

History Vocabulary List, Year 7

Students are explicitly taught vocabulary as part of their lessons using our 'say it, write it, test it' approach.

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Autumn Term		Spring Term		Summer Term	
Keyword	Definition	Keyword	Definition	Keyword	Definition
Migration	To move from one place to another for positive or neative reasons	Serf	A laborer bound under the feudal system to work on his lord's estate, often providing agricultural work in exchange for protection.	Monarch	A king or queen who rules a kingdom or empire, such as Henry VIII, who was the King of England from 1509 to 1547
Nomadic	A lifestyle where a group of people or person move from place to place without permanently settling down	Tithe	One tenth of annual produce or earnings, formerly taken as a tax for the support of the Church and clergy.	Reformation	A religious movement in the 16th century that aimed to reform the Roman Catholic Church and resulted in the creation of Protestant churches, created by figures like Martin Luther and influenced England under Henry VIII and later monarchs
Invasion:	The act of entering a place by force to conquer it, such as when the Normans invaded England in 1066.	Feudalism	A social and economic system in medieval Europe where land was held by nobles in exchange for military service, and peasants worked the land for protection.	Protestant	A follower of the Western Christian churches that separated from the Roman Catholic Church during the Reformation
Conquer	To take control of a place or people by using military force, as William did during the Norman Conquest.	Crusades	A series of religious wars sanctioned by the Latin Church in the medieval period, most commonly against Muslims in the Holy Land	Catholic	A member of the Roman Catholic Church, which remained the dominant religion in England until Henry VIII's break with Rome and the establishment of the Church of England
Defeat	To win a victory over someone in a battle or competition, like William the Conqueror did to King Harold II at the Battle of Hastings.	Plague	A contagious bacterial disease characterized by fever and delirium, notably the Black Death that devastated Europe in the 14th century	Divorce	The legal dissolution of a marriage, famously sought by Henry VIII from his first wife, Catherine of Aragon, leading to the English Reformation and the creation of the Church of England
Authority	The power or right to give orders, make decisions, and enforce obedience, as held by kings and nobles in the feudal system.	Chivalry	The code of conduct followed by knights, emphasizing qualities such as honor, bravery, loyalty, and courtesy in combat and everyday life	Execution	The act of putting someone to death as a punishment for a crime, as seen in the execution of figures such as Anne Boleyn, Thomas More, and other opponents of Henry VIII's religious reforms
Conflict	A serious disagreement or argument, often a prolonged one, such as the conflicts between the Normans and the Anglo-Saxons.	Peasant	A peasant in the Middle Ages was someone who worked on the land, farming crops and providing labor, often in exchange for protection and living on the lord's estate	Proclamation	A formal public announcement or declaration, often issued by a monarch or government, such as Henry VIII's proclamations regarding changes to religious practices and loyalty to the crown
Hierarchy	A system where people or groups are ranked one above the other according to status or authority. In the feudal system, the king was at the top	Fief	A portion of land granted to a peasant by a lord in exchange for labor and loyalty, forming the basis of the feudal system	Papal Bull	A formal decree issued by the Pope of the Roman Catholic Church, often dealing with matters of doctrine, administration, or governance, such as those condemning Henry VIII's actions during the English Reformation

