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**English 12:** Global Leadership

*Anthem* – Philosophical Concepts

**Objectives:** The purpose of this chart is for you to keep track of the main concepts in the novel, *Anthem*. Since these concepts are mostly philosophical, the definitions have been provided.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Term** | **Definition/Explanation** | **Illustrations in Anthem** |
| **Collectivism** | “Collectivism means the subjugation of the individual to a group – whether to race, class, or state does not matter. Collectivism holds that man must be chained to a collective action and collective thought for the sake of what is called ‘the common good’” (Lexicon 74). | * “We are one in all and all in one. There are no men but only the great WE, One, indivisible and forever” (14). |
| **Individualism** | “Individualism regards man – every man – as an independent, sovereign entity who possesses an inalienable right to his own life, a right derived from his nature as a rational being. Individualism holds that a civilized society…can be achieved only on the basis of the recognition of individual rights – and that a group, as such, has no rights other than the individual rights of its members” (Lexicon 218). |  |
| **Altruism** | “The basic principle of altruism is that man has no right to exist for his own sake, that service to others is the only justification of his existence, and that self-sacrifice is his highest moral duty, virtue, and value . . . which means: the self as a standard of evil, the selfless as a standard of the good” (Lexicon, 4). |  |
| **Egoism** | “Egoism states that each man’s primary moral obligation is to achieve his own welfare, well-being, or self-interest . . . He should be‘selfish’ in the sense of being the beneficiary of his own moral actions (Glossary 12). |  |
| **Conformity** | “The act or habit of bringing [oneself] into harmony or agreement with others; of adhering to conventional behavior” (Webster’s 149). |  |
| **Obedience** | “Complying with a command; yielding to those in authority” (Webster’s 533). |  |
| **Independence** | “One’s acceptance of the responsibility of forming one’s own judgments and of living by the work of one’s own mind . . . is the virtue of independence” (Glossary 23). |  |

Glossary = *Glossary of Definitions by Ayn Rand*. Edited by Allison T. Kunze and Jean F. Moroney. (Second Renaissance Books, 1999).

Lexicon = *The Ayn Rand Lexicon*. Edited by Harry Binswanger. (Meridian Books, 1986).