

Glossary

abolitionist—census

A

- abolitionist** a person who strongly favors doing away with slavery (p. 418)
- abstain** to not take part in some activity, such as voting (p. 439)
- adobe** a sun-dried mud brick used to build the homes of some Native Americans (p. 32)
- affluence** the state of having much wealth (p. 566)
- alien** an immigrant living in a country in which he or she is not a citizen (p. 271)
- alliance** a close association of nations or other groups, formed to advance common interests or causes (pp. 122, 547)
- ambush** a surprise attack (p. 187)
- amendment** an addition to a formal document such as the Constitution (p. 213, 221)
- American System** policies devised by Henry Clay to stimulate the growth of industry (p. 324)
- amnesty** the granting of pardon to a large number of persons; protection from prosecution for an illegal act (p. 501)
- annex** to add a territory to one's own territory (p. 367)
- Antifederalists** individuals who opposed ratification of the Constitution (p. 212)
- apprentice** assistant who is assigned to learn the trade of a skilled craftsman (p. 112)
- appropriate** to set something aside for a particular purpose, especially funds (p. 223)
- archaeology** the study of ancient peoples (p. 17)
- arsenal** a storage place for weapons and ammunition (p. 448)
- article** a part of a document, such as the Constitution, that deals with a single subject (p. 209)
- artifact** an item left behind by early people that represents their culture (p. 17)
- astrolabe** an instrument used by sailors to observe positions of stars (p. 40)

B

- backcountry** a region of hills and forests west of the Tidewater (p. 105)
- bicameral** consisting of two houses, or chambers, especially in a legislature (p. 193)
- black codes** laws passed in the South just after the Civil War aimed at controlling freedmen and enabling plantation owners to exploit African American workers (p. 505)

- blockade** cut off an area by means of troops or warships to stop supplies or people from coming in or going out; to close off a country's ports (pp. 179, 463)
- blockade runner** ship that sails into and out of a blockaded area (p. 468)
- bond** a note issued by the government, which promises to pay off a loan with interest (p. 261)
- boomtown** a community experiencing a sudden growth in business or population (pp. 376, 529)
- border ruffians** Missourians who traveled in armed groups to vote in Kansas's election during the mid-1850s (p. 443)
- border states** the states between the North and the South that were divided over whether to stay in the Union or join the Confederacy (p. 461)
- bounty** money given as a reward, such as to encourage enlistment in the army (p. 482)
- boycott** to refuse to buy items from a particular country (p. 134)
- bureaucracy** system in which nonelected officials carry out laws and policies (p. 337)
- burgesses** elected representatives to an assembly (p. 73)

C

- cabinet** a group of advisers to the president (p. 259)
- Californios** Mexicans who lived in California (p. 373)
- canal** an artificial waterway (p. 318)
- capital** money for investment (pp. 308, 399, 536)
- capitalism** an economic system based on private property and free enterprise (p. 308)
- caravel** small, fast ship with a broad bow (p. 40)
- carbon dating** a scientific method used to determine the age of an artifact (p. 19)
- carpetbaggers** name given to Northern whites who moved South after the Civil War and supported the Republicans (p. 510)
- cash crop** farm crop raised to be sold for money (pp. 103, 518)
- casualty** a military person killed, wounded, or captured (p. 469)
- caucus** a meeting held by a political party to choose their party's candidate for president or decide policy (pp. 269, 337)
- cede** to give up by treaty (p. 374)
- census** official count of a population (p. 314)

charter—emancipate

charter a document that gives the holder the right to organize settlements in an area (p. 71)

charter colony colony established by a group of settlers who had been given a formal document allowing them to settle (p. 110)

checks and balances the system in which each branch of government has a check on the other two branches so that no one branch becomes too powerful (p. 210)

circumnavigate to sail around the world (p. 49)

citizen a person who owes loyalty to and is entitled to the protection of a state or nation (p. 229)

civil disobedience refusal to obey laws that are considered unjust as a nonviolent way to press for changes (p. 566)

civil war conflict between opposing groups of citizens of the same country (p. 444)

civilization a highly developed culture, usually with organized religions and laws (p. 22)

classical relating to ancient Greece and Rome (p. 39)

clipper ship a fast sailing ship with slender lines, tall masts, and large square sails (p. 387)

coeducation the teaching of male and female students together (p. 427)

collective bargaining discussion between an employer and union representatives of workers over wages, hours, and working conditions (p. 537)

