Acròpolis (37°58’ N, 23°43’ E) a hill in Athens, Greece, on which many temples and other archaeological sites are located, p. 179

Africa (10° N, 22° E) the world’s second-largest continent, surrounded by the Mediterranean Sea, the Atlantic Ocean, and the Red Sea, p. 11

Alexandria (31°12’ N, 29°54’ E) an ancient Hellenistic city in Egypt, p. 199

Andes (20° S, 67° W) a mountain system extending along the western coast of South America, p. 18

Anyang (36°6’ N, 114°21’ E) capital of the Shang dynasty in ancient China, p. 26

Arabian Peninsula (25° N, 45° E) a peninsula of Southwest Asia, on which are located the present-day nations of Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, and Kuwait, p. 102

Arctic Circle (66°30’ N) a line of latitude around Earth near the North Pole, p. 18

Asia (50° N, 100° E) the world’s largest continent, surrounded by the Arctic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, the Indian Ocean, and Europe, p. 26

Asia Minor (39° N, 32° E) a peninsula in western Asia, between the Black Sea and the Mediterranean Sea; in present-day Turkey, p. 44

Assyria a historical kingdom of northern Mesopotamia around present-day Iraq and Turkey, p. 42

Athens (37°58’ N, 23°43’ E) a city-state in ancient Greece; the capital city of present-day Greece, p. 173

Babylonia (32° N, 44° E) an ancient region around southeastern Mesopotamia and between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers; present-day Iraq, p. 43

Bangladesh (24° N, 90° E) a country in South Asia, p. 109

Cairo (30°3’ N, 31°15’ E) the capital and largest city of Egypt, located on the Nile River, p. 77

Canaan a region occupied by the ancient Israelites, later known as Judaea, located between the Syrian Desert and the Mediterranean Sea; today encompassing Israel and the West Bank, p. 56

Carthage (36°52’ N, 10°20’ E) an ancient city on the northern coast of Africa that controlled much of the North African coast and other Mediterranean territories; now a suburb of the city of Tunis, p. 214

Chang River (32° N, 121° E) the longest river in China and Asia and the third-longest river in the world (also called the Yangtze River), p. 139

Chang’an (34°15’ N, 108°52’ E) a city in northern China; in ancient times the eastern end of the Silk Road; also called Xi’an, p. 159

Chile (30° S, 71° W) a country in South America, p. 18

China (35° N, 105° E) a country in East Asia, p. 138

Colosseum (41°54’ N, 12°29’ E) a large amphitheatre built in Rome around A.D. 70; site of contests and combats between people and animals, p. 222

Constantinople (41°1’ N, 28°58’ E) formerly the ancient city of Byzantium, renamed in A.D. 330 after the Roman emperor, Constantine, who made it the new capital of the Eastern Roman, or Byzantine, Empire; now Istanbul, Turkey, p. 239

Crete (35°15’ N, 25° E) an island of Greece, southeast of the mainland, home to the ancient Minoan civilization, p. 170

Damascus (33°30’ N, 36°18’ E) the capital and largest city of Syria, p. 7
E

East Africa an eastern region of the continent of Africa that is made up of the countries of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Somalia, p. 16

Egypt (27° N, 30° E) a country in North Africa, pp. 26, 70

Euphrates River (31° N, 47° E) a river that flows south from Turkey through Syria and Iraq, pp. 26, 36

Europe (50° N, 28° E) the world's second-smallest continent, a peninsula of the Eurasian landmass bounded by the Arctic Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean, the Mediterranean Sea, and Asia, p. 26

F

Fertile Crescent a region in Southwest Asia; site of the world's first civilizations, p. 36

G

Ganges River (23°22' N, 90°32' E) a river in northern India and Bangladesh that flows from the Himalaya Mountains to the Bay of Bengal, p. 110

Gaul a region inhabited by the ancient Gauls, including present-day France and parts of Belgium, Germany, and Italy, p. 214

Giza (30°1' N, 31°13' E) an ancient city of Upper Egypt; site of the Sphinx and the Great Pyramid, p. 86

Gobi Desert (43° N, 105° E) a desert in Mongolia and northern China, p. 137

Great Wall of China (41° N, 117° E) a wall that extends about 1,400 miles across northern China; built in the third century B.C., p. 137

Greece (39° N, 22° E) a country in Mediterranean Europe; site of a great ancient civilization, p. 168

Gupta Empire an empire that ruled northern India in the 300s and 400s A.D., p. 132

H

Harappa (30°38' N, 72°52' E) an ancient city of the Indus civilization; a village in present-day Pakistan, p. 110

