

Ancient Mesopotamia

1. Mesopotamia: means “land between the rivers”; a flat, fertile area between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers where farming began around 9800 BCE; also known as the *Fertile Crescent*, this area now lies mostly in the country of Iraq
2. irrigation: watering fields using human-made systems
3. city-state: a city and its surrounding lands and settlements
4. Bronze Age: period around 3000 BCE, in which bronze (a strong metal made of a combination of tin and copper) became important for tools and weapons
5. surplus: having more of a resource (often food) than a population needs, usually resulting in trade of the extra resource for other goods
6. Sumer: the first civilization to develop in Mesopotamia (~3500 BCE), near the Persian Gulf.
7. social class: an order based on power and wealth
8. artisans: people who made things by hand
9. tribute: a tax paid or goods and services given in return for protection
10. polytheism: a belief in many gods and goddesses
11. Ziggurat: means “mountaintop”, these huge pyramid-shaped temples were the most important buildings in Sumerian city-states
12. Cuneiform: the writing of the Sumerians, 600 wedge-shaped symbols that scribes carved into wet clay tablets using sharpened blades of grass; the world’s oldest written story, *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, was written in cuneiform
13. Hammurabi’s Code: 282 laws helped establish justice and dictated specific penalties for crimes. It was carved into a stela for everyone to see
14. stela: an upright stone slab or column typically bearing a commemorative inscription or relief design, often serving as a gravestone
15. province: an administrative district of a larger empire or country
16. Satrap: a governor of a province in the Persian Empire
17. alliance: agreement between nations to fight each other’s enemies; a partnership
18. colony: a group of people that settles in a new land but keeps ties to its native country
19. Hanging Gardens of Babylon: One of the *Seven Wonders of the Ancient World*; it was described as a series of tiered gardens containing a variety of plants
20. Persepolis: capital of the Persian Empire, a city decorated with magnificent palaces and jeweled statues

Ancient Egypt

21. Nile- the central river of the civilization that developed in Egypt
22. Pharaoh- a title generally used for all Egyptian kings; worshiped as the son of Egypt’s Gods and as a living god themselves
23. delta- an area where a river fans out into various branches as it flows into a body of water
24. mummy- preserved bodies of pharaohs and other important officials
25. pyramid- massive monumental tombs to house the dead bodies of pharaohs
26. Hieroglyph- writing system developed before 3000 B.C.E. that used images to represent objects, sounds, or ideas
27. papyrus- paper-like material made from reeds that grew along the banks of the Nile

28. dynasty- a series of rulers from the same family
29. barter- a system of exchanging goods
30. vizier- chief official who served the Pharaohs of ancient Egypt
31. hierarchy - people belonged to different social classes and each class had a rank in society
32. shaduf- a long, tapering, nearly horizontal pole mounted like a seesaw used to irrigate land by hand
33. Ramses II- also known as Ramses the Great, was the longest ruling pharaoh of ancient Egypt
34. deity- a god or goddess
35. scribe- professional writers who were highly respected
36. Giza- ancient Egyptian site, near Cairo, home to the Great Pyramids and the Sphinx
37. Sphinx- a symbol of divine power with a lion's body and King Khafre's head
38. Hatshepsut- earliest female ruler who came into power around 1470 B.C and performed all the military, religious, and political functions of the pharaoh
39. Tutankhamen- a 10 year old pharaoh who ruled for nine years during the 18th dynasty and then died unexpectedly; restored the old gods
40. Rosetta Stone- a slab of rock that contained the same text written in Egyptian hieroglyphs, Egyptian Demotic, and Greek. Scholars who understood Greek were able to use this slab to translate the hieroglyphs.