Columbian Exchange exchange of goods, ideas, and people between Europe and the Americas (p. 60)

commission a group of persons directed to perform some duty (p. 516)

committee of correspondence an organization that used meetings, letters, and pamphlets to spread political ideas through the colonies (p. 137)

compromise agreement between two or more sides in which each side gives up some of what it wants (p. 204)

concurrent powers powers shared by the states and the federal government (p. 219)

Conestoga wagon sturdy vehicle topped with white canvas and used by pioneers to move west (p. 283)

conquistador Spanish explorer in the Americas in the 1500s (p. 51)

constituents people that members of Congress represent (p. 223)

constitution a formal plan of government (pp. 89, 193)

corruption dishonest or illegal actions (p. 510)

cotton gin a machine that removed seeds from cotton fiber (pp. 308, 398)

counter-terrorism military or political activities intended to combat terrorism (p. 583)

coureur de bois French trapper living among Native Americans (p. 62)

court-martial to try by a military court (p. 326)

credit a form of loan; ability to buy goods based on future payment (p. 403)

culture a way of life of a group of people who share similar beliefs and customs (p. 19)

customs duties taxes on foreign imported goods (p. 280)

D

debtor person or country that owes money (p. 90)

decree an order or decision given by one in authority (p. 364)

demilitarize to remove armed forces from an area (p. 326)

depreciate to fall in value (p. 197)

depression a period of low economic activity and widespread unemployment (pp. 199, 350)

desert to leave without permission (p. 173)

dictator a leader who rules with total authority, often in a cruel or brutal manner (p. 559)

disarmament removal of weapons (p. 326)

discrimination unfair treatment of a group; unequal treatment because of a person's race, religion, ethnic background, or place of birth (pp. 392, 543)

dissent disagreement with or opposition to an opinion (p. 76)

diversity variety or difference (p. 104)

domestic tranquility maintaining peace within the nation (p. 217)

draft the selection of persons for required military service (p. 481)

drought a long period of time with little rainfall (p. 29)

due process of law idea that the government must follow procedures established by law and guaranteed by the Constitution (p. 228)

E

effigy rag figure representing an unpopular individual (p. 134)

Electoral College a special group of voters selected by their state's voters to vote for the president and vice president (p. 210)

emancipate to free from slavery (p. 475)

embargo an order prohibiting trade with another country (pp. 290, 573)

emigrant a person who leaves a country or region to live elsewhere (p. 358)

empresario a person who arranged for the settlement of land in Texas during the 1800s (p. 363)

encomienda system of rewarding conquistadors with tracts of land and the right to tax and demand labor from Native Americans who lived on the land (p. 55)

Enlightenment movement during the 1700s that spread the idea that knowledge, reason, and science could improve society (p. 208)

entrenched occupying a strong defensive position (p. 486)

enumerated powers powers belonging only to the federal government (p. 219)

executive branch the branch of government, headed by the president, that carries out the nation's laws and policies (p. 210)

export to sell goods abroad (p. 109)

F

factory system system bringing manufacturing steps together in one place to increase efficiency (p. 309)

famine an extreme shortage of food (p. 393)

favorite son candidate that receives the backing of his home state rather than of the national party (p. 335)

federal debt the amount of money owed by the government (p. 575)

federalism the sharing of power between federal and state governments (pp. 208, 219)

Federalists supporters of the Constitution (p. 211)

federation a type of government that links different groups together (p. 33)

feminist a person who advocates or is active in promoting women's rights (p. 567)

fixed costs regular expenses such as housing or maintaining equipment that remain about the same year after year (p. 403)

forty-niners people who went to California during the gold rush of 1849 (p. 375)

free enterprise the freedom of private businesses to operate competitively for profit with minimal government regulation (p. 308)

freedman a person freed from slavery (p. 502)

frigate warship (p. 297)

fugitive runaway or trying to run away (p. 438)

G

genocide the deliberate destruction of a racial, political, or cultural group (p. 561)

global warming a steady increase in average world temperatures (p. 578)

grandfather clause a clause that allowed individuals who did not pass the literacy test to vote if their fathers or grandfathers had voted before Reconstruction began; an exception to a law based on preexisting circumstances (p. 519)

greenback a piece of U.S. paper money first issued by the North during the Civil War (p. 483)

guerrilla tactics referring to surprise attacks or raids rather than organized warfare (p. 344)

guerrilla warfare a hit-and-run technique used in fighting a war; fighting by small bands of warriors using tactics such as sudden ambushes (p. 180)