Himalayas (28° N, 84° E) a mountain system of south central Asia that extends along the border between India and Tibet and through Pakistan, Nepal, and Bhutan, p. 108

Hindu Kush (36° N, 72° E) a mountain range in central Asia, p. 110

Huang River (38° N, 118° E) the second-longest river in China, beginning in Tibet and emptying into the Yellow Sea, pp. 26, 139

I

India (20° N, 77° E) a large country in South Asia, p. 108

Indian Ocean (10° S, 70° E) the world's third-largest ocean, lying between Africa, Asia, and Australia, p. 109

Indus River (24° N, 68° E) a river that flows from Tibet through India and Pakistan into the Indian Ocean. Its valley was the home of India's earliest civilization, pp. 26, 110.

Iran (32° N, 53° E) a country in Southwest Asia, p. 46

Iraq (33° N, 44° E) a country in Southwest Asia, p. 66

Israel (32° N, 35° E) an ancient kingdom of the Hebrews; a present-day country in Southwest Asia, p. 60

Italy (43° N, 13° E) a country in southern Europe, p. 211

J

Japan (36° N, 138° E) an island country in the Pacific Ocean off the east coast of Asia, p. 125

Jerusalem (31°46' N, 35°14' E) the capital city of present-day Israel; a holy city for Jews, Christians, and Muslims, p. 57
Judaea (31°35' N, 35° E) a Roman province centered on the ancient region of Judah, located in present-day Israel and the Israeli-occupied territories, p. 230

Judah the name of the southern half of the Kingdom of the Israelites (the northern half retaining the name Israel), with Jerusalem its capital; later called Judaea, p. 57

K

Kemet the term used by ancient Egyptians to describe their land, meaning “the black land,” a reference to the dark soil left by the Nile River, p. 73

Kerma an ancient Nubian city; a market town in present-day Sudan, p. 99

Knossos (35°20' N, 25°10' E) an ancient city on the island of Crete, pp. 26, 170

Korea the present-day nations of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (North Korea) (40° N, 127° E) and the Republic of Korea (South Korea) (37° N, 128° E), which occupy the Korean peninsula in East Asia, p. 125

L

Lake Nasser (22°40' N, 32° E) a lake located in southeast Egypt and northern Sudan, formed by the construction of the Aswan Dam on the Nile River, p. 74

Lower Egypt (31° N, 31° E) an area in ancient and present-day Egypt, in the northern Nile River region, p. 72

Lower Nubia an ancient region in northern Africa extending from the Nile Valley in Egypt to present-day Sudan, specifically, between the first and second Nile cataracts, p. 99

M

Macedonia (41° N, 23° E) an ancient kingdom on the Balkan Peninsula in southeastern Europe, the site of the present-day nation of Macedonia, northern Greece, and southwest Bulgaria, p. 196

Marathon a village in ancient Greece, northeast of Athens, where the ancient Greeks defeated the Persians in 490 B.C., p. 191

Maurya Empire the Indian empire founded by Chandragupta; empire that began with his kingdom in northeastern India and spread to most of northern and central India, p. 128

Mediterranean Sea (35° N, 20° E) the large sea that separates Europe and Africa, p. 36

Memphis (29°51' N, 31°15' E) an ancient city in Lower Egypt; capital of many ancient Egyptian dynasties, pp. 26, 77

Meroë a city of ancient Nubia in present-day Sudan, p. 99

Mesopotamia (34° N, 44° E) an ancient region between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in Southwest Asia, p. 35

Mohenjo-Daro (27°18' N, 68°15' E) an ancient city on the banks of the Indus River in southern Pakistan, pp. 26, 110

Mycenae an ancient city on the mainland of Greece, home to one of Greece’s earliest civilizations, p. 170

N

Napata one of the three most powerful Nubian kingdoms, located between the third and fourth cataracts of the Nile River in Upper Nubia, p. 99

New Babylonian Empire a revival of the old Babylonian empire stretching from the Persian Gulf to the Mediterranean Sea, p. 45

Nile River (30°10' N, 31°6' E) the longest river in the world, flowing through northeastern Africa into the Mediterranean Sea, pp. 13, 70

North China Plain a large plain in East Asia, built up by soil deposits of the Huang River, p. 139

Nubia (21° N, 33° E) a desert region and ancient kingdom in the Nile River Valley, on the site of present-day southern Egypt and northern Sudan, p. 71
Pakistan (30° N, 70° E) a country in South Asia between India and Afghanistan; officially, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, p. 109

