

UNIT 3

Patriotism

Prof. Abdul Majeed Khan (1960)

Students Learning Outcomes:

On the completion of this unit, the students will be able to:

- read silently with comprehension and extract main idea and supporting details.
- write a persuasive essay.
- demonstrate conventions and dynamics of group discussion.
- locate appropriate synonyms and antonyms in a thesaurus.

Pre-reading:

- What do you understand by patriotism?

Having or expressing love for one's country is what we call patriotism. In other words it means **devotion**, loyalty and commitment to one's country. It is a noble sentiment which is essential for the integrity and solidarity of a country. A man who lacks this sentiment is nothing short of a dead soul.

Patriotism is not a mere love for an area of land but it is the ideology of the people living in that land; and patriotism is loyalty to that **ideology**. True patriotism is not confined to the **defence** of the country; it also appears to show off its strength in peace time. Patriotism provokes the people to do something great for the country. It motivates them to offer sacrifices for her. It spurs them to make concerted efforts for the progress and prosperity of their country.

Patriotism inspires a man to **contribute** to the country. It develops in him a sense of brotherhood, cooperation and sympathy for the countrymen. A patriot feels proud of his country and countrymen. However, a true patriot should never hate other countries because true patriotism teaches to love and respect other countries as well.

Patriotism is actually a spirit which arouses the passion of love, unity and sense of cooperation among the people, which, in turn, makes them a

dynamic force, that can push the ship of their country through any tempest or typhoon.

The love for one's land is just one aspect of patriotism. A child born in a certain land is liable to **develop** love for it, no matter how much it is barren and void of greenery. Patriotism is a natural instinct which compels a man to lay down his life for his country. George Bernard Shaw says, "Patriotism is your conviction that this country is superior to all other countries because you were born in it." That's why we instinctively love our motherland the most in comparison to the rest of the world.

There is a type of patriotism, which we may call destructive or blind patriotism. Oscar Wilde says, "Patriotism is the virtue of the vicious." We know how the fascist **regime** of vicious Hitler exploited the passion of patriotism of German nation for the destruction of the world. Vicious patriotism is against the teachings of Islam. Islam emphasizes on equality of all human beings. Hazrat Muhammad (ﷺ) said, "No Arab is superior to Non-Arab and no Non-Arab is superior to Arab. No white man is superior to black man and no black man is superior to white man. All the human beings are the off-springs of Adam and Adam was created out of clay."

These sayings of Hazrat Muhammad (ﷺ) clearly propound the theory of international brotherhood and negate the philosophy over of narrow nationalism based on the concept of superiority of one nation all other nations on the basis of colour, race or any other consideration. The sentiment of vicious patriotism has also been condemned by Henry Emerson Fosdick in these words, "He is a poor patriot whose patriotism does not enable him to understand how all men everywhere feel about their altars and their hearth stones, their flag and their fatherland."

Buddha has also said in this regard, "To him in whom love dwells, the whole world is but one family." True patriotism is one of the noblest virtues. A true **patriot** is the one who loves other nations as well and loves to develop friendship with them and hates the idea of **war**. However, if any vicious force invades his country, he, willingly rather passionately, defends his country

and never hesitates in laying down his life while defending her. A true patriot is he who considers himself as the citizen of the world, desirous of peace for the whole world and sensitive to the plight and miseries of other peoples. Ameer Miraal has beautifully explained the virtue of a true patriot in such words, "My heart aches when dagger is pointed at somebody. All the pains of the world are in my heart."

About the Author

Abdul Majeed Khan (1960) has been associated with teaching profession since 1981, in the capacity of JET, SET and Associate Professor. He has translated various textbooks into English and compiled many notebooks and grammar books up to B.Sc level.



Reading and Thinking Skills

1. Answer the following questions.

- How do you explain patriotism?
- What kind of sense does patriotism develop in a patriot?
- What is vicious patriotism?
- How does a true patriot contribute to the development of his / her country?
- What does Islam say about patriotism?
- Does patriotism require the belief that one's country is the greatest on earth? Discuss.

