

Glossary

abolitionist—cede

A

- abolitionist** a person who works to end slavery (p. 328)
- absolute location** the exact position of a place on earth's surface expressed in latitude and longitude (p. 27)
- ad interim** serving for the intervening time; temporarily (p. 217)
- adobe** building material made of sun-dried earth and straw (p. 91)
- agent** a person acting or doing business for another by that person's authority; a representative (p. 391)
- agribusiness** large-scale commercial farming (p. 59)
- alcalde** the chief official of a Spanish town (p. 132)
- alliance** an agreement by two or more nations, people, or groups to work together (p. 139)
- Allies** the nations fighting the Axis powers, England, France, China, and Russia; later to be joined by the United States when it entered World War II (p. 517)
- alluvial soil** soil that has been deposited from river (running) water (p. 54)
- alphabet agencies** government agencies that came to be known by the first initials of their names (p. 505)
- amend** change (p. 323)
- amendment** an addition to a formal document such as a constitution (pp. 374, 623)
- annexation** to incorporate a country or territory into another country or territory (p. 271)
- anthropologist** a scientist who studies the origin, movement, and way of life of humans (p. 83)
- antitrust law** a law forbidding companies joining together to fix prices or limit production (p. 446)
- appraise** to determine the value (p. 658)
- appropriate** to set aside by formal action for a specific use (usually money) (pp. 490, 584)
- aquifer** an underground water reservoir (p. 34)
- arbitration** the process of allowing an impartial observer to resolve a dispute (p. 511)
- archaeologist** a scientist who studies the material remains of past human life (p. 81)
- archives** official government documents (p. 282)
- armies of occupation** foreign troops that remain in a conquered nation to ensure an orderly changeover to peacetime activities (p. 529)
- artifact** an object made or altered by humans (p. 81)
- Axis Powers** the countries of Germany, Italy, and Japan—the three dictatorships that formed an alliance to fight World War II (p. 517)
- ayuntamiento** city council (p. 132)

B

- baby boom** a period with a marked rise in birthrate—notably in the U.S. immediately following the end of World War II (p. 528)
- barrier island** an island that protects the main body of land from ocean waves (p. 32)
- basin** a sunken area in a plateau found between mountain ranges (p. 67)
- bicameral** composed of two legislative chambers or branches (House of Representatives and Senate) (p. 636)
- bilingual education** a program that serves students who speak a native language other than English (p. 590)
- bill** a proposed law presented to a legislature for consideration (pp. 398, 581)
- bill of rights** a series of laws in a constitution that protect specific rights of citizens (p. 623)
- black codes** laws limiting the rights of African Americans passed by Southern governments after the Civil War (p. 374)
- blockade** to isolate a particular enemy area (as a harbor) by a warring nation using troops or warships to prevent the passage of supplies and people (p. 350)
- bombard** to attack, usually with cannons (p. 233)
- bond** a note or guarantee issued by the government, promising to repay money it borrows, with interest (p. 625)
- boom and bust cycle** an economic cycle in which high demand and production leads to prosperity followed by depression (p. 570)
- boycott** to refuse to buy goods as a statement of opposition (p. 566)
- budget** a financial plan based on expected earnings and proposals for spending the money (p. 647)
- butte** a flat-topped hill, smaller than a mesa (p. 58)

C

- cabinet** the heads of departments of the executive branch appointed by the president and confirmed by the Senate; a group of advisers to a political head of government (pp. 276, 580)
- campaign** a connected series of military operations (p. 391)
- capitol** a building where a legislative body of a republic, state or country meets (p. 271)
- carpetbagger** Northerner in the South working for a Reconstruction government (p. 376)
- cartel** an association of independent commercial or industrial enterprises formed to limit competition (p. 571)
- cavalry** soldiers that are mounted on horseback (p. 253)
- cede** to give up, especially by treaty. A *cession* is the transfer of land from one country to another. (p. 327)

