

Government and Control

WORD LIST

anarchy	authoritarian	conservative	delegate	dominion
impeach	inaugurate	liberal	Spartan	tyrant

Government affects many aspects of our lives. While people living in a democracy can choose their representatives and speak their opinions freely, those in a dictatorship are ruled by one person who makes decisions for them. The words in this lesson deal with forms of government, ranging from *authoritarian*—exercising complete control over people, to *anarchy*—total lack of government.

1. **anarchy** (ăn'ər-kē) *noun* from Greek *an-*, “without” + *arkhos*, “ruler”
 - a. A lack of government
 - Some libertarians see **anarchy** as the ideal form of society.
 - b. Disorder and confusion
 - Dropping cash from a skyscraper window might cause **anarchy** in the streets below.

anarchic *adjective* The streets became **anarchic** during the riot.

anarchist *noun* The **anarchist** preached against the government.

2. **authoritarian** (ə-thôr'ĩ-târ'ē-ən) *adjective* from Greek *auctor*, “creator”

Requiring complete obedience to a single ruler or group

 - Under Joseph Stalin’s **authoritarian** rule, citizens of the Soviet Union were often thrown into prison with no chance to defend themselves.
3. **conservative** (kən-sûr'və-tív) from Latin *conservare*, “to preserve”
 - a. *adjective* Favoring traditional values and institutions; resistant to change; cautious
 - The **conservative** senator opposed any changes in procedures.
 - b. *adjective* Traditional in style; not showy
 - Ned’s colorful tie was a contrast to his **conservative** business suit.
 - c. *noun* A person favoring traditional values and institutions
 - As a **conservative**, I favor lower taxes.

conservatism *noun* Despite her **conservatism**, May rode a motorcycle.

4. **delegate** from Latin *de-*, “out” + *legare*, “to send”
 - a. *noun* (děl'ĩ-gít') A representative chosen to speak or act for others
 - A new **delegate** to the convention was elected last April.
 - b. *verb* (děl'ĩ-gāt') To give out power, responsibility, or tasks
 - The new manager was overwhelmed with work and needed to **delegate** more tasks to his employees.

delegation *noun* Ann was part of her school’s **delegation** to the conference.

Authoritarian comes from the common word *authority*.

Conservative comes from the word *conserve*, or “save.”



delegate

5. **dominion** (də-mīn'yan) *noun* from Latin *dominus*, "lord"

a. Control

- Some parts of the Americas were once under Dutch **dominion**.

b. The territory or realm that one controls

- All the lands of the king's **dominion** were peaceful and prosperous.

6. **impeach** (īm-pēch') *verb* from Latin *impedicare*, "to entangle"

To accuse a public official of unacceptable conduct

- Two U.S. presidents have been **impeached** by the House of Representatives; neither has been convicted by the Senate.

impeachment *noun* The **impeachment** proceedings were covered by hundreds of news reporters.

7. **inaugurate** (īn-ō'gyā-rāt') *verb*

To install in office by formal ceremony

- The club will **inaugurate** the new officers on New Years Day.

inaugural *adjective* John Kennedy's **inaugural** address stated: "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country."

8. **liberal** (līb'ər-əl, līb'rəl) from Latin *liber*, "free"

a. *adjective* Favoring social progress, democratic reform, and civil liberties

- Many **liberal** politicians favor extending health care to all citizens.

b. *adjective* Tolerant; generous

- The college's **liberal** rules allowed students to live off campus.

c. *noun* A person who favors social progress, democratic reform, and civil liberties

- As a **liberal**, the senator supported laws assuring those accused of crimes the right to a jury trial.

liberally *adverb* She ate the sweets **liberally**.

9. **Spartan** (spär'tn) *adjective* from the ancient Greek city of *Sparta*

a. Self-disciplined

- Practicing more than five hours per day, the acrobats followed a **Spartan** training routine.

b. Simple; lacking in comfort

- Living quarters on a submarine are known to be **Spartan**.

10. **tyrant** (tīr'ənt) *noun*

A ruler who exercises absolute power in a harsh, cruel manner

- No one could leave the country without the **tyrant's** permission.

tyrannical *adjective* People worldwide protested the **tyrannical** behavior of the general who seized control of the country.

tyrannize *verb* The playground bully **tyrannized** younger children.

tyranny *noun* Philosopher John Locke (1632–1704) said, "Wherever law ends, **tyranny** begins . . ."

Impeach can also mean "to challenge someone's truthfulness."

Liberal is the opposite of *conservative*. *Liberal* also means "generous," as in "She could buy a lot with her *liberal* allowance."

Because it comes from the name of a city, *Spartan* is capitalized.