Parthenon (37°58' N, 23°43' E) the chief temple of the Greek goddess Athena on the hill of the Acropolis in Athens, Greece, p. 179

Peloponnese (38° N, 22° E) a large peninsula in southern Greece, p. 192

Persian Empire an empire centered in modern Iran that covered the Fertile Crescent, Egypt, Asia Minor, and parts of Central Asia and India, p. 46

Persian Gulf (27° N, 51° E) an arm of the Arabian Sea, located between the Arabian Peninsula and southwest Iran, p. 36

Phoenicia (34° N, 36° E) an ancient region in present-day Lebanon, p. 53

Rome (41°58' N, 12°40' E) the capital city of Italy; the capital of the ancient Roman Empire, p. 210

Sahara (26° N, 13° E) the largest tropical desert in the world, covering almost all of North Africa, p. 73

Silk Road an ancient trade route between China and Europe, p. 158

Sinai Peninsula (29°30' N, 34° E) a peninsula on the northern end of the Red Sea that links southwest Asia with northeast Africa, p. 55

Sparta (37°5' N, 22°27' E) an ancient city-state in Greece, pp. 174, 188

Sumer the site of the earliest known civilization, located in Mesopotamia, in present-day southern Iraq; later became Babylonia, p. 34

Syria (35° N, 38° E) a country in Southwest Asia, p. 81

Tiber River (42° N, 12° E) a major river in Italy that rises in the mountains of central Italy and empties into the Tyrrenhenian Sea; flows through Rome, p. 211

Tibet (32° N, 88° E) a historical region of central Asia north of the Himalayas; currently under Chinese control, p. 125

Tigris River (31° N, 47° E) a river in Iraq and Turkey, pp. 26, 36

Troy (39°57' N, 26°15' E) an ancient city in northwestern Anatolia, the Asian part of Turkey; the site of the mythical Trojan War, p. 171

Tyre (33°16' N, 35°11' E) a rich trade port and the major city of Phoenicia, located on the eastern Mediterranean Sea in present-day southern Lebanon, p. 52

Upper Egypt (26° N, 32° E) an area in ancient and present-day Egypt in the Nile Valley, south of the river’s delta and the 30th northern parallel, p. 72

Upper Nubia an ancient region in northeastern Africa that extended from the Nile Valley in Egypt to present-day Sudan, specifically, between the second and sixth cataracts, p. 71

Ur (30°57' N, 46°9' E) a city of ancient Sumer in southern Mesopotamia, located in present-day southeast Iraq, pp. 26, 36

Vietnam (16° N, 108° E) a country located in Southeast Asia, p. 125
A

Abraham (AY bruham) the first leader of the Israelites, who, according to the Torah, led his family to Canaan, where he became the founder of a new nation, p. 55

Akhenaton (ah keh NAH tun) king of ancient Egypt from about 1379–1362 B.C.; tried to impose monothelism; lost much of Egypt’s territory; changed his name from Amenhotep IV, p. 84

Alexander the Great (al ig ZAN dur thu grayt) (356–323 B.C.) the king of Macedonia from 336 to 323 B.C.; conqueror of Persia and Egypt and invader of India, p. 197

Archimedes (ahr kuh MEE deez) (born 287 B.C.) a Greek inventor and mathematician; calculated the surface area and volume of a sphere, p. 200

Aristarchus (ar is TAHK KUS) (c. 310–230 B.C.) a Greek astronomer who was the first to hold the theory that Earth moves around the sun, p. 200

Aristotle (AR is taht ul) (384–322 B.C.) a Greek philosopher who was a student of Plato and became a famous teacher; wrote about and taught logic, politics, science, and poetry; author of works that became the basis for medieval church scholarship, p. 178

Asoka (uh SOH kuh) (died c. 232 B.C.) Chandragupta’s grandson and last major emperor of India’s Maurya Empire; credited with having built the greatest empire in India’s history; helped spread Buddhism, p. 130

Augustus (aw GUS tus) (63 B.C.–A.D. 14) the first Roman emperor; ruled after Julius Caesar’s death in 44 B.C. until his own death; named Octavian, he was awarded the title of Augustus in 27 B.C., pp. 215, 219

Aurelius, Marcus (aw REE lee us, MAHR kus) (A.D. 121–180) a Roman emperor, generally tolerant, and promoter of humanitarian causes, p. 220

C

Caesar, Julius (SEE zur, JOOL yus) (c. 100–44 B.C.) a Roman political and military leader; assassinated by Roman senators, p. 214

