

UNIT TEN

TOT

Latin TOTUS “whole”

TOTALITARIAN (tō ta lə tār' ē ən) *adj.* Having to do with a government in which one person, group, or party controls everything

The new ruler was gaining power so quickly that people feared he would establish a *totalitarian* state.

TOTALITY (tō ta' lə tē) *n.* Completeness

The *totality* of Hank's financial loss did not hit him until his home was repossessed.

HOL

Greek HOLOS “whole”

HOLISTIC (hō lis' tək) *adj.* Concerning the whole rather than the parts

After years of specializing only in bone diseases, Dr. Russo decided to become a more *holistic* practitioner and began to attend classes in nutrition and exercise.

CATHOLIC (kath' lək) *adj.* Covering a broad range; universal

G. kata, “according to,” + holos = *according to the whole*

The *New York Times* has a *catholic* appeal; men and women of all ages, races, and ethnicities read it.

syn: narrow

SUM

Latin SUMMUS, “highest, most”

CONSUMMATE (kân' səm ət) *adj.* Perfect or ideal, especially in skill or accomplishment

L. con, intensifier + summus = *highest, most finished; perfected*

Over the years, my mother's *consummate* graciousness impressed hundreds of visitors to our home.

SUMMATION (sum ā' shən) *n.* Accumulation; total result

The report given by Doctor Mikowski was the *summation* of four years of research.

III To consummate is “to finish.” A French soup which uses up or finishes off leftovers is called a consommé.

TRUNC, TRENC

Latin TRUNCARE, TRUNCATUM “to cut”

TRENCHANT (tren´chənt) *adj.* Sharply effective or insightful

Despite the speaker’s *trenchant* arguments for tax reform, the crowd voted against his proposal.

syn: clear

TRUNCATE (trun´kāt) *v.* To cut short in the middle

Because the actress ran out of time, she was forced to *truncate* her acceptance speech.

PART

Latin PARS, PARTIS “part”

PARCEL (pär´səl) *v.* To divide into parts and distribute

The baker *parceled* out the cookies among his seventeen children.

PARSE (pärs) *v.* To examine or analyze

The English professor urged the students to *parse* each sentence in the sonnet in order to get a better understanding of the meaning.

REPARTEE (re päř tā´) *n.* Quick, witty conversation

Swift *repartee* between members of the close family gives us some idea of the relaxed cheerfulness they feel around one another.

syn: banter



Witty REPARTEE makes a party a PART-TAY!

III The French word for “leave, depart” is *partir*. *Repartee* literally means “departing again” and refers to an exchange in which speakers frequently depart from the subject to make witty remarks.

EXERCISES - UNIT TEN

Exercise I. Complete the sentence in a way that shows you understand the meaning of the *italicized* vocabulary word.

1. Our fears that the new administration would install a *totalitarian* government came true when...
2. Because Rick's message about the party was *truncated*, it was difficult for us to...
3. As part of his *holistic* approach to education, Professor Jordan stressed...
4. The *summation* of all the volunteers' efforts to provide adequate medical care to the children of the town was...
5. *Repartee* between Juggles the Clown and his sidekick Eddie usually made the audience...
6. The importance of civil rights is *catholic* rather than...
7. Analysts are finding it difficult to *parse* the economic forecast because...
8. Fiona was considered a *consummate* actress by many critics because...
9. The city decided to *parcel* out the land on the edge of town rather than...
10. Mike's *trenchant* comments on the use of the trumpet in modern jazz compositions made the other musicians...
11. The *totality* of the ruin caused by the tornado amazed us because...

Exercise II. Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

totality holistic totalitarian trenchant

1. Stephanie strove for a(n) _____ rule over the other children rather than a democratic relationship.
2. The _____ of the ruler's domination was a result of years of brutal crackdowns.
3. The film lacks a certain _____ quality that might tie it all together.

Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

catholic repartee consummate truncated parcel

4. Maureen was a reader of _____ tastes, picking up whatever the library had to offer.
5. Maria and her sisters often engaged in witty _____ about who was the best athlete.
6. Bethany must now choose whether she will _____ her winnings among friends and family or let the money accrue interest in the bank.
7. Our neighbor's _____ grilling skills mean that he was always asked to oversee cooking at our barbecues.

Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

repartee summation parse truncated trenchant

8. Connie was able to _____ the difficult poem with little trouble because she was familiar with the author's other works.
9. The artist told his supporters that the huge mural was not the work of one person alone, but was the _____ of many people's time and concern.
10. Linda was praised for her _____ essay on the current political situation in France.
11. Shondra's science presentation was _____ because of a sudden power outage.

