

## LESSONS 3 AND 4

# Government

## LESSON 3

*Grege totus in agris unius scabie cadit.*

A whole flock perishes in the fields from the mange of one sheep  
(i.e., One diseased sheep spoils the flock).

### Key Words

aggregation  
anarchy  
archaic  
archetype  
archipelago

archive  
demagogue  
demographer  
egregious  
endemic

gregarious  
icon  
iconoclastic  
oligarchy  
pandemic

### Familiar Words

archaeology  
architecture  
hierarchy  
matriarch  
monarch  
patriarch

**ARKHEIN** <G. "to begin," "to be first"  
**ARKHOS** <G. "ruler," "first in rank"



### 1. **archaic** (ār kā' īk)

*adj.* 1. Characteristic of a much earlier or primitive period.

Anglo-Saxon, the **archaic** form of English, flourished in England for several hundred years before giving way to an influx of languages influenced by Latin.

### 2. Antiquated; out-of-date.

The scythe was made **archaic** by Cyrus McCormick's invention of the mechanical reaper in 1831.

**archaism.** „



**Challenge Words**

Archean  
 Archeozoic  
 architectonic  
 architrave  
 archon  
 eparch  
 pentarchy

2. **archetype** (ār' kə tīp') [*tupos* <G. "mold," "model"]

*n.* An original model or type from which similar forms are copied.

Anthropologists have identified **archetypes** that appear in cultures throughout the world: the earth mother, the holy child, the wise old man, and the sky god or sun god.

**archetypal**, *adj.*; **archetypic**, *adj.*; **archetypical**, *adj.*

3. **archipelago** (ār' kə pēl' ə gō) [*pelagos* <G. "sea"]

*n.* 1. A group of many islands or the sea containing them.

An **archipelago** of 1,150 islands in the South Pacific, the Marshall Islands gained independence from the United States in 1986.

2. A group of separate entities contained within a defined area.

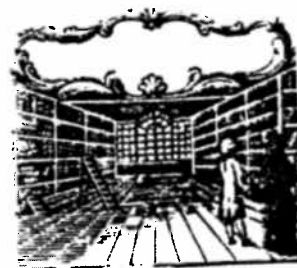
Although Simon Bolívar dreamed of creating a single nation of the South American regions he helped to liberate from Spanish domination in the 1820s, today they remain an **archipelago** of individual states.

**archipelagic**, *adj.*

4. **archive(s)** (ār' kīvs')

*n.* (can be used in the singular or plural)

The collected records of an organization, institution, or public person. (*Archives* can also refer to the place in which such records are stored.)



Letters and papers in her **archives** reveal Emma Goldman's passionate belief in the right of citizens to criticize the constraints of unreasonable government.

**archival**, *adj.*; **archivist**, *n.*

**NOTA BENE:** In some cultures, archives prevail in other than written form. The Hmong peoples of southeast Asia, forbidden by their conquerors in the eighteenth century to use their written language, managed to record their history on colorful tapestries using embroidery and appliqué work. In western African communities a succession of elders called *griots* has served as a living archive of a people's oral history from its remembered beginnings.

5. **anarchy** (ān' ər kē) [*an* <G. "without"]

*n.* 1. Absence of any form of government or political authority; lawlessness.

In the opinion of Katherine Anne Porter, **anarchy** is harder for human beings to cope with than the greatest abuses and restrictions of an oppressive government.

## 2. Disorder and confusion.

Although the shipwrecked boys in *Lord of the Flies* at first attempt to govern themselves, their altercations lead to **anarchy** and self-destruction.

6. **oligarchy** (ól' ə gār' kē) [*oligos* <G. "few"]

*n.* Government by the few, especially a faction of persons or families.

In *The House of the Spirits* Isabel Allende describes a Chilean **oligarchy** composed of wealthy landowners who refuse to extend land rights to the peasants who work their haciendas.

**oligarch.** *n.*; **oligarchic.** *adj.*

**NOTA BENE:** The prefix *arch-* indicates "a chief of highest rank," as in *archangel* and *archbishop*; it can also mean "the first or ultimate of its kind," as in *archenemy* or *archfiend* (often Satan or the devil). The root *arch* in words like *patriarch* and *oligarch* means "leader" or "ruler." *Archy* indicates the form of "rule" or "government," as in *matriarchy* and *monarchy*.