- census** a counting of the population done by the government at regular intervals (pp. 332, 596)
- Centralist** a person who believes power should be concentrated in the national government (p. 173)
- charter** to establish by a state contract or a guarantee (p. 309)
- checks and balances** a system whereby each branch of government has the ability to limit the actions of the other branches (p. 624)
- cholera** a disease caused by bacteria in food and water (p. 194)
- civil law** a set of laws pertaining to disputes between private citizens, businesses, and governments (p. 628)
- civil rights** the rights of personal liberty guaranteed to U.S. citizens by the Constitution and acts of Congress (pp. 216, 527)
- Cold War** a conflict in which each side uses any means except military action to expand its power and influence (p. 529)
- commander in chief** a top government official who holds supreme command of a military force (p. 643)
- commerce** large-scale trade (p. 190)
- commissary** a storehouse of food and other goods (p. 398)
- commission** a form of city government in which citizens elect officers to head departments such as public safety and human services; the mayor has little power (pp. 466, 658)
- commissioners court** the most important governing body in county government; responsible for determining the budget, setting the property-tax rate, and deciding how tax monies are spent (p. 659)
- committees of correspondence** local groups formed to share political and military information with other communities (p. 205)
- Communist** adhering to *communism*, a theory advocating the elimination of private property (p. 529)
- compulsory** required (p. 378)
- concentration camp** a camp where people (as prisoners of war, political prisoners, or refugees) are detained or confined. During World War II, these camps were often the sites of unspeakable crimes against humanity. (p. 524)
- confederacy** a union of people or groups (p. 87)
- conquistador** one of the Spanish soldiers who sought riches and power for themselves, and wealth and glory for Spain, in the conquest of the Americas (p. 103)
- conscription** the forced enrollment of people into military service (p. 348)
- conservationist** a person concerned with replacing renewable resources such as trees or soil (p. 462)
- conservative** a person who is strict in observance of traditional or established forms, ways, or beliefs (p. 541)
- constitution** a document that outlines fundamental laws and principles of law; it describes the nature, functions, and limits of government (p. 622)
- consumer goods** products such as washing machines, cars, and refrigerators, which the general public buys (p. 527)
- contour plowing** plowing around the contour of a hill, rather than up and down, to conserve water (p. 507)
- convention** a meeting of delegates of a political party to form policies and select candidates (p. 324)
- convoy** a group of vehicles that travel together (p. 550)
- cooperatives** organized groups that borrowed money from the government to pay for installing electrical services (through New Deal legislation) (p. 506)
- corridos** Mexican American folk ballads (p. 601)
- council** a group of advisers (p. 123)
- council-manager** a form of city government in which the city council hires a professional city manager to manage city affairs and prepare the budget; the mayor is mostly a figurehead (p. 658)
- criminal law** a set of laws that describes what people can and cannot do; laws concerned with crime and punishment (p. 628)
- cultural diffusion** borrowing and integrating ideas specific to one group of people into the culture of another group (p. 28)
- culture** the way of life developed by a group of people to satisfy its needs (p. 83)
- customs duty** a tax placed on goods coming into the country (p. 189)

D

- deactivation** the act of making inactive or ineffective (p. 584)
- decree** an order that has the force of law (p. 188)
- department** a land division within Texas: a large administrative unit, similar to a territory (p. 177)
- depression** a period of low economic activity, often marked by high unemployment (p. 165)
- derrick** a framework or tower that supports the drill over a deep hole (p. 462)
- descendant** proceeding from an ancestor (p. 337)
- diameter** the length of a straight line through the center of a circle (p. 30)
- dictator** a leader who controls an area through absolute power (pp. 198, 516)

dispatch to send off or away with promptness or speed on official business (p. 238)

dowry the money, property, and goods a bride gives her husband upon marriage (p. 176)

drive to move cattle in large herds to a stockyard or market (p. 414)

drought dry period in which little, if any, precipitation falls, often causing extensive damage to crops (p. 62)

drover a person who moves cattle to market (p. 414)

dry farming a method of farming that used a manner of plowing that left loose soil on top of the ground, which kept water in the ground by slowing evaporation (p. 425)

Dust Bowl the geographic area, including the Texas Panhandle, hardest hit by the drought during the 1930s where the soil was so dry it blew away in great clouds of dust (p. 502)

E

economies of scale a reduction in unit costs brought about especially by increased size of production facilities (p. 501)

empresario the Spanish word for a land agent whose job it was to bring in new settlers to an area (p. 168)

endowment fund income derived from donations that is set aside for a specific purpose (p. 276)

environment surroundings that include physical, social, and cultural conditions (p. 27)

erosion the wearing away of the earth's surface by the movement of water, wind, ice, and gravity (p. 63)

escarpment a steep cliff (p. 32)

ethnicity the national or cultural heritage to which one belongs (p. 597)

executive having to do with the chief officer of a government (pp. 216, 624)

exempt excuse; to free from a rule that others must obey (p. 188)

expenditure money paid out (p. 274)

extracurricular relating to activities offered by a school but not part of the course of study (p. 590)

F

fault a weak place in the earth's crust (p. 32)

federalism a type of government in which powers and duties between the states and the national government are shared (p. 624)

