**Skills and Tasks**

**interpret**: explain the meaning of (information, words, or actions).

**conclude:** arrive at a judgment or opinion by reasoning.

**analyze**: discover or reveal (something) through detailed examination.

**contrast:** compare in such a way as to emphasize differences.

**justify**: show or prove to be right or reasonable.

**evaluate:** to judge or determine the significance, worth, or quality of; assess:

**explain:** make (an idea, situation, or problem) clear to someone by describing it in more detail or revealing relevant facts or ideas.

**describe:** give an account in words of (someone or something), including all the relevant characteristics, qualities, or events.

**infer:** conclude (information) from evidence and reasoning rather than from explicit statements.

**Social Studies Academic Vocabulary**

**A**

**Absolute Location** – the exact position on the globe using addresses, grid coordinates, or the imaginary lines of longitude and latitude

**Adapt** – to change or tailor something to fit, humans change their environment or their way of doing something to fit their current needs or goals.

**Advertising** – information provided to encourage the purchase or use of a good, service or idea by emphasizing its positive qualities.

**Agriculture** –the science or practice of farming, including cultivation of the soil for the growing of crops and the rearing of animals to provide food, wool, and other products.

**Allegiance** – devotion or loyalty.

**Alliance** – a union or association formed for mutual benefit, especially between countries or organizations.

**Allocation** – To distribute according to a plan

**Altitude** – the height of a thing above sea level or above the earth's surface.

**Amnesty** - a general pardon granted by a government, especially for political offenses.

**Anarchy** - Absence of any form of political authority. A state of lawlessness, confusion, and disorder (usually resulting from a failure of government.)

**Ancient history** – history of people living from the beginnings of human society through 300 CE

**Apartheid** – policy of separation of the races enforced by law

**Arbitration** – settlement of a dispute by the decision of a judge, umpire or committee.

**Anthropology** – the comparative study of human societies and cultures and their development

**Archeology** – the study of human history and prehistory through the excavation of sites and the analysis of artifacts and other physical remains.

**Artifact** – things made by humans, and used by archaeologists and historians to recreate

a picture of the past.

**Artisan** – a worker in a skilled trade, especially one that involves making things by hand

**Authority** – right to control or direct the actions of others, legitimized by law, morality, custom, or consent.

**B**

**Bar Graph** – a means of displaying data using the length of “bars” to represent the

values of the data being displayed.

**Barter** – the direct trading of goods and services between people without the use of money.

**Beliefs** – opinions about what is considered to be true and trustworthy.

**Benefits** – something of value, a benefit can be tangible like a gift or money, or intangible like satisfaction.

**Bias** – prejudice in favor of or against one thing, person, or group compared with another, usually in a way considered to be unfair.

**Bigotry** – intolerance and prejudice; obstinate and unreasoning attachment to one's own belief and opinions, with narrow-minded intolerance of beliefs opposed to them

**Biography** – a narrative account of a person’s life.

**Biome** – a major regional or global biotic community, such as a grassland or desert, characterized chiefly by the dominant forms of plant life and prevailing climate.

**Bipartisan** - supported by members of two parties, especially two major political parties

**Boundary** – the limit or extent within which a system exists or functions, including a social group, at state, or physical feature.

**C**

**Calendar** – a table showing the days, weeks, and months of at least one specific year.

**Campaign (political)** – noun; the overall effort a candidate makes to win votes through speeches, press conferences, and advertising.

**Campaigns (political)** –verb; activities planned to achieve a certain goal as in electing a candidate or establishing a public policy.

**Campaign (military)** - a series of military operations intended to achieve a particular objective, confined to a particular area, or involving a specified type of fighting.

**Capital –** cash, goods, natural resources, or human skills that are used to produce income.

**Capital Equipment** – manufactured equipment used in the production of goods and services.

**Capital Resources** – goods made by people and used to produce other goods and services (also called intermediate goods).

**Capitalism** – economic system characterized by the following: private property ownership exists; individuals and companies are allowed to compete for their own economic gain; and free market forces determine the prices of goods and services.