Exercise III. Choose the set of words that best completes the sentence.

1. Freddie's _____ journalistic skills ensured that his readers got a _____, insightful article in every Sunday paper.
 - A. totalitarian; catholic
 - B. consummate; trenchant
 - C. holistic; catholic
 - D. trenchant; holistic
2. During the final exam, a _____ of the year's work, students were asked to _____ a lengthy essay for meaning.
 - A. repartee; parse
 - B. totalitarian; parcel
 - C. repartee; truncate
 - D. summation; parse

3. The _____ of the poet's work surprised many critics, who had assumed that the body of poems had been _____ by the poet's early death.
- totality; truncated
 - summation; parceled
 - repartee; parsed
 - totality; parsed
4. Though the scientists once believed that the human brain _____ out different functions to different areas, they now support a more _____ view of its performance.
- truncated; consummate
 - parsed; trenchant
 - parceled; holistic
 - parsed; totalitarian
5. The politician kept up a humorous _____ with the citizens he represented, but also tried to stick to subjects of _____ significance.
- repartee; trenchant
 - totalitarian; holistic
 - totality; consummate
 - repartee; catholic

Exercise IV. Complete the sentence by inferring information about the *italicized* word from its context.

- If Ivan's arguments in favor of free speech are *trenchant* enough, the people listening to him will probably...
- Repartee* between baseball players on opposing teams may be seen by some fans as...
- Because many musicians consider Herbert a *consummate* pianist, they will probably suggest that he...

Exercise V. Fill in the blank with the word from the Unit that best completes the sentence, using the root we supply as a clue. Then, answer the questions that follow the paragraphs.

Government has been an established institution from the inception of society, and it serves to define and enforce rules of conduct for members of a group, especially that conduct which affects the group as a whole. In the United States, the idea of political freedom—that every human being possesses equal rights and is, by nature, born free—underpins the formation and foundation of our government. In our society, government exists to protect those rights, ensuring that stronger individuals do not violate the rights of the weaker. In addition, because the United States was founded on the idea of human equality, our government rules through the consent of the people.

According to these U. S. ideals, then, the existence of a

_____ (TOT) government is morally wrong. Under such a government, rule is based on subordination of the individual to the state. The state has absolute control over people's lives, making individuals servants of the state and prohibiting freedom of choice or expression. Often, such a government is ruled by one party or one leader, who uses terror tactics to maintain control. These governments may rely on secret police, censorship, religious intolerance, and economic monopoly to suppress individual expression.

One concept integral to the existence of the U. S. government is expressed in _____ (TREN) fashion by the Declaration of Independence: the people's right to demand change. The populace cannot be expected to

submit to tyranny, according to the Declaration. The people have not only moral right, but also moral obligation, to overthrow a government that acts to destroy the natural rights of human beings. Because a dictatorship makes the

good of the state the _____ (TOT) of individuals' existence, it destroys the integrity of the individual, and in doing so, it renders itself invalid.

1. What is the purpose of government, according to the passage?
 - A. to protect the rights of people
 - B. to keep people safe
 - C. to enforce rules of conduct for society
 - D. to make laws

2. What is the main argument that the article presents against totalitarian government?
 - A. It is not based on the consent of individuals.
 - B. It violates fundamental human rights.
 - C. It uses terror tactics to control people.
 - D. Totalitarian regimes often have only one ruler.

3. With which of the following, judging by the passage, would the founders of the U.S. government agree?
 - A. The human spirit naturally rebels against oppression.
 - B. People need church and family.
 - C. Dictators are not strong enough.
 - D. The laws are illegal.

4. What is the main idea of this passage?
 - A. The U. S. government is the best government in the world.
 - B. Under totalitarian rule, the individual is subordinate to the state.
 - C. Totalitarian governments can completely suppress citizens.
 - D. A totalitarian government is against the morals expressed in the Constitution.

Exercise VI. Drawing on your knowledge of roots and words in context, read the following selection and define the *italicized* words. If you cannot figure out the meaning of the words on your own, look them up in a dictionary. Note that *bi* means "two," and *andric* means "male."

The insect has a *bipartite* body structure neatly suited to grasping and ingesting food and making a quick escape from predators. Either part of the body can serve as the "head," since the organism is entirely covered with sensory receptors that act as eyes, ears and nose. One of the most interesting features of this organism is its *holandric* traits. Males of the species may develop an extra antenna during the larval stage, while females consistently have two antennae.