

Glossary

The definitions given here are the **vocabulary words** as they are used in this textbook. The words are highlighted in yellow where they first appear in the book.

A

abolitionist one who believed that slavery was wrong and should be ended as soon as possible (7)

agribusiness large-scale, often corporate, farming operations; includes the production, processing, and distribution of farm products, supplies, and equipment (4)

agriculture farming (3)

air pollution the presence of unhealthy things such as smoke, dust, and harmful gases in the atmosphere (9)

ally a person, group, or country that helps or cooperates with another (6)

amendment an official addition or change to a document (5)

Amtrak the national rail passenger service (11)

annex to add on, such as adding territory to an existing town, city, or state (People section)

appeal to ask a higher court to take another look at a case (5)

archaeologist a scientist who studies where and how ancient people lived (1)

architecture the design style of a building (1)

assessment the amount of property tax owed; the assessment is based on the value of the property (5)

atlas a book of maps (2)

attorney general the elected state official who makes sure the state's laws are enforced; represents the state in trials (5)

auditor the elected state official who looks into the way the different state agencies operate and who points out mistakes and suggests better ways to serve the people of the state; also makes sure the state's money is spent properly (5)

aviation the manufacture and use of aircraft (9)

B

baby boom refers to the period between 1946 and 1964 when great numbers of babies were born (11)

barge a large flat-bottomed boat that is usually pushed or towed by another boat (11)

bilingual able to speak two languages (11)

bill a suggested law (5)

biomedical research using science to develop new drugs, new ways to operate on the body using tools such as lasers, new vaccines and treatments to prevent diseases, and new therapies to help injured people recover (11)

biotech manufacturing that uses newly discovered knowledge in biological science to produce new medicines, fight diseases and disabilities, and develop new varieties of crops and livestock (4)

blues a musical style based on black folk music (9)

border state a slave state that stayed in the Union (7)

boycott a nonviolent form of protest where people refused to do business with a store, restaurant, or company because it discriminated (10)

broadcast to send out (11)

bushwhackers small groups of rebels who, during the Civil War, raided small towns and farms for supplies and tried to scare people either into leaving or supporting the South (7)

C

capital seat of government for a country or state (6)

cash crop a crop raised to be sold for a profit (4)

census an official counting of the population (9)

channel a path in the river where the river is deep enough to keep boats from dragging on the bottom (11)

charter similar to a constitution, it sets out how a county will be governed (5)

civil rights certain rights guaranteed to citizens by the U.S. Constitution; includes, for example, free speech, the right to vote, and the right to a fair trial (10)

climate refers to the weather over a period of years (3)

Cold War a long struggle between the democracies and the communists that began after World War II in which the two sides did not actually fight each other but treated each other as enemies and threatened each other with powerful weapons (10)

colony a group of people who settle in a new land but keep their ties to their homeland (6)

communist describes a form of government that does not allow the people to choose their leaders or have very many freedoms (10)

compromise a way to work out differences in which each side gives way a little in its demands (5)

Confederate States of America the name of the government that was formed when the southern states seceded from the Union in the early 1860s (7)

confluence the place where rivers meet (2)

conservationist one who works to protect species and their habitats (3)

constituent a person who lives in a legislator's district (5)

constitution a document that sets out the rules under which a government, or any organization, will operate (5)

consumer one who uses the goods and services producers provide (4)

continent a large landmass on Earth, such as North America (2)

cooperative a group that shares profits and costs (9)

council a gathering of the men of the Osage tribe where important decisions were made (6)

county a subdivision of the state; Missouri has 114 counties (5)

county seat the seat of government for a county (5)

craftsman a person with special skills in making items, such as a blacksmith (4)

credit the ability to buy something now and pay for it over time (9)

culture the way of life of a group of people; includes their beliefs, customs, activities, and possessions (6)

D

dam a structure that holds back the water in a river (3)

delta a place where rivers flow into the sea leaving soil deposits behind (3)

democratic describes a form of government where the people elect their government and enjoy many freedoms (10)

depression a hard time in the economy when sales and prices of goods decrease, businesses slow down or close, banks fail, and people lose their jobs (9)

dictator a ruler with unlimited power (9)

discrimination unequal and unfair treatment that denies people their rights because of their race, sex, religion, or any other reason (8)

drought a long period of little or no precipitation (4)

Dust Bowl a period in the 1930s when the Great Plains suffered through a long drought that turned farmers' fields to dust (9)

E

economy the way in which human resources and natural resources are used to produce goods and services (4)

elevation the distance or height above sea level (2)

e-mail a form of electronic communication that allows us to send messages and to attach computer files like documents or pictures to the messages (11)

endangered refers to plants or animals that are in danger of disappearing or becoming extinct (3)

epidemic a disease that spread rapidly among the people in a community (8)

equator an imaginary dividing line that lies halfway between the North Pole and the South Pole; the equator divides Earth into Northern and Southern Hemispheres (2)

erosion the washing away of the soil by water or the blowing away of the soil by the wind (4)

exodus a movement of people from one area to another (9)

expedition a journey for a specific purpose, such as exploration (6)

export a product that is made or grown in the United States and sold around the world (4)