**Capitol** -a group of buildings in which the functions of state government are carried out

**Causation** - the relationship between cause and effect; causality.

**Census** - an official, usually periodic enumeration of a population, often including the collection of related demographic information. As required by the Constitution, the census of the population of the United States takes place every 10 years.

**Centralization** - the process by which the activities of an organization, particularly those regarding planning and decision-making, become concentrated within a particular [location](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Location_(geography)) and/or group or keeping all of the important decision making powers within head office or the center of the organization

**Century** – one hundred years.

**Checks and Balances** – constitutional mechanisms that authorize each branch of government to share powers with the other branches and thereby check their activities. For example, the president may veto legislation passed by Congress, the Senate must confirm major executive appointments, and the courts may declare acts of Congress unconstitutional.

**Chronological order** – arranged in order of time occurrence.

**Circle Graph/ Pie Chart** – used to display data that adds up to 100%

**Circular Flow** – the flow of money from businesses to households and government, from households to businesses and government, and from government to households and business.

**Citizen’s responsibilities and conduct** – actions expected of citizens in their daily conduct such as upholding the values and principles of the Constitution, obeying the law, voting and participating in the civic life of the community.

**Citizenship** – status of being a member of a nation, one who owes allegiance to the government and is entitled to its protection and to political rights.

**City-state** - A self-governing city, often with surrounding lands it governs.

**Civil court** – the place where disputes between people, or between people and the government are resolved

**Civilization** – the type of culture and society developed by a particular nation or region or in a particular epoch: The ways in which people organize themselves.

**Climate** – the temperature, precipitation, winds, etc. that characterize a region. Long-term trends in weather elements and atmospheric conditions.

**Colony** -a country or area under the full or partial political control of another country, typically a distant one, and occupied by settlers from that country.

**Command Economies** – an economy in which the government makes the decisions about what, where, how and how much is produced and finally who will get what is produced.

**Common Good** – involves individual citizens having the commitment and motivation (that they accept as their obligation) to promote the welfare of the community (even if they must sacrifice their own time, personal preferences or money) to work together with other members for the greater benefit of all.

**Communism** – a political theory derived from Karl Marx, advocating class war and leading to a society in which all property is publicly owned and each person works and is paid according to their abilities and needs.

**Communication** – the exchange of thoughts messages and or information.

**Community** – a group of people living in the same locality and under the same government.

**Competitive Markets** – markets with many buyers and sellers where not one person or firm controls prices or the number of products for sale.

**Complementary Goods** – goods that are jointly consumed. The consumption of one enhances the consumption of the other (examples hot dogs/hotdog buns; left shoe/right shoe; snow skis and snow clothing).

**Compromise** - an agreement or a settlement of a dispute that is reached by each side making concessions

**Conflict** – an open clash between two opposing groups, individuals, or nations regarding an ideology or a course of action.

**Conflict and cooperation** – a recurring theme of social studies that represents the opportunities for people in communities, nations, regions or worldwide to engage in activities in which they openly clash with one another while retaining the capacity at other times to work together towards accomplishing common goals.

**Consensus** – a point reached in a negotiation where a general agreement of all or most of the people consulted is achieved

**Constitution** – the system of fundamental laws and principles that prescribes the nature, functions, and limits of a government or another institution.

**Constitutional guarantee –** the promises or assurances given to the people of the nation in their written constitution, which cannot be taken away without the due process of law.

**Consumer –** a customer who buys the products or services a business produces.

**Consumer Credit –** ability to buy goods or services now and pay later by installment payments.

**Consumer Goods –** items that are made for final consumption (i.e., not used by business to produce other goods or services)

**Consumer Spending –** purchase of consumer goods and services.

**Consumption** - the using up of a resource

**Contemporary factors** – something that belongs to the same time period as the event, which contributes causally to the event, like the present efficiency and abundance in the production of wheat in the United States allows us to sell wheat to other countries who need it.