Serf	A person who was obliged to work on a noble's land in return for protection and a small piece of land to work for themselves, at the bottom of the feudal hierarchy.	Manor	A large estate or piece of land owned by a lord, often consisting of villages, fields, and forests, where peasants lived and worked	Martyr	A person who is killed because of their religious or other beliefs, often seen in Tudor England during the persecution of Protestants under Mary I, also known as "Bloody Mary."
Feudal	Relating to the social and economic system in medieval Europe, where land was held by nobles in exchange for military service and labor from peasants	Monasticism	The religious practice of living in a monastery or convent, where monks or nuns dedicated their lives to prayer, meditation, and service to God	Heresy	A belief or opinion different to orthodox religious doctrine, especially that of the Roman Catholic or Anglican Church, which was punishable by law in Tudor England, leading to persecution and conflict during the Reformation
Witan	The council of Anglo-Saxon nobles and clergy who advised the king before the Norman Conquest.	Plantagenet	The surname of the Royal family who ruled England for 331 years	Monarch	A king or queen who rules a kingdom or empire, such as Elizabeth I, who was the Queen of England from 1558 to 1603
		Monarch	A king or queen who rules a kingdom or empire, such as Henry II and King John during the medieval period	Religious Settlement	The series of laws and policies introduced by Elizabeth I to establish a moderate Protestant Church of England, combining elements of Catholicism and Protestantism
		Archbishop	The highest-ranking bishop in a Christian church, such as Thomas Becket, who served as Archbishop of Canterbury	Protestantism	A branch of Christianity that developed during the Reformation, rejecting certain practices and beliefs of the Roman Catholic Church
		Crusades	A series of religious wars fought between Christians	Papal Bull	A formal decree issued by the Pope of the Roman
		Feudalism	A social and economic system in medieval Europe where land was held by lords in exchange for loyalty and military service from vassals, shaping relationships between rulers and subjects like Henry II and his barons	Excommunicate	To officially exclude someone from participation in the sacraments and services of the Christian Church, as was threatened against Elizabeth I by Pope Pius V for her refusal to return England to Catholicism
		Tyrannize	To rule with absolute power in a cruel or oppressive manner, exemplified by King John's harsh treatment of his subjects, leading to discontent and rebellion	Rebellion	An organized resistance or uprising against authority or a government, such as the Northern Rebellion of 1569, which sought to overthrow Elizabeth I and restore Catholicism in England
		Betray	To be disloyal or treacherous to someone's trust, as in the conflict between Henry II and Thomas Becket when Becket felt betrayed by the king's actions	Execution	The act of putting someone to death as a punishment for a crime, such as the execution of Mary Queen of Scots in 1587, ordered by Elizabeth I for her involvement in various plots against the English crown
		Pilgrimage	A journey undertaken for religious reasons, often to visit a sacred place or shrine, as seen in the pilgrimage to Canterbury in Geoffrey Chaucer's Canterbury Tales	Armada	A fleet of warships, particularly associated with the Spanish Armada, which was sent by King Philip II of Spain in 1588 to invade England and overthrow Elizabeth I, but was defeated by the English navy.

History Vocabulary List, Year 8

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Autumn topic 1		Spring topic 1		Summer topic 1	
Keyword	Definition	Keyword	Definition	Keyword	Definition
Monarch	A king or queen who rules a country. King Charles I was the monarch of England during the English Civil War	Enslavement	The state of being owned and controlled by another person, forced to work without pay and without the freedom to leave	Industrial Revolution	A period of rapid industrial growth, technological advancement, and social change that started in Britain in the late 18th century and spread to other parts of the world
Parliament	The group of people who make laws in the UK. Made up of the House of Commons, House of Lords and the Monarch	Mali Empire	A powerful West African empire that existed from the 13th to the 16th century, known for its wealth, trade, and cultural achievements	Industry	Economic activity concerned with the processing of raw materials and manufacture of goods in factories. The Industrial Revolution saw the expansion of industry, particularly in sectors such as textiles, iron, and coal mining
Civil War	A war between groups of people in the same country. The English Civil War was fought between the Royalists and the Parliamentarians	Mansu Musa	The emperor of the Mali Empire from 1312 to 1337, renowned for his immense wealth and his famous pilgrimage to Mecca, which showcased the riches of Mali	Revolution	A sudden, significant, and often violent change in government, society, or a particular aspect of life. The Industrial Revolution brought about a revolution in manufacturing, transportation, and social structures, fundamentally altering the way people lived and worked
Royalists	Supporters of King Charles I during the English Civil War. They were called Cavaliers, which referred to their support of the king and traditional hierarchy	Trade Triangle	A system of trading during the 16th to 19th centuries between Europe, Africa, and the Americas, involving the exchange of goods, enslaved people, and raw materials	Inventions	New creations or discoveries that significantly change or improve the way things are done. Inventions during the Industrial Revolution included the steam engine, spinning jenny, and power loom
Parliamentarians	Supporters of Parliament during the English Civil War. They were nicknamed Roundheads due to their short haircuts, contrasting with the long curls of the Cavaliers	Middle Passage	The horrific sea journey endured by enslaved Africans being transported across the Atlantic Ocean to the Americas as part of the transatlantic slave trade	Urbanisation	The process of making an area more urban, typically involving the growth of cities and towns. Urbanization increased dramatically during the Industrial Revolution as people moved from rural areas to cities in search of work
Treason	The crime of betraying your country	Auction	A public sale in which goods or property are sold to the highest bidder. Enslaved people were often sold at auctions upon arrival in the Americas	Factories	Buildings or facilities where goods are manufactured or produced in large quantities using machines and labor. Factories were central to the Industrial Revolution, bringing together workers and machines to mass-produce goods
Execution	The act of killing someone, usually as a punishment. King Charles I was executed in 1649 after being found guilty of treason	Plantation	A large farm or estate in the Americas where enslaved people were forced to work, typically growing crops such as sugar, tobacco, and cotton	Child Labour	The employment of children in factories, mines, and other industries, often in hazardous conditions and for long hours. Child labor was widespread during the Industrial Revolution

