

UNIT 10 VOCABULARY **autonomy** **recourse** **bureaucratic** **reiterate** **mandate** **tantamount** **ostracize** **tenacious** **raucous** **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** [noun]

- 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.

_____ **autonomy** means a. assistance b. freedom from control c. self-sacrifice

2. **bureaucratic** [adjective]

- **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."

_____ **bureaucratic** means a. over-regulated b. old-fashioned c. independent

3. **mandate** [noun]

- 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.

_____ **mandate** means a. a criticism b. a delay c. an authorization

4. **ostracize** [verb]

- Children who look or act "different" are often **ostracized** by their classmates. No one will play with them or even talk to them.
- When Sabrina ran off with her sister's husband, she was **ostracized** by family and friends. No one would have anything to do with her.

_____ **ostracize** means a. to reject b. to feel sorry for c. to control

5. **raucous** [adjective]

- 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 and shrieking with fright.

_____ **raucous** means a. persistent b. disorderly c. angry

6. **recourse** [noun]

- "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 is isn't effective, the only **recourse** will be surgery."

_____ **recourse** means a. a way to get help b. a problem c. a question

7. **reiterate** [verb]

- The agency director stated, "I have said this before, but let me **reiterate**: We need the funds to hire more staff, or this city will 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.

_____ **reiterate** means a. to repeat b. to forget c. to exclude

8. **tantamount** [adjective]

- 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.

_____ **tantamount** means a. the result of b. just like c. independent of

9. **tenacious** [adjective]

- The cat's grip on the ledge 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.

_____ **tenacious** means a. grasping strongly b. weak and ineffective c. slowly shrinking

10. utopia [noun]

- 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.

_____ **utopia** means a. a city b. a self-government c. a paradise

MATCHING WORDS WITH DEFINITIONS: Following are definitions of the ten words. Clearly 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.

11. _____ an ideal or perfect place or state; a place achieving social or political perfection
12. _____ noisy and disorderly; boisterous
13. _____ a source of help, security, or strength; something to turn to
14. _____ insisting on strict rules and routine, often to the point of hindering effectiveness
15. _____ to state again or repeatedly
16. _____ independence; self-government
17. _____ a group's expressed wishes; clear signal to act; vote of confidence
18. _____ to expel or exclude from a group
19. _____ equal in effect or value; the same as
20. _____ holding firmly; persistent; stubborn

SENTENCE CHECK 2: Using the answer lines provided, complete each item below with **two** words from the box. Use each word once.

- 21-22. One concept of a(n) _____ is a society in which each individual maintains his or her _____ yet collaborates with others to achieve the good for all.
- 23-24. "My company is so _____," Nick complained, "that we are buried in paperwork. Sometimes we have to _____ the same information on five different forms."
- 25-26. If elected officials ignore the _____ of the people, citizens always have the _____ of voting those officials out of office.
- 27-28. Our neighbor has a _____ belief in superstitions. For instance, she insists that our owning a black cat is _____ to asking for grievous misfortune.
- 29-30. 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: Read the following selection carefully. Fill in each blank with the correct vocabulary word. 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 (31) _____ from the students calling for such a change. "Personally," she said, "I think that forcing people to wear certain clothing robs them of their (32) _____. What is school supposed to teach us, if not the ability to think and act independently? Besides," she added, "the school administration is (33) _____ enough. We don't need any more rules and regulations."

Ray, vice-president of the junior class, disagreed. "The current situation is (34) _____ to a three-ring circus," he said. "Students compete to see who can look most clownish. Some of the outfits are nearly blinding. Other kids are such snobs about their ostentatious designer clothes that they (35) _____ kids who can't afford to keep up with them. I'm not saying that uniforms would change the school into a(n) (36) _____. No place is perfect. I just think that if we want school to be more fair, our best (37) _____ is a strict dress code."

At that, several students burst into (38) _____ disagreement, yelling and pounding on their desks. After several minutes of vociferous chaos, the meeting came to order, and Barbara was called on again.

(39) _____ in her opinion, she insisted, "I understand what you're saying, Ray, but I want to (40) _____ 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."