**Continent** - one of seven large landmasses on the Earth, which separates the oceans

**Corporation** – an organization of people legally bound together by a charter to conduct some type of business.

**Costs** – the total money, time and resources associated with a purchase or activity.

**Costs of Production** – all resources used in producing goods and services, for which their owners receive payment.

**Country** – a sovereign nation.

**County** – the largest territorial division of a state.

**Coup d’ etat** - the sudden overthrow of a government by usually a small group of persons in or previously in positions of authority

**Crimes against humanity** – actions that are agreed to be so universally abhorrent that they are determined to be unacceptable by all people regardless of culture and for which people seek to have the perpetrators punished on behalf of humanity.

**Criminal court** – the place where cases are heard for those accused of breaking a law

**Criminal procedure** – a set of established steps taken when the government is preparing a criminal prosecution to bring a person accused of breaking a law to trial, which includes due process for the accused.

**Crusade** - a vigorous concerted movement for a cause or against an abuse.

**Culture** -

* the values, beliefs and perceptions of the world that are learned and are shared by members of a community or society, and which they use to interpret experience and to generate behavior, and that are reflected in their own behavior
* learned behavior of people, which includes their belief systems and languages, their social relationships, their institutions and organizations, and their material goods (food, clothing, buildings, tools, and machines).

**Cultural diffusion** – the spread of linguistic or cultural practices or innovations (including ideas and beliefs) within a culture or from one culture to another.

**Cultural geography** – the study of how people use space and interact with their environment.

**Cultural stability and change** – an important theme in social studies, particularly in geography and history, which addresses how different societies maintain the stability of their culture and how they deal with the inevitable difficulties associated with change as a result of interactions with other cultures or changes in prevailing values.

**Cultural Relativism** – the idea that each culture’s features should be understood in terms of that culture’s history, environment, values, and views of its people, and that it is ethnocentric or biased, as well as uninformed, to judge another culture by the standards of one’s own culture.

**Cuneiform** - denoting or relating to the wedge-shaped characters used in the ancient writing systems impressed on clay tablets

**Currency** – paper money with a specified value, issued by the government or a central bank.

**D**

**Decade** – ten years.

**Deflation** – a decline in general price levels, often caused by a reduction in the supply of money or credit.

**Deforestation** – the clearing or destruction of forests, generally for the purposes of timber extraction, agricultural expansion, cattle raising and in drier climates an increase demand for firewood.

**Demagogue** - a political leader who seeks support by appealing to popular desires and prejudices rather than by using rational argument.

**Demand** – the desire and ability of individuals to purchase economic goods or services at the market price; along with supply, one of the two key determinants of price.

**Democracy** – a system of government in which political authority is held by the people; typically feature constitutional governments where the majority rules, a belief in individual liberty and in equal rights for all people, freedom of expression, political freedom, and freedom of choice.

**Demography** – the study that emphasizes statistics to look at human population distribution, population density, and trends in population

**Demographic** - a particular sector of a population (ex: age, gender, race, socioeconomic status, family size, etc).

**Dictator** – a ruler with total power over a country, typically one who has obtained power by force.

**Discrimination** -

* treatment or consideration of, or making a distinction in favor of or against, a person or thing based on the group, class, or category to which that person or thing belongs rather than on individual merit
* the unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people or things, especially on the grounds of race, age, or sex.

**Disparities** – lack of equality; great difference

**Dispute -** a disagreement or argument about something important

**Distributor** – a firm that sells and delivers merchandise to retail stores or acts as an intermediary in business.

**Distribution** – the delivery of merchandise to retail stores.

**Diversity** – variety in culture and ethnic background, race and belief is not only permissible but also desirable and beneficial in a pluralistic society.

**Doctrine -** A principle or body of principles presented for acceptance or belief, as by a religious, political, scientific, or philosophic group.

**Domestic** – of one’s own country; not foreign.

**Domestication** - to take (something foreign, unfamiliar, etc.) for one's own use or purposes

* to tame (an animal), especially by generations of breeding, to live in close association with human beings as a pet or work animal and usually creating a dependency so that the animal loses its ability to live in the wild.
* to adapt (a plant) so as to be cultivated by and beneficial to human beings.