**Familiar Words**  
democracy  
epidemic

**Challenge Words**  
deme  
demiurge  
demos  
demotic  
epidemiology

**DEMOS** <G. "people"7. **demagogue** (dēm' ə gōg', dēm' ə gōg') [*apogos* <G. "leading"]

*n.* A leader or agitator who appeals to people's passions and prejudices rather than to their reason.

Willie Stark in *All the King's Men* resembles Huey P. Long, a **demagogue** who bullied and charmed his way to power as governor of Louisiana in the 1920s and 1930s.

**demagogic.** *adj.*; **demagogy.** *n.*

8. **demographer** (dī mōg' rə fər) [*graphein* <G. "to write"]

*n.* One who studies the characteristics of populations and analyzes data such as numbers, births, deaths, diseases, and other vital statistics.

**Demographers** have calculated from United States census figures that the center of the population in 1790 was east of Baltimore, Maryland; in 1890, near Columbia, Indiana; and in 1990, near Steelville, Missouri.

**demography.** *n.*; **demographic.** *adj.*

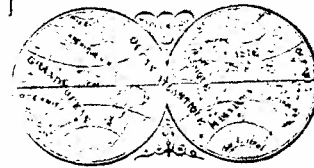


9. **endemic** (ĕn dēm' ik) [*en* < G. "in"]  
*adj.* Commonly found in a particular region or among a particular people.

Before the draining of swamplands in the 1890s, malaria was **endemic** in southern Italy.

10. **pandemic** (păn dēm' ik) [*pan* < G. "all"]  
*adj.* Spread throughout a wide geographic area; worldwide.

The disease known as AIDS, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, has become a **pandemic** threat since it was first identified in the 1980s.



**NOTA BENE:** The Latin counterpart of the Greek root *demos*, "people," is *populus*, familiar in the derivatives *depopulate*, *pop* (as in pop art and music), *populace*, *popular*, and *popularity*. Also in general use is the Latin phrase *vox populi*, meaning "the voice of the people."

**Familiar Words**  
 congregate  
 segregate

## GREX, GREGIS < L. "flock," "herd," "crowd"

11. **gregarious** (grī gâr' ē əs)  
*adj.* 1. Liking companionship; sociable.

Gertrude Stein's Paris salon, where **gregarious** American writers and artists gathered in the 1920s, became the center of the expatriate movement whose members Stein called "the lost generation."



2. Tending to live or move in groups of one's own kind.

To Barry Lopez the thousands of **gregarious** snow geese fluidly rising and swirling above grain fields near Tule Lake in California resembled schools of fish above the ocean floor.

12. **aggregation** (ăg' rə gā' shən)  
 [*ag* = *ad* < L. "to," "toward"]  
*n.* A large group or collection of people, animals, or things.

Appearing to be a harmless floating sac, the marine animal known as Portuguese man-of-war conceals an underwater **aggregation** of polyps suspending poisonous tentacles.



**aggregate.** *adj.*, *n.*, and *v.*

13. **egregious** (ī grē' jəs, ī grē' jē əs) [*ex* < L. "from," "out of"]  
*adj.* Extraordinarily bad; flagrant.

Forty years after the discovery of Piltdown man was announced in 1912, this "missing link" in human evolution was proved to be an **egregious** hoax perpetrated by planting the bones of an orangutan with a modern human skull.

**Challenge Words**

iconography  
iconolatry  
iconology  
iconoscope  
iconostasis

**EIKON** <G. "likeness," "image"

**14. icon** (ī' kōn')

*n.* 1. An image, representation, or symbol.

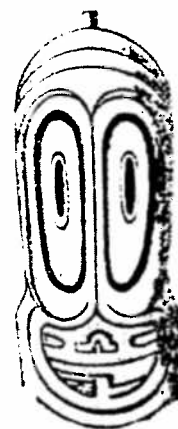
Carved figures such as eagles, ravens, and whales that decorated interior and exterior poles of Haida dwellings in the Northwest were **icons** derived from myths and family crests.