Caligula (kuh LIG yuh luh) (A.D. 12–41) a Roman emperor (A.D. 37–41) believed to be insane for much of his rule, p. 220

Champollion, Jean François (shahm poh LYOHN, zhahn frahn SWAH) (A.D. 1790–1832) a French scholar; first to decode Egyptian hieroglyphics, p. 94

Chandragupta (chun druh GUP tuh) (died c. 297 B.C.) founded India’s Maurya Empire in 321 B.C.; unified most of India under one ruler, p. 128

Cicero (sis uh roh) (106–43 B.C.) Roman orator, author, philosopher, and politician, p. 223

Cleopatra VII (klee oh PA truh) Macedonian queen who ruled Egypt from 51 to 30 B.C., p. 81

Commodus (KAHM uh dus) (A.D. 161–192) Roman emperor who succeeded his father, Marcus Aurelius; a poor ruler whose reign marked the beginning of the decline of the Roman Empire, p. 220

Confucius (kun FYOO shus) (551–479 B.C.) a Chinese philosopher and teacher, pp. 143, 146

Constantine (KAHN stun teen) (c. A.D. 278–337) the emperor of Rome from A.D. 312 to 337; encouraged the spread of Christianity, p. 236

Constantine
David (DAY vid) (died c. 972 B.C.) the king of the Israelites from about 1012 to 972 B.C.; unified the Jews into a settled nation and established a capital at the city of Jerusalem, p. 57

Deborah (DEB uh ruh) (c. 1100s B.C.) a judge and prophet in the Jewish Bible, p. 62

Democritus (DH dih MAHK ruh tus) (c. 460–c. 370 B.C.) a Greek philosopher who proposed that the universe is made up of atoms, p. 177

Diocletian (DY uh KLEE shun) (A.D. 245–316) emperor of Rome from A.D. 284 to 305; reorganized the Roman government, p. 233

Hammurabi (hah muh RAH bee) (died 1750 B.C.) the king of Babylon from about 1792 to 1750 B.C.; creator of the Babylonian Empire; established one of the oldest codes of law, pp. 43, 47

Hatshepsut (haht SHEP soot) (died c. 1458 B.C.) the stepmother of Thutmose III; ruled Egypt as regent and then as pharaoh; achieved economic success, especially in trade, p. 76

Herodotus (HOOH RAHD uh Tus) (c. 484–420 B.C.) a Greek author who traveled throughout the known world; wrote about the wars between Greece and Persia in the History, the first major historical work of ancient times, p. 70

Homer (HOH mur) (c. 800 B.C.) a Greek poet; credited with composing the epics the Iliad and the Odyssey, p. 171

Eratosthenes (ehr uh TAHS thuh neez) (c. 275–c. 195 B.C.) a Greek scholar who headed the library at Alexandria; a noted astronomer who wrote about many subjects, p. 200

Etruscans (ih TRUS kunz) an ancient people who lived in Etruria in Italy from at least 650 B.C. to about 500 B.C.; lived before the Romans and influenced their culture, p. 212

Euclid (YOO klid) (c. 300 B.C.) a Greco-Roman mathematician; known for the Elements, a book on geometry, p. 200

Gautama, Siddhartha (GOW tuh muh, sih DAHR tuh) (born after 500 B.C. and died before 350 B.C.) the founder of Buddhism; a prince who left his family and gave up his wealth to try to find the cause of human suffering; also known as the Buddha, p. 121

Iceman (EYES man) one of the best-preserved bodies from prehistory that has ever been found; discovered in the Ötztal Alps on the border between Austria and Italy in 1991; believed to be from Europe’s Copper Age (4000–2200 B.C.); also called Ötzi, p. 10

Jesus (JEE zus) (c. 6–4 B.C.–c. A.D. 30) the founder of Christianity; believed by Christians to be the Messiah; executed by the Roman government; believed to have spoken to his followers after his death, and to have later risen bodily to heaven, p. 229

Justinian (JUS TIN ee un) (A.D. 483–565) a Byzantine emperor, responsible for codifying Roman law; influenced all later laws, p. 223

Hadrian (HAY dree un) (A.D. 76–138) the emperor of Rome from A.D. 117 to 138; one of Rome’s greatest emperors; worked to unify the empire, p. 220
Laoshi (Lozhzuh) (c. 500s B.C.) a Chinese philosopher and the founder of Taoism, p. 149

Liu Bang (Loh bahng) the founder of the Han dynasty of China in 202 B.C.; born a peasant; stabilized the government and promoted education, p. 154