**Due Process of Law** – right of every citizen to be protected against arbitrary action by government; the government must use fair procedures to gather information and make decisions in order to protect the rights of individuals and the interests of society.

**Dynasty** - a line of hereditary (inherited within the same family) rulers of a country

**E**

**Economic Development** – actions taken to improve the ability of people to more productively use capital, natural and human resources in the production of goods and services.

**Economic Dispute** – a disagreement over how resources will be used.

**Economic Freedom** – the right to acquire, use, transfer and dispose of private property

without unreasonable governmental interference; the right to seek employment wherever one pleases; to change employment at will; and to engage in any lawful economic activity.

**Economic geography** – the study of how people use space and interact with their environment to answer the basic economic questions of production and distribution.

Economic Goals of Government –These will vary depending on the civilization or nation; for example: in the mixed economy of the United States government has six broad goals: **economic growth**, more and better goods and services produced; **full employment**, everyone who wants to work should have a job; **price stability**, stable prices that do not rise dramatically, **economic freedom**, individuals should be free to make their own economic decisions; **fair distribution of wealth**, an agreement in principle that it is undesirable for any group to suffer extreme poverty while others enjoy extreme wealth; and **economic security**, government aid for those who are sick, disabled, or aged.

**Economic Indicators** – the leading indicators include the money supply, stock prices, consumer expectations, commodity (raw materials, farm products) prices, the average work week, new unemployment claims, new building permits, new orders for consumer goods, new orders for capital goods, unfilled orders, and back-logged deliveries.

**Economics** – 1. having to do with the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. 2. the management of the income, supplies, and expenses of household, government, etc.

**Ecosystems (ecological system)** – a system formed by the interaction of all living organisms (plants, animals, and humans) with each other and with the physical and chemical factors of the environment in which they live.

**Elevation** - the height on the earth’s surface above or below sea level

**Emigrant** - a person who leaves their own country in order to settle permanently in another

**Empire** - an extensive group of states or countries under a single supreme authority, formerly especially an emperor or empress

**Entrepreneur** - individual who takes the risk of producing a product for a profit

**Environment** – the natural or human surrounding in which living things interact.

**Equality** – everyone should get the same treatment regardless of where their parents or grandparents were born, their race or religion, or how much money they have, citizens all have political, social, and economic equality.

**Equity** - the quality of being fair and impartial.

**Era** – a period of time in history.

**Ethical consideration** – a set of moral standards that is a factor when making decisions or judgments.

**Ethics** – standards of right and wrong; morals.

**Ethnic Group** – people who share a common cultural background, including ancestry and language.

**Ethnography** - the systematic description of a particular culture based on first-hand observation. (The person who does ethnography is called an ethnographer).

**Ethnocentrism** - looking at the world from the perspective of one's own culture; the attitude or belief that the ways of one's own culture are the best or only proper ones. Other ways are therefore judged wrong or immoral, not simply different.

**Ethnicity** - one's cultural identity (NOT biological identity).

**Exchange** – giving one thing in return for some other thing.

**Exports** – goods or services produced in one nation but sold to buyers in another nation.

**F**

**Factors of Production** – resources used by businesses to produce goods and services; natural resources, human capital, capital and entrepreneurship

**Federal** – anything pertaining to the national government, but not the state or local government.

**Fertile Crescent** - crescent-shaped region containing the comparatively moist and fertile land of otherwise arid and semi-arid Western Asia, the Nile Valley and Nile Delta of northeast Africa, it was also near Asia Minor or known as Anatolia

**Fiscal Policy** – decisions by the government usually relating to taxation and

government spending, with the goals of full employment, price stability, and economic growth.