Ancient Israel

41. confederation- a joining of several groups for a common purpose
42. covenant- an agreement made between human beings or God and humans in which mutual commitments are made
43. Kosher- the term used for food allowed under Jewish dietary laws
44. monotheism- belief in one god
45. Rabbi- Jewish religious leader
46. Synagogue- Jewish place of worship
47. tribe- a group of related families
48. exile- to force someone to live in another country
49. Abraham- founder of Judaism who, according to the Bible, led his family from Ur to Canaan in obedience to God's command.
50. exodus- a mass departure
51. Moses- led the Exodus of the Hebrews from Egypt; received the Ten Commandments
52. Talmud- collection of Jewish law and tradition
53. Ten Commandments- the laws believed to have been given by God to Moses on Mount Sinai
54. Torah- first five books of the Hebrew bible
55. diaspora- the dispersion of Jews outside of Israel
56. Hanukkah- an eight-day Jewish holiday commemorating the rededication of the Temple of Jerusalem in 165 BC
57. Israel- a Jewish state on the eastern shore of the Mediterranean, both in antiquity and again founded in 1948 after centuries of Jewish diaspora.
58. Judah- a Hebrew kingdom in Palestine, established around 922 B.C.
59. Solomon- David's son who built the Temple for God
60. zealots- People who banded together during the time of Christ to violently resist Roman occupation.

Ancient India

61. Himalayas – the highest mountains in the world, in the north of India
62. Ganges – a main river in India, sacred to Hindus, used for cremation rites
63. Indus – a main river in early India (now in Pakistan), site of the earliest cities of India's first civilization starting about 3,000 BC
64. South Asian Subcontinent – a land mass, smaller than a continent, that moved north on a tectonic plate, joining Asia 20-50 million years ago
65. Sanskrit – the oldest written language of India
66. caste – a social group that someone is born into and cannot change
67. monsoon – a strong wind that blows one direction in winter and the opposite direction in summer, producing heavy rains
68. theocracy – a government headed by religious leaders, ruled according to the doctrine of a particular religion
69. dynasty – a series of rulers from the same family
70. Hinduism – one of the world's oldest religions, today the third largest; its members worship thousands of gods and goddesses – all part of Brahman
71. Mahabharata – a Hindu epic poem (the longest in any language at 88,000 verses) about a great war for control of an Indian kingdom about 1,000 BC
72. Ramayana – a Hindu epic poem which tells of the adventures of king Rama, whose queen, Sita, is kidnapped by the demon Ravana
73. reincarnation – the idea of passing through many lives to reach Brahman
74. karma – for Hindus, the consequences of how a person lives
75. dharma – the divine or natural law that indicates your duties in Hinduism
76. virtue – a positive trait or quality deemed to be morally good
77. Buddhism – the religion founded by Siddhartha Gautama around 500 BC
78. Four Noble Truths – the Buddhist belief that life is full of suffering because people desire things and self-satisfaction, includes the belief that to end suffering you need to stop desiring things
79. Eightfold Path – a Buddhist set of eight steps for enlightenment, including: give up worldly things, don't harm others, tell the truth, don't gossip, don't kill, don't steal, don't live an unclean life, do rewarding work for good, use your mind to keep your senses in control, and practice meditation
80. nirvana – the Buddhist belief that if a person gives up all desires, he or she can reach a state of wisdom or enlightenment
81. bodhisattva – Buddhist word for enlightened people who postpone going to heaven, instead staying on Earth to help others and do good deeds
82. algorithm – a series of steps to solve a problem

Ancient China

83. Confucianism- The system of ethics, education, and statesmanship taught by Confucius and his disciples, stressing love for humanity, ancestor worship, reverence for parents, and harmony in thought and conduct.
84. Daoism (Taoism)- A Chinese philosophy where people practice humility, lead a simple life and have harmony with nature
85. cultural diffusion-The spread of ideas, customs, and technologies from one people to another
86. barter- an exchange of goods or services for other goods or services without using money