Federalist a person who believes in sharing power between the states and the national government (p. 172)

feedlot (feedyard) a large outdoor facility where cattle are fed grain before being slaughtered (p. 570)

felony a serious crime for which punishment may be imprisonment or death (pp. 422, 628)

fiesta festival or religious celebration (p. 310)

filibuster an individual who carries out rebellious activities in a foreign country (p. 142)

fiscal of or relating to financial matters (taxation, public revenue, public debt) (p. 647)

flank the right or left side of a formation (p. 255)

folklore traditional customs, beliefs, stories, and sayings of people handed down orally (p. 600)

fortify to strengthen (p. 231)

franchise tax a tax based on the value of machinery and equipment that businesses use to produce income (p. 648)

free enterprise the freedom of private businesses to compete with other businesses to make a profit without government interference (p. 445)

freedmen freed slaves (p. 369)

freedom ride a ride made by civil rights workers to desegregate public facilities, such as bus terminals or lunch counters (p. 566)

friar a member of a Catholic religious order (p. 103)

G

general-law city a city with a government that functions under the general laws of Texas and often provides basic services such as police, fire protection, and water and sewer services (p. 657)

geography the study of the spatial aspects of earth and the people who live on it (p. 26)

GI Bill of Rights a law passed by the U.S. Congress in 1944 which helped veterans financially to attend college (p. 528)

grand jury a group of citizens who determines whether there is enough evidence to charge someone with a crime (p. 629)

grassland an area where the natural vegetation is grass (p. 36)

growth rate the percentage by which the population increases (p. 597)

H

Holocaust the name given to the Nazis' mass murder of European Jews in World War II (p. 524)

home-rule city a city with a government that has freedom to govern unless prohibited by state or federal laws (p. 657)

homespun a coarse, loosely woven, homemade fabric (p. 355)

human-environment interaction how people use, adapt to, or change their surroundings and how the physical environment often affects humans (p. 28)

I

immigrant agent a person licensed to bring settlers into a country, paid in land or money to do so (p. 297)

impeach bring charges against (p. 375)

import bring in from a foreign country (p. 191)

indictment a formal statement charging a party with the commission of a crime (p. 629)

infantry soldiers that fight on foot (p. 255)

integrated silicon circuit a tiny group of electronic devices and their connections manufactured on a small slice of material (p. 552)

interdependence the act of two or more groups relying on each other for support (p. 573)

interstate connecting or existing between two or more states (p. 446)

intrastate connecting or existing in areas within a state (p. 446)

J

Jim Crow laws laws discriminating against African Americans (p. 470)

joint resolution a statement passed by both houses of a legislature that has the force of law (p. 288)

judicial having to do with courts of law or the justice system (p. 216)

judiciary the judicial branch of government, it tries cases involving government and administers justice (p. 624)

juror a member of a jury sworn to hear testimony, review facts, and hand down a verdict on a case (p. 629)

K

keynote address a speech that presents the main issue of interest to an audience and often inspires unity and enthusiasm (p. 568)

L

lariat a long light rope (as of hemp or leather) used with a running noose to catch livestock, or without the noose to tether grazing animals (p. 153)

law of supply and demand general economic principle that expresses the relationship between the quantity and supply of a product and its price (p. 500)

legislative having to do with a lawmaking body; congressional (p. 216)

legislature elected officials who make the laws for the state (pp. 323, 624)

Lend-Lease Act a 1941 program in which the United States loaned military equipment to the Allied powers (p. 517)

libel an intentionally written statement that unjustly gives an unfavorable impression (p. 547)

liberal a person who is not strict in observance of traditional or established forms, ways, or beliefs (p. 541)

liberation setting something free (p. 145)

line-item veto the power of the governor to veto individual items in a spending bill (p. 643)

location the position of a place on the earth's surface (p. 27)

los corridos see *corridos*

lynch to put to death (as by hanging) without a legal trial (p. 470)

M

malaria a disease caused by mosquitoes implanting parasites in the blood (p. 196)

manifest destiny the view that it was fated that the United States should expand its borders from coast to coast (p. 288)

maquiladoras factories in Mexico that assemble parts made in the United States (p. 69)

martial law the law applied by government military forces in an emergency (p. 500)

massacre to kill many at one time (p. 248)

matrilineal tracing descent through the mother (p. 87)

mayor-council a form of city government in which the mayor has full executive authority (There are strong-mayor and weak-mayor types of this form. In the weak-mayor type, the mayor shares administrative duties with the city council.) (p. 657)

