



autonomy
bureaucratic
mandate
ostracize
raucous

recourse
reiterate
tantamount
tenacious
utopia

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 **autonomy**
(ô-tôn'ə-mē)
-noun

___ *Autonomy* means

- In 1776, the American colonists, tired of being ruled by England, fought for their **autonomy**.
- Children as young as age two begin to want some **autonomy**. The term "terrible twos" reflects their struggle for independence.

A. assistance. B. freedom from control. C. self-sacrifice.

2 **bureaucratic**
(byōōr'ə-krät'ik)
-adjective

___ *Bureaucratic* means

- **Bureaucratic** organizations can become so bogged down in regulations that almost no work gets done.
- "This family is more **bureaucratic** than the federal government!" Mac complained to his parents. "You have rules for everything."

A. over-regulated. B. old-fashioned. C. independent.

3 **mandate**
(mān'dāt')

___ *Mandate* means

- All the union members voted for the strike, giving their leaders a clear **mandate**.
- The senator received so many letters supporting his position on gun control that he felt he had the **mandate** of the people.

A. a criticism. B. a delay. C. official permission.

4 **ostracize**
(ôs'trə-sīz')

___ *Ostracize* means

- Children who look or act "different" are often **ostracized** by their classmates. No one will play with them or even talk to them.
- When Selena married a man twenty years younger than herself, she was **ostracized** by the entire family. No one would have anything to do with her.

A. to reject. B. to feel sorry for. C. to control.

5 **raucous**
(rô'kəs)
-adjective

___ *Raucous* means

- The audience at the rock concert was so **raucous** that we feared the noise and commotion would lead to violence.
- At the horror movie, the audience's behavior became **raucous**. Everyone was shouting at the characters on the screen and pretending to shriek with fright.

A. persistent. B. disorderly. C. angry.

6 **recourse**
(rē'kôrs')

___ *Recourse* means

- "Unless you pay your bill," the company threatened, "we'll have no **recourse** but to sue you."
- "We'll try treating you with medication," the doctor explained. "If that isn't effective, the only **recourse** will be surgery."

A. a choice. B. a problem. C. a question.

7 reiterate

(rē-īt'ə-rāt')

-verb— *Reiterate* means

- The agency director stated, "I have said this before, but let me **reiterate**: Unless we receive the funds to hire more staff, the children of this city will continue to suffer."
- I hate it when a speaker **reiterates** the same point over and over, as if the listeners weren't paying attention or were just too stupid to understand.
 - A. to repeat.
 - B. to forget.
 - C. to exclude.

8 tantamount

(tānt'ə-mount')

-adjective— *Tantamount to* means

- Charging three dollars for a cup of coffee is **tantamount** to robbery.
- My mother's refusal to let me have the car was **tantamount** to forbidding me to go to the beach.
 - A. the result of.
 - B. just like.
 - C. independent of.

9 tenacious

(tə-nā'shəs)

-adjective— *Tenacious* means

- The cat's grip on the tree limb was **tenacious**, but we weren't sure how long she could keep hanging on so firmly.
- My aunt's **tenacious** determination to recover may have pulled her through her illness.
 - A. grasping strongly.
 - B. weak and ineffective.
 - C. slowly shrinking.

10 utopia

(yūō-tō'pē-ə)

-noun— *Utopia* means

- In 1888, Edward Bellamy wrote about a **utopia** where everyone would have a comfortable income, work only until the age of 45, and then enjoy leisure.
- Everyone has a different idea of **utopia**. A situation that seems perfect to me might make you miserable.
 - A. a city.
 - B. a self-government.
 - C. a paradise.

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. _____ An ideal or perfect place or state; a place achieving social or political perfection
2. _____ Noisy and disorderly; boisterous
3. _____ A source of help, security, or strength; something to turn to; option
4. _____ Insisting on strict rules and routine, often to the point of hindering effectiveness
5. _____ To state again or repeatedly
6. _____ Independence; self-government
7. _____ A group's expressed wishes; clear signal to act; vote of confidence
8. _____ To expel or exclude from a group; shun
9. _____ Equal in effect or value; the same as
10. _____ Holding firmly; persistent; stubborn

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 provided, complete each item below with the correct word from the box. Use each word once.