87. bureaucracy- a system of government in which appointed officials in specialized departments run the various offices
88. Silk Road- an ancient network of trade routes that for centuries were central to cultural interaction through regions of the Asian continent connecting the East and West from China to the Mediterranean Sea.
89. Dynastic Cycle- the pattern of the rise and fall of dynasties in ancient and early China
90. emperor- the supreme ruler of an empire
91. Legalism- A Chinese philosophy that was devoted to strengthen and expand the state through increased agricultural work and military service.
92. filial piety- the belief that children owe their parents and ancestors respect
93. caravan- a group of people that travel together
94. isolationism- a rejection of foreign contact and outside influences
95. terra cotta- A fire-baked clay
96. Huang He (Yellow River)- Second longest river in China. Named for the muddy yellow silt it carries along its path.
97. Chang Jiang- The world's third longest river, used for many centuries for reliable transportation
98. Great Wall- a vast Chinese defensive fortification begun in the 3rd century B.C. and running along the northern border of the country for 2,400 km
99. Tian Shan- A large system of mountain ranges in Central Asia, the name means 'Mountains of Heaven'
100. Gobi Desert- vast, arid region in northern China and southern Mongolia. It's known for its dunes, mountains and rare animals such as snow leopards and Bactrian camels
101. Taklamakan- This Desert (in China) is known for splitting the Silk Road into branches running north and south of it. It is bounded by mountain ranges. Name means "once you go in you will not come out".
102. Mandate of Heaven- the political idea that there could be only one legitimate ruler of China at a time, and that this ruler had the blessing of the gods

Ancient Greece and Persia

103. agora – an open area that served as both a market and a meeting place
104. acropolis – a fortified area at the top of a hill, sometimes used for religious worship
105. polis – a Greek city-state, which was like a tiny independent country
106. monarchy – a system of government with rule by a royal family
107. oligarchy – a system of government with rule by a small, rich, powerful group
108. citizen – a person that is legally recognized as a member of a state or country, with associated rights and obligations
109. democracy – a system of government with rule by its citizens
110. empire – a group of territories or nations under a single ruler, often called an emperor
111. helot – a person who was conquered and enslaved by the ancient Spartans
112. tyrant – a person who takes power by force and rules with total authority
113. ephor – one of the five annually-elected judges in ancient Sparta, who enforced the laws and oversaw the actions of Spartan kings
114. Zoroastrianism – the Persian religion founded by Zoroaster; taught that humans had the freedom to choose between right and wrong, and that goodness would triumph in the end
115. satrap – an official who ruled a state in the Persian Empire under Darius
116. philosopher – a thinker who seeks wisdom and ponders questions about life

117. representative democracy – a system of government in which citizens choose a smaller group to make laws and governmental decisions on their behalf
118. direct democracy – a system of government in which people gather at mass meetings to decide governmental matters
119. fable – a short tale that teaches a lesson
120. myth – a traditional story describing gods or heroes or explaining natural events
121. epic – a long poem that tells about legendary or heroic deeds
122. oracle – a sacred shrine where a priest or priestess spoke for a god or goddess
123. Socratic method – a way of teaching developed by Socrates that used question-and-answer format to force students to use their reason to see things for themselves
124. Sophist -- a professional teacher in ancient Greece; believed that people should use knowledge to improve themselves and developed the art of public speaking and debate
125. Epicureanism – a philosophy founded by Epicurus in Hellenistic Athens; taught that happiness through the pursuit of pleasure was the goal of life
126. Stoicism – a philosophy founded by Zeno in Hellenistic Athens; taught that happiness came not from following emotions, but from following reason and doing one’s duty
127. Hellenistic Era – the period when the Greek language and Greek ideas spread to the non-Greek peoples of southwest Asia
128. civilization – a complex society with cities, government, art, religion(s), agriculture, long-distance trade, a division of labor, and a writing system
129. plane geometry – a branch of mathematics that shows how points, lines, angles, and surfaces relate to one another
130. solid geometry – a branch of mathematics that studies spheres, cylinders, and other three-dimensional objects
131. astronomy – the study of stars, planets, and other heavenly bodies
132. polytheism – a belief in many gods and goddesses

Ancient Rome

133. monotheism – a belief in only one god
134. Rome – capital city of Italy, situated on the banks of the Tiber River
135. Alps – a major mountain system of south central Europe
136. Pompeii – a Roman town partially destroyed and buried under 4 to 6 meters (13 to 20 ft.) of ash and pumice in the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79
137. Jerusalem – capital of Israel and a holy city for Christians, Jews, and Muslims
138. Byzantine Empire – Eastern part of the Roman Empire that survived after the breakup of the western part of the empire in the AD 400s
139. Etruscans – the early (pre-Roman) inhabitants of Italy
140. legion – smaller unit of the Roman army made up of ~ 6,000 soldiers
141. veto – to reject, from the Latin for “*I forbid*”
142. plebeian – member of the common people of ancient Rome
143. patrician – wealthy landowner and member of the ruling class in ancient Rome
144. dictator – in ancient Rome, a person who ruled with complete power temporarily during emergencies
145. Forum – open space in Rome that served as a marketplace and public square
146. Twelve Tables – laws carved on bronze tablets and placed in the Forum for everyone to see (c.451 BC), applied the rule of law to all Roman citizens

