

The working terms

The words Seneca uses technically and plain English hides. Valice Press's writing.

Happy, happiness *beata vita*

Not a mood.
Happy Life I–V

Virtue *virtus*

Excellence of character, and for the Stoics the only thing that is good without qualification.
Happy Life XVI

Things to be preferred *praeposita / commoda*

Health, wealth, reputation: not *good*, because good means virtue alone, but reasonably chosen when available.
Happy Life XXII, XXV

Peace of mind *tranquillitas animi*

The condition of a mind that is not blown about.
Tranquillity II

Leisure *otium*

The opposite of *negotium*, business — and in Roman usage a loaded word, meaning withdrawal from public life.
Shortness XIV; Leisure, throughout

Busy, occupied *occupatus*

Seneca's word for the condition he is attacking, and it means *taken up* — possessed, seized, held by something else.
Shortness II, XII

Providence *providentia*

The rational ordering of the universe, which the Stoics identified with God, Nature and Fate depending on which aspect was in view.
Providence I–VI

The wise man *sapiens*

A technical term for the ideal Stoic agent, not a description of anyone.
Happy Life XVII–XVIII

Fortune *fortuna*

Everything outside your control, personified.
Providence II–IV; Tranquillity XI

Two commonwealths *duas res publicas*

The idea the surviving fragment of *On Leisure* exists for: one state you were born into by accident of birth, and one vast one containing gods and men, bounded by the sun.
Leisure IV

The mob, the crowd *vulgus*

Not a class term.
Happy Life I–II

Ennui, disgust with oneself *taedium / nausea*

The condition Serenus describes and Seneca names: a restless dissatisfaction that follows you when you travel, because what you were trying to leave was yourself.
Tranquillity I–II

Indifferent things *indifferentia*

Everything that is neither virtue nor vice: health, illness, wealth, poverty, reputation, death.
Happy Life V, XXV

Mind, soul *animus*

Stewart translates *animus* as mind, soul, spirit and temper depending on context, and all four are defensible.
Tranquillity, throughout