**Five Themes of Geography –**

* **Location** – includes both absolute and relative. Absolute location: expressed in terms of the latitude and longitude identifies a place’s exact location on the earth. Relative location: describes where a place is in relation to other places.
* **Place** - Particular city, village, or area with distinctive physical and human characteristics that distinguishes it from other places.
* **Human Environment/Interaction** – How people change their surroundings like clearing land to make farms; and how people adapt to their environment like building homes with insulation and central heating in cold climates.
* **Movement** – the moving of people, ideas, information, and products around the world.
* **Region** – an area with one or more common characteristics or features, which gives it a measure of homogeneity and makes it different from surrounding areas.

**Foreign market** - when buyers and sellers from different countries make transactions, directly or via intermediaries.

**Foreign policy -** when dealing with other nations, the systematic collection of practices,regulations, and rules of procedure and conduct followed by the Federal Government.

**Free Market Economy** – an economy in which individuals decide the economic questions in the market place.

**Freedom** – being able to act without interference or control by another; right to believe in what you want, right to choose own friends, and have own ideas and opinions, to express own ideas in public, the right for people to meet in groups, the right to have any lawful job or business.

**Fundamentalism** - Fundamentalism can be broadly defined as a strict and literal adherence to a set of basic principles and specific beliefs. Although many, if not most forms of fundamentalism are religious, by no means are all religious people fundamentalists. The adherence to certain beliefs seen in fundamentalism is so strong, that the presentation of evidence that contradicts these beliefs leads to no reassessment of them, on the part of the fundamentalist.

**G**

**Genocide** – the deliberate killing or extermination of a large group of people, especially those of a particular ethnic group or nation.

**Geography** - an integrated discipline that brings together the physical and human dimensions of the world in the study of people, place, and environment focusing on the earth’s surface and the processes that shape it, the relationships between people and environments, and the connections between people and places.

**Goods** – objects that can be held or touched that can satisfy people’s wants.

**Globalization** - Refers to the many ways in which people are being drawn together not only by their own movements but also through the flow of goods/services, capital, and ideas/information. Globalization also includes the impact that increased human interactions have on the natural environment.

**Global warming** – the theory that Earth’s atmosphere is gradually warming due to the buildup of carbon dioxide in the lower atmosphere caused by human activity such as the burning of coal

**Governor** – the chief executive of a state government who is elected by the state’s voters.

**Government** – an institution that determines and enforces a society’s laws. The size and nature of a government varies according to the society it governs.

**Government Regulation** – a rule, law, statute or ordinance, through which the government monitors the use of wealth or property by individuals, groups or businesses.

**Graphic Data** – information organized in a pictorial way like a chart, graph or map.

**Greenhouse effect** – the warming of the earth caused by the buildup of carbon dioxide in the lower atmosphere, possibly as the result of human industrial activity

**Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** – the total dollar value of all final goods and services produced in a country in a given year equals the total consumer, investment and government spending, plus the value of exports minus the value of imports.

**Gross National Product (GNP)** – is calculated by adjusting the GDP to include income accruing to domestic residents as a result of investments abroad minus the income earned in domestic markets accruing to foreigners abroad.

**H**

**Habitat** - a place where a plant or animal naturally or normally lives and grows.

**Human Capital** - the people who perform the work in the production of goods and services and the skills, which they have.

**Hegemony** - leadership or dominance, especially by one country or social group over others

**Hieroglyphics** - designating or pertaining to a pictographic script, particularly that of the ancient Egyptians, in which many of the symbols are conventionalized, recognizable pictures of the things represented.

**Human Resources** – quantity and quality of human effort directed toward producing goods and services (also called labor or human capital).

**Human rights** - the basic rights and freedoms to which all humans are entitled, often held to include the right to life and liberty, freedom of thought and expression, and equality before the law.

**I**

**Immigration** - To enter and settle in a country or region to which one is not native

**Impact** - influence or effect

**Imperialism** - a policy of extending a country's power and influence through diplomacy or military force.

**Imports** – goods and services that consumers in one country buy from producers in another country.

**Indentured servitude** – a contract between two people where one party agrees to work without any or minimal compensation to pay back money or an opportunity provided by the other

**Incentives** - a thing that motivates or encourages one to do something

**Indigenous** - Originating and living or occurring naturally in an area or environment e.g., indigenous plants or the indigenous people of a country

**Income Taxes** – taxes paid by households and business firms on the income they receive.

**Inflation** – an increase in the general level of prices people pay for goods and services. A popular measure of inflation is the consumer price index.