F

factory a building where goods are manufactured (4)

fallow describes a field that is left unplanted for a growing season; usually done to restore the nutrients to soil (4)

fauna animal life (3)

finite resource a natural resource that cannot be renewed, such as coal (4)

flatboat a raft with sides used to get around on the rivers (7)

flora plant life (3)

fossil fuels fuels such as coal, oil, and natural gas that were formed from the remains of organisms that lived millions of years ago (11)

freedmen the former slaves (8)

Freedmen's Bureau an organization that provided food, clothing, medical care, and other help to the former slaves (8)

free state a state that did not permit slavery (7)

frontier the area just on the edge of a settled area (7)

G

gangsters groups of people who broke the laws (9)

General Assembly the name of the state legislature, which makes the laws for the state (5)

geography the exploration and discovery of new places, new cultures, and new ideas; can be cultural or physical (2)

Glacial Plains region a geographic region of Missouri that includes the northern part of the state from the Iowa border to the Missouri River (3)

glacier a large sheet of ice, commonly found where the temperature rarely rises above freezing (3)

glade an open space in the forest (1)

globalization our economy's dependence on other countries to not only buy our goods but to also sell us their goods (4)

global warming the gradual rise of the average temperature of Earth's atmosphere (11)

governor the head of the executive branch of state government (5)

H

habitat the place where animals, fish, and birds live (3)

hatchery a place for hatching eggs (1)

headwaters the place where a river begins (3)

hemisphere half of a sphere (2)

heritage the traditions passed on from one generation to the next (1)

hijack to take control away from the pilots of airplanes (10)

historic place a place where history happened or a place that is a reminder of our state's history (1)

Holocaust the mass killing of people, particularly Jews, by the Nazis during World War II (9)

hunter-gatherers the prehistoric people who both hunted and gathered their food (6)

hydroelectric electricity generated by water flowing through dams that turns generators (3)

I

Ice Age a period of time when the Earth was very cold and when there were glaciers covering the Northern and Southern Hemispheres (3)

immigrant one who comes into a country to settle there (1)

integrate to bring together as equals; for example, black and white students were brought together in the same schools in the 1950s and 1960s (10)

interest a fee for the use of money, usually a percentage of the amount borrowed (9)

Internet a communication system that uses telephone or cable television connections to link computers with each other; an electronic communications network (11)

interstate highway roads with limited access that connect several states (11)

import a product that we buy that has been made in another country (4)

irrigate to bring water to crops to help them grow (4)

J

jazz a music style that is more upbeat than the blues and depends a lot on the skill of the musicians (9)

Jim Crow laws laws passed after the Civil War that kept blacks from using the same buildings and public services as whites (10)

K

keelboat a riverboat with a bow and keel, which was a strong piece of wood or metal that ran along the bottom of the boat and made it sturdier (7)

L

labor union an organization of workers formed to improve wages and working conditions for the workers (10)

latitude a set of lines on a globe that run east-west and are parallel to the equator; measures the distance a place is from the equator (2)

law of supply and demand the idea that if demand for something that is in limited supply increases, the price also usually increases; if there is more of a supply of a good than people want, the lower the price (9)

lieutenant governor the elected state official who takes over for the governor if he or she is unable to do the work of that office; is also the presiding officer of the state Senate (5)

livestock cattle, pigs, sheep, and horses (1)

lock a structure that allows barges and other boats to get around dams (3)

longitude a set of lines on a globe that run north-south from pole to pole; measures the distance a place is from the prime meridian (2)

Louisiana Purchase a vast territory that the United States bought from France in 1803; includes what is today Missouri (6)

M

manufacture to make something from raw materials (4)

mass transit a form of transportation, such as buses or light rail, that carries a lot of people at the same time (11)

migrate to move from one region or climate to another for feeding or breeding (3)

militia an army made up of ordinary citizens (6)

missionary one who is sent to do religious work in another country (6)

Missouri Compromise legislation passed by Congress in 1820 that allowed Missouri to enter the Union as a slave state and Maine as a free state, but that would not allow any more slave states north of a line even with Missouri's southern border (7)

mounds raised areas that the Hopewell and Mississippi peoples built and used for religious ceremonies and as places to bury their dead (6)

municipality a village, town, or city (5)

N

native species refers to flora or fauna that have always grown or lived in Missouri (3)

natural resources something that occurs naturally in nature, such as soil and water (4)

navigation using a map to find your way or to find out where you are (2)

neutral to not take sides in a disagreement or war (9)

