

# The Word Root *sta*

In “Morning Meditation,” Sook Nyul Choi uses the word *statue* to describe how his grandfather looked as he meditated beneath a tree.

The word *statue* is made from the word root *sta*, which means “to stand.” A **word root** contains the main meaning of a word, but it cannot stand alone as a word. Words are created by adding prefixes and suffixes to the word root *sta*. *Stand* can mean “to remain motionless or undisturbed” (as in *stagnant* and *stationary*) or “to be a certain height in an upright position” (as in *stature*).

Read the words that contain the word root *sta* and their definitions in the word box.

<b>statue</b>	a likeness carved in stone or wood
<b>constant</b>	unchanging; continually occurring
<b>stagnant</b>	not moving or flowing
<b>station</b>	a place where a person is assigned to stand
<b>stationary</b>	not capable of being moved; fixed
<b>stature</b>	a person’s natural height in an upright position

Read each sentence below. Write the boldfaced word from the word box that correctly completes each sentence.

1. My favorite actor looks quite tall on the movie screen, but his actual \_\_\_\_\_ is only 5 feet, 6 inches.
2. The noise from the road construction is \_\_\_\_\_, persisting all day and into the night.
3. At the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., a colossal \_\_\_\_\_ of Abraham Lincoln towers above visitors.
4. The waiter was at his \_\_\_\_\_, watching to see if his customers needed anything.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ water in the pond creates a foul smell.
6. We bolted the table to the deck so that it would remain \_\_\_\_\_ even in high winds.

## Challenge

Look up these words in a dictionary: *status*, *status quo*, *station*, and *stability*. On a separate piece of paper, write the word, its definition, and a sentence that gives clues to the meaning of the word.