McCarthyism the act of making unfounded exaggerated charges against a person (p. 547)

mechanize to equip with machinery, especially to replace human or animal labor (p. 527)

mediate to solve a problem or legal dispute through discussion and compromise rather than through the court system (p. 631)

mestizo a person of mixed blood, usually Spanish and Native American (p. 132)

middle latitudes the area approximately midway between the Equator and the North Pole or South Pole (p. 38)

middlemen dealers or agents acting as go-betweens for the producers of goods and the retailers or consumers (p. 90)

militia a group of citizens acting as a military force, usually all able-bodied men (p. 169)

misdemeanor an offense of lesser gravity than a felony (p. 628)

mission a religious settlement (p. 103)

moderate a person who holds views that are not extreme (p. 541)

monopoly exclusive possession or control (p. 444)

mortgage a loan from a bank or lending institution to purchase a home or business property (p. 585)

movement people interacting across the globe—includes migration, transportation, and trade (p. 28)

municipality a city or other district that has local self-government (p. 208)

mural artwork applied to a wall or ceiling (p. 506)

mustang the small, hardy horse of the western plains, descended from horses brought by the Spaniards (p. 420)

N

National Guard part-time military forces organized by the states but available for national defense in a time of crisis (p. 585)

neutral favoring neither side in a conflict; not aligned with a political or ideological group (p. 517)

no bill a grand jury's decision that the evidence does not warrant an indictment (p. 629)

nomad a member of a group that wanders from place to place (p. 83)

nonpartisan election an election in which candidates are not identified by any particular party (p. 663)

norther icy wind that blows in quickly from the North (p. 39)

nullify cancel (p. 368)

O

open range public land that could be used by anyone, usually for grazing cattle (p. 413)

ordinance a local law (pp. 345, 658)

override to overrule, or set aside, another action (p. 213)

oversight the power of the legislature to review the activities of the executive branch (p. 637)

P

pardon to excuse from punishment (p. 509)

paunch the belly (p. 397)

pension a wage paid to a person following his or her retirement from service (p. 434)

perpetual continuing forever (p. 346)

petit jury a group of 12 people who listen to evidence and decide on a verdict; also known as a trial jury (p. 629)

petition to formally make a request (p. 215)

petrochemical substance made from petroleum or natural gas (p. 51)

petroglyph a carving or inscription on a rock (p. 605)

pictograph an ancient or prehistoric drawing or painting (p. 605)

place a geographic location, usually a town or city, and its physical and human characteristics (p. 28)

plain a landform that generally is level (p. 32)

plateau a broad, level landform that has steep cliffs—called escarpments—on at least one side and higher elevation than the surrounding land (p. 32)

plea bargain an agreement between a prosecutor and a defendant whereby the defendant is permitted to plead guilty to a lesser charge (p. 629)

poll tax a tax of a fixed amount so a person could vote (p. 470)

precinct one of four districts that each Texas county is divided into (p. 659)

presidio a Spanish military outpost (p. 121)

preventive strike an action taken to prevent a possible future attack (p. 350)

primary election an election in which party members choose the party's candidates for the general election (p. 466)

productivity rate of production (p. 570)

progressivism a reform movement in the early twentieth century that sought to correct social and political problems (p. 465)

prosperous marked by success or economic well-being (p. 561)

province one district of a country (p. 126)

provisional government temporary government (p. 208)

pueblo a Native American village with joined, flat-roofed buildings (p. 108)

Q

quarantine a state of enforced isolation designed to prevent the spread of disease or pests (p. 417)

quinine a drug used for fighting malaria and other fevers (p. 356)

R

Radical Republican Republican who believed that Congress should direct Reconstruction (p. 374)