New Deal the name given to the federal government programs to help people and the country get out of the Great Depression (9)

nomad one who moves around and does not live in one place for long (6)

O

ordinance a law passed by a city (5)

Oregon Trail a trail that began in Independence and led through the western United States to Oregon (7)

Ozark Highlands region a geographic region of Missouri that covers most of the southern and southeastern part of the state (3)

P

petroglyph a rock carving of animals and strange creatures left by the Mississippi Indians (6)

pioneer one who first settles in a new area (1)

prairie land with few trees but with tall grasses that have roots reaching down through the deep, rich soil (3)

precipitation rain, snow, sleet, and ice (3)

prehistoric before written history (1)

prime meridian an imaginary dividing line that runs from the North Pole through Greenwich, England, to the

South Pole; divides Earth into Eastern and Western Hemispheres (2)

producer a person or business who makes the goods or provide the services consumers want (4)

profit the amount earned when an item is sold for more than it cost to purchase or make that item (9)

Progressive one who believed that government should make life better for everyone (9)

Prohibition the period when it was illegal to manufacture, sell, and possess alcoholic beverages (9)

Q

quarry a deep, open pit or hillside from which minerals or rock are mined (4)

R

racism a belief that one's own race is better than all others (8)

ragtime a type of music that is a blend of Negro spirituals, marching music, and popular tunes played with a quick beat, usually on a piano (9)

railroad a form of transportation that was powered by a steam engine and that ran on iron or steel rails and pulled cars carrying goods and/or people linked together into a train (7)

ratify to approve something, such as a law (9)

ration to limit the use of something (9)

raw materials any materials that are processed to make another product (8)

Reconstruction time of rebuilding after the Civil War (8)

refine to remove impurities from natural resources in order to make them into useful products (4)

renewable resource a natural resource that can be naturally replaced, such as a tree (4)

revenue the money taken in by state and local governments, mainly through taxes (5)

rural refers to the areas outside the cities (9)

S

Santa Fe Trail a trail that began in Independence and led through the southwestern part of the United States and to Mexico (7)

satellite something that orbits some larger body (10)

secede to leave the Union (7)

secretary of state the elected state official who runs statewide elections and keeps the state's records (5)

segregate to separate by race (8)

self-sufficient able to provide for one's own needs without help from others (4)

sit-in a nonviolent form of protest where people went into a building such as a restaurant and refused to leave until they were served or forced to leave (10)

slave a person who is considered to be the property of another and who is forced to work for that person (6)

slave state a state that permitted slavery (7)

Southeast Lowlands region a geographic region of Missouri in the southeast corner of the state; includes the Bootheel (3)

stagecoach a large wagon that had a roof and seats and was pulled by a team of six to eight horses (7)

states' rights the belief that the right of a state to govern itself is more important than the right of the federal government to pass laws that govern all the states (7)

steamboat a riverboat that was driven by steam (7)

stock a share of ownership in a corporation (9)

stock market a place where shares of ownership in corporations are bought and sold (9)

strip mining a process that uses huge shovels to scrape off the top layer of dirt to expose the mineral deposits just under Earth's surface (4)

suburb a community that surrounds a city (11)

suffrage the right to vote (8)

symbol something that stands for something else (State Symbols section)

T

taxes the money people and businesses pay to the government, which uses the money to pay for the services it provides (5)

tenant farmer a farmer who did not own the land on which he farmed; the landowner gave the tenant farmer a place to live, seed for crops, and tools to work the land in return for a wage or a part of the profit from the sale of the crops (8)

tenement an apartment building, usually with only 3-4 families in the building; the buildings were very close to one another and right next to the street (8)

terrorist one who uses violence and the fear of violence to achieve his or her goals (10)

test oath oath Missourians had to take after the Civil War swearing that they had never supported the Confederate States of America (8)

tornado a violent windstorm with heavy rain, lightning, and thunder (3)

tourism the activity of people visiting a place for fun and recreation, the money they spend, and the businesses and places that serve them (4)

towboat a boat that pushes a group of barges up and down the river (11)

treasurer the elected state official who is responsible for taking care of the state's money (5)

treaty a formal agreement between two countries (6)

tribe a group of people who have common ancestors and who share a name, language, and way of living (6)

tributary a river that flows into another river (3)

U

Underground Railroad a series of “stations” where slaves were helped to escape to the North or Canada (7)

urban refers to cities and their surrounding areas (9)

urban sprawl the spreading out of the population from the central city to the outer suburbs and rural areas (11)

V

veto to refuse to sign a bill passed by the General Assembly (5)

W

weather refers to the current atmospheric conditions— temperature, precipitation, and wind (3)

website a set of related pages, including a home page, created by a person or an organization on the World Wide Web (11)

Western Plains region a geographic region of Missouri that includes the southwestern part of the state (3)