2. Mark the sentences as true or false.

- Patriotism means devotion and loyalty to one's country.
- Patriotism is a mere love for an area of land.
- A true patriot should never hate other countries.
- A true patriot is desirous of peace for the whole world.
- A patriot is always ready to sacrifice his/her life for the defence of his country.

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3. Fill in the blanks.

- i) Patriotism is a noble sentiment which is essential for the and solidarity of a country.
(a) integrity (b) honesty
(c) morality (d) sincerity
- ii) A true patriot wishes to have in his country.
(a) war (b) peace
(c) piece (d) harmony
- iii) Patriotism provokes the people to do something for the country.
(a) huge (b) greet
(c) great (d) grand
- iv) Oscar Wilde says, "Patriotism is the of the vicious."
(a) merit (b) result
(c) value (d) virtue
- v) A true patriot considers himself of the world.
(a) citizen (b) person
(c) part (d) portion

4. Re-read the unit "Patriotism" and extract main idea / theme, and the detailed information in support of the main idea.

Writing Skills

Persuasive Essay

What is it?

This is the type of essay where you try to convince the reader to adopt your position on an issue or point of view.

Here your rationale, your argument, is most important. You are presenting an opinion and trying to persuade readers; you want to win readers over to your point of view.

What are its most important qualities?

- Have a definite point of view.
- Maintain the reader's interest.
- Use sound reasoning.
- Use solid evidence.
- Be aware of your intended audience. How can you win them over?
- Research your topic so your evidence is convincing.
- Don't get so sentimental or so passionate that you lose the reader.
- Your purpose is to convince someone else so don't overdo your language and don't bore the reader. And don't keep repeating your points.
- Remember the rules of the good paragraph. One single topic per paragraph and natural progression from one to the next.
- End with a strong conclusion.

Activity

Write a persuasive essay on "Corruption leads to destruction" keeping in mind the above mentioned points.

Oral Communication

Activity

Work in groups of five to ten students. Select a topic of your choice. Discuss it in the group.

Follow these steps:

- i) Brainstorm your ideas.
- ii) Make an outline of your ideas.
- iii) Each student should be given opportunity to present his/her opinion clearly.
- iv) Support or prove your opinion with reasons and examples.
- v) Be polite while presenting your opinion.
- vi) At the end, conclude your discussion.

Infinitive

The basic form of a verb, without an inflection, binding it to a particular subject or tense, that usually functions as a noun or modifier.

Note:- Infinitive functions as a noun, an adjective or an adverb but not as a main verb.

- Examples:**
- i) I want to explain that theory. (as a noun)
 - ii) The inspector came to check the dam. (as an adverb)
 - iii) The kind of flowers to plant are tulips. (as an adjective)

Infinitive Phrases

An infinitive phrase includes the infinitive, plus any modifier and complement.

Note:- Just like infinitives, infinitive phrases also function like nouns, adjectives or adverbs in a sentence.

- Examples:**
- i) Saima wants to sing a song.
(*to sing a song* is an infinitive phrase used as a noun).
 - ii) Faheem went to buy fruits. (as an adverb)
 - iii) Here is a laundry to wash clothes. (as an adjective)

Activity

Use the following infinitives and infinitive phrases in your own sentences by highlighting their different functions.

to protect, to achieve, to become educated,
to vote, to take a walk, to climb,
to teach English, to please everyone,
to buy groceries, to resign.

Thesaurus

A thesaurus is a book that contains many synonyms, or words that have the same or nearly the same meanings. Entry words in a thesaurus are listed in alphabetical order. Thesauruses generally contain antonyms as well. Antonyms are the words that have opposite or nearly opposite meanings.

Examples:

Synonyms of **happy**: cheerful, joyful, blissful

Antonyms of **dirty**: clean, cleansed, stainless

Activity

Work in groups of five to ten students. Each student in the group should choose one of the bold words from the unit and use a thesaurus to find a synonym and an antonym. Write one sentence using the synonym. Then write a second sentence using the antonym.