

Lesson 17

Word List

Study the definitions of the words below; then do the exercises for the lesson.

accord
ə kôrd'

n. A feeling of agreement or harmony; a formal agreement.
The members of the jury were in **accord** when the vote was taken.

affirm
ə fərm'

v. To declare positively.
This official will **affirm** that the signature is mine.

bequeath
bē kwēth

v. 1. To pass on to others.
Through his pamphlet *Common Sense*, Thomas Paine **bequeathed** a concern for individual rights and freedom to future generations.
2. To leave to another in one's will.
This stamp collection was **bequeathed** to me by my father.
bequest *n.* (bē kwest') Something bequeathed; a legacy.
The will contains a **bequest** of a thousand dollars to a friendly neighbor.

citadel
sit' ə dəl

n. A fortress on a hill; a stronghold.
The old section of Quebec City is surrounded by walls and dominated by a **citadel**.

confer
kən fər'

v. 1. To grant or bestow.
The college president **conferred** the degree of Bachelor of Arts upon the students who had completed the four-year course of study.
2. To consult.
The surgeon **conferred** with her colleague before deciding not to operate on the patient.

coup
koo

n. 1. A successful action that brings about a striking change.
Hiring violinist Itzhak Perlman for the festival was a **coup** for the music director.
2. The overthrow of a government, especially by a group that has military or political power.
In 1952, a **coup** in Egypt forced the king out of power and led the way to presidential leadership for that country.

dignitary
dig' ni ter ē

n. A person who holds a high rank or position of honor.
Dignitaries from the United Nations attended the White House dinner.

embroil
em broil'

v. To involve in an argument or conflict.
The two countries were **embroiled** in a bitter dispute over where the border between them lay.

epoch
ep' ək

n. An extended period of time marked by a series of related events.
The **epoch** known as the Cold War, a period of hostility without military conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union, began around 1945 and ended in 1991.

impeccable
im pek' ə bəl

adj. Free from fault or flaw; perfect.
The ballet dancer's **impeccable** execution of a midair turn elicited cries of "Bravo!" from the audience.

institute
in' stə tōōt

v. To establish, organize, or put into effect; to begin.

The proprietor **instituted** important changes in employee benefits when she bought the business.

n. An organization set up to promote education or a particular cause.

Scholars at the **Institute** for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey, conduct research in mathematics, physics, and historical and social sciences.

patriarch
pā' trē ārk

n. The male founder or ruler of a family or tribe.

The Bedouins, nomadic desert tribes of Arabia, form extended families headed by **patriarchs**.

rapport
ra pōr'

n. A feeling of harmonious connection between people or groups of people.

Successful speakers quickly establish a **rapport** with the audience.

renounce
rē nouns'

v. To give up a right to, abandon; reject.

We **renounced** meat eating when we became vegetarians.

renunciation n. (rē nun sē ā' shən) The act of renouncing.

Acceptance into the monastery required the **renunciation** of the use of alcoholic beverages.

rhetoric
ret' ət ik

n. 1. The art of using language skillfully.

We studied **rhetoric** to improve our debating skills.

2. Exaggerated or insincere language that is without real meaning or worth.

Because it offered no practical solutions to inner-city housing problems, the mayor's speech was mere **rhetoric**.

17A Finding Meanings

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 17. Write each sentence in the space provided.

1. (a) something that is handed down. (c) A bequest is
(b) An accord is (d) a change of direction.

2. (a) A patriarch is (c) a person with great strength.
(b) A dignitary is (d) the male leader of a tribe.

3. (a) a type of car. (c) A coup is
(b) a formal agreement. (d) An accord is

4. (a) one who speaks eloquently. (c) A dignitary is
(b) one who holds a position of honor. (d) A citadel is

5. (a) Rhetoric is (c) an opportunity to make a difference.
(b) Rapport is (d) skill in the use of language.

