

Vocabulary Exercises: Types of Organizations

These vocabulary exercises provide several ways to practice the Academic Word List (AWL) vocabulary in *English Detective 13*, as well as review some other AWL and general words.

There are several paragraphs discussing types of organizations (and some related word meanings). Choose the best word from the vocabulary above each paragraph group to fill in the gaps (spaces). The second type of exercise is called Odd One Out. (See that section for an explanation.)

Fill-in the Blank Vocabulary Exercises

adapt, circumstances, contribute, crucial, flexible, founded, priority, promote

People form organizations for many purposes: to do business, to spend time with like-minded people, to share interests or _____ a cause or even try to change the world. In the U.S. and many other countries, non-profit organizations, also called NGOs (non-governmental organizations) fill an important place.

They are usually _____ and run by ordinary citizens who see a problem or opportunity in their society that they want to help with. They meet many needs that governments cannot meet (or don't meet so well.) They provide opportunities for civic-minded people to _____ to their society and to take action on the problems that seem _____ to them, even if the society or government is not ready to make those issues a _____.

NGOs can also be more _____ than governments. They can _____ to changing _____ or respond quickly to passing opportunities since they do not have to wait for political or bureaucratic approval before taking any action.

contrast, institute, institutionalize, institutions, solely, sphere, welfare

There are many types of non-profit organizations, some concerned _____ or principally with one issue and others with a broader focus. There are educational, artistic, philanthropic, environmental, and social _____ associations. There are organizations devoted to almost any imaginable _____ of interest.

In _____ to many of the smaller non-profit organizations, _____ are major organizations like banks, universities, and hospitals. (The word has several other meanings, including a society's most important traditions.) To _____ someone is to put them into a mental hospital where they can be closely supervised. To _____ a new procedure is to set it up and establish it.

administrative, fees, incompatible, invest, parameters, principal, purchase, subsidies

Many institutions (as well as some smaller NGOs) may receive government _____ to help pay for their services to the community or nation. Donors who believe in an organization's cause may give large sums of money, and volunteers _____ their time. Organizations may also hold fund-raisers or charge membership _____ to generate additional income to _____ buildings or supplies, pay expenses and _____ salaries (unless the entire staff is volunteers), or to support their cause.

Most organizations have a governing document like a charter or constitution that gives guidelines for their operation and states the _____ purpose for which they exist. The charter also sets _____ that define and limit the activities they will pursue, avoiding apparent or actual _____ purposes.

exclude, guidelines, instance, principally, regulate, sex, status

Governments may also _____ non-profits. In the U.S. this is _____ done using the tax code. If organizations violate government _____ they may lose their tax-free non-profit _____. One set of these guidelines forbids discrimination on the basis of _____, race, or several other factors. For _____, American organizations may not arbitrarily _____ all men or all women simply because of their sex, nor may they deny membership to people based on sexual orientation, race, or national origin.

Odd one out:

Three of the four words in each group are closely related in meaning. The fourth is not. (It may be an antonym to them or just unrelated.) Think about what meaning connects any three of the words, and then choose the odd word that does not belong with the others.

1. guidelines, parameters, rules, opportunities
2. instance, occurrence, rule, illustration
3. appropriate, related, incompatible, congruent
4. only, sole, exclusive, multiple
5. apparently, seemingly, definitely, supposedly
6. civil, polite, rude, well-mannered
7. civil, public, military, political
8. the (principal, subordinate, predominant, outstanding) feature
9. contrast, difference, similarity, variation
10. flexibility, adaptability, rigidity, pliability
11. infrastructure, framework, base, superstructure
12. files, documents, illustrations, records
13. somewhat, completely, partially, moderately

Answers

adapt, circumstances, contribute, crucial, flexible, founded, priority, promote

People form organizations for many purposes: to do business, to spend time with like-minded people, to share interests or promote a cause or even try to change the world. In the U.S. and many other countries, non-profit organizations, also called NGOs (non-governmental organizations) fill an important place.

They are usually founded and run by ordinary citizens who see a problem or opportunity in their society that they want to help with. They meet many needs that governments cannot meet (or don't meet so well.) They provide opportunities for civic-minded people to contribute to their society and to take action on the problems that seem crucial to them, even if the society or government is not ready to make those issues a priority.

NGOs can also be more flexible than governments. They can adapt to changing circumstances or respond quickly to passing opportunities since they do not have to wait for political or bureaucratic approval before taking any action.

contrast, institute, institutionalize, institutions, solely, sphere, welfare

There are many types of non-profit organizations, some concerned solely or principally with one issue and others with a broader focus. There are educational, artistic, philanthropic, environmental, and social welfare associations. There are organizations devoted to almost any imaginable sphere of interest.

In contrast to many of the smaller non-profit organizations, institutions are major organizations like banks, universities, and hospitals. (The word has several other meanings, including a society's most important traditions.) To institutionalize someone is to put them into a mental hospital where they can be closely supervised. To institute a new procedure is to set it up and establish it.

administrative, fees, incompatible, invest, parameters, principal, purchase, subsidies

Many institutions (as well as some smaller NGOs) may receive government subsidies to help pay for their services to the community or nation. Donors who believe in an organization's cause may give large sums of money, and volunteers invest their time. Organizations may also hold fund-raisers or charge membership fees to generate additional income to purchase buildings or supplies, pay expenses and administrative salaries (unless the entire staff is volunteers), or to support their cause.

Most organizations have a governing document like a charter or constitution that gives guidelines for their operation and states the principal purpose for which they exist. The charter also sets parameters that define and limit the activities they will pursue, avoiding apparent or actual incompatible purposes.

exclude, guidelines, instance, principally, regulate, sex, status

Governments may also regulate non-profits. In the U.S. this is principally done using the tax code. If organizations violate government guidelines they may lose their tax-free non-profit status. One set of these guidelines forbids discrimination on the basis of sex, race, or several other factors. For instance, American organizations may not arbitrarily exclude all men or all women simply because of their sex, nor may they deny membership to people based on sexual orientation, race, or national origin.

Odd one out:

Three of the four words in each group are closely related in meaning. The fourth is not. (It may be an antonym to them or just unrelated.) Think about what meaning connects any three of the words, and then choose the odd word that does not belong with the others.

1. opportunities
2. rule
3. incompatible
4. multiple
5. definitely
6. rude
7. military
8. subordinate
9. similarity
10. rigidity
11. superstructure
12. illustrations
13. completely