A. autonomy
F. recourse

B. bureaucratic
G. reiterate

C. mandate
H. tantamount

D. ostracize
I. tenacious

E. raucous
J. utopia

- _____ 1. I'd love a job with a great deal of _____. I want to set my own hours, work at home whenever I like, and make many decisions on my own.
- _____ 2. In high school, Felipe was _____(e)d because of his political views, but in college he found many people who shared his opinions.
- _____ 3. When you write a letter of complaint, begin by stating what you want the company to do about the problem. Then _____ this request at the end.
- _____ 4. Our local supermarket is so expensive that shopping there is _____ to throwing our money away.
- _____ 5. The children on the school bus were so _____ that the driver got a headache from all the noise.
- _____ 6. Helen's smoking was a _____ habit; she wasn't able to give it up until she watched her brother die of lung cancer.
- _____ 7. Idealists have sometimes tried to establish _____s, but these communities have always failed. I wonder if it is possible to achieve perfection.
- _____ 8. While most college instructors are flexible, some are very _____, allowing no exceptions to the rules regardless of the circumstances.
- _____ 9. In a landslide election, the voters' _____ is clear. If the vote has been close, though, it's difficult to tell what "the people" really want.
- _____ 10. In the past, workers often had no _____ when employers discriminated against them. Today, however, they can seek help from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

NOTE: Now check your answers to these items by turning to page 178. 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 provided, complete each item below with **two** words from the box. Use each word once.

- _____ 1-2. One concept of a(n) _____ is a society in which each individual maintains his or her _____ yet collaborates^o with others to achieve the good for all.
- _____ 3-4. "My company is so _____," Nick complained, "that we are buried in paperwork. Sometimes we have to _____ the same information on five different forms."
- _____ 5-6. If elected officials ignore the _____ of the people, citizens always have the _____ of voting those officials out of office.

- 7-8. Our neighbor has a ___ belief in superstitions. For instance, she insists that our owning a black cat is ___ to asking for grievous° misfortune.
- 9-10. The kids' basketball league ___(e)d one team because of the reprehensible° behavior of its players. They engaged in ___ horseplay on the court, instigated° fights, and constantly tried to circumvent° the rules. Now the other teams refuse to play them.

Final Check: A Debate on School Uniforms

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.

At Monday's student council meeting, the officers debated about whether or not students should be required to wear uniforms.

Barbara, president of the senior class, stated that as an elected representative of the students, she wouldn't vote to change the dress code without a clear (1) _____ from the students calling for such a change. "Personally," she said, "I think that forcing people to wear certain clothing robs them of their (2) _____. What is school supposed to teach us, if not the ability to think and act independently? Besides," she added, "the school administration is (3) _____ enough. We don't need any more rules and regulations."

Rashid, vice-president of the junior class, disagreed. "The current situation in our school is (4) _____ to a three-ring circus," he said. "Some students compete to see who can look most outrageous. Some of the outfits show so much skin that they belong on a beach. Other kids are such snobs about their ostentatious° designer clothes that they (5) _____ kids who can't afford to keep up with them. I'm not saying that uniforms would change the school into a(n) (6) _____. No place is perfect. I just think that if we want school to be more fair, our best (7) _____ is a strict dress code."

At that, several students burst into (8) _____ disagreement, yelling and pounding on their desks. After several minutes of vociferous° chaos, the meeting came to order, and Barbara was called on again.

(9) _____ in her opinion, she insisted, "I understand what you're saying, Rashid, but I want to (10) _____ a point I made earlier. Uniforms do away with one aspect of personal choice, and one of my tenets° is that personal choice is precious."



Scores Sentence Check 2 _____% Final Check _____%

Enter your scores above and in the Vocabulary Performance Chart on the inside back cover of the book.