H

habeas corpus a legal order for an inquiry to determine whether a person has been lawfully imprisoned (p. 481)

hieroglyphics an ancient form of writing using symbols and pictures to represent words, sounds, and concepts (p. 24)

Holocaust the name given to the mass slaughter of Jews and other groups by the Nazis during World War II (p. 561)

horizontal integration the combining of competing firms into one corporation (p. 536)

human rights rights regarded as belonging to all persons, such as freedom from unlawful imprisonment, torture, and execution (p. 574)

I

Ice Age a period of extremely cold temperatures when part of the planet's surface was covered with massive ice sheets (p. 17)

impeach to formally charge a public official with misconduct in office (pp. 223, 507, 573)

imperialism the actions used by one nation to exercise political or economic control over smaller or weaker nations (p. 544)

implied powers powers not specifically mentioned in the Constitution (pp. 221, 268)

import to buy goods from foreign markets (p. 109)

impressment forcing people into service, as in the navy (pp. 265, 290)

indentured servant laborer who agreed to work without pay for a certain period of time in exchange for passage to America (p. 87)

Industrial Revolution the change from an agrarian society to one based on industry which began in Great Britain and spread to the United States around 1800 (p. 307)

inflation a continuous rise in the price of goods and services (pp. 175, 483)

integrate to end separation of different races and bring into equal membership in society (p. 512)

interchangeable parts uniform pieces that can be made in large quantities to replace other identical pieces (p. 309)

internal improvements federal projects, such as canals and roads, to develop the nation's transportation system (p. 322)

Internet a worldwide linking of computer networks (p. 577)

ironclad armored naval vessel (p. 468)

Iroquois Confederacy a powerful group of Native Americans in the eastern part of the United States made up of five nations: the Mohawk, Seneca, Cayuga, Onondaga, and Oneida (p. 117)

island hopping a strategy used during World War II that called for attacking and capturing certain key islands and using these islands as bases to leapfrog to others (p. 562)

J

joint occupation the possession and settling of an area shared by two or more countries (p. 357)

joint-stock company a company in which investors buy stock in the company in return for a share of its future profits (p. 71)

judicial branch the branch of government, including the federal court system, that interprets the nation's laws (p. 210)

judicial review the right of the Supreme Court to determine if a law violates the Constitution (pp. 222, 281)

L

laissez-faire policy that government should interfere as little as possible in the nation's economy (pp. 279, 350)

landslide an overwhelming victory (p. 336)

legislative branch the branch of government that makes the nation's laws (p. 209)

line of demarcation an imaginary line running down the middle of the Atlantic Ocean from the North Pole to the South Pole dividing the Americas between Spain and Portugal (p. 47)

literacy the ability to read and write (p. 113)

literacy test a method used to prevent African Americans from voting by requiring prospective voters to read and write at a specified level (p. 519)

lock in a canal, an enclosure with gates at each end used in raising or lowering boats as they pass from level to level (p. 318)

log cabin campaign name given to William Henry Harrison's campaign for the presidency in 1840, from the Whigs' use of a log cabin as their symbol (p. 351)

Loyalists American colonists who remained loyal to Britain and opposed the war for independence (p. 145)

lynching putting to death a person by the illegal action of a mob (p. 520)

M

maize an early form of corn grown by Native Americans (p. 19)

majority more than half (p. 335)

Manifest Destiny the idea popular in the United States during the 1800s that the country must expand its boundaries to the Pacific (p. 360)

manumission the freeing of some enslaved persons (p. 201)

martyr a person who sacrifices his or her life for a principle or cause (p. 448)

Mayflower Compact a formal document, written in 1620, that provided law and order to the Plymouth colony (p. 77)

mercantilism the theory that a state's or nation's power depended on its wealth (pp. 59, 109)

mercenary paid soldier who serves in the army of a foreign country (p. 164)

migration a movement of a large number of people into a new homeland (p. 17)

militia a group of civilians trained to fight in emergencies (pp. 118, 142)

minutemen companies of civilian soldiers who boasted that they were ready to fight on a minute's notice (p. 142)

- mission** religious settlement (pp. 54, 92)
- monopoly** total control of an industry by one company (p. 536)
- Morse code** a system for transmitting messages that uses a series of dots and dashes to represent the letters of the alphabet, numbers, and punctuation (p. 389)
- mosque** a Muslim house of worship (p. 42)
- mountain man** a frontiersman living in the wilderness, as in the Rocky Mountains (p. 357)
- muckraker** a journalist who uncovers abuses and corruption in a society (p. 541)
- mudslinging** attempt to ruin an opponent's reputation with insults (p. 336)