Martial (MAHHR shuhl) (c. A.D. 40–104) a Roman poet who wrote poems about the early Roman Empire, p. 224

Menes (MEE neez) the legendary founder of the first Egyptian dynasty; according to tradition, unified Upper and Lower Egypt, around 3100 B.C. or earlier, and founded the capital of Memphis; possibly King Narmer of the carving known as the Narmer Palette, p. 77

Moses (MOH zuz) (c. 1200s B.C.) the Israelite leader who, according to the Torah, led the Israelites from Egypt to Canaan; said to have received the Ten Commandments from God, p. 56

Narmer (NAHR murr) the Egyptian king honored in the carving known as the Narmer Palette, celebrating the unification of Upper and Lower Egypt; possibly the King Menes of Egyptian legend, p. 77

Nebuchadnezzar II (nub yuh kud NEZ ur) (c. 630–561 B.C.) the king of the New Babylonian Empire from about 605 to 561 B.C., p. 45

Nero (NEE roh) (c. A.D. 37–68) the Roman emperor from A.D. 54 to 68; known for his cruel treatment of the Christians, p. 220

Octavian (ahk TAY vee un) (63 B.C.–A.D. 14) Rome’s first emperor; strong leader whose rule led to peace and wealth; also known as Augustus, p. 215

Paul (pawl) (died c. A.D. 64) a disciple of Jesus, spent his later life spreading Jesus’ teachings; helped turn Christianity into an organized religion, p. 232

Pericles (PEHR uh kleez) (c. 495–429 B.C.) an Athenian leader; played a major role in the development of democracy and the Athenian empire, p. 174

Philip (FIL ip) (382–336 B.C.) a king of Macedonia; seized power in 359 B.C.; conquered the Greek city-states; father of Alexander the Great, p. 196

Plato (PLAY toh) (c. 427–347 B.C.) a Greek philosopher and student of Socrates; founded the Academy of Athens and wrote The Republic, p. 178

Ptolemy V (TAHL uh mee) (died 180 B.C.) king of ancient Egypt from 205 to 180 B.C.; his ascension to the throne is recorded on the Rosetta Stone, p. 94

Ramses II (RAM seez) (died 1224 B.C.) a king of ancient Egypt from 1292 to 1225 B.C.; known for great splendor and the building of monuments during his reign, p. 74

Romulus Augustulus (RAHM yuh lus oh GUS chuh lus) (died c. A.D. 476) the last Roman emperor; ruled from A.D. 475 to 476, p. 240
Sargon II (SAHR gahn) (died 705 B.C.) a king of Assyria from 722 to 705 B.C.; conquered Babylonia and founded the last great Assyrian dynasty, p. 42

Saul (sawl) the first king of the Israelites, p. 57

Seneca (SEN ih kuh) (c. 4 B.C.—A.D. 65) a writer, philosopher, and statesman of ancient Rome, p. 226

Shi Huangdi (shur hwahng DEH) (c. 259–210 B.C.) the founder of the Qin dynasty and China's first emperor, ruled from about 221 to 210 B.C., p. 151

Sima Qian (sigh MAH chen) (c. 145 – 85 B.C.) a Chinese scholar, astronomer, and historian; wrote the most important history of ancient China, Historical Records, p. 161

Socrates (SAHK ruh teez) (c. 470–399 B.C.) an Athenian philosopher of the late 400s B.C.; taught by using a method of questioning; helped form many values of Western culture; put to death for challenging Athenian values, p. 178

Solomon (SAHL uh mun) (died c. 932 B.C.) the king of the Israelites from about 972 to 932 B.C., after his father King David; built cities, a temple, and established foreign trade and alliances, p. 57

Solon (SOH lun) (c. 630–560 B.C.) an Athenian statesman; made Athens more democratic, p. 173

Thutmos III (thoot MOH suh) the stepson of Hatshepsut; considered the greatest pharaoh of the New Kingdom of Egypt; expanded the empire to include Syria and Nubia; reigned from about 1479 to 1425 B.C., p. 80

Tutankhamen (toot ahng KAH mun) a king of ancient Egypt from about 1333 to 1323 B.C.; well known because the excavation of his tomb in 1922 provided new knowledge about Egyptian art and history, p. 79

Virgil (VUR jul) (70–19 B.C.) a Roman poet and the author of the Aeneid, an epic that glorifies Roman ideals in the age of Augustus, p. 218

Wudi (woo dee) (c. 156–86 B.C.) the Chinese emperor from 140 to 86 B.C.; expanded the Chinese empire under the Han dynasty; made Confucianism the state religion, p. 154
This glossary lists key terms and other useful terms from the book.

