

Social Studies 7 Vocabulary

Standard	Content Statement	Term	Definition
Academic	0	analyze	to examine carefully and in detail so as to identify causes, key factors, possible results
Academic	0	demonstrate	to make evident or establish by arguments or reasoning; prove
Academic	0	describe	to tell or depict in written or spoken words; give an account of
Academic	0	discuss	to consider or examine by argument, comment, etc.
Academic	0	explain	to make known in detail
History	1	archaeologist	scientist who examines objects such as bones and tools to learn about past peoples and cultures
History	1	artifact	material object of a culture such as a tool, an article of clothing or a prepared food
History	1	evaluating	to judge or determine the significance, worth, or quality of; assess
History	1	historian	scholar who researches and writes about history
History	1	norms	social expectations that guide behavior
History	1	perspective	a specific point of view in understanding or judging things or events
History	1	primary source	account of an event by someone who was present at the event
History	1	values	lasting beliefs or ideals shared by the members of a culture about what is good, right, fair, and just
History	2	amphitheater	oval or round building with tiers of seats around a central open area, as those used in ancient Rome for gladiatorial contests
History	2	aqueduct	a structure that carries water over long distances
History	2	architecture	designing buildings, open areas, communities, and other artificial constructions and environments
History	2	astrolabe	astronomical instrument for taking the altitude of the sun or stars; used by Greek astronomers from about 200 B.C.
History	2	basilica	a large oblong building used as a hall of justice and public meeting place
History	2	checks and balances	limits imposed on all branches of a government by giving each branch the right to amend or void some acts of the other branches
History	2	Christianity	the religion derived from Jesus Christ, based on the Bible as sacred scripture; began in Israel and spread throughout the Roman Empire
History	2	civic duty	responsibility of citizens to obey laws, participate in government and work for the common good
History	2	civilization	a society with cities, a government, workers who specialize in certain jobs, social classes; characterized by writing, art, culture
History	2	enduring impact	long-term effects; impact can be seen many years, decades, or centuries later
History	2	engineering	art or science of making practical application of the knowledge of pure sciences as in the construction of bridges, buildings, ships
History	2	frescoes	design painted on a moist, plaster surface with colors ground up in water or a limewater mixture
History	2	governance	exercise of authority; control
History	2	history	the written and other recorded events of people of the past
History	2	legacy	something transmitted by or received from an ancestor or previous civilization or from the past
History	2	ore smelting	produce a metal from its ore through heating
History	2	persecution	causing injury or distress to others because of their religion, race, or political beliefs
History	2	pulley block	a lifting machine that helped Romans create large structures
History	2	republic	type of government in which citizens who have the right to vote select the leaders
History	2	technology	any way of putting knowledge to practical use to make something or solve a problem
History	2	tripartite government	power and responsibility divided among three branches of government
History	3	Byzantine Empire	the Eastern Roman Empire after the fall of the Western Empire in 476 A.D.
History	3	feudal system	system in which land was owned by kings or lords but held by vassals in return for their loyalty
History	3	Germanic	northern tribes that invaded the Roman Empire in the 1st through 6th centuries A.D.
History	3	manorial system	economic relationship between peasants and lords; peasants worked on land owned by the lord in return for money and services.
History	3	Mongol	nomads from the plains of Central Asia, north of China; fierce warriors who created a large empire under Genghis Khan
History	3	Turks	a native or inhabitant of the Ottoman Empire
History	5	anatomy	the science concerned with the physical structure of animals and plants
History	5	astronomy	study of stars and other objects beyond the Earth's atmosphere
History	5	chemistry	science that deals with the composition and properties of substances and various elementary forms of matter
History	5	Crusades	series of military expeditions launched by Christian Europeans to win the Holy Land back from Muslim control
History	5	geography	study of the Earth's surface and the processes that shape it
History	5	Islamic Civilization	a golden age of culture from about 800-1100 A.D.; great advances in mathematics and science
History	5	physiology	branch of biology dealing with the functions and activities of living organisms and their parts
History	6	cultural change	change in the culture (religion, customs, language, etc.) as a result of invention, discovery, or contact with other societies
History	6	Renaissance	widespread change in culture that took place in Europe beginning in the 1300s
History	6	scientific changes	challenges to scientific theories during the Renaissance, especially relating to the study of the Earth and its place in the universe
History	6	social changes	changes in arts, education, literature during the Renaissance
History	7	political power	control in the government of a country, state; authority