**Industrialization** - The process in which a society or country (or world) transforms itself from a primarily agricultural society into one based on the manufacturing of goods and services.

**Inflation** – an increase in the general level of prices people pay for goods and services. A popular measure of inflation is the consumer price index.

**Infringement** – contrary to or violate; go beyond the proper or usual limits.

**Innovation** – a newly introduced idea, invention or way of doing things that changes the world.

**Institutions** - customs, practices, relationships, or behavioral patterns of importance in the life of a community or society: the institutions of marriage and the family. Established organizations or foundations that reflect the culture and beliefs of a people

**Integration** - The bringing of people of different racial or ethnic groups into unrestricted and equal association

**Interdependence** – people relying on each other in different places or in the same place for ideas, goods, and services.

**International** – between or among nations; having to do with the relations between nations.

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**Irrigation** - the watering of land to make it ready for agriculture

**J**

**Justice** – people should be treated fairly in the distribution of the benefits and burdens of society, the correction of wrongs and injuries, and in the gathering of information and making of decisions.

**L**

**Labor** – the physical and mental exertion that human beings put into production activities.

**Labor force** – those who are working or actively seeking work.

**Latitude** – a measure of distance north or south of the equator.

**Law of Demand** – if supply is held constant, an increase in demand leads to an increased market price, while a decrease in demand leads to a decreased market price.

**Law of Supply** – if demand is held constant, an increase in supply leads to a decreased price, while a decrease in supply leads to increased price.

**Liberty** – includes the freedom to believe what you want, freedom to choose your own friends, and to have your own ideas and opinions, to express your ideas in public, the right for people to meet in groups, and the right to have any lawful job or business.

**Limited Resources** – the condition of there not being enough resources to fulfill all wants and needs.

**Line graph** – a means of displaying data by connecting lines between dots representing the values of a continuous variable.

**Lithosphere –** the uppermost portion of the solid Earth, including soil, land, and geologic formations

**Location** – where something is:

* **Absolute Location** – the exact position on the globe using addresses, grid coordinates, or the imaginary lines of longitude and latitude
* **Relative Location** - the location of a place or region in relation to other places or regions (e.g., northwest of or downstream from).

**Longitude** – the position of a point on Earth’s surface expressed as its angular distance, east or west, from the prime meridian to 180°

**M**

**Market –** the place where buyers and sellers come together to make transactions of goods and services.

**Market Economy** –an economic system based only on the interaction of market forces, such as supply and demand. A true market economy is free of governmental influence, collusion and other external interference, and buyers and sellers making exchanges determine prices

**Melting Pot** - a place where different peoples, styles, theories, etc., are mixed together

**Metallurgy** -the technique or science of working or heating metals so as to give them certain desired shapes or properties

**Migration** - to go from one country, region, or place to another

**Mixed Economy** – an economy that combines elements of the traditional, market, and command economic models.

**Model** – a set of assumptions and hypotheses that is a simplified description of reality.

**Monarchy** – a system of government in which the head of state, usually a royal figure (king, queen) is a hereditary position

**Monotheism** - belief in or worship of one god

**Movement** – the moving of people, ideas, information and products around the world.

**Multicultural** – a social or educational theory that encourages interest in many cultures within a society rather than in only a mainstream culture

**N**

**Nation** – a culturally and politically unified group of people bound together by a strong sense of shared values, institutions and cultural characteristics

**National interests** - a perspective that puts the well-being of the nation before any other consideration

**Nationalism** - The belief that nations will benefit from acting independently rather than collectively, emphasizing national rather than international goals.

**Natural Resources** – anything from the natural environment that people use to meet their needs. They are “gifts of nature” that are present without human intervention.