2. A representation or picture of a sacred personage or event, traditionally painted on wooden panels in the manner of Eastern Orthodox churches.

The convention of Russian **icons** began in the tenth century when princes of Kiev brought back images from churches in Constantinople.

3. A person greatly admired for a particular talent, quality, or service.

Known as El Rey, the bandleader Tito Puente became an **icon** of Latino music combining jazz and Latin rhythms.



**NOTA BENE:** Computer users are familiar with the term *icon* as a symbol for programs; in the days of hand presses, certain frequently-used pictorial blocks were also called icons.

**15. iconoclastic** (ī kōn' ə klās' tīk) [*klasis* <G. "fracture"]

*adj.* 1. Breaking or destroying images (referring especially to a movement to destroy images in Eastern Orthodox churches during the ninth and tenth centuries and a later Protestant movement).

In sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Europe some **iconoclastic** Protestants smashed stained glass windows, beheaded religious statuary, and white-washed church murals in their effort to eradicate what they considered idolatry of sacred images.

2. Attacking or overthrowing tradition or popular ideas, institutions, or conventions.

As Charles Darwin sailed around South America on the *Beagle*, he developed his **iconoclastic** theory of evolution.

**iconoclasm**, *n.*; **iconoclast**, *n.*

### EXERCISE 3A

Circle the letter of the best **SYNONYM** for the word in bold-faced type.

1. muscle strain **endemic** to runners    a. obtrusive    b. ephemeral  
c. common    d. peripheral    e. helpful
2. a ruthless **demagogue**    a. mediator    b. eponym    c. interloper  
d. fiery agitator    e. interregnum
3. **demographic** shifts in logging towns    a. environmental  
b. recreational    c. political    d. working-class    e. population
4. a(n) **aggregation** of flamingos    a. throng    b. flight    c. altercation  
d. scarcity    e. migration
5. a corrupt **oligarchy**    a. government by the rich    b. government  
by the many    c. government by the few    d. government by  
despot    e. monarchy
6. a political **iconoclast**    a. paragon    b. conservative    c. organizer  
d. image breaker    e. radical
7. the **archetype** of the glider    a. epitome    b. antithesis    c. original  
d. paradigm    e. copy
8. a(n) **anarchic** interregnum    a. unrequited    b. orderly  
c. unlawful    d. disruptive    e. lawless
9. **egregious** actions    a. detestable    b. unrequited    c. admirable  
d. solitary    e. internecine

Circle the letter of the best **ANTONYM** for the word in bold-faced type.

10. a(n) **pandemic** economic crisis    a. internecine    b. local  
c. universal    d. devastating    e. quiescent
11. **gregarious** golfers    a. unfriendly    b. egregious    c. noisy  
d. solitary    e. aggregate
12. **archaic** theories of nutrition    a. old-fashioned    b. altruistic  
c. abstruse    d. reliable    e. avant-garde

### EXERCISE 3B

Circle the letter of the sentence in which the word in bold-faced type is used incorrectly.

1. a. Scientific research has exonerated the people condemned at **egregious** witch trials in seventeenth-century Salem; the victims' "fault" lay in being solitary or eccentric in a highly conforming society.  
b. Gwendolyn Brooks's poem "Medgar Evers" pays tribute to the civil rights leader **egregiously** murdered in 1963.