Republic	A country without a king or queen. After King Charles I was executed, England became a republic for a short time	Resistance	The act of fighting against control or oppression. Enslaved people resisted their conditions through rebellions, escape attempts, and other forms of defiance	Interpretations	Different ways of understanding or explaining historical events or phenomena. Historians have different interpretations of the causes, effects, and significance of the Industrial Revolution
Puritans	A group of Protestants who wanted to purify the Church of England. Many Parliamentarians during the English Civil War were Puritans	Abolition	The movement to end the practice of slavery and the slave trade. Abolitionists worked to outlaw slavery and free enslaved people	Transportation	The movement of people and goods from one place to another. Transportation systems, such as canals, railways, and steamships, played a crucial role in the Industrial Revolution by facilitating the movement of raw materials, goods, and workers
Lord Protector	The title given to Oliver Cromwell when he ruled England after the execution of Charles I, from 1653 to 1658	Diaspora	The dispersion of any people from their original homeland. The African diaspora refers to the communities of people of African descent spread across the world due to the transatlantic slave trade	Steam Engine	An engine that uses steam to generate power. The steam engine, invented by James Watt in the late 18th century, was a key innovation of the Industrial Revolution, powering machinery and locomotives

Autumn topic 2		Spring topic 2		Summer topic 2	
Keyword	Definition	Keyword	Definition	Keyword	Definition
Restoration	The return of the monarchy in England in 1660 when it was restored after the Commonwealth period	Empire	A group of countries or regions controlled by one ruler or government. The British Empire was one of the largest in history	Victorians	The people who lived during the reign of Queen Victoria (1837-1901). The Victorian era was characterized by significant social, economic, and technological changes
Plague	A contagious bacterial disease characterized by fever and delirium, typically with the formation of buboes. The Great Plague of 1665 was a devastating outbreak in London	Colonialism	The practice of acquiring and maintaining colonies or territories by a stronger country, often exploiting them economically. The British Empire established many colonies around the world	Travel	The act of moving from one place to another, typically over a distance. Travel during the Victorian era involved various modes of transportation, including trains, horse-drawn carriages, and ships
Epidemic	A widespread occurrence of an infectious disease in a community. The Great Plague of London was an epidemic	Scramble for Africa	The rapid invasion, colonization, and division of African territory by European powers in the late 19th century	Railways	A system of tracks and trains used for transporting passengers and goods. The Victorian era saw the rapid expansion of railways, which revolutionized transportation and communication
Revolution	A forcible overthrow of a government or social order in favor of a new system. The Glorious Revolution of 1688 replaced James II with William and Mary without bloodshed	Aboriginal People	The original inhabitants of Australia who lived there for thousands of years before European colonization	Leisure	Free time when one is not working or occupied with duties. Leisure activities during the Victorian era included attending theaters, parks, and seaside resorts
Union	The act of joining two or more things into one. The Act of Union 1707 unified England and Scotland into a single kingdom called Great Britain	Penal Colony	A settlement established to exile prisoners and separate them from the general population. Britain established penal colonies in Australia to send convicts during the 18th and 19th centuries	Resorts	Places visited for relaxation, entertainment, or vacation. Seaside resorts such as Bognor, Littlehampton, and Worthing were popular destinations for Victorians seeking leisure and recreation
Quarantine	A period of isolation imposed on people or animals to prevent the spread of disease. During the Great Plague of 1665, affected households were quarantined to contain the outbreak	"Jewell in the Crown"	A term used to describe India, the most valuable colony of the British Empire due to its vast resources and strategic location	Highwaymen	Robbers who attacked travelers on roads or highways, often on horseback and armed with weapons. Highwaymen were a concern for travelers during the Victorian era, especially on isolated roads