147. currency – system of money
148. aqueduct – human-made channel built to carry water
149. Pax Romana – Latin for “*Roman Peace*”, long era of peace and safety from about AD 27 – AD 180, beginning during the reign of Emperor Augustus
150. tax reform – the process of changing the way taxes are collected or managed by the government
151. Colosseum – a huge arena that could seat ~ 60,000 people, built in AD 80, used for gladiator fights and other public games
152. economy – organized way in which people produce, sell, and buy goods and services
153. anatomy – the study of body structure
154. satire – a work of literature, art, or media that pokes fun at human weaknesses
155. fasces – a bundle of wooden sticks with an axe blade emerging from the center, symbolizing the authority of Roman leaders and the idea of "strength through unity"
156. inflation – period of rapidly increasing prices
157. republic – a form of representative democracy without a monarch
158. Pantheon – a domed temple built to honor Rome’s gods
159. barter – to exchange goods without using money
160. mosaic – picture made from many bits of colored glass, tile, or stone
161. Judaism – the monotheistic religion of the Jewish (Israelite) people
162. Hebrew Bible – called the *Tanakh*, is a collection of written history and beliefs of the Jewish people, essentially the same book which is called the *Old Testament* of the *Christian Bible*
163. Zealots – a group of Jews who revolted against the Roman rule of Judaea, driving the Romans out of Jerusalem in AD 66
164. Old Testament – the first part of the *Christian Bible*, generally the same writings as the Hebrew Bible, but some Christians (Catholics and Eastern Orthodox, for example) also include other material as well
165. New Testament – the second part of the *Christian Bible*, a collection of works written in Greek by disciples of Jesus of Nazareth in the first and possibly second centuries AD
166. Christianity – a monotheistic religion based on the life and teachings of Jesus
167. messiah – savior or liberator of a people
168. parable – story that used events from everyday life to express spiritual ideas
169. resurrection – the concept of a living being coming back to life after death
170. disciple – close follower of Jesus
171. clergy – religious officials, such as priests, given authority to conduct religious services
172. martyr – person willing to die rather than give up his or her beliefs
173. hierarchy – organization with different levels of authority
174. excommunicate – to declare that a person or group no longer belongs to a church
175. schism – separation
176. iconoclast – person who opposed the use of icons (religious images or pictures) in Byzantine churches, saying that icons encouraged the worship of idols
177. Latin Alphabet – by the time of the Roman Empire (27 BC) this alphabet contained all of the letters we use today except for J, U, and W
178. Cyrillic Alphabet – an alphabet based on Greek letters, still used today by 252 million people in Russia and many other countries in Europe and Asia:
а б в г д е ё ж з и й к л м н о п р с т у ф х ц ч ш щ ъ ы ь э ю я

179. Roman Catholic Church – branch of Christianity that by AD 600 was ruled by the authority of the Bishop of Rome, now called the Pope
180. Eastern Orthodox Church – branch of Christianity that did not accept the Pope’s authority, instead ruled by the emperor and patriarch of the Byzantine Empire
181. missionary – person who travels to carry the ideas of a religion to others