N

- national debt** the amount of money a national government owes to other governments or its people (p. 260)
- nationalism** loyalty to a nation and promotion of its interests above all others (pp. 293, 547)
- nativist** a person who favors those born in his country and is opposed to immigrants (p. 395)
- naturalization** to grant full citizenship to a foreigner (p. 229)
- neutral** taking no side in a conflict (p. 163)
- neutral rights** the right to sail the seas and not take sides in a war (p. 290)
- neutrality** a position of not taking sides in a conflict (p. 265)
- nomads** people who move from place to place, usually in search of food or grazing land (p. 17)
- nominating convention** system in which delegates from the states selected the party's presidential candidate (p. 337)
- nonimportation** the act of not importing or using certain goods (p. 134)
- normal school** a two-year school for training high school graduates as teachers (p. 413)
- Northwest Passage** water route to Asia through North America sought by European explorers (p. 60)
- nullify** to cancel or make ineffective (pp. 271, 338)

O

- offensive** position of attacking or the attack itself (p. 463)
- ordinance** a law or regulation (p. 196)
- override** to overturn or defeat, as a bill proposed in Congress (p. 505)

- overseer** person who supervises a large operation or its workers (pp. 106, 403)
- ozone** the layer of gas composed of a form of oxygen that protects the earth and its people from cancer-causing sun rays (p. 578)

P

- pacifist** person opposed to the use of war or violence to settle disputes (p. 85)
- partisan** favoring one side of an issue (p. 268)
- patent** a document that gives an inventor the sole legal right to an invention for a period of time (pp. 308, 535)
- Patriots** American colonists who were determined to fight the British until American independence was won (p. 145)
- patroon** landowner in the Dutch colonies who ruled like a king over large areas of land (p. 83)
- perjury** lying when one has sworn an oath to tell the truth (p. 576)
- persecute** to treat someone harshly because of that person's beliefs or practices (p. 76)
- petition** a formal request (pp. 148, 196)
- pilgrimage** a journey to a holy place (p. 42)
- Pilgrims** Separatists who journeyed to the colonies during the 1600s for a religious purpose (p. 77)
- plantation** a large estate run by an owner or manager and farmed by laborers who lived there (p. 55)
- plurality** largest single share (p. 335)
- poll tax** a tax of a fixed amount per person that had to be paid before the person could vote (p. 519)
- popular sovereignty** political theory that government is subject to the will of the people (p. 218); before the Civil War, the idea that people living in a territory had the right to decide by voting if slavery would be allowed there (p. 442)
- preamble** the introduction to a formal document, especially the Constitution (pp. 151, 217)
- precedent** a tradition (p. 259)
- prejudice** an unfair opinion not based on facts (p. 392)
- presidio** Spanish fort in the Americas built to protect mission settlements (p. 54)
- privateer** armed private ship (pp. 179, 297)
- Prohibition** the nationwide ban on the manufacture, sale, and transportation of liquor in the United States that went into effect when the Eighteenth Amendment was ratified in 1919 (p. 550)

propaganda—subsistence farming

propaganda ideas or information designed and spread to influence opinion (pp. 137, 547)

proportional to be the same as or corresponding to (p. 203)

proprietary colony colony run by individuals or groups to whom land was granted (pp. 83, 111)

pueblo home or community of homes built by Native Americans (pp. 29, 54)

Puritans Protestants who, during the 1600s, wanted to reform the Anglican Church (p. 77)

R

radical extreme (p. 501)

ranchero Mexican ranch owner (p. 371)

rancho huge properties for raising livestock set up by Mexican settlers in California (p. 371)

ratify to give official approval to (pp. 185, 211, 476)

Rebel Confederate soldier, so called because of opposition to the established government (p. 464)

reconciliation settling by agreement or coming together again (p. 514)

Reconstruction the reorganization and rebuilding of the former Confederate states after the Civil War (p. 501)

recruit to enlist soldiers in the army (p. 165)

relocate to force a person or group of people to move (p. 342)

