

Glossary

Glossary

The Glossary will help you to pronounce and understand the meanings of the vocabulary terms in this book. The page number at the end of the definition tells where the term first appears.

Pronunciation Key

a	at	i	ice	u	up	th	thin
ā	ape	î	pierce	û	use	th	this
ä	far	o	hot	ü	rule	zh	measure
âr	care	ô	old	ú	pull	ə	about·taken·
e	end	ô	fork	ûr	turn		pencil·lemon·
ê	me	oi	oil	hw	white		circus
i	it	ou	out	ng	song		

A

adapt (ə dapt') To change the way you live. (p. 19)

ancestor (an' ses tər) An early member of a family who came before you, such as a great-grandparent. (p. 133)

architecture (är' ki tek'chər) The art or science of designing and making buildings. (p. 110)

artifact (är' ti fakt) Something that was made or used by people in the past. (p. 53)

assembly line (ə sem' blē līn) A line of workers performing a certain task. (p. 91)

B

bar graph (bär graf) A graph that uses bars to show information. (p. 84)

barter (bär' tər) To trade things without using money. (p. 53)

bill (bil) A written idea for a law. (p. 231)

Bill of Rights (bil uv rīts) The first ten changes to the Constitution that protect the rights of citizens. (p. 223)

budget (buj'it) A plan for using money. (p. 157)

C

capital (kap'i təl) A city where a country or a state has its government. (p. 6)

capital resource (kap'i təl rē' sôrs) The tools, machines, and factories people use to produce goods. (p. 165)

capitol (kap' i təl) The building in which the state or national government meets. (p. 207)

cardinal directions (kär'də nal di rek'shəns) The directions north, east, south, and west. (p. 10)

century (sen'chərə) One hundred years. (p. 68)

citizen (sit'izən) A person who is a member of a community, state, or country. (p. 197)

colony (kol'ənē) A place that is ruled by another country. (p. 61)

common good (kəm'ən gŭd) What is best for the most people. (p. 222)

community (kə mŭ'ni tē) A place where people live, work, and play. (p. 5)

commute (kə mŭt') To travel a distance to and from work. (p. 16)

constitution (kən stə tü' shən) A written plan of government. (p. 66)

consumer (kən sŭ' mər) A person who buys a good or uses a service. (p. 150)

cooperate (kō ə pə rāt) To work together. (p. 186)

council (sit'i koun'səl) The branch of local government that makes laws. (p. 216)

culture (kul' chər) A way of life shared by a group of people. (p. 53)

custom (kus'təm) A way of doing something that is shared by many people. (p. 103)

D

dam (dam) A wall built across a stream or river that holds back and controls the water. (p. 37)

decade (dek' ād) Ten years. (p. 68)

degree (di grē') A unit of measuring distance on Earth's surface. (p. 138)

demand (di mand') The number of people who want certain goods or services. (p. 168)

discrimination (di skrim'i nā' shən) An unfair difference in the way people are treated. (p. 83)

diverse (di vŭrs) Not all the same. (p. 109)

domestic trade (də mes' tik trād) Trade that takes place within the borders of a country. (p. 184)

E

economy (i kon'ə mē) The way a place uses its money, goods, natural resources, and services. (p. 152)

ecosystem (ē' kō sis' təm) A community of living and nonliving things in a certain area. (p. 40)

elevator (el'ə vā tər) A machine that moves people and things up and down in a building. (p. 89)

employee (em ploī' ē) Someone who gets paid to work for a person or a business. (p. 149)

environment (en vī' rən mənt) The air, water, land, and other things that surround animals, people, and plants. (p. 32)

equator (i kwā'tər) An imaginary line around Earth halfway between the North Pole and the South Pole. (p. 76)

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ethnic group • income

ethnic group (eth'nik grüp) A group of people that shares the same language and culture. (p. 109)

executive branch (eg zek'ü tiv branch) The part of government that carries out laws. (p. 198)

expense (ek spens') Something people spend money on to buy or to do. (p. 157)

explorer (ek splôr'är) A person who goes to a new place to find out about it. (p. 71)

export (ek spört') To send goods out of a country to be sold. (p. 179)

F

factory (fak'tärē) A place where things are manufactured. (p. 173)

festival (fes'tävəl) A celebration. (p. 7)

flow chart (flō chärt) A chart that shows the different steps necessary to complete a process. (p. 204)

founder (found'er) A person who starts something, such as a business or a town. (p. 125)

frontier (frun tîr) The far edge of a country where new people are just beginning to settle. (p. 71)

G

generation (jen'ärä shn) A group of people born and living around the same time. (p. 103)

geography (jē og'räfē) The study of Earth and the way people and animals live on it. (p. 5)

governor (guv'är nər) The person elected to be in charge of the state government. (p. 207)

graph (graf) A drawing that shows information, such as the relationship between two things. (p. 84)

grid (grid) Lines that cross each other on a map. (p. 138)

H

hemisphere (hem'is fir) One half of Earth or another sphere. (p. 76)

heritage (her'itij) Something handed down from the past. (p. 103)

hero (hîr ō) Someone you respect because of his or her achievements or personal qualities. (p. 117)

holiday (hol'idä) A day on which people or events are honored and celebrated. (p. 130)

human resource (hyü män rē sôrs) A person who works for a business. (p. 165)