Rise of Islam

182. Islam – the name of the religion of the Muslim people, from the Arabic word meaning “surrendering to the will of God”
183. Muhammad – founder and prophet of the Islamic faith, born in 570 CE
184. Allah – the Muslim word for God
185. Makkah – largest and richest town on the Arab trade routes, holiest city for Muslims
186. Mosque – Muslim house of worship, also serves as a school and a court
187. Sharia – law code from the Muslim holy books, gives rules for how society should be run
188. Sunni and Shiite – two main branches of the Muslim religion
189. Arabs – people who trace their ancestors to Arabia, or whose first language is Arabic
190. Quran – the holy book for Muslims
191. Crusades – ‘holy’ wars declared by the Christian Pope against Muslims in Jerusalem
192. genocide – the deliberate and systematic destruction, in whole or in part, of an ethnic, racial, religious, or national group
193. religious tolerance – allowing people of multiple religions to live in relative peace in a community or region, even when ruled by a single religion
194. bazaar – open marketplace in a Muslim city
195. caravan – a group of merchants and animals, traveling together for safety
196. oasis – a green area in the desert fed by underground water
197. Al-Razi – best known Muslim chemist who classified things according animal, mineral, or vegetable; wrote many books on disease
198. Ibn Khaldun – great historian who understood the connection between geography, climate, and history
199. Ibn Sina – Persian doctor who showed how diseases spread from person to person, not because a person was cursed by spirits or gods
200. Omar Khayyam – Persian poet who, in 1100 CE, wrote many beautiful poems, including the *Rubaiyat*, considered one of the most beautiful poems ever written
201. Abbas Ibn Firnas – inventor who lived in Cordoba, Spain; first person to achieve flight; also a mathematician, poet, musician, astronomer, and doctor
202. caliph – important Muslim political and religious leader
203. sheikh – leader of an Arab tribe
204. sultan – military and political leader with absolute power
205. fatwa – a legal opinion or ruling issued by an Islamist scholar
206. jihād – literally “to struggle or strive”. In the media, sometimes interpreted as a Holy War.

Medieval Africa

207. Ibn Battuta – young Arab lawyer from Morocco who set out to explore the Muslim world in 1325; he traveled for almost 30 years
208. Mansa Musa – last strong king of the Mali kingdom; he made Mali famous after making a pilgrimage to Makkah in 1324, but Mali began a slow decline after his death

209. Nzinga – a queen of lands in what are now Angola and Congo; she spent almost 40 years battling Portuguese slave traders
210. Mali – West African kingdom which conquered the kingdom of Ghana
211. griots – West African storytellers
212. plateau – an area of high, flat land
213. Timbuktu – founded in the 11th century by the Tuareg, it became a major trading center (primarily for gold and salt) by the 14th century.
214. dhow – an Arab sailboat
215. clan – group of families related by blood or marriage
216. Swahili – refers to the culture and language of East Africa
217. migrations – movements of large groups of people
218. African diaspora – the spreading of African peoples and cultures around the world
219. matrilineal – refers to a group that traces descent through mothers rather than fathers
220. patrilineal – refers to a group that traces descent through father's rather than mothers
221. Dahia al-Kahina – Queen who led the fight against the Muslim invasion of her kingdom, located about where Algeria is today
222. climate zones – a system for classifying geographic places based on native vegetation, as well as average temperatures and precipitation
223. desert – region with extremely low rainfall, usually less than 16 inches (40cm) per year
224. Mediterranean – a climate with warm to hot, dry summers and mild to cool, wet winters. Examples include the lands around the Mediterranean Sea, much of California, parts of Western and South Australia, southwestern South Africa, sections of Central Asia, and in parts of central coastal Chile.
225. rain forest – forest with a high rainfall, typically 70 or more inches (175 – 200 cm) per year
226. savanna – grassland, often with some tree cover

Medieval Japan

227. constitution – a plan of government which establishes the fundamental principles for a state or other organization, usually setting limits on the power of the state
228. animism – a belief that all natural things (winds, mountains, rivers, etc.) are alive and have spirits
229. shrine – holy places where religious rituals are performed
230. samurai – Japanese warriors who served lords
231. shogun – commander of all of the Japanese emperor's military forces
232. daimyo – powerful Japanese military lords
233. vassal – a samurai who gave an oath of loyalty to a daimyo
234. feudalism – the bond of loyalty between a lord and a vassal which resulted in protection for the lord and land for the samurai
235. sect – smaller sub-group of a religion; for example, Zen Buddhism is an important sect of Buddhism in Japan
236. martial arts – sports that involved combat and self-defense
237. meditation – the practice of sitting for long periods with the mind cleared of thoughts and desires in order to relax and find inner peace
238. calligraphy – the art of writing beautifully