**Needs** – those things that everyone must have to survive.

**Negotiate** – to arrange for or bring about through conference, discussion, and compromise.

**O**

**Oligarchy** – a small group of people having control of a country, organization, or institution

**Opportunity Cost** – the loss of potential gain from other alternatives when one alternative is chosen

**P**

**Parliamentary System** – a system of government in which power is concentrated in a legislature. The legislature selects one of its members, usually called a prime minister, as the nation’s principal leader and other legislative members deserve as the leader’s cabinet.

**Partisan** - A fervent, sometimes militant supporter or proponent of a party, cause, faction, person, or idea

**Patriotism** – virtuous citizens display a devotion to their country in words and deeds, including devotion to the fundamental values and principles upon which it depends

**Per Capita Income** – the average income per person.

**Platform** - A formal declaration of the principles on which a group, such as a political party, makes its appeal to the public.

**Popular sovereignty** – the citizens are collectively the sovereign of the state and hold the ultimate authority over public officials and their policies.

**Polytheism** - belief in or worship of multiple gods

**Population** - all the inhabitants of a particular town, area, or country

**Population density** – the number of individuals occupying an area derived from dividing the number of people by the area they occupy (e.g., 2,000 people divided by ten square miles – 200 people per square mile).

**Precedent** - an earlier event or action that is regarded as an example or guide to be considered in subsequent similar circumstances

**Prejudice** - holding unreasonable preconceived judgments or convictions especially pertaining to irrational suspicion or hatred of a particular group, race, or religion

**Primary Sources** – any document or artifacts that is direct evidence of historical events – and helps us learn about past people or events including clothing, furniture, homes, recordings, documents (e.g., letters, diaries, maps, drawings, laws, statutes,).and photographs.

**Producers** – people who use resources to make goods and services.

**Production** – the act of growing, making or manufacturing goods and services.

**Productivity** – the amount of output per unit of input.

**Profit** – the positive gain from an investment or business operation after subtracting for all expenses.

**Propaganda** – information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote or publicize a particular political cause or point of view.

**Prosperity** - the state of being prosperous

**Public Goods** – goods and services that are provided by the government. They are often too expensive or not practical to be obtained by individuals.

**Public Policy** – decisions and laws that a government makes about an area of public concern to guide the actions of government.

**Public Service** – service to local, state, or national communities through appointed or elected office.

**Public Works** - the work of building such things as roads, schools, and reservoirs, carried out by the government for the community.

**Pull factors** – in migration theory, the social, political, economic, and environmental attractions of new areas that draw people away from their previous location.

**Push factors** – in migration theory, the social, political, economic and environmental forces that drive people from their previous location to search for new ones.

**R**

**Race -**  A group of people identified as distinct from other groups because of supposed physical or genetic traits shared by the group. Race is a human constructed system based on how a person looks, and is not reflective of ethnicity, genealogy, history, or nationality. Most biologists and anthropologists do not recognize race as a biologically valid classification, in part because there is more genetic variation within groups than between them.

**Racism** – an irrational belief in an advocacy of the superiority of a given group, people, or nation

**Reciprocity** – mutual exchange, especially an exchange of special privileges in regard to trade between two countries

**Reform** – movement to improve unsatisfactory conditions.

**Region** – an area that shares common characteristics. Regions can be physical regions; land formations and climate; human traits that make up a region such as language, religion history and political boundaries.

**Regulation** - rules and laws the government makes to control the economy. In laissez-faire economic systems there is no regulation of the economy. In the United States, the government participates in the economy to assure the accomplishment of the economic goals of government.

**Religion** - A personal or institutionalized system grounded in such belief and worship.

**Representative Democracy** – a system of government in which the people choose political leaders to make policy decisions on their behalf.

**Republic** - a republic is a sovereign state in which all segments of society are enfranchised and in which the state's power is constitutionally limited. A republic is distinguished from a true democracy in that the republic operates through a representative assembly chosen by the citizenry, while in a democracy the populace participates directly in governmental affairs.

