

**TEN WORD PARTS IN CONTEXT:** Common word parts—also known as prefixes, suffixes, and roots—are used in forming many words in English. Figure out the meanings of the following ten word parts by looking closely and carefully at the context in which they appear. Then, in the space provided, write the letter of the meaning closest to that of each word part.

1. **a-, an-**

- Harold is completely **apolitical**. He never votes and never even seems to know who the candidates are.
- Aspirin is an **analgesic**, or painkiller. If you take it, you will soon be without pain.

\_\_\_\_\_ **a-, an-** means                      a. true                                      b. without                                      c. new

2. **bibl-, biblio-**

- The first book printed from movable type was the Gutenberg **Bible**.
- Mr. Steffen was a noted **bibliophile**, so when his collection of books was sold, many other book lovers crowded the auction room.

\_\_\_\_\_ **bibl-, biblio-** means                      a. book                                      b. religious doctrine                                      c. belief

3. **fid**

- People think of dogs as trustworthy companions. This is reflected in the traditional name “**Fido**,” which means “faithful one.”
- From the viewpoint of a particular religion, an **infidel** is a person who does not believe in that faith.

\_\_\_\_\_ **fid** means                      a. first                                      b. loyalty                                      c. real

4. **-ism**

- **Totalitarianism** is a system of government in which a dictator rules and the state controls every aspect of people’s lives.
- William Penn came to America in the 1600s to establish the principles of his religion, **Quakerism**.

\_\_\_\_\_ **-ism** means                      a. a set of beliefs                                      b. a lack of something                                      c. a rank

5. **nov**

- People are always trying to sell us something new. This year’s **novelty** seems to be trading cards with pictures of mud wrestlers.
- Anya is an **innovative** cook, always thinking of creative, unusual combinations, like sweet potatoes and oranges.

\_\_\_\_\_ **nov** means                      a. important                                      b. original                                      c. realistic

6. **pan-**

- As the name implies, the **Pan-American** games involve athletes from all the Americas—North America, Central America, and South America.
- Some people turn to drugs in hopes of finding a **panacea**, a remedy for all the problems in their lives.

\_\_\_\_\_ **pan-** means                      a. new                                      b. true                                      c. entire

7. **prim, prime**

- When you go deep into a forest, you can imagine yourself back in **primeval** times, long before humans appeared on the scene.
- “**Prime**” beef is the highest quality cut. Unfortunately, it’s also highest in fat and in price.

\_\_\_\_\_ **prim, prime** means                      a. first                                      b. true                                      c. entire

8. **rect**

- The pool, a large **rectangle**, was surrounded by bushes in rows as straight as the sides of the pool itself.
- We sometimes learn best by trying something new, making a mistake, and then figuring how to **rectify** the error.

\_\_\_\_\_ **rect** means                      a. real                                      b. recent                                      c. straight

9. **sym-, syn-**

- A **syndrome** is a collection of **symptoms** that normally accompany a particular disease.
- We’d better **synchronize** our watches before the race starts. Let’s set them all right now, at exactly 1:46.

\_\_\_\_\_ **sym-, syn-** means                      a. truth                                      b. together                                      c. faith

# 10. ver

- I thought Jesse was lying about having seen a UFO, but when neighbors showed up, they **verified** his story.
- A **verdict** should be an honest statement of how members of the jury have judged a case.

\_\_\_\_\_ **ver** means                      a. together                      b. orderly                      c. true

**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. _____ doctrine, system, practice of  | 16. _____ with, together  |
| 12. _____ first (in order of importance) | 17. _____ true, real      |
| 13. _____ new, original fresh            | 18. _____ straight, right |
| 14. _____ trust, faith, loyalty          | 19. _____ book            |
| 15. _____ without, lacking, not          | 20. _____ all             |

**SENTENCE CHECK 1:** Using the answer line provided, complete each item below with the correct word part. Use each word part once.

21. Vicki has gotten an A on every paper and test in her biology class, so she is conent that she'll get an A for the course.
22. I don't know how the magician did it, but he held up the \_\_\_\_\_y I was thinking of.
23. From the top of the mountain, Cliff was able to take pictures of a breathtaking \_\_\_\_\_orama. The entire valley was spread out before him.
24. The \_\_\_\_\_ary grades are generally considered to be kindergarten and first grade.
25. When people say "as the crow flies," they mean in a straight line, a di\_\_\_\_\_ route from one place to another.
26. Psychologists often use \_\_\_\_\_therapy to help troubled children. When children read books about others in similar situations, they may be able to work through their own problems.
27. \_\_\_\_\_onyms are words with the same meaning. But even words that are very close in meaning may suggest different things—for example, *break* and *shatter*.
28. Hindu \_\_\_\_\_ includes a principle called reincarnation: the belief that when we die, our souls return to earth to exist in new bodies.
29. When she received the \_\_\_\_\_onymous note from "an admirer," Jenny was just itching to know who sent it.
30. Ted and Sara are trying to decide if it's worthwhile trying to re\_\_\_\_\_ate their rickety old farmhouse, or if it would make more sense just to tear it down and build a new one.

**SENTENCE CHECK 2:** Using the answer line provided, complete each item below with the correct word part. Use each word part once.

The (31) \_\_\_\_\_ary principle of (32) \_\_\_\_\_theism is that God is the entire universe and all things and beings within it. In other words, God is ubiquitous.

When they collaborated on a term paper about (33) Nazi \_\_\_\_\_, Eddie and Dina compiled a long (34) \_\_\_\_\_graphy of books dealing with Hitler, the Nazis, and World War II.

A (35) \_\_\_\_\_phony orchestra consists of about a hundred musicians. If that many people are going to play together as a cohesive unit, they must follow the (36) di\_\_\_\_\_ion of the conductor.

Animals are said to be (37) \_\_\_\_\_moral, having no concept of right or wrong, but that isn't always (38) \_\_\_\_\_ified by their behavior. For instance, a dog may slink around guiltily after chewing on the rug.

My uncle feels he is on the verge of developing an (39) in\_\_\_\_\_ative gadget that will make a fortune. To keep his idea from being stolen, he is (40) con\_\_\_\_\_ing in only a few people he really trusts..

**FINAL CHECK – Holiday Blues:** 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.

Although Alex was brought up in a Catholic family, he himself never adopted (41) Catholic \_\_\_\_\_, but set off on a search for his own ideas. He read the (42) \_\_\_\_\_e thoroughly and visited many places where people gather together to worship—churches, (43) syn \_\_\_\_\_, mosques, and temples—but he was not attracted by the tenets of any organized religion. Finally, he developed what he thought was a (44) \_\_\_\_\_el idea: that God exists in all of nature, in trees, rivers, and even stones. As he learned more about the beliefs of early humans and more (45) \_\_\_\_\_itive societies, though, he found that this concept—(46) \_\_\_\_\_theism—was not really new and had existed for a long time and in many places.

All this estranged Alex from his parents, who felt that his idea was tantamount to (47) \_\_\_\_\_theism, the same as saying there is no God at all. They saw him as an (48) in \_\_\_\_\_el who had abandoned the faith of his own people, and they begged him to (49) \_\_\_\_\_ify this grievous error and return to the Catholic church. Alex, however, argued that since no one could (50) \_\_\_\_\_ify religious principles scientifically, people should accept the fact that some beliefs may differ from their own.