- 239. tanka – unrhymed poem of five lines which captures nature’s beauty and the joys and sorrows of life
- 240. guild – a group of artisans or merchants who work together to set standards for their craft or business, and to protect and increase their profits
- 241. archipelago – a chain or cluster of islands

Medieval Europe

- 242. knight – warriors in armor who fought on horseback
- 243. excommunicate – exclude a person from church membership
- 244. Charlemagne – king of the Franks, who lived from AD 742-814, and conquered much of Western Europe, creating courts and schools, despite being unable to write
- 245. siege – an attempt to take an enemy’s property by force
- 246. code of chivalry – rules for knights
- 247. Black Death – a disease, the Bubonic Plague, which killed ~25,000,000 Europeans in the 14th century
- 248. mail – chain link armor
- 249. medieval – time period which refers to the middle ages, ~ 400CE – 1400CE
- 250. consensus – a general agreement
- 251. bailiff – person who enforces the lord’s wishes, bosses the peasants around
- 252. noble – a wealthy, powerful ruler in feudal society
- 253. peasant – a poor, hardworking member of feudal society – at the bottom of the social order
- 254. serf – peasant who could not leave the manor, own property, or marry without the lord’s approval
- 255. social order – the rank of classes of people in a society
- 256. manor – a farming community with a lord’s residence at its center
- 257. heresy – beliefs which question or challenge official church doctrine
- 258. apprentice – a person who is learning a craft or trade from a master
- 259. Vikings – people also known as the Norsemen, who raided Europe, sailing from the fjords of Scandinavia
- 260. Magyars – nomadic people from Hungary who invaded Europe
- 261. Holy Roman Empire – territory now called Germany and Northern Italy, which formed out of the Eastern Frankish kingdom
- 262. William the Conqueror – a descendant of Viking invaders who conquered Normandy, France, this king invaded England in 1066 and was crowned king of England
- 263. grand jury – the jury which decides whether people should be accused of a crime
- 264. trial jury – the jury which decides whether an accused person is guilty or innocent
- 265. King John – English king who raised taxes and punished his enemies without trials; angry nobles finally met with him in 1215 and forced him to sign the “Great Charter”
- 266. Magna Carta – the “Great Charter”, this document limited the power of government and established the idea that people have rights: it took away some of the king’s power to collect taxes and gave freemen the right to fair, speedy trials by their peers
- 267. parliament – a gathering of representatives from different parts of England who advised the King and helped him make laws
- 268. Slavs – people who organized medieval villages in Eastern Europe – in the region of the modern countries of Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Serbia, and Croatia

- 269. Mongols – people who lived north of China, following their herds of grazing animals, traveling and attacking on horseback, conquering China, much of Southwest Asia, and much of Eastern and Central Europe, creating the largest land empire in the world
- 270. anti-Semitism – prejudice against Jews; in the middle ages this included special clothing restrictions, separate living areas (ghettos), loss of the rights to own land and practice certain trades, expulsion from some countries, and attacks from violent mobs
- 271. cathedrals – large churches paid for by church leaders and wealthy merchants and nobles
- 272. guild – an association of artisans of the same trade formed to protect mutual interests

The Renaissance, Reformation, Age of Exploration, Scientific Revolution, and Enlightenment