- c. E pluribus unum, the motto on American coins, means "one out of many" or "**egregious**" ("from the herd").
  - d. In *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* Lorelei Lee supplies humor with **egregious** grammatical blunders such as "a girl like I."
2. a. Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn called the world's attention to the egregious detention of dissidents in forced labor camps, or *gulags*, scattered across the great **archipelago** of the former Soviet Union.
- b. As Peter Matthiessen traveled along Tierra del Fuego and smaller islands of the Chilean **archipelago**, he observed albatrosses, diving petrels, cormorants, terns, and skuas.
- c. The movement of tectonic plates that has reshaped continents has left **archipelagic** fragments clustering along coastlines.
- d. When choirs sing **archipelago**, without instrumental accompaniment, the singers must listen carefully to maintain proper pitch.
3. a. The reputation of the wise and altruistic Egyptian doctor Imhotep, an **icon** of the ancient world, attracted to his grave pilgrims looking for cures.
- b. When the Mongol conqueror Tamerlane unaccountably withdrew from attacking Moscow in 1389, Muscovites credited their preservation to the spiritual power of an **icon** borrowed from a neighboring town.
- c. **Iconic** designs of mythological beasts and fish decorated early Italian maps.
- d. In sculpting nonrepresentational **icons** from her imagination, Dame Barbara Hepworth used wood, stone, and bronze.
4. a. Classified as extinct in 1681 and eventually known only in illustrations, the odd, clumsy, earthbound dodo bird became mythical until scientists determined two hundred years later that the creature had been a real but **archaic** variety of pigeon.
- b. Athletes who have suffered severe injuries may experience **archaic** pain even after successful surgery.
- c. Computers today are far removed from the **archaic** models that required hand-fed punch cards, 500 miles of wire, and an entire building.
- d. Many English farmers continue the **archaic** practice of making a corn dolly, a female figure woven from the last sheaf of grain harvested in autumn and kept to be sown with the spring planting.

**EXERCISE 3C**

Fill in each blank with the most appropriate word from Lesson 3. Use a word or any of its forms only once.

1. In *Animal Farm*, Napoleon becomes the \_\_\_\_\_ of the barnyard, first uniting the animals in their hatred of the cruel farmer but then becoming equally cruel himself.
2. Depletion of forests to supply fuel or grazing land has become \_\_\_\_\_, diminishing wildlife habitats and altering the quality of air worldwide.
3. The British House of Commons has been called the \_\_\_\_\_ of all parliamentary systems.
4. Data collected by \_\_\_\_\_ suggest that if the world population continues to increase at the present rate, it will outrun the planet's capacity to produce sufficient food.
5. After caribou calving season in northern Alaska, \_\_\_\_\_ of herds numbering as many as 175,000 animals travel together before separating to head south for the winter.
6. Although the Communist government of the Soviet Union appeared to grant extensive power to party members, a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ of five party leaders who sat in the Politburo held ultimate authority.
7. Twyla Tharp has been called a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ for her playful choreography juxtaposing classical ballets and modern dance, described by one reviewer as "kinetic wisecracking."
8. Unlike American universities with defined campuses, Oxford and Cambridge Universities are academic \_\_\_\_\_, each having separate colleges located within the cities of Oxford and Cambridge.
9. Drought is \_\_\_\_\_ in equatorial Africa.
10. In the domestic culture of Zaire, families and friends are especially \_\_\_\_\_ at mealtimes, believing that eating is not intended to be a solitary activity.
11. Located in Washington, D.C., the National \_\_\_\_\_ contains a vast collection of papers, books, and film pertaining to the history of the United States.
12. Okonkwo in *Things Fall Apart* struggles helplessly as he sees the dissolution of the old ways in his Ibo village and the \_\_\_\_\_ that results from colonial intrusion.

13. Opened to traffic in 1883 after numerous construction problems, the Brooklyn Bridge stands as an architectural \_\_\_\_\_ of grace and utility.

## EXERCISE 3D

Replace the word or phrase in *italics* with a key word (or any of its forms) from Lesson 3.

Often cited as perhaps the most (1) *flagrantly bad* miscarriage of American justice, the Sacco-Vanzetti case continues to draw historians to review documents in the (2) *collected records* of the court. Arrested in 1920 for two murders during a robbery, Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti pleaded innocent. However, the defendants acknowledged at their trial that they were (3) *people who believe in abolishing government control* and were active in distributing pamphlets (4) *attacking traditional institutions* in their content. When the jury found the pair guilty, many supporters ascribing to Judge Webster Thayer the attitude of a (5) *prejudicial agitator* who was influenced by the "Red scare" (6) *commonly found* in the United States after the Russian Revolution in 1917.

Immediately before and after Sacco and Vanzetti were executed in 1927, (7) *huge throngs* of sympathizers protested throughout the world. Although for many partisans the case remains a(n) (8) *pattern from which similar forms are modeled* of justice denied, the most recent evidence from reexamination of trial records, ballistic tests, and belated confessions seems to support the original verdict: guilty.

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 8. _____ |