- raft** a floating mass of tangled driftwood that often blocks transportation (p. 308)
- ranchero** a rancher (p. 413)
- ratify** to approve formally (p. 374)
- ration** to limit food or goods to ensure adequate supplies to soldiers (p. 482)
- ration boards** groups of people (during wartime) who determined how essential goods would be allotted to the general public after military needs were met (p. 522)
- real estate** property in buildings and land (p. 660)
- Reconstruction** the effort to reorganize the seceded states and bring them back into the Union (p. 366)
- recruit** to enlist people into the armed services (pp. 226, 479)
- redback** additional money issued during Mirabeau B. Lamar's presidency to help in easing the large public debt (redbacks quickly shrank in value) (p. 279)
- redistricting** redrawing the boundaries of legislative districts depending on population changes (pp. 543, 638)
- reenactment** to repeat the actions of an earlier event or incident (p. 611)
- refinery** a building equipped to refine or process products such as oil, metals, or sugar (p. 441)
- refugee** a person who flees for safety, especially to a foreign country (p. 563)
- region** an area that is unified by one or more common characteristics (p. 28)
- regular army** an army of full-time, paid soldiers (p. 208)
- relative location** the location of a place in relation to other places (p. 27)
- renegade** a person who rejects lawful behavior (p. 403)
- repeal** recall or do away with a law (p. 195)
- republic** a government in which the power lies with the citizens, who vote for people to represent them (p. 145)
- reservoir** an artificial lake where water is collected as a water supply (p. 551)
- resolution** a formal expression of opinion voted by an official group (pp. 191, 639)
- retail** to sell in small quantities directly to the consumer (p. 463)
- revenue** money that a nation or state collects (p. 274)
- rural** of or relating to the country, country people or life; agricultural (p. 486)
- savanna** grassland with scattered trees and drought-resistant undergrowth (p. 36)
- scalawag** white Southerner who supported Reconstruction after the Civil War (p. 376)
- scrip** nongovernment currency that could be spent only at a company store (p. 462)
- secede** withdraw (p. 343)
- segregation** the act of segregating, or setting apart, from the general population (p. 470)
- separation of powers** the term for the fact that the powers of government are divided into three separate branches: legislative, executive, and judicial (p. 624)
- shaman** a person who is believed to have the power to cure the sick and forecast and control the future (p. 88)
- sharecropper** a tenant farmer who is provided with seed, tools, living quarters, and food and receives a share of the value of the crop (pp. 426, 484)
- siege** a military blockade of a city or fortress (p. 206)
- sinew** a tendon (p. 397)
- sit-in** occupying seats in a racially segregated establishment in protest against discrimination (p. 566)
- skirmish** a small fight, usually during wartime (p. 191)
- smelter** an establishment for melting or fusing ore in order to separate the metal (p. 522)
- sovereignty** the state of being free from outside control; self-governing (pp. 343, 542)
- special interest groups (SIGs)** organizations of people who share a common interest and seek to exert influence over a particular aspect of government (p. 664)
- states' rights** the position that the federal government should not interfere with the states' exercise of their constitutional powers (p. 343)
- stock** shares of ownership in a corporation (p. 498)
- stockade** an enclosure of posts made to form a defense (p. 114)
- stockyard** a place where livestock are penned before they are slaughtered or shipped (p. 414)
- strike** a refusal to work as protest against the employer (p. 511)
- subsistence crop** a crop grown to be used on the farm where it was raised (p. 303)
- suburb** a residential community close to a city or large town (p. 550)
- suffrage** the right to vote (p. 433)
- survey** measure for size and for boundaries (p. 167)
- synthetic** produced artificially or human-made (p. 552)

S

sandbar a ridge of sand built up by currents in a river or coastal waters (p. 114)

T

tallow the fat of cattle and sheep, used in the manufacture of soap, margarine, candles, and lubricants (p. 413)

- tariff** a tax on imported goods (p. 274)
- teamster** a person who drives or directs a team of animals (p. 333)
- Tejano** a person of Mexican heritage who considers Texas as home (p. 133)
- tenant farmer** a farmer who works land owned by another and pays rent either in cash or in shares of the crop (pp. 426, 484)
- tepee** a shelter made of tanned hides fastened to a framework of poles (p. 95)
- third-party** an organized political group that is neither Republican nor Democrat (p. 581)
- transistor** a solid state electronic device, with at least three electrodes, used to control the flow of electricity in electronic equipment (p. 552)
- trust** a combination of companies formed by agreement to reduce competition (p. 444)

U

- unconstitutional** not following the U.S. Constitution and therefore not legal (p. 544)
- unemployment** loss of jobs—having fewer jobs available than the people needing them (p. 499)
- Unionist** a person who supported the Union cause during the Civil War era (p. 349)
- urban** of or relating to a city (p. 486)
- urban dweller** a person who lives in the city (p. 579)

V

- vacuum tube** an electron tube with a high degree of vacuum; used to control the flow of electricity in televisions and radios before the invention of the transistor (p. 552)
- vaquero** a cowhand (pp. 153, 413)
- veto** to reject, as to reject a bill and prevent it from becoming a law; a refusal by a president or governor to approve a law (pp. 213, 374)
- viceroy** a governor who rules as a representative of a king or sovereign (p. 108)
- vigilante** a member of a volunteer committee organized to punish criminals (pp. 349, 435)

W

- watchdog role** an activity of political parties: monitoring, or keeping track of and informed about, other parties' practices and decisions (p. 664)
- white-collar** generally, jobs not requiring physical labor (p. 463)
- wildcatter** an oil operator who drills for wells in territory not known to contain oil (p. 499)
- windfall** an unexpected or sudden gift, gain, or advantage (p. 648)
- wrangler** a ranchhand who takes care of saddle horses (p. 416)