- 273. Renaissance – a cultural movement, beginning in Italy and spreading throughout Europe, from the 14th to the 17th century
- 274. Florence – a city in central Italy, on the Arno River: capital of the former grand duchy of Tuscany; the city where the Renaissance began
- 275. Medici – important ruling family of Florence; patron of the arts and literature
- 276. Leonardo da Vinci – Italian painter, 1452–1519, sculptor, architect, musician, engineer, mathematician, and scientist
- 277. Marco Polo – merchant from Venice who traveled to China and met with Mongol ruler Kublai Khan in the 1270s, then wrote a book about his travels
- 278. Johannes Gutenberg – German goldsmith who built a moveable type printing press in the 1450s, making books quicker and cheaper to print, spreading ideas more quickly
- 279. William Shakespeare – English playwright, 1564 – 1616, who wrote tragedies, comedies, and historical plays
- 280. Humanism – any system or mode of thought or action in which human interests, values, and dignity predominate
- 281. scholarship – learning; knowledge acquired by study; the academic attainments of a scholar
- 282. Botticelli – Italian painter
- 283. Michelangelo – Italian sculptor, painter, architect, and poet
- 284. Machiavelli – Italian statesman, political philosopher, and author
- 285. Sir Thomas More – English writer on religious subjects
- 286. Raphael – Italian painter
- 287. aesthetic – pertaining to a sense of the beautiful or to the science of aesthetics
- 288. Filippo Brunelleschi – Italian architect; engineered the dome of Florence Cathedral
- 289. St. Peter's Basilica – a Late Renaissance church located within the Vatican City, the rebuilding of which was an architectural feat, combining the skills of Bramante, Michelangelo, Raphael, Sangallo and Maderno
- 290. scientific method – a method of research in which a problem is identified, relevant data are gathered, a hypothesis is formulated from these data, and the hypothesis is empirically tested; developed during the Renaissance
- 291. Erasmus – Dutch humanist, scholar, theologian, and writer
- 292. sculpture – the art of carving, modeling, welding, or otherwise producing figurative or abstract works of art in three dimensions
- 293. architecture – the profession of designing buildings, open areas, communities, and other artificial constructions and environments, usually with some regard to aesthetic effect
- 294. secular – relating to earthly life rather than to religion or spiritual matters

295. Martin Luther – young monk who challenged the Roman Catholic Church, was upset by the Church’s sale of indulgences, and argued that the Pope could not decide what a person had to do to get into heaven; this led to the Reformation, a Christian movement which became known as Protestantism, which led to many new and different Christian denominations
296. New World – the name given by Europeans to the Americas, which were unknown in Europe before the voyages of Christopher Columbus
297. subject – a person under the rule of a monarch
298. patron – a wealthy or influential supporter of an artist or writer
299. Ferdinand Magellan – explorer who led the first expedition to circumnavigate the globe; he was killed in the Philippines, but his sailors made it home to Spain
300. Columbian Exchange – new exchange of goods, technology, ideas, people, and disease which happened after Columbus sailed to the Americas
301. Age of Enlightenment – a period during the 1700s in which educated Europeans came to believe that scientific thinking and reason was a “light” which revealed error and showed the way to truth
302. Nicolaus Copernicus – Polish mathematician who, in 1543, wrote a book stating his theory that the Sun (not the Earth) was the center of the solar system
303. Isaac Newton – English mathematician who developed calculus, discovered white light is made of color, and in 1687, published his law (well-tested theory) of gravitation
304. John Locke – English thinker in the late 1600s who believed that the purpose of government is to protect people’s rights to life, liberty, and property
305. Baron Montesquieu -- French thinker in the 1700s who argued that England’s government was the best because it separated the government’s powers into three equal branches: executive, legislative, and judicial
306. Mary Wollstonecraft – English writer who wrote *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, in 1792, claiming that all humans have reason, so women should have the same rights as men
307. Thirteen Colonies – by the early 1700s, English settlers had sailed to the Atlantic Coast of North America in order to make money and to find religious and political freedom, creating Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia

Economics and Financial Literacy

308. profit – the money a business or individual makes after accounting for all expenses, such as materials, labor, advertising and taxes
309. supply – the amount of a product which is available to customers
310. demand – the amount of a product people are willing to buy at a certain price
311. price – the quantity of payment given by one person to another for goods or services
312. Four Basic Laws of Supply and Demand -- If demand increases and supply remains unchanged, a shortage occurs, leading to a higher price. If demand decreases and supply remains unchanged, a surplus occurs, leading to a lower price. If demand remains unchanged and supply increases, a surplus occurs, leading to a lower price. If demand remains unchanged and supply decreases, a shortage occurs, leading to a higher price.
313. scarcity – the economic problem of having humans with unlimited wants and needs in a world of limited resources
314. imports – a good or service brought from one country into another country for sale
315. exports – a good or service sent out from a country for sale