**A**

**absolute power (AB suh loot POW ur)** *n.* complete control over someone or something, p. 77

**acropolis (uh KRAH puh lis)** *n.* the fortified, or strengthened, hill of an ancient Greek city; the acropolis of Athens when spelled with a capital A, p. 172

**A.D.** the abbreviation for the Latin term, *Anno Domini*, or “in the year of the Lord”; used with dates, p. 14

**afterlife (AF tur lyf)** *n.* a life after death, p. 82

**agora (AG uh ruh)** *n.* a public market and meeting place in an ancient Greek city; the agora of Athens when spelled with a capital A, p. 182

**ahimsa (uh HIM sah)** *n.* the Hindu idea of nonviolence, p. 119

**Alexander the Great (al ig ZAN dur thuh grayt)** *n.* the king of Macedonia from 336 to 323 B.C.; conqueror of Persia and Egypt and invader of India, p. 197

**alphabet (AL fuh bet)** *n.* a set of symbols that represent the sounds of a language, p. 54

**ancestor (AN ses tur)** *n.* a person from whom one is descended, especially of a generation earlier than a grandparent, p. 16

**aqueduct (AK wuh dukt)** *n.* a structure that carries water over long distances, p. 222

**archaeologist (ahr kee AHL uh jist)** *n.* a scientist who examines objects such as bones and tools to learn about past peoples and cultures, p. 11

**architecture (AHR kuh tek chur)** *n.* the art and work of designing and constructing buildings or other large structures; the style and design of a building, p. 27

**aristocrat (uh RIS tuh krat)** *n.* a member of a rich and powerful family, p. 172

**artisan (AHR tuh zun)** *n.* a worker who is especially skilled in crafting items by hand, pp. 25, 100

**assassinate (uh SAS uh nayt)** *v.* to murder for political reasons, p. 197

**astronomer (uh STRAHN uh mur)** *n.* a scientist who studies the stars and other objects in the sky, p. 94

**Athens (ATH unz)** *n.* a city-state in ancient Greece; the capital of present-day Greece, p. 181

**avatar (av uh TAHR)** *n.* a representation of a Hindu god or goddess in human or animal form, p. 117

**B**

**Babylon (BAB uh lahn)** *n.* the capital of Babylonia; a city of great wealth and luxury, p. 43

**barbarian (bahrR BEHR ee un)** *n.* a wild and uncivilized person, p. 196

**barge (bahrj)** *n.* a large, flat-bottomed boat, p. 87

**battering ram (BAT ur ing ram)** *n.* a weapon having a wooden beam mounted on wheels; used to knock down walls or buildings, p. 45

**bazaar (buH ZAHR)** *n.* a market selling different kinds of goods, p. 43

**B.C.** the abbreviation for “before Christ”; used with dates, p. 14

**blockade (blah KAYD)** *n.* an action taken to isolate an enemy and cut off its supplies, p. 193

**boomerang (BOOM ur ang)** *n.* a flat, curved object, traditionally made of wood, that can be thrown so that it returns to the thrower, p. 70

**brahman (BRAH mun)** *n.* a single spiritual power that, according to Hinduism, lives in everything, p. 117

**bronze (brahnz)** *n.* a yellowish-brown alloy of copper, tin, and traces of other metals, p. 27

**Buddhism (booD iz um)** *n.* a religion based on the teachings of Buddha; characterized by the belief that enlightenment comes from within rather than from worshipping gods, p. 121
canal (kuh NAL) n. a waterway dug into the earth or modified by people to transport water or people, or to provide drainage, p. 24

caravan (KA ruh van) n. a group of travelers journeying together, p. 43

caste (kast) n. a social class of people, p. 113

catacombs (KAT uh kohmz) n. an underground cemetery of many tunnels and passageways, p. 231

cataract (KAT uh rakt) n. a large waterfall or steep rapids, p. 71

Chandragupta (chun druh GUP tuh) n. (died c. 297 B.C.) the founder of India's Maurya Empire in 321 B.C.; unified most of India under one ruler, p. 128

chieftain (CHEEF tun) n. a leader or head of a group, such as a clan or a tribe, p. 172

