

CHAPTER 3: ARTS AND EDUCATION

A. COMPREHENSION

1. What is the name of the government-owned national television and radio network?
2. What is the name of a group of Quebec street performers which began in 1984 and is now a huge internationally respected performance organization?
3. Which level of government is responsible for making decisions about education—federal or provincial?
4. For what is the Stratford Festival in Ontario famous?
5. What happens at a powwow?
6. What qualification must a teacher have to teach in schools from kindergarten through Grade 12 in Canada today?
7. Which years of education are free in English-speaking Canada?
8. Name two kinds of large institutions in which post-secondary education takes place.
9. What is an acronym? Give one example of a common acronym.
10. What do we call organizations that offer various services to new Canadians?

B. WORD RECOGNITION

Fill in each blank with a word from the list below.

ballet	heritage language	universal
carnival	subsidized	volunteers
compulsory	symphony	
documentaries	tuition	

1. It is _____ for all children between the ages of 6 and 14 to attend school. (In some communities they may be registered in correspondence school programs or in home schooling programs.)
2. _____ is a form of dance in which the dancers wear special shoes which enable them dance on their toes for parts of the dancing.

3. _____ seems very high for university students, but they can apply for scholarships or students loans if they cannot afford to pay it themselves.
4. A _____ is a large celebration for the people of a community. Sometimes there are clowns. Sometimes there are rides like Ferris wheels or merry-go-rounds. One of my favourite _____s is the Winter _____ in Quebec City. (The same word is used three times.)
5. Even though students who attend university pay high fees to do so, the actual cost is much greater than what they pay. University education is heavily _____ by the provincial governments.
6. Although one can listen to classical music on the radio, on CDs, on a computer, or on a portable music player, there is nothing like listening to it live by attending _____ concerts in grand concert halls. Canada is fortunate to have many fine _____ organizations. (The same word is used in both blanks.)
7. In the large cities of Canada, there are many _____ programs for children whose parents speak other languages and want their children to be fluent in English or French as well as the mother tongue in the household. Sometimes, these programs replace other instruction and sometimes, they occur after regular instruction, either in the school or in evening programs.
8. The CBC and the National Film Board of Canada (NFB) are both well-known for their quality _____ on many social issues of importance to Canadians of all ages.
9. Education is _____ and free to all children in this country, although increasingly there are fees for books and other activities such as field trips.
10. Without _____ giving generously of their time and talents to help out in a huge number of organizations in every community, we would lose a lot of programs and opportunities for both pleasure and learning.

C. WORD FAMILIES

Use your dictionary to find the other words in the word family chart below.

VERB	NOUN	ADJECTIVE	ADVERB
	variety		-----
			organizationally
		subsidized	-----
maintain			-----
			voluntarily

Use each word from the table in one of the 17 sentences below.

1. Some stores have so much _____ that it gets difficult to decide what to buy.
2. Specials at the restaurant _____ according to the day of the week. For example, Sunday is prime rib night and Thursday is Ukrainian night.
3. The _____ colours of Canadian money depend on the denomination of the bill.
4. _____ speaking they are very competent, but they are not very creative.
5. If a store is not well-_____, people will not shop there because they won't be able to find what they are looking for.
6. She said she would _____ the files before she goes home.
7. Most employers believe that good _____ is a skill that prospective employees need to have.
8. _____ housing is available for low-income families.
9. Most people are unhappy when the government gives _____s to large corporations.
10. The provincial governments _____ the cost of university education.
11. It costs money to _____ a house or a car, especially if it is old.
12. In a condominium, the owner is responsible for the _____ of the inside of the dwelling but not usually the outside.
13. When it is time to sell, a well-_____ car gets more money than a car that has not been looked after.
14. If a criminal surrenders to the police _____, he or she usually gets a lesser sentence than if the police have to spend a lot of time and money finding him or her.
15. _____ service in your community is a good way to meet people, learn new skills, and sometimes even find a job.

16. Gift shops in hospitals are most often staffed by _____.

17. If you had some free time, where would you like to _____?

D. DISCUSSION TOPICS

- » Spending taxpayers' money on the arts is sometimes controversial, especially when the economy is weak. Some say the arts are a luxury while others say that they are essential for ensuring a quality of life that one does not get from work alone. What is your opinion and why?
- » In both the arts and in sports, there are participants and spectators. In the arts, the spectator sits in the audience or goes to galleries to look at the work of the artist, while the artist acts in the plays, creates the artwork, or dances the ballet. Do you prefer to participate or spectate, and which of the arts are your favourites?
- » Canada is a very large country, and it is also very diverse. Some people never travel to the other side of the country and experience how different it is from where they live themselves. This is one reason that the federal government funds CBC—so that people can learn about the rest of the country through their quality television programs and radio shows. A TV drama called *Heartland*, for example, shows the rest of the country what it is like to live on a ranch in the foothills west of Calgary. Some people complain that our tax dollars should not be spent on entertainment. Other people love to watch this show every Sunday evening. What is your opinion?
- » We live in a country with two founding nations, so we place a value on our English-French bilingual status. However, people who come here from other countries wonder why it is sometimes difficult to get government funding for heritage-language television and radio programs and other culture-specific programs. What are your thoughts on multicultural programming?
- » Provinces want to administer their own education but this is sometimes a problem for children who move from one province to another, especially if they do so often. There is little to no correspondence among the provincial curricula so students who move either repeat work they have already done, or get lost because the new school is far ahead of where they were in their old school. Some argue for a more national curriculum. What do you think is best and why?