore share			
94)	amuse		abuse	acuse
95)	clear			
96)	hint	hunt		
97)	water			
98)	stash swash		slash smash	

Code# \_\_\_\_\_

1 b \_ h \_ \_ \_  
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3 e x \_ e \_ \_  
4 m u \_ \_ e r  
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8 e x p l \_ \_ e  
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14 c h o \_ e  
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16 a t t \_ c \_  
17 c \_ m p \_ \_ t  
18 d e s \_ \_ \_ \_  
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20 s h o \_ t  
21 r \_ p \_ \_ t  
22 s t r \_ \_ e  
23 l \_ \_ e  
24 b \_ r n

Code# \_\_\_\_\_

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15 s \_ m p \_ \_  
16 a t t \_ c \_  
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28 m \_ \_ g l e  
29 b l \_ n d  
30 s n \_ r e  
31 b \_ e  
32 h \_ t  
33 g \_ \_ p e  
34 s m \_ c k  
35 s m \_ \_ e  
36 k n \_ \_ \_  
37 t \_ n e  
38 s \_ \_ b  
39 s h \_ r \_  
40 d r \_ \_ n  
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59 l \_ \_ o n  
60 c r \_ \_ l  
61 c \_ e \_ t e  
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86 r e v \_ \_ t  
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88 s \_ \_ y  
89 d \_ \_ r  
90 s m \_ c k  
91 f r \_ \_ t  
92 \_ u n c h  
93 s h \_ r e  
94 a \_ u s e  
95 c l \_ \_ r  
96 h \_ n t  
97 w \_ t \_ r  
98 s \_ a s h

75 c \_ n t \_ \_ l  
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