Christianity (kris chee AN uh tee) n. the Christian religion, based on the life and teachings of Jesus and on the Christian holy book, the Bible, p. 229

circa (SUR kuh) prep. the Latin word meaning "about"; often abbreviated as c., p. 14

circus (SUR kus) n. an arena in ancient Rome; also the show held there, p. 226

citadel (SIT uh del) n. a fortress in a city, p. 110

city-state (SIT tee stayt) n. a city that is also a separate, independent state, p. 37

civilization (sih vuh luh ZAY shun) n. a society with cities, a central government run by official leaders, and workers who specialize in certain jobs, leading to social classes; characterized by writing, art, and architecture, p. 27

civil service (SIV ul SUR vis) n. the group of people whose job is to carry out the work of the government, p. 150

code (kohd) n. an organized list of laws or rules, p. 48

Colosseum (kahl uh SEE um) n. a large amphitheater built in Rome around A.D. 70; site of contests and combats between people and animals, p. 222

Confucius (kun FYO shus) n. (551–479 B.C.) a Chinese philosopher and teacher; originator of Confucianism, greatly influenced Chinese life, pp. 143, 146

conqueror (KAHN kur ur) n. a person who uses force to gain control of other people, land, or possessions, p. 43

Constantine (KAHN stun teen) n. (c. A.D. 278–337) the emperor of Rome from A.D. 312 to 337; encouraged the spread of Christianity, p. 236

consul (KAHN sul) n. one of two officials who led the ancient Roman Republic, p. 212

convert (kun VURT) v. to change one's beliefs; in particular, to change from one religion to another, p. 130

covenant (KUV uh nunt) n. a promise made by God; a binding agreement, p. 61

culture (KUL chur) n. the language, religious beliefs, values, customs, and other ways of life shared by a group of people, p. 11

cuneiform (kyoo NEE uh fauerm) n. a form of writing that uses groups of wedges and lines; used to write several languages of the Fertile Crescent, p. 50

currency (KUR un see) n. the kind of money used by a group or a nation, p. 153
dam (dam) n. a barrier across a waterway to control the level of water, p. 24

Dead Sea Scrolls (ded see skroh-liz) n. ancient parchment manuscripts containing the earliest version of the first few books of the Bible, p. 61

delta (DEL tuh) n. a triangular-shaped plain at the mouth of a river, formed when sediment is deposited by flowing water, p. 72

democracy (dih MAHK ruh see) n. a form of government in which citizens govern themselves, p. 173

descendant (dee SEN dunt) n. child, grandchild, great-grandchild (and so on) of an ancestor, p. 60

dharmā (DAHR muh) n. the religious and moral duties of Hindus, p. 119

diaspora (dy AS pur uh) n. the scattering of people who have a common background or beliefs, p. 64

dictator (Dik tay tur) n. a ruler who has total control of the government, p. 213

dike (dyk) n. a protective wall that controls or holds back water by a river, p. 140

disciple (dih sy pul) n. a follower of a person or belief, p. 230

district (dis trikt) n. an area set by law for a particular purpose; an area having particular characteristics, p. 152

domesticate (duh MES tih kayt) v. to adapt wild plants for human use; to tame wild animals and breed them for human use, p. 20

drama (DRAH muh) n. a type of literary work, such as a play, that tells a story and is written to be performed by actors, p. 180

dynasty (DY nus tee) n. a series of rulers from the same family or ethnic group, p. 77

emperor (EM pur ur) n. a ruler of widespread lands, p. 151

empire (EM pyr) n. many territories and people controlled by one government, p. 43

epistle (ee PIS ul) n. a letter; in the Christian Bible, letters written by disciples to Christian groups, p. 232

exile (EK syl) v. to force someone to live in another place or country, p. 57

extended family (ek STEN did FAM uh lee) n. closely related people of several generations, p. 142

famine (FAM in) n. a time when there is so little food that many people starve, p. 56

Fertile Crescent (FUR tul KRES unt) n. a region in Southwest Asia; site of the world’s first civilizations, p. 36

finances (FY nan siz) n. the amounts of money or money-related resources a person has; the management of money, p. 184

floodwaters (FLUH wah turz) n. water from a flood; generally used to describe floods caused in the spring by excess water from rain and melting snow, p. 24

geography (jee AHG ruh fee) n. the study of Earth’s surface and the processes that shape it, p. 13

Giza (GEE zuh) n. an ancient Egyptian city; site of the Great Pyramid, p. 86

gladiator (GLAD ee ay tur) n. in ancient Rome, a person who fought in an arena for the entertainment of the public; usually a slave, p. 226

god (gahd) n. a being considered to be the creator or ruler of the universe or parts of the universe; the object of worship in some cultures and societies, p. 37
goddess (GAWD is) n. a female being considered to be the creator or ruler of the universe or parts of the universe; the object of worship in some cultures and societies, p. 37

