

LESSON 3 – “All or Nothing”

Omne corpus mutabile est.

Every object is subject to change. – CICERO

Base Words

catholic	omnipotent	panacea	recluse
cloister	omnipresent	pandemonium	totalitarian
holocaust	omnivorous	preclude	

PAN <Greek> “all”

1. **pandemonium** [**pan** + *daimon* <Greek> “divine power”]

n. Uproar.

Pandemonium threatens to break out after Julius Caesar is assassinated on the ides of March, but in Shakespeare’s play *Brutus* calms the murderous senators.

2. **panacea** [**pan** + *akos* <Greek> “cure”]

n. A cure-all for diseases or troubles.

Some politicians seem to regard tax cuts as a **panacea** for economic problems.

OMNIS <Latin> “all”

3. **omnipotent** [**omni** + *potens* <Latin> *posse*, “to be able”]

adj. Having unlimited power; all-powerful.

To the ancient British tribes the invading Roman army seemed **omnipotent**.

Other Forms: **omnipotence**, n.; **the Omnipotent**, n.; **omnipotently**, adv.

4. **omnipresent**

adj. Present everywhere.

At harvest time the smell of garlic is **omnipresent** in Gilroy, California, “the garlic capital of America.”

5. **omnivorous** [**omni** + *vorare* <Latin> “to devour”]

adj. 1. Feeding on both plants and meat.

Human beings are **omnivorous**, though many choose to be vegetarians.

2. Devouring everything, especially intellectually.

She is such an **omnivorous** reader she has already read all of the library’s biographies, science fiction, and sports magazines.

Other Forms: **omnivore**, n.; **omnivourously**, adv.; **omnivorousness**, n.

HOLOS <Greek> “whole”

6. **catholic** [*kata-* <Greek> “according to” + **holos**]

adj. 1. Universal; including most things.

Her wide travels reflect her catholic tastes.

2. (capitalized) Referring to the Roman Catholic church.

Spain is a predominantly **Catholic** country.

7. **holocaust** [**holos** + *kaustos* <Greek> “burned”]

n. 1. A great destruction, especially by fire.

After the great 1906 earthquake, a **holocaust** swept through San Francisco.

2. (capitalized) Murder by the Nazis of over six million Jews and millions of other people in World War II.

Most Americans first learned of the extent of the **Holocaust** when the Nazi concentration camps were liberated at the end of World War II.

TOTUS <Latin> “whole”

8. totalitarian [total+ (author)itarian]

adj. Referring to a form of government in which one person or party holds absolute control.

Under Joseph Stalin the Soviet Union became a **totalitarian** state.

Other Forms: **totalitarianism**, n.

CLAUDO, CLAUDERE, CLAUSI, CLAUSUM <Latin> “to close”

9. cloister

n. 1. A covered walk along the inside walls of a building, usually looking out on a courtyard.

The **cloister** of the country house provided a welcome protection from the tropical sun.

2. A monastery or similar place of religious seclusion.

During the Reformation many **cloisters** were closed and their monks or nuns dispersed.

v. To seclude as in a monastery.

To protect their children from the Black Plague, the parents **cloistered** them in an isolated village.

Other Forms: cloistered, adj.

10. preclude [pre <Latin> “before” + claud]

v. To prevent; to make impossible.

Rain **precluded** our taking a walk.

Other Forms: **preclusion**, n.

11. recluse [re <Latin> intensifier + claus]

n. A person who avoids mixing with people.

The **recluse** preferred the company of a dog and the library to that of people.

Other Forms: **reclusion**, n.; **reclusive**, adj.

Familiar Words

conclude	exclude	panorama	seclude
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Challenge Words

cloisonné	pandemic	pantheism	omniscient
holistic	panegyric	pantheon	totality