

LESSON 1 – “Taking the Measure”

E pluribus unum.

From many, one. (Motto of the United States of America)

Base Words

bilateral	duplex	monogram	monopoly
bipartisan	duplicate	monolith	unanimous
bisect	monarch	monologue	unilateral

MONOS- <Greek> “one”

- monologue** [**mon** + *logos* <Greek> “word, speech”]
 - A long speech made by one performer or by one person in a group.
Because my friend does all the talking, our conversation usually turns into a **monologue**.
Other Forms: **monologist**, n.
- monarch** [**mon** + *arkos* <Greek> “ruler”]
 1. A person who rules a kingdom or empire; a king or queen, emperor or empress.
Queen Victoria was **monarch** of the British Empire at its height.
 2. A large black and orange American butterfly.
In early autumn large flocks of **monarchs** migrate from Canada to their winter homes in Mexico.
Other Forms: **monarchy**, n.; **monarchial**, adj.; **monarchic**, adj.; **monarchical**, adj.
- monogram** [**mon** + *gramma* <Greek> “letter”]
 - A design composed of letters, usually the first letter of a name.
The personal dishes and silverware of French monarch Napoleon Bonaparte bore the **monogram** N.
Other Forms: **monogram**, v.
- monopoly** [**mon** + *polein* <Greek> “to sell”]
 1. Exclusive control of the trade in some item or service.
One publisher holds a **monopoly** on printing all of our school publications.
 2. Sole ownership or control of anything.
During the winter the basketball team has a **monopoly** on the gym after school.
Other Forms: **monopolize**, v.
- monolith** [**mon** + *lithos* <Greek> “stone”]
 1. A large block of stone.
A massive **monolith** formed the roof of the tomb.
 2. A large organization that acts as a single unit.
Local restaurants cannot compete with a **monolith** like a national fast-food chain.
Other Forms: **monolithic**, adj.

UNUS- <Latin> “one”

- unanimous** [**un** + *animus* <Latin> “mind,” “spirit”]
 - adj. Being in complete agreement.
To reach a verdict, a jury must achieve a **unanimous** decision.
Other Forms: **unanimity**, n.; **unanimously**, adv.
- unilateral** [**un** + *latus* <Latin> “side”]
 - adj. One-sided; done by or affecting one person, group, or country, etc., and not another.
Since my family was away when the house burned, I had to make **unilateral** decisions about repairs.
Other Forms: **unilaterally**, adv.

DUO- <Latin> “two” PLIC <Latin> “fold”

8. **duplex** [**du** + *plex* <Latin> “twofold”]

n. A dwelling with two living units.

The two families living in the **duplex** shared the same front porch and back yard.

9. **duplicate** [**du** + *plicare* <Latin> “to fold”]

v. To make an identical copy or double of something; to repeat.

Forgers try to **duplicate** precisely the paper, design, and engraving techniques of genuine currency.

Other Forms: **duplicate**, adj.; **duplicate**, n.; **duplicating**, adj.

BI- <Latin> “two”

10. **bilateral** [**bi** + *latus* <Latin> “side”]

adj. 1. Having two sides.

Our school has a **bilateral** athletic program that includes both in-school and after-school sports.

2. Made between two persons or groups.

Canada and the United States have a **bilateral** trade agreement.

Other Forms: **bilaterally**, adv.

11. **bipartisan** [**bi** + *pars, partis* <Latin> “part”]

adj. Involving two political parties.

The hearings, conducted by both Republicans and Democrats, reflected the **bipartisan** approach.

12. **bisect** [**bi** + *secare* <Latin> “to cut”]

v. To divide into two equal parts.

When you **bisect** a square, you end up with two rectangles.

Other Forms: **bisection**, n.

Familiar Words

bifocals	monotonous	union	unite
binocular (adj.)	uniform (adj.)	unique	universal
monastery	unify		

Challenge Words

biannual	doublet	monograph	monotone
biennial	duplicity	monolingual	unisex
bifurcate	monochromatic	monomania	unison
bipolar	monocle	monoplane	unitary
bivalve	monogamy		