Social Studies 7 Vocabulary

History	7	Protestant	Christians who shared religious views of Martin Luther and others who protested against the Roman Catholic Church during the Reformation
History	7	Reformation	term used to describe Martin Luther's break with the Roman Catholic Church and the movement it inspired
History	7	Roman Catholic Church	the Christian church of which the Pope, or bishop of Rome, is the supreme head
History	8	commercial centers	area where most of the economic activity and trade takes place within a country or city
History	8	cultural centers	area where most of the education, religion, and exchange of ideas take place within a country or city
History	8	empire	many territories and people controlled by one government
History	8	Silk Road	chain of trade routes stretching from China to the Mediterranean Sea
History	8	trade	buying, selling, or exchanging goods within a country or between countries
History	9	trans-Saharan slave trade	Africans were sold by their rulers to Arab traders who moved them across the Sahara to North Africa to sell in Mediterranean countries
History	10	colonization	one country extends control over foreign lands
History	10	conquest	the act or state of conquering or the state of being conquered
History	10	exploration	the investigation of unknown regions
History	11	Columbian Exchange	the movement of plants and animals between the Western and Eastern Hemispheres after the voyages of Columbus
History	11	communicable disease	disease that is transmitted through direct contact with an infected individual or indirectly; contagious disease
History	11	fauna	animal life
History	11	flora	plant life
History	11	pathogen	any disease-producing agent, especially a virus, bacterium, or other microorganism
Geography	12	geographic representation	maps, globes, and other visuals that show the features of the Earth's surface and the processes that shape it
Geography	12	population density	number of people living per unit of an area (e.g. per square mile)
Geography	13	geographic factors	reasons for movement relating to climate, bodies of water, mountains, deserts, proximity to natural resources
Geography	13	impede	to slow the movement or progress by means of obstacles or hindrances; obstruct; hinder
Geography	13	promote	to help or encourage to exist or flourish; further
Geography	14	Buddhism	religion founded in India by Buddha (Gautama) and later spreading to China, Burma, Japan, Tibet, and parts of southeast Asia
Geography	14	caravan	group of traders traveling together
Geography	14	cultural diffusion	spread of the traits, ideas and products of a culture from one place to another
Geography	14	magnetic compass	compass having a magnetized needle generally in line with the magnetic poles of the earth
Geography	14	textiles	any cloth or goods produced by weaving or knitting
Government	17	Assemblies	legislative branch of Roman government in which citizens cast ballots directly; subject to strong checks on their power by Senate
Government	17	Consuls	either of the two chief magistrates of the ancient Roman republic; executives
Government	17	democracy	system of government in which political control is exercised by the people, either directly or through elected representatives
Government	17	direct democracy	democratic system of government in which the people exercise political control and participate directly in decision making
Government	17	feudalism	system in which land was owned by kings or lords but held by vassals in return for their loyalty
Government	17	nation state	sovereign territorial unit characterized with defined borders, common languages, culture and values
Government	17	radical	a dramatic change from the tradition or past practice
Government	17	representative democracy	democratic system of government in which the people exercise political control through elected representatives
Government	17	Senate	the supreme council of state in Rome
Government	18	Magna Carta	document limiting king's power over his nobles, agreed to by King John of England in 1215; led to development of democratic principles
Economics	19	benefit	that which is perceived as an improvement or advantage as the result of a decision
Economics	19	cost	a sacrifice, loss, or penalty
Economics	19	cost-benefit analysis	determining the potential costs and benefits of an action and then balancing the costs against the benefits
Economics	20	distribution	frequency of occurrence or the natural geographic range or place where any item or category of items occurs
Economics	20	interdependence	countries are mutually reliant on each other
Economics	20	productive resources	resources used to make goods and services (natural resources, human resources, capital goods)
Economics	20	specialization	concentration of production on fewer kinds of goods and services than are consumed
Economics	20	variability	tendency to shift or change
Economics	21	barter economy	economy that uses trade of goods and services for other goods and services without the use of money
Economics	21	market	interaction of buyers and sellers exchanging goods and services
Economics	21	monetary economy	economy that uses money for the exchange of goods and services