Constitutional Monarchy	A system of government in which a monarch shares power with a constitutionally organized government. This was established in England after the Glorious Revolution	Sepoy Rebellion/Massacre	A major uprising against the British East India Company's rule in India in 1857-1858, led by Indian soldiers called sepoys	Toll Roads	Roads for which a toll or fee is charged for passage. Toll roads were common during the Victorian era and were used to fund the maintenance and improvement of roads and bridges
Sovereignty	Supreme power or authority. Parliamentary sovereignty was established in England, ensuring that Parliament held the ultimate power, especially after the Glorious Revolution	Partition of India	The division of British India in 1947 into two independent countries, India and Pakistan, leading to significant migration and conflict	Pier	A raised structure extending from the shore into a body of water, typically used as a landing place for ships, a promenade for walking, and a venue for entertainment and recreation
Firebreak	A gap in vegetation or other combustible material that acts as a barrier to slow or stop the progress of a fire. Firebreaks were created to help control the Great Fire of London	Nationalism	A strong feeling of pride in and devotion to one's country. Nationalist movements in India played a key role in seeking independence from British rule	Promenade	A paved public walkway, typically alongside a waterfront, used for leisurely strolls, socializing, and enjoying views of the sea or surrounding landscape. The promenades were a popular feature of Victorian seaside resorts, offering visitors a place to walk and mingle
Rebuilding	The process of constructing again after something has been damaged or destroyed. London underwent significant rebuilding after the Great Fire of 1666	Independence	The state of being free from outside control; not subject to another's authority. India gained independence from Britain in 1947	Expansion	The act or process of becoming larger or more extensive, often involving growth, development, or enlargement in scope, size, or reach. In the context of railways, expansion refers to the extending and increasing of railway networks to connect more places, facilitate transportation, and accommodate growing demand for travel and freight services

History Vocabulary List, Year 9

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Autumn topic 1		Spring topic 1		Summer topic 1	
Keyword	Definition	Keyword	Definition	Keyword	Definition
Suffrage	The right to vote in political elections, especially when it comes to women's suffrage, which was the fight for women to have the same voting rights as men.	Trench Warfare	A type of combat in which opposing armies fight from trenches dug into the ground, with defensive positions, barbed wire, and heavy casualties	Evacuation	The process of moving people, especially civilians, from a dangerous area to a safer place, as seen during the evacuation of British troops from Dunkirk in 1940
Suffragist	A person, often a woman, who campaigned for the right to vote through peaceful and legal means, such as writing petitions, organizing rallies, and giving speeches <small>A woman who belonged to an activist</small>	Trench	A long, narrow ditch dug into the ground for military defense, providing soldiers with cover and protection from enemy fire, often equipped with firing steps, dugouts, and communication trenches	Alliance	A formal agreement or partnership between two or more countries to support and defend each other in times of war or conflict, such as the alliance between Britain and the United States during World War II.
Suffragette	organization campaigning for women's right to vote, often using more radical tactics like protests, hunger strikes, and civil disobedience	No-Mans Land	The area of land between opposing trenches, usually barren and cratered by artillery shells, making it extremely dangerous to cross and heavily fortified by both sides	Blitzkrieg	A military strategy characterized by sudden, overwhelming attacks using fast-moving forces, such as the German blitzkrieg tactics employed during the invasion of Poland and France in 1939-1940
Feminism	The belief in the social, economic, and political equality of the sexes, often associated with the suffrage movement and the fight for women's rights	Frontline	The area of a battlefield where fighting occurs, particularly the section of trenches closest to the enemy, where soldiers face direct combat and the greatest danger.	Resistance	The act of opposing or fighting against an occupying force or government, often carried out by underground groups or guerrilla fighters, as seen in the resistance movements across Nazi-occupied Europe during World War II.
Civil Disobedience	The refusal to obey certain laws or governmental demands as a peaceful form of protest, often used by suffragettes in their fight for voting rights	Home Front	The civilian population and activities of a nation during wartime, including efforts to support the war effort through industry, agriculture, propaganda, and rationing	Propaganda	Information, ideas, or rumors spread deliberately to influence public opinion and promote a particular political cause or ideology, often used by governments and military leaders to shape public perception and boost morale during wartime
Petition	A formal written request, often signed by many people, asking for a specific action or change, such as petitions submitted by suffragists to Parliament calling for women's suffrage	DORA (Defence of the Realm Act)	A law passed in the United Kingdom during World War I to give the government wide-ranging powers to control and regulate civilian life, including censorship, rationing, and restrictions on public gatherings	Occupation	The military control and governance of a territory by a foreign power, often following conquest or invasion, as seen in the occupation of France by Nazi Germany during World War II