- 316. outsourcing – the contracting out of part of a business’ processes to avoid or reduce costs such as labor, medical benefits, or taxes
- 317. cost-benefit analysis – a process of calculating and comparing benefits and costs of a project or decision, by comparing different options, and comparing the total expected cost of each option against the total expected benefits, to see if the benefits outweigh the costs, and by how much

Other General Social Studies Terms

- 318. culture – the way of life (food, language, art, beliefs, clothing, etc...) of a group of people
- 319. artifact – an object made by humans, which when found can give clues about culture
- 320. continent – one of the seven large, continuous land masses of the world: North America, South America, Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia, and Antarctica
- 321. ocean – one of the five large bodies of water separating the continents: Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic, and Southern
- 322. sea – a large body of salt water, much smaller than an ocean, and typically partially enclosed by land
- 323. Northern and Southern Hemispheres – two halves of planet Earth, using the Equator (0° latitude) as the dividing line
- 324. Eastern and Western Hemispheres – two halves of planet Earth, using the Prime Meridian (0° longitude) and Antemeridian (180° longitude) as reference boundaries
- 325. peninsula – a body of land surrounded by water on three sides
- 326. politics – the art or science of government
- 327. cultural center – locations (usually cities on important trade routes) that have very important cultural, historical and economic significance for a civilization
- 328. economic exchange – commerce, or trade involving the exchange of goods and currency
- 329. geographic distributions – patterns with regard to where people live and resources exist
- 330. domestic – pertaining to one’s own country
- 331. geographic models – a physical or virtual representation of geography, such as a globe or computer model of rising sea levels over time
- 332. sustainability – refers to a system or process capable of being continued with minimal harmful long-term effect on the environment
- 333. civics – the study of the rights and duties of citizens
- 334. economics – the study of the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services
- 335. interdependence – people relying on each other in different places or in the same place for ideas
- 336. latitude – the parallel lines measuring degrees north or south of the equator
- 337. longitude – the position of a point on the Earth’s surface distance east or west from the prime meridian to the anti-meridian
- 338. map key – an explanatory description or legend of features on a map or chart
- 339. nonrenewable resources – a finite resource that cannot be replaced once it is used (for example, petroleum, minerals)
- 340. physical characteristics – features and patterns of features on Earth’s surface caused by physical or natural process, such as landform, vegetation, and atmospheric phenomena
- 341. region – an area with one or more common characteristics or features, which give it a measure of homogeneity and make it different from surrounding areas
- 342. resource – an aspect of the physical environment that people value and use to meet a need for fuel, food, industrial product, or something else of value

343. climate – long-term trends in weather elements and atmospheric conditions
344. environment – everything in and on Earth’s surface and its atmosphere within which organisms, communities, or objects exists. The natural or physical environment refers to those aspects of the environment produced by natural or physical processes; the human or cultural environment refers to those aspects of the environment produced by human or cultural processes
345. geography – the scientific study of the earth’s surface. Geography describes and analyzes the spatial variations in physical, biological, and human phenomena that occur on the surface of the globe and treats their interrelationships and their significant regional patterns
346. human features – features and patterns of features on Earth’s surface created by humans, including dwellings, crops, roads, machines, places of worship, and other cultural elements; synonymous with human characteristics and cultural landscapes
347. ethnic groups – refers to a group of people of the same race or nationality who share a common and distinctive culture
348. primary sources – refers to historical documents such as reports, maps, photographs, letters, drawing, diaries, and court records and other legal documents, created by those who participated in or witnessed the events of the past
349. secondary sources – refers to written accounts of events of the past that reflect the author’s interpretation of these events based on the author’s analysis of primary and or secondary sources of information
350. ethics – motivation based on ideas of right and wrong
351. immigration – the movement from one country to another
352. opportunity cost – the value of possible alternatives that an individual gives up when making one choice instead of another; a trade-off
353. propaganda – concerted set of messages aimed at influencing the opinions and behaviors of individuals and groups
354. trade – buying, selling or bartering of goods and services
355. ethnocentrism – judging another culture solely by the values and standards of one's own culture. Ethnocentric individuals judge other groups relative to their own ethnic group or culture, especially with concern for language, behavior, customs, and religion.