**Resources** – all natural, human and man-made aids to the production of goods and services. Also called productive resources.

**Revenue** - income, especially when of a company or organization and of a substantial nature.

**Revolution** -a forcible overthrow of a government or social order in favor of a new system

**Rule of Law** – principle that every member of a society, even a ruler, must follow the law.

**Rural** – areas of low population density

**S**

**Scale** – on maps the relationship or ratio between a linear measurement on a map and the corresponding distance on Earth’s surface. For example, the scale 1:1,000,000 means one unit (mile or kilometer) on the map and represents 1,000,000 similar units on Earth’s surface. Also refers to the size of places or regions being studied.

**Scarcity** – the condition that occurs because people’s wants and needs are unlimited, while the resources needed to produce goods and services to meet these wants and needs are limited.

**Secondary Sources** – summaries and interpretations of original artifacts. Ex: article, book, summary about an event that isn’t from that time period.

**Segregation** - The policy or practice of separating people of different races, classes, or ethnic groups, as in schools, housing, and public or commercial facilities, especially as a form of discrimination

**Separation of Powers** – the distribution of political power among the branches of government, giving each branch a particular set of responsibilities.

**Services** – an intangible act, which satisfies the wants or needs of consumers such as medical advice and education.

**Socialism** – any one of various systems in which the means of producing goods are owned by the community or the government rather than by private individuals with all people sharing in the work and the goods produced.

**Social Darwinism** - the theory that individuals, groups, and peoples are subject to the same Darwinian laws of natural selection as plants and animals. Now largely discredited, was used to justify political conservatism, imperialism, and racism and to discourage intervention and reform in the 19th and 20th centuries.

**Social organization** - the rule-governed relationships of individuals and groups within a society that holds it together.

**Sovereign** - the person, body, or state in which independent and supreme authority is vested; such as, in a monarchy, a king, queen, or emperor---in the United States, the people.

**Specialization** – the situation in which a nation produces a narrower range of goods and services than they consume/specialization in mass production occurs when a worker repeats a single operation over and over.

**Sphere of Influence** - a country or area in which another country has power to affect developments although it has no formal authority.

**Stock Market** – a financial market which is organized to buy and sell stocks through exchanges, over-the-counter, and electronically

**Subculture** - a distinctive set of standards and behavior patterns by which a group within a larger society operates.

**Supply** – the quantities of a good or service that a firm is willing and able to make available for sale at different prices (economic concept of supply and demand).

**Surplus** – the situation resulting when the quantity supplied exceeds that quantity demanded of a good, service, or resource.

**T**

**Tariff** – tax on foreign goods brought into a country. An official schedule of taxes imposed by a government on imports or exports

**Taxes** – required payments of money made to governments by households and business firms.

**Theory** – a set of principle that can be used to make inferences about the world.

**Timeline** – a graphic means of displaying historical events in chronological order

**Tolerance** - a disposition to allow freedom of choice and behavior

**Totalitarian** – country where a single party controls the government and every aspect of the lives of the people

**Trade/Exchange** – trading goods and services with people for other goods and services or for money. When people exchange voluntarily, they expect to be better off as a result.

**Trade Route** - a logistical network identified as a series of pathways and stoppages used for the commercial transport of cargo.

**Treaty** - A formal agreement between two or more states, as in reference to terms of peace or trade.

**Tyrant** – one who exercises absolute power without legal authority

**U**

**Urban** – an area characterized as a city or town where the population density is greater than in the surrounding area and is acknowledged as a major cultural, service, and production location in a region

**Urbanization** – a process in which there is an increase in the percentage of people living/working in cities and towns

**V**

**Values** - beliefs of a person or social group in which they have an emotional investment (either for or against something); those things that are considered to be most important by a person or group

**Vigilante** - One who takes or advocates the taking of law enforcement into one's own hands.

**Voluntarism** – people who work without monetary compensation to help others in their family, schools, communities, state, nation, and the world.

**Voluntary Exchanges** – choosing to give one thing in exchange for another without being coerced