Protest	A public demonstration or gathering to express disapproval or demand change, often organized by suffragettes to raise awareness of women's rights and demand the right to vote	Conscientious Objectors	People who opposed participating in war or military service on grounds of conscience, moral, or religious beliefs, often facing social stigma, imprisonment, or alternative forms of service	Airstrike	An attack carried out by aircraft, typically using bombs, missiles, or other projectiles, such as the German Luftwaffe's bombing raids on British cities during the Battle of Britain
Militancy	The use of aggressive or confrontational tactics in pursuit of a political or social cause, such as the militant actions taken by suffragettes to draw attention to their demands for suffrage	Rationing	The controlled distribution and allocation of scarce resources, such as food, fuel, and materials, to ensure fair distribution and support the war effort during times of shortage	Atomic Bomb	A powerful explosive device that derives its destructive force from nuclear reactions, such as the atomic bombs dropped on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by the United States in 1945, leading to Japan's surrender and the end of World War II.
Amendment	A change or addition to a legal document or law, often proposed by suffragists and suffragettes to extend voting rights to women through amendments to existing legislation	Armistice	A temporary suspension of hostilities or ceasefire agreed upon by opposing sides in a conflict, such as the Armistice of 11 November 1918, which ended fighting on the Western Front and marked the end of World War I	Atlantic Wall	A massive defensive fortification built by Nazi Germany along the coast of Western Europe during World War II, stretching from Norway to Spain, intended to deter and repel an Allied invasion
Emmeline Pankhurst	A leading figure in the British suffragette movement, who founded the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) and played a key role in campaigning for women's suffrage through direct action and civil disobedience			Invasion	The act of entering a territory with hostile intent, often by a military force seeking to conquer or seize control, which the Atlantic Wall was designed to prevent by repelling Allied invasion forces during World War II

