

UNIT TWO

STA, STI

Latin STARE, STANTUM “stand, stay”

STANCH (stānch) *v.* To stop the flow of
Desperate to *stanch* the blood seeping from the wound, the doctor decided to put a tourniquet on the patient’s arm above the elbow.
syn: cease

STAUNCH (stōnch) *adj.* Firm and steadfast
Though Reverend Lockwood was a *staunch* believer in the goodness of humanity, he found his faith tested by the horrible events of that week.
syn: strong *ant:* fickle, wavering

EXTANT (əks tāt´) *adj.* Still in existence; not destroyed
L. ex, “from,” + stantum = *staying from*
Scientists continue to search through the remains of the museum in the hopes that they will discover some *extant* works of art.
syn: existing *ant:* extinct

▮ Despite its appearance, the word *restive* has nothing to do with rest. It originally described an animal, such as a horse or cow, that stood back and refused to move. It now also applies to a person or group of people who are difficult to control.

RESTIVE (res´ tiv) *adj.* 1. Resisting authority; difficult to control
2. Restless; fidgety
L. re, “back,” + stare = *to stand back*
1. Police feared the townspeople would grow *restive* under the strict curfew and begin to engage in acts of civil disorder.
2. The elderly man expected the children to become *restive* during his long speech, but they listened attentively instead.

POS

Latin PONERE, POSITUM “to put, place”

APROPOS (a prə´ pō) *prep.* With regard to
L. a, “to, toward,” + pro, “forth,” + positum = *towards what has been put forth*
Apropos of Jim’s speech on nuclear energy, Dawn mentioned that a new power plant would be built in the neighboring town.
syn: proper *ant:* inappropriate

DEPOSE (dē pōz´) *v.* To remove from office or power
L. de, “down,” + positum = *put down*
The rule of Czar Nicholas came to an end when the Czar and other members of the royal family were *deposed* and murdered by rebel forces.
ant: elect

STAS, STAT

Greek STATOS “standing”

STATIC (stáˈtək) *adj.* Having no motion or changeCritics found the composer’s latest work *static*, boring, and lacking in emotional development.*syn:* still*ant:* dynamic**ECSTASY** (ekˈstəˈsē) *n.* Intense joy or delightG. ec, “out of,” + stasis = *standing outside (one’s body)*The *ecstasy* Bob felt after watching the Yankees win the World Series was matched only by his joy at the birth of his daughter.*syn:* joy*ant:* misery**STASIS** (stāˈsis) *n.* Condition in which there is no changeScientists find it difficult to accurately predict climate patterns because the environment is not in *stasis*, but constantly changing.*syn:* equilibrium, balance**ENT, ESS**

Latin ESSE “to be”

ENTITY (enˈtɪtē) *n.* a beingFor tax purposes, a married couple may be considered either two people or a single *entity*.**ESSENCE** (éˈsəns) *n.* The most important ingredient; the crucial elementAfter months of preparation, the lawyers finally began to discuss the *essence* of the case.*syn:* crux**QUINTESSENTIAL** (kwɪntəˈsənˈʃəl) *adj.* The most typical, ideal, or importantL. quintus, “fifth,” + esse = *fifth state of being, fifth essence*The goalie declared that the Rangers’ victory in the last second of the final game was his *quintessential* sports triumph.*syn:* essential

We watched the **QUEEN'S ASCENT** up Everest, the **QUINTESSENTIAL** mountain.

III In ancient and medieval philosophy, *quintessence* was the fifth and highest essence, after the four elements of earth, air, fire, and water. It was thought to be the substance of the heavenly bodies and present in all things. The word now describes the purest form or instance of something.

EXERCISES - UNIT TWO

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

1. A group of local citizens has drafted a petition to *depose* the governor on the grounds that...
2. Peter was such a *staunch* supporter of his local youth orchestra that he often...
3. Because the manuscripts are the only *extant* writings from the time of the town's founding, we can assume...
4. Nate began to grow *restive* when his parents...
5. The rainforest went into *stasis* as a result of...
6. Trying to *stanch* the flow of immigrants into the country, the government...
7. The fresh roses seemed the *quintessential* expression of love because...
8. The *ecstasy* that the spelling-bee contestant felt was the result of...
9. The news anchor mentioned a recent bank robbery *apropos* of...
10. The business group was not a legal *entity* because...
11. The *essence* of the manufacturer's speech against taxes on trade was...
12. Feeling that his existence had become rather *static*, Jay decided to...

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

quintessential extant apropos static entity

1. Though technology has brought great change to other towns, Dendricksville has remained _____.
2. During his quest to find the _____ elements of wisdom, Robert gradually learned that no human being is completely knowledgeable.
3. Of the thousands of works that the composer wrote, only six are still _____.
4. _____ of what we were discussing, have you had a ride on the new carousel?

