

A Quiz on Some Words from Greek and Latin Roots

Match these words from Greek and Latin roots with their antonyms (opposites) in the 2nd column:

ambiguous	civilian
analogous	producer
assume	irrational
classical	predecessor
consumer	inaccurate
dominate	applied
enormous	dissimilar
logical	unusual
military	clear
normal	tiny
precise	submit
successor	modern
theoretical	verify

Some Greek Roots of Western Thought

Use the words below to fill in the blanks of this essay:

ambiguous, concentrate, consistently, domination, dominion, emergence, ideologies, norms, philosophy, physical, persistent, rational, scope, theoretical, theory, theses, whereas (from an Old English root, unlike all the others here)

It's interesting that the most _____ (long-lasting-- not to mention different) western _____ all have some roots in Greek _____ and language. Martin Luther began the Protestant Reformation by posting 95 _____ that he claimed showed major errors in the Catholic doctrine of the time. Humanist and Enlightenment philosophers believed in the _____ or reign of Reason (with a capital R because it was almost a goddess to them) to set the _____ that should govern human life. They believed that being _____ logical and _____ would eliminate most of the problems and injustices of human life.

The German philosopher Hegel analyzed and developed many ideas with roots in Greek philosophy. (Some of his ideas are hard to understand and _____ -- the subject of debate among scholars and the origin of several contradictory schools of philosophy.) Hegel proposed a _____ of history in which a major trend, event, or approach to life (a thesis), would have internal contradictions that would lead to the _____ of its antithesis-- an opposite trend or idea. He believed that eventually thesis and antithesis would merge into a more-inclusive synthesis.

This "dialectic" became the _____ basis of the Marxist view of history. _____ Christianity taught that history was God working out His will in the world and the humanist believed Reason would prevail, the Marxists claimed impersonal _____ and economic forces moved men through the stages of civilization. Capitalism would be one of the last stages, ending in an attempt by those with capital (lots of money) to _____ even more of it in their hands. However, their efforts would backfire, because the _____ of their ambition would make the masses of men so poor and desperate that they would finally rebel and overthrow the _____ of the capitalists. This would lead to the establishment of socialism and finally (Marx taught) a communist utopia.

Words from Greek and Latin Roots Quiz Answers

Matched Opposites:

ambiguous- clear
analogous- dissimilar
assume- verify
classical- modern
consumer- producer
dominate- submit
enormous- tiny
logical- irrational
military- civilian
normal- unusual
precise- inaccurate
successor- predecessor
theoretical- applied

Some Greek Roots of Western Thought

Use the words below to fill in the blanks of this essay

ambiguous, concentrate, consistently, domination, dominion, emergence, ideologies, norms, philosophy, physical, persistent, rational, scope, theoretical, theory, theses, whereas

It's interesting that the most persistent (long-lasting-- not to mention different) western ideologies all have some roots in Greek philosophy and language. Martin Luther began the Protestant Reformation by posting 95 theses that he claimed showed major errors in the Catholic doctrine of the time. Humanist and Enlightenment philosophers believed in the dominion or reign of Reason (with a capital R because it was almost a goddess to them) to set the norms that should govern human life. They believed that being consistently logical and rational would eliminate most of the problems and injustices of human life.

The German philosopher Hegel analyzed and developed many ideas with roots in Greek philosophy. (Some of his ideas are hard to understand and ambiguous -- the subject of debate among scholars and the origin of several contradictory schools of philosophy.) Hegel proposed a theory of history in which a major trend, event, or approach to life (a thesis), would have internal contradictions that would lead to the emergence of its antithesis-- an opposite trend or idea. He believed that eventually thesis and antithesis would merge into a more-inclusive synthesis.

This “dialectic” became the theoretical basis of the Marxist view of history. Whereas Christianity taught that history was God working out His will in the world and the humanist believed Reason would prevail, the Marxists claimed impersonal physical and economic forces moved men through the stages of civilization. Capitalism would be one of the last stages, ending in an attempt by those with capital (lots of money) to concentrate even more of it in their hands. However, their efforts would backfire, because the scope of their ambition would make the masses of men so poor and desperate that they would finally rebel and overthrow the domination of the capitalists. This would lead to the establishment of socialism and finally (Marx taught) a communist utopia.

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