I

immigrant (im'igrant) A person who comes from one country to live in another. (p. 80)

import (im pôrt') To bring in goods made or grown in another country. (p. 178)

income (in'kum) Money someone receives for working. (p. 157)

REF2

industry • natural resource

industry (in' də strē) A special type of business that makes things or provides a service. (p. 79)

intermediate directions (in tər mēd'dē it di rek'shəns) A direction halfway between two cardinal directions. (p. 10)

international trade (in tər nash'ə nəl trād) Trade between different countries. (p. 182)

interstate highway (in tər stāt hī'wā') A road that connects two or more states. (p. 212)

J

judicial branch (jū dish' əl brānch) The part of government that decides if laws are fair and follow the Constitution. (p. 199)

jury (jūr'ē) A group of citizens chosen to hear the facts in a case that has been brought before a court of law, and to make a decision based on the facts and the law. (p. 222)

L

landform (land' fōrm) The shapes of Earth's surface. (p. 19)

latitude (lat' i tüd) A measure of distance north or south of the equator. (p. 138)

legislative branch (lej'is lā tiv brānch) The part of government that writes and passes laws. (p. 199)

levee (le' vē) A long wall made of dirt or concrete built next to a river or a lake to prevent flooding. (p. 39)

line graph (līn graf) A graph that shows information that changes over time. (p. 170)

local government (lō'kəl guv'ərn mənt) A group of people who run a town or city. (p. 215)

longitude (lon' ji tüd) A measure of distance east or west of the prime meridian. (p. 138)

M

manufacture (man yə fak' chər) To make a product using machines, often in large amounts. (p. 91)

map scale (map skāl) The measurement a map uses to show the real distance between places on Earth. (p. 26)

mayor (mā'ər) The head of a local government. (p. 215)

migration (mī grā' shən) Movement from one part of the country to another. (p. 82)

mineral (min'ər əl) A natural resource that is not a plant or an animal. (p. 29)

N

natural resource (nach'ər əl rē' sōrs) A material found in nature that people use. (p. 23)

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nonprofit • slavery

nonprofit (non prof'it) Something that does not make money. (p. 230)

nonrenewable resource (non ri nü' ə bəl rē'sôrs) A natural resource that cannot be replaced. (p. 30)

O

opportunity cost (op' ər tū' ni tē kôst) The value of the next best choice when you choose one thing instead of another. (p. 161)

P

Patriot (pā'trē ət) A colonist who supported independence. (p. 65)

pioneer (pi' nīr') The first of a group of people to settle in an area. (p. 71)

plain (plān) An area of flat or almost flat land. (p. 20)

plateau (plā tō') An area of flat land higher than the land around it. (p. 21)

primary source (pri' mer ē sôrs) A firsthand account of events. (pp. 74, 105, 158, 202)

prime meridian (prīm mə rid' ē ən) An imaginary line that runs from the North Pole to the South Pole through Greenwich, England. (p. 76)

producer (pro dii' sər) Someone who makes, grows, or supplies goods or services. (p. 150)

profit (prof'it) The money a business makes after paying for tools, employees, and other costs. (p. 151)

R

recycle (rē sī' kəl) To reuse a product and turn it into something that can be used again. (p. 34)

region (rē jən) An area with common features that set it apart from other areas. (p. 20)

reservoir (rez'ər vwär) A place to store water. (p. 37)

revolution (rev' ə lü' shən) A fight that often leads to the end of one government and the beginning of a new one. (p. 65)

road map (rōd map) A map that shows roads. (p. 212)

rural (rü'e'əl) Of or about an area that is far from a city and has farms or open country. (p. 15)

S

savings account (sā vingz ə kaunt) Money a person keeps in a bank that pays interest. (p. 162)

scarcity (skär' si tē) A shortage of goods and services that are available. (p. 168)

settler (set' lər) A person who moves to find land. (p. 56)

skyscraper (ski'skrā pər) A very tall building. (p. 89)

slavery (slä' vərə) Forcing people to work without pay and without freedom. (p. 59)

REF4

sovereign • year

sovereign (sov' ərin) Independent; not controlled by others. (p. 219)

specialize (spesh' ə līz) To make one thing very well. (p. 176)

sphere (sfīr) A round object like a ball. (p. 76)

state highway (stāt hī' wā') A road that begins and finishes inside a state. (p. 212)

suburb (sub' ūrb) A community near a large city. (p. 14)

supply (sə plī') The amount of goods or services that are available. (p. 168)

T

tax (taks) Money paid to a government for services. (p. 62)

territory (ter' i tōr' ē) An area of land owned by a country. (p. 72)

time line (tīm līn) A list that tells the order of important events. (p. 68)

tradition (trə dish' ən) A custom handed down from the past. (p. 133)

transcontinental (trans kon tə nen' təl) Crossing an entire continent. (p. 87)

transportation (trans par tā' shən) A way of getting from one place to another. (p. 16)

U

urban (ūr' bən) Relating to a city and its surrounding communities. (p. 13)

V

value (val' yū) An idea that people in a culture care about and think is important. (p. 117)

volunteer (vol' ən tīr') A person who chooses to do something without getting paid. (p. 229)

Y

year (yīr) Any period of 12 months. (p. 68)