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

staunch restive ecstasy stanch depose

5. The puppy, growing _____ in his tight harness, began to squirm and bark.
6. Fearing that her subjects might _____ her, the queen began repealing some of her stricter laws.
7. Once a roomful of infants has started crying, no one can _____ the flood of tears.
8. As they realized their team was about to win the championship, the fans leapt to their feet in _____.

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

staunch stasis essence entity stanch

9. What appeared to be a period of _____ for the musician was actually a time of great internal change.
10. The Martians' leader seemed to be a(n) _____ of great power and knowledge.
11. The true _____ of the opera's magnificence is captured for the first time on this recording.
12. Although I considered myself a(n) _____ defender of my religion, I knew that others were far more devoted.

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

1. The subjects of the king grew _____ under his strict control and threatened to rise up and _____ him.
 - A. static; staunch
 - B. restive; depose
 - C. apropos; stanch
 - D. extant; depose
2. Certain religions teach that, while the world gives the appearance of movement and change, the _____ of existence is actually _____ and permanent.
 - A. entity; staunch
 - B. quintessence; apropos
 - C. ecstasy; extant
 - D. essence; static
3. _____ of the question about political parties, Marty reminded everyone that he was a(n) _____ supporter of Candidate Reese.
 - A. staunch; extant
 - B. apropos; staunch
 - C. extant; restive
 - D. apropos; stanch

4. "Surely," said Sean in total _____, "this is the _____ of a perfect meal."
 A. entity; essence
 B. quintessential; stasis
 C. ecstasy; stasis
 D. ecstasy; quintessence
5. The _____ literature about the long-dead civilization's government seems to describe the court as a(n) _____ separate from the king's cabinet.
 A. static; essence
 B. extant; entity
 C. apropos; quintessence
 D. staunch; entity

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

1. Tim is in *ecstasy* after the chemistry exam, so we can guess that he...
2. If Trina says that only five of the ancient art works are *extant*, we can infer that the rest...
3. If the members of the swim team vote to *depose* their squad leader, it may be because...

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.

Water is not only the _____ (ESS) of life, but also one of the greatest forces of nature. It covers most of the Earth's surface (approximately 67%), and its constant movement, through a process called *erosion*, shapes continents and carves out rivers and lakes. Nowhere is the force of this process more evident than in the Grand Canyon.

Called one of the Seven Wonders of the Natural World, the Grand Canyon, in northern Arizona, is a 277-mile-long gorge created by millennia of erosion from the Colorado River. Because of the desert climate, the soil in the canyon is hard; it doesn't absorb liquids. When it rains in the Southwest, it often does so in torrents, sparking flash floods, which force water over the desert surface quickly, removing soil. With no deep-rooted plants to keep the soil in place, a higher volume of dirt and debris washes away, trimming another layer from the canyon.

In the spring, the Colorado River also carries snowmelt from the Rocky Mountains; these annual floods wash particles of stone and dirt from the highest peaks to the Pacific Ocean. The river also brings an annual influx of thrill-seekers, people riding the rapids in inflatable rafts, enjoying nature's own roller coaster.

However, a series of dams interposed at various points upon the river have disrupted its once-mighty flow. In a

dammed river, erosion still occurs, but at a slower pace. A reduced current has made it difficult for the river to move larger rocks and sediment; debris that would have been washed away now remains. The riverbed is becoming congested.

Water, however, will find its way around any obstacle. The Colorado River has widened, reducing its banks and cutting into the canyon walls. Slower-moving water has also allowed some _____ (STAT) ponds to develop. This water seeps beneath the canyon floor, penetrating layers of rock it hadn't touched before. The consequences of this process are not yet fully understood.

Ice also affects the canyon. Because of the Grand Canyon's elevation, winter weather conditions are in effect, despite the desert setting. Snow and ice are common. When water freezes in cracks and crevices along the canyon walls, it expands the rock, splitting off pieces that fall to the canyon floor, washing away or creating more obstacles.

The Grand Canyon took centuries to mold, and it continues to change, yet this progression is barely noticeable during the average person's lifespan. The alteration takes place one speck of dirt at a time. Human intervention, however, takes only moments to alter the mighty canyon.

1. What made the Grand Canyon?
 - A. rocks and dirt
 - B. people and machines
 - C. earthquakes
 - D. water and erosion

2. What is the primary reason erosion has been slowed in the canyon?
 - A. less rain
 - B. dams on the river
 - C. construction of breakers and walls
 - D. snow melt

3. What causes standing pools in the river?
 - A. water seeping under the canyon floor
 - B. gravity
 - C. an influx of thrill-seekers
 - D. the slowing of water by the dams

4. Which of the following is a characteristic of erosion?
 - A. stagnant ponds
 - B. a bend in the river
 - C. flash flooding
 - D. removal of dirt and debris

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 *de* means “down” and *apo* means “away from.”

The priest was called upon to give a *deposition* in a civil trial. Because his testimony helped put a long-time lawbreaker behind bars, he was commended by the district attorney. However, in speaking to the court, the priest revealed beliefs that were opposed to those of his supervisors. He was subsequently accused of *apostasy* in a separate church hearing.