Renaissance a period of intellectual and artistic creativity, c. 1300–1600 (p. 39)

rendezvous a meeting (p. 357)

reparations payment by the losing country in a war to the winner for the damages caused by the war (p. 549)

repeal to cancel an act or law (p. 134)

republic a government in which citizens rule through elected representatives (p. 193)

republicanism favoring a republic, or representative democracy, as the best form of government (p. 218)

reservation an area of public lands set aside for Native Americans (p. 531)

reserved powers powers retained by the states (p. 219)

resolution a formal expression of opinion (p. 134)

revenue incoming money (p. 133)

revival a series of meetings conducted by a preacher to arouse religious emotions (p. 413)

royal colony colony run by a governor and a council appointed by the king or queen (p. 111)

S

scalawags name given by former Confederates to Southern whites who supported Republican Reconstruction of the South (p. 510)

secede to leave or withdraw (pp. 285, 338, 438)

secession withdrawal from the Union (p. 451)

sectionalism loyalty to a region (pp. 322, 437)

sedition activities aimed at weakening established government (p. 271)

segregation the separation or isolation of a race, class, or group (p. 519, 566)

Separatists Protestants who, during the 1600s, wanted to leave the Anglican Church in order to found their own churches (p. 77)

settlement house institution located in a poor neighborhood that provided numerous community services such as medical care, child care, libraries, and classes in English (p. 538)

sharecropping system of farming in which a farmer works land for an owner who provides equipment and seeds and receives a share of the crop (p. 512)

slave code the laws passed in the Southern states that controlled and restricted enslaved people (p. 405)

smuggling trading illegally with other nations (p. 109)

speculator person who risks money in order to make a large profit (pp. 125, 261)

spiritual an African American religious folk song (p. 405)

spoils system practice of handing out government jobs to supporters; replacing government employees with the winning candidate's supporters (p. 337)

stalemate a situation during a conflict when action stops because both sides are equally powerful and neither will give in (p. 565)

states' rights rights and powers independent of the federal government that are reserved for the states by the Constitution; the belief that states' rights supersede federal rights and law (pp. 271, 451)

strait a narrow passageway connecting two larger bodies of water (p. 49)

strike a stopping of work by workers to force an employer to meet demands (p. 392)

subsistence farming farming in which only enough food to feed one's family is produced (p. 101)

suffrage the right to vote (pp. 336, 426)

suffragist a man or woman who fought for a woman's right to vote (p. 542)

T

tariff a tax on imports or exports (pp. 262, 338)

technology the application of scientific discoveries to practical use (pp. 40, 308)

Tejano a Mexican who claims Texas as his home (p. 363)

telegraph a device or system that uses electric signals to transmit messages by a code over wires (p. 389)

temperance the use of little or no alcoholic drink (p. 413)

tenant farmer farmer who works land owned by another and pays rent either in cash or crops (pp. 92, 402)

terrace a raised piece of land with the top leveled off to promote farming (p. 26)

terrorism the use of violence by groups against civilians to achieve a political goal (p. 578)

theocracy a form of government in which the society is ruled by religious leaders (p. 23)

Tidewater a region of flat, low-lying plains along the sea-coast (p. 105)

toleration the acceptance of different beliefs (p. 79)

total war war on all aspects of the enemy's life (p. 490)

trade union organization of workers with the same trade or skill (p. 392)

Transcendentalist any of a group of New England writers who stressed the relationship between human beings and nature, spiritual things over material things, and the importance of the individual conscience (p. 415)

transcontinental extending across a continent (p. 529)

triangular trade a trade route that exchanged goods between the West Indies, the American colonies, and West Africa (p. 102)

tribute money paid for protection (pp. 52, 289)

trust a combination of firms or corporations formed by a legal agreement, especially to reduce competition (p. 536)

U

turnpike a road that one must pay to use; the money is used to pay for the road (p. 315)

unalienable right a right that cannot be surrendered (p. 154)

unconstitutional not agreeing or consistent with the Constitution (p. 262)

Underground Railroad a system that helped enslaved African Americans follow a network of escape routes out of the South to freedom in the North (p. 422)

utopia community based on a vision of a perfect society sought by reformers (p. 412)

V

vaquero Hispanic ranch hand (p. 529)

vertical integration the combining of companies that supply equipment and services needed for a particular industry (p. 536)

veto to reject a bill and prevent it from becoming a law (p. 349)

vigilantes people who take the law into their own hands (p. 377)

W

War Hawks Republicans during Madison's presidency who pressed for war with Britain (p. 293)

writ of assistance legal document that enabled officers to search homes and warehouses for goods that might be smuggled (p. 133)

Y

Yankee Union soldier (p. 464)

yellow journalism a type of sensational, biased, and often false reporting (p. 545)

yeoman Southern owner of a small farm who did not have enslaved people (p. 402)