Autumn Term 2		Spring Term 2		Summer Term 2	
Militarism	The belief in building up strong armed forces, including armies, navies, and weapons, and using them aggressively to achieve national goals and maintain dominance over other countries	Revolution	A sudden and often violent change in government or social order, such as the Russian Revolution of 1917, which led to the overthrow of the Tsarist regime and the establishment of a communist state	Holocaust	The systematic, state-sponsored persecution and genocide of six million Jews by the Nazi regime and its collaborators during World War II, as well as the persecution and murder of millions of other victims, including Romani people, disabled individuals, Slavs, political dissidents, and others
Alliance	A formal agreement or partnership between two or more countries to support and defend each other in case of war or aggression, often formed to increase security and deter potential enemies	Communism	A political ideology based on the collective ownership of property and the removal of social classes, often associated with the ideas of Karl Marx and Vladimir Lenin, who led the Bolshevik Party during the Russian Revolution	Genocide	The deliberate and systematic extermination of a national, racial, political, or cultural group, as seen in the Holocaust, which targeted Jews and other minority groups for mass murder and eradication
Imperialism	The policy or practice of extending a nation's power and influence through colonization, military conquest, or economic domination of other territories or peoples, often leading to competition and conflict between nations	Bolsheviks	A group of the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party led by Vladimir Lenin, who pushed for the overthrow of the Tsarist regime and the establishment of a communist state, gaining power in the October Revolution of 1917	Anti-Semitism	Prejudice, discrimination, or hostility directed against Jewish people, often based on stereotypes, myths, and misconceptions, which fueled the ideology and policies of the Nazi regime during the Holocaust
Nationalism	A strong sense of pride, loyalty, and devotion to one's own nation or ethnic group, often manifested in feelings of superiority over other nations and a desire for independence or territorial expansion	Stalinism	by Joseph Stalin in the Soviet Union, characterized by centralized control, state-sponsored industrialization, collectivization of agriculture, and authoritarian rule.	Concentration Camp	A place where large numbers of people, especially prisoners of war, political dissidents, and persecuted minorities, are detained under harsh conditions, often subjected to forced labor, starvation, and brutal treatment, such as Auschwitz and Dachau during the Holocaust
Trench Warfare	A type of combat in which opposing armies fight from trenches dug into the ground, characterized by stalemate, attrition, and brutal conditions, as seen on the Western Front during World War	Fascism	A far-right political ideology characterized by authoritarianism, nationalism, and dictatorial power, often associated with Benito Mussolini's regime in Italy and Adolf Hitler's regime in Germany	Extermination Camp	A type of concentration camp specifically designed for the systematic mass murder of prisoners, usually through gas chambers, such as Auschwitz-Birkenau, Sobibor, and Treblinka, where millions of Jews were killed during the Holocaust

Assassination	The act of killing a prominent or important person, often for political or ideological reasons, such as the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary, which sparked the outbreak of World War I	Totalitarianism	A form of government characterized by centralized control, repression of opposition, and the use of propaganda and state terror to maintain power and control over all aspects of society, as seen in fascist regimes like those of Mussolini and Hitler	Deportation	The forced removal or expulsion of people from their homes or countries, often as part of a policy of persecution or ethnic cleansing, such as the deportation of Jews from their communities to concentration camps during the Holocaust
Entente	A friendly understanding or agreement between nations, often less formal than an alliance but still significant in shaping diplomatic relations and international politics, such as the Triple Entente between France, Russia, and Britain before World War I	Propaganda	Information, ideas, or rumors spread deliberately to influence public opinion and promote a particular political cause or ideology, often used by totalitarian regimes to manipulate and control the population	Ghetto	A segregated area of a city where members of a specific racial, ethnic, or religious group are forced to live under oppressive conditions, often surrounded by walls or fences, such as the Jewish ghettos established by the Nazis in occupied Europe during the Holocaust
Neutrality	The policy or position of not taking sides in a conflict or dispute between other nations, maintaining impartiality and avoiding involvement in wars or alliances, as pursued by countries like the United States before entering World War I	Dictatorship	A form of government in which power is concentrated in the hands of a single leader or a small group, often exercising absolute control over the state and its citizens, as seen in the authoritarian rule of Mussolini, Hitler, and Stalin	Resistance	The act of opposing or fighting against an oppressive regime or occupation, often carried out by individuals or underground groups within ghettos, camps, and occupied territories during the Holocaust, despite great risks and dangers
Propaganda	Information, ideas, or rumors spread deliberately to influence public opinion or promote a particular political cause or ideology, often used by governments and military leaders to justify war and rally support for national goals	Repression	The use of force or intimidation to control or suppress opposition and dissent, often employed by totalitarian regimes to maintain power and silence political opponent	Survivor	A person who lived through and survived the Holocaust, often enduring unimaginable hardships, loss, and trauma, and bearing witness to the atrocities committed by the Nazis
Treaty	A formal agreement or contract between nations, often establishing peace, resolving disputes, or regulating international relations, such as the Treaty of Versailles, which officially ended World War I and imposed harsh penalties on Germany	Civil War	A conflict between different groups within a country, often fought for control of the government or independence, such as the Spanish Civil War	Remembrance	The act of honoring and commemorating the victims and survivors of the Holocaust, as well as educating future generations about the importance of tolerance, empathy, and human rights, to prevent such atrocities from happening again