

CHAPTER
14

anarchy
authoritarian
depravity
meager
predilection

quixotic
salutary
suppress
temerity
turbulence

Ten Words in Context

In the space provided, write the letter of the meaning closest to that of each **boldfaced** word. Use the context of the sentences to help you figure out each word's meaning.

- 1 **anarchy**
(ăn'ər-kē)
-noun
- Anarchy* means
- The day after the earthquake, the city was in a state of **anarchy**, with people looting stores, stealing cars, and destroying property.
 - Following the revolution, there was a period of **anarchy**, with several different groups claiming to govern the country and no one really in control.
- a. poverty. b. disorder. c. sorrow.
- 2 **authoritarian**
(ə-thôr'ĭ-târ'ē-ən)
-adjective
- Authoritarian* means
- Professor Pettigrew is easygoing outside the classroom, but when class is in session, she is a tough, **authoritarian** teacher.
 - Some parents let their children argue over every decision, while others are **authoritarian** and expect to be obeyed immediately.
- a. favoring freedom. b. favoring firm discipline. c. uncertain.
- 3 **depravity**
(dĭ-prāv'ĭ-tē)
-noun
- Depravity* means
- Do you think the death penalty is justified for crimes of shocking **depravity**?
 - In the horror movie, the **depravity** of the villain was rendered in gory detail. I still have nightmares about it.
- a. passion. b. anger. c. wickedness.
- 4 **meager**
(mē'gər)
-adjective
- Meager* means
- The furniture in the apartment was **meager**, consisting of just a cot, one chair, and a small desk.
 - Holly triple-spaced her paper and left very wide margins, but it still fell far short of the five pages that had been assigned. Her professor wrote on it, "This is a **meager** effort."
- a. inaccurate. b. inadequate. c. inspired.
- 5 **predilection**
(prĕd'ĭ-ĕk'shən)
-noun
- Predilection* means
- Maddie always had a **predilection** for vegetarianism. She stopped eating meat when she was only five.
 - Like most Labrador retrievers, Beau has a **predilection** for water—he will jump into any pool, pond, or river he sees.
- a. a liking. b. an avoidance. c. a fear.
- 6 **quixotic**
(kwĭk-sŏt'ĭk)
-adjective
- Quixotic* means
- Justin quit his job to protest his company's hiring policies, without considering the consequences of this **quixotic** gesture. Now he cannot support his family.
 - Jim Smith's candidacy in the race for governor seems **quixotic**. He has some grand, lofty ideas, but he's an unknown with no sources of funding.
- a. noble but rash. b. sensible but unfair. c. sneaky.

- 7 **salutary**
(säl'yə-tēr'ē)
-adjective
- Salutary* means
- Studies have shown that garlic has several **salutary** effects, including boosting the body's ability to fight off illness.
 - The doctor recommended that Mrs. Thornton take extra calcium, which has the **salutary** effect of strengthening the bones.
- a. wholesome. b. unknown. c. dangerous.
- 8 **suppress**
(sə-prēs')
- verb*
- Suppress* means
- Bonnie couldn't **suppress** a giggle in church when the minister, calling for prayer, said, "With eyes bowed and heads closed . . ."
 - "I am opposed to censorship in any form," said the lecturer. "When free speech is **suppressed**, all other freedoms are soon crushed as well."
- a. to arouse. b. to reveal. c. to overcome.
- 9 **temerity**
(tə-mēr'ī-tē)
-noun
- Temerity* means
- People who rush into marriage often regret their **temerity** later. There's an old saying: "Marry in haste; repent at leisure."
 - Flagged down for a minor traffic violation, the driver had the **temerity** to try to outrace the police car. This foolhardy attempt landed him in jail.
- a. fear. b. regret. c. recklessness.
- 10 **turbulence**
(tûr'byə-ləns)
-noun
- Turbulence* means
- "We may experience some **turbulence**," the pilot announced. A moment later, the plane was shaking so violently that some passengers began to scream.
 - The kindergarten room was a scene of **turbulence**, with the kids racing around, throwing things, and yelling at the top of their lungs.
- a. wild disorder. b. a turning point. c. a repeat performance.

Matching Words with Definitions

Following are definitions of the ten words. Clearly write or print each word next to its definition. The sentences above and on the previous page will help you decide on the meaning of each word.

