

Instructional Vocabulary

United States History Studies Since 1877

Unit 1: West and Gilded Age

- **Settlement** – establishment of a new region
- **Immigration** – the movement of non-native people into a country in order to settle there
- **Urbanization** – the social process whereby cities grow and societies become more urban
- **Industrialization** – the development of industry on a large scale

Unit 2: Celebrate Freedom Week

- **Constitutional republic** – a government in which supreme power resides in a body of citizens entitled to vote and is exercised by elected officials and representatives responsible to them and governing according to law; it is based on basic principles found in the Constitution

Unit 3: Progressive Era

- **Reform** – make changes for improvement in order to remove abuse and injustices
- **Suffrage** – right to vote
- **Civic** – of or relating to a citizen, a city, citizenship, or community affairs (e.g., civic participation)

Unit 4: Rise of World Power

- **Expansionism** – a policy or practice of expansion and especially of territorial expansion by a nation
- **Foreign Policy** – the policy of a sovereign state in its interaction with other sovereign states
- **Diplomacy** – the practice of conducting negotiations between nations

Unit 5: Transition to Modern America

- **Migration** – to move from one place to another
- **Consumerism** – the act of increasing the amount of money spent on goods and services

Unit 6: The Great Depression and New Deal

- **Economic depression** – a sustained, long-term downturn in economic activity in one or more economies
- **Social welfare** – governmental provision of economic assistance to persons in need
- **Drought** – severe shortage of rainfall over an extended period of time

Unit 7: America Reacts to a World at War

- **Totalitarianism** – a form of government in which the ruler is an absolute dictator
- **Neutrality** – the state of remaining independent and not forming political alliances with other countries
- **Mobilization** – act of assembling and putting into readiness for war

Unit 8: World War II

- **Impact** – to affect or influence in a significant manner

Unit 9: Onset of Cold War, the 1950s, and the Early 1960s

- **Consumerism** – the theory that an increasing consumption of goods is economically desirable
- **Containment** – the blocking of another nation's attempts to spread its influence
- **Communism** – an economic and political system based on one-party government and state ownership of property

Unit 10: Civil Rights Movement

- **Civil rights** – legal and political rights enjoyed by the inhabitants of a country.
- **Social equality** – an ideal condition in which all members of society have the same basic rights, security, opportunities, obligations and social benefits

Unit 11: New Frontiers and Familiar Enemies

- **Resolve** – solve a problem
- **Ideology** – belief or doctrine that guides an individual, social movement, institution, class or large group
- **Global Interdependence** – dependence of one country upon another country/ies (labor, natural resources, etc.)

Unit 12: 1970-1990

- **Conservatism** – a political or theological orientation advocating the preservation of the best in society and opposing radical changes

Unit 13: 1990- Present

- **Demography** – statistical data of a population
- **Immigration** – coming and settling in a country of which one is not a native

Unit 14: Ever Changing America

- **Economic trends** – the general course or prevailing tendency of the economy
- **Social trends** – the general course or prevailing tendency of society