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| 6. (a) a fortress.
(b) a beginning. | (c) An institute is
(d) A citadel is |
| 7. (a) a poem that relates a story.
(b) an action that brings about a striking change. | (c) A coup is
(d) An epoch is |
| 8. (a) To renounce an award is to
(b) To confer an award is to | (c) grant it.
(d) accept it. |
| 9. (a) something left to a person in a will.
(b) an organization to promote a particular cause. | (c) An epoch is
(d) An institute is |
| 10. (a) to declare it to be true.
(b) To affirm something is | (c) To renounce something is
(d) to go in search of it. |

17B Just the Right Word

Improve each of the following sentences by crossing out the bold phrase and replacing it with a word (or a form of the word) from Word List 17.

accord
affirm
bequeath
citadel
confer
coup
dignitary
embroil
epoch
impeccable
institute
patriarch
rapport
renounce
rhetoric

- The supervisor and the programmer had a good **feeling of emotional connection** with each other.
- In 1981, Andreas Papandreou became prime minister of Greece by using **elaborate and ostentatious language** containing anti-Western ideas designed to appeal to voters.
- Before he was overthrown by Castro in 1959, the dictator Batista controlled Cuba as a result of the **seizure of government** he staged in 1952.
- My grandmother **put in her will that she wished to leave** this gold locket to me.
- The judges at the figure-skating competition **had a discussion** at great length before announcing the winner.
- In 1936, King Edward VIII of England **gave up his right to** the throne in order to marry a divorced American, Mrs. Wallis Simpson.
- The United States did not officially become **caught up in the conflict** in World War Two until after the Japanese attack on the Pacific Fleet in Pearl Harbor in 1941.

8. The principal **set into motion** a policy that would discourage unnecessary absences at the high school.
9. Her behavior was **free of any fault** while she was with me.
10. With the death of Stalin, leader of the USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) from 1924 to 1953, came the end of a(n) **period of time marked by a series of related events** in Russian history.

17C Applying Meanings

Circle the letter of each correct answer to the questions below.
Question may have more than one correct answer.

1. Which of the following might be **bequeathed**?
- (a) a sum of money (c) a piece of property
(b) a work of art (d) a belief in democracy
2. Which of the following can be **conferred**?
- (a) a gift (c) one's innocence
(b) a love of freedom (d) a title
3. Which of the following would be in **accord**?
- (a) parties to an agreement (c) advocates for opposing views
(b) rivals (d) signers of a declaration
4. Which of the following is an **institute**?
- (a) the Academy of Arts (c) the Depot Restaurant
(b) the Astrological Society (d) the American Civil Liberties Union
5. Which of the following might indicate **rapport** between two people?
- (a) an affable exchange of views (c) turmoil in their relationship
(b) a rebuke of one by the other (d) constant wrangling between them
6. Which of the following occupations requires skill in **rhetoric**?
- (a) lawyer (c) sales manager
(b) dentist (d) football coach
7. Which of the following is an **epoch**?
- (a) the year 2000 (c) the Middle Ages
(b) the Space Age (d) one's high school years
8. Which of the following is a **dignitary**?
- (a) the president of a college (c) the president of a country
(b) the head of a conspiracy (d) the head of a household

17D Word Study

Fill in the blank spaces using prefixes and roots from the lists below.

Use these prefixes:

ad- (to)

con- (with)

dis- (apart)

im- (not)

in- (not)

syn- (together)

Form roots from these Latin words:

cessare (to cease)

onuma (name)

ardere (to burn)

lumen (light)

levis (light)

macula (stain)

mille (thousand)

stagnum (swamp)

annus (year)

secare (to cut)

tangere (to touch)

- The prefix *ad-* combines with the root from *levis* to form the word _____, "to make lighter or less burdensome."
- Roots from the Latin word *mille* and *annus* combine to form _____, "a period of a thousand years."
- The prefix *con-* combines with the root from *tangere* to form _____, "easily passed from person to person."
- The prefix *in-* combines with the root from *cessare* to form _____, "going on without ceasing."
- The prefix *im-* combines with the root from *macula* to form _____, "without a stain; spotless."
- The prefix *syn-* combines with the root from *onuma* to form _____, "closely related; linked together."
- The word _____ means "burning with enthusiasm" and comes from the Latin *ardere*.
- The word _____ means "giving off light" and comes from the Latin *lumen*.
- The prefix *dis-* combines with the root from *secare* to form _____, "to cut into in order to study."
- The word _____ means "not changing" and comes from the Latin *stagnum*.

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17E Passage

Read the passage below; then complete the exercise that follows.

The Country Without an Army

At the close of the ceremony honoring him, the dark-haired, **impeccably** dressed forty-six-year-old passed among the many **dignitaries** gathered at San José's Metropolitan Cathedral and embraced a frail, elderly man who had tears of joy streaming down his cheeks. On this occasion, Costa Ricans had gathered to celebrate their president Oscar Arias Sánchez, who was about to leave for Oslo to receive the 1987 Nobel Prize for Peace.