1. _____ Violent irregularity, disturbance, or agitation, as of motion, air, or water
2. _____ Lacking in quality or quantity; insufficient
3. _____ Idealistic but impractical
4. _____ To put down by force
5. _____ Lawlessness; lack of government; absence of authority or rules
6. _____ Rash boldness
7. _____ Promoting good health
8. _____ Evil; moral corruption
9. _____ Demanding or expecting total obedience
10. _____ A natural preference; tendency to like something

CAUTION: Do not go any further until you are sure the above answers are correct. Then you can use the definitions to help you in the following practices. Your goal is eventually to know the words well enough so that you don't need to check the definitions at all.

> Sentence Check 1

Using the answer line, complete each item below with the correct word from the box. Use each word once.

a. anarchy	b. authoritarian	c. depravity	d. meager	e. predilection
f. quixotic	g. salutary	h. suppress	i. temerity	j. turbulence

- _____ 1. Kwashiorkor—a severe form of malnutrition—is caused by a(n) ___ diet, especially one that is poor in protein.
- _____ 2. Mom was a great believer in the ___ effects of fresh air and sunshine, so she encouraged us children to play outside as much as possible.
- _____ 3. The famous novel *Lord of the Flies* describes young boys living alone on an island with no adult supervision, no rules, and no laws, and what happens during that period of ___.
- _____ 4. People who regularly ___ anger can develop physical ailments. Rage that must stay hidden can show up as a rash, a headache, or an upset stomach.
- _____ 5. Though it took place more than half a century ago, the ___ of the Nazis continues to shock and disturb us.
- _____ 6. It's easy to see that Amanda is the oldest child in her family. Her ___ manner shows that she's accustomed to being in charge.
- _____ 7. Chaos theory seeks to describe ___ in natural systems such as whirlpools and tornadoes, in which motion is wild and unpredictable.
- _____ 8. Few children have a(n) ___ for liver, broccoli, and spinach. People develop a liking for such foods later in life, if at all.
- _____ 9. The foolish young man decided to try to jump across the railroad track before the train passed by. His ___ resulted in his losing a leg and nearly cost him his life.
- _____ 10. At the time, some people thought that Martin Luther King's nonviolent campaign against racial segregation was ___, but in fact his peaceful efforts had enormous results.

NOTE: Now check your answers to these questions by turning to page 176. Going over the answers carefully will help you prepare for the next two practices, for which answers are not given.

> Sentence Check 2

Using the answer lines, complete each item below with **two** words from the box. Use each word once.

- _____ 1-2. The students were so afraid of their strict, ___ principal that if they met him in the hallway, few even had the ___ to say good morning.
- _____ 3-4. The adjective ___ comes from a famous tale of a romantic, befuddled Spanish knight who had a(n) ___ for setting forth on impossible and sometimes ludicrous^o quests.

- _____ 5-6. Water turns white with _____ when a swift current crashes against rocks. _____ White-water canoeing is a challenge because a light, frail canoe gives only _____ protection.
- _____ 7-8. Cutting down on fats is _____, but if your diet is usually healthful, having an occasional hamburger or milkshake is not a sign of _____ —you needn't feel guilty.
- _____ 9-10. Obedience training will not _____ your dog's natural spirit. A wolf pack does not live in a state of _____ but establishes rules of order, and dogs also need discipline.

➤ *Final Check: Is Human Nature Good or Evil?*

Here is a final opportunity for you to strengthen your knowledge of the ten words. First read the following selection carefully. Then fill in each blank with a word from the box at the top of the previous page. (Context clues will help you figure out which word goes in which blank.) Use each word once.

Whether human beings are naturally good or bad is an age-old debate, and how people answer this question has influenced their ideas about government. Those who believe that a(n) (1) _____ toward evil is inborn tend to think that a government must be (2) _____: strong, with laws that are strict and strictly enforced. They are not misanthropes,° they insist, simply realists. Under a weak government, they argue, (3) _____ will result: humanity will, on the whole, behave viciously and brutally.

In contrast are those who believe that human beings are born good and would remain good if powerful governments did not (4) _____ their freedom. They argue that when a government crushes freedom, it also subjugates° basic human decency, and therefore all governments should be weak and their laws should be few. One extreme view actually favors (5) _____: no government and no laws. Anarchists are often accused of recommending chaotic (6) _____, or at best of being (7) _____ idealists. They respond, though, that the effect would be (8) _____, a healthy society.

The debate remains unsettled. Not surprisingly, evidence favoring total absence of government is (9) _____, since societies see it as risky and few if any have had the (10) _____ to try it. But the human experience with all-powerful governments—from the tyrants of centuries past to the dictatorships of our own time—has not been encouraging. As in so many disputes, we may feel that it is most sagacious° to take a middle ground.

Scores	Sentence Check 2 _____%	Final Check _____%
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Enter your scores above and in the vocabulary performance chart on the inside back cover of the book.