This award was to be **conferred** upon Arias because he was the main architect of an **accord**, known as "The Arias Peace Plan," signed that year by representatives from Nicaragua, Guatemala, Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Honduras. It **affirmed** the intentions of these countries to make a strong effort to end the armed conflict that had **embroiled** parts of Central America for decades. Arias was uniquely qualified to initiate this effort; for almost forty years his country had enjoyed both domestic tranquility and a democratic political system. Both of these blessings had been **bequeathed** to Costa Rica by its former president José Figueres Ferrer, the man Arias now embraced.

In the early 1940s, Figueres was a successful but largely unknown coffee planter. Outraged by the country's corrupt government, which, like those that had preceded it, rigged elections, shot or jailed political opponents, and allowed the army to brutalize the population into abject submission, Figueres gave a radio speech in 1942 attacking the country's president. For this act, he was sent into exile, but his courageous defiance made him a national hero. Six years later, he led an armed **coup** that toppled the government.

The year 1948 marked the beginning of a new **epoch** in Costa Rican history. The new government that Figueres formed in May of that year transformed Costa Rica in the first few months of its existence. Among the reforms he **instituted** were full voting rights for women, low-cost health care, and free and open elections. But his most amazing accomplishment was the **renunciation** of war. This was not mere **rhetoric**. He followed up his declaration by abolishing Costa Rica's army and taking a sledge hammer to strike the symbolic blow that began the destruction of the army's headquarters. As head of the National Liberation Party, which he formed, Figueres was three times elected president of his country, an indication of the strong **rapport** that existed between the citizens and this leader.

Now, in 1987, the aged Costa Rican **patriarch** stood on the steps of the Metropolitan Cathedral with the younger man now carrying Figueres's dream of peace beyond the nation's frontiers. The former and current presidents acknowledged the cheers of the people as they made their way on foot, and without need of protection, to the National Museum of Culture, once the site of the **citadel**, headquarters for the army. Having observed all this, an onlooker commented, "It was as though George Washington had appeared at the inauguration of John F. Kennedy."

Answer each of the following questions in the form of a sentence. If a question does not contain a vocabulary word from this lesson's word list, use one in your answer. Use each word only once. Questions and answers will then contain all fifteen words (or forms of the words).

1. What ended for Costa Rica in 1948?

2. How did the Costa Rican people **affirm** their respect for Figueres and Arias?

3. Was there anything unseemly about Arias's record as president of Costa Rica? Explain.

4. What is the meaning of **rhetoric** as it is used in the passage?

5. In what way can José Figueres be compared to George Washington?

6. How has Costa Rica gotten along with its neighbors in recent decades?

7. Give evidence of the **rapproch** between Figueres and the people of Costa Rica.

8. Why is the Arias Peace Plan described as an **accord**?

9. Name some of Figueres's **bequests** to Costa Rica.

10. How did Figueres come to power in Costa Rica?

11. What is the meaning of **conferred** as it is used in the passage?
12. Which **dignitaries** signed the Arias Peace Plan?
13. What is the name of the **institute** that celebrates Costa Rican culture?
14. What did the signers of the Arias Peace Plan pledge to **renounce**?
15. Why would the army have had its headquarters in a **citadel**?

FUN & FASCINATING FACTS

If, after having a “heart-to-heart” talk with someone, you find yourselves in complete agreement, you could say that you are in **accord** with each other. This would be particularly appropriate since the word is formed from the Latin prefix *ad-*, meaning “to,” and the Latin root *cor*, meaning “heart.” Other English words derived from this same Latin root include *courage* (To put heart into someone is to give that person courage), *cordial* (A hearty welcome is similar to one that is cordial), and *cardiac* (A person goes into cardiac arrest when the heart suddenly stops beating).

In French *coup* means “blow” or “strike.” *Coup* in English, meaning “the overthrow of a government,”

is short for the French *coup d'état* (pronounced *kōō dā tā´*), meaning “a sudden blow within the state.”

A *coupe* (pronounced *kōōp*) is a closed, two-door automobile. A *coop* (also pronounced *kōōp*) is a shed where hens are kept.

The adjective form of **rhetoric** is *rhetorical*. A *rhetorical* question is one that is asked only for effect and does not require an answer. *What sort of person would betray his country for a few dollars?* is a rhetorical question.