Gospels (GAHS pulz) n. in the Christian Bible, the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, which are the first four books of the New Testament, p. 230

Gupta Empire (GOOP tuh EM pyr) n. an empire in northern India, p. 132

H

Hammurabi (hah muh RAH bee) n. (died 1750 B.C.) the King of Babylon from about 1792 to 1750 B.C.; creator of the Babylonian Empire; established one of the oldest codes of law, p. 43

Hammurabi's Code (hah muh RAH beez kohd) n. a set of laws created by Babylonian king Hammurabi, telling his people how to live and settle conflicts, p. 47

Hellenistic (HEL uh NIS tik) adj. having to do with history or Greek-influenced culture in the Middle East and countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea after the death of Alexander the Great, p. 199

hebet (HEB ut) n. a member of a certain class of servants in ancient Sparta, p. 189

herbalism (HUR bul iz um) n. the practice of creating medicines from plants, p. 95

hieroglyphs (HY ur oh glifz) n. pictures and other written symbols that stand for ideas, things, or sounds, p. 93

Hinduism (HIN doo iz um) n. a religion developed in India, introduced by the Aryans, and based on sacred books called the Vedas and Upanishads; recognizes many gods as different aspects of one supreme being, p. 116

history (HIS tuh ree) n. the written and other recorded events of people, p. 11

hominid (HAHM uh nid) n. a modern human or a member of an earlier group that may have included ancestors or relatives of modern humans, p. 16

hunter-gatherers (HUN tuh GATH ur urz) n. people who gather wild food and hunt animals to survive, pp. 17, 22

I

Iliad (IL ee ud) n. a Greek epic, credited to the poet Homer, telling about quarrels among Greek leaders in the last year of the Trojan War, p. 171

immortal (ih MAWR tuh) n. someone or something that lives forever, p. 176

imperialism (IM PIHR ee ul iz um) n. the practice of gaining control over foreign lands and peoples, p. 214

inflation (IN FLAY shun) n. an economic situation in which there is more money with less value, p. 239

irrigation (IHR uh GAY shun) n. a method of supplying land with water through a network of canals, p. 24

Islam (IS lahm) n. the religion practiced by Muslims; based on the teachings of the prophet Muhammad and on the holy book of Islam, the Quran, p. 64

J

Jesus (JEE zus) n. (c. 4 B.C.-A.D. 29) founder of Christianity; believed by Christians to be the Messiah; crucified by the Roman government, p. 229

Judaism (JOO day iz um) n. the religion of the Jewish people, which developed from ancient Israelite beliefs; based on belief in one God and the teachings of the Hebrew Bible, p. 60

L

landform (LAND fawrm) n. an area of Earth's surface with a definite shape; examples include mountains and hills, p. 169

linen (LIN un) n. a smooth, strong cloth made of the fibers of the flax plant, p. 82
Liu Bang (LYOH bahng) n. the founder of the Han dynasty of China in 202 B.C.; born a peasant; stabilized the government and promoted education, p. 154

loess (LOH es) n. a yellow-brown soil, p. 140

Lower Nubia (LOH ur NOO bee uh) n. an ancient region in northern Africa extending from the Nile Valley in Egypt to present-day Sudan, specifically, between the first and second Nile cataracts, p. 99

M

martyr (MAHR tur) n. a person who dies for a cause he or she believes in, p. 233

Maurya Empire (MOWR yuh EM pyr) n. Indian empire founded by Chandragupta, beginning with his kingdom in northeastern India and spreading to most of northern and central India, p. 128

meditate (MED uh tayt) v. to focus the mind inward in order to find spiritual awareness or relaxation, p. 122

mercenary (MUR suh neh ree) n. a soldier who serves for pay in a foreign army, p. 238

merchant (MUR chunt) n. a person who buys or sells goods for a profit; person who runs a store or business, p. 28

messiah (muh sy uh) n. a savior in Judaism and Christianity, p. 230

Middle Kingdom (MID ul KING dum) n. the period from about 1991 to 1786 B.C., during which Dynasty 12 ruled ancient Egypt, p. 77; a name for the land of ancient China, p. 139

migrate (MY grayt) v. to move from one place to settle in another area, p. 112

mina (MY nuh) n. a unit of weight or money used in ancient Greece and Asia, p. 47

missionary (MISH un ehr ee) n. a person who spreads his or her religious beliefs to others, p. 123

monothelism (MAHN oh thee iz um) n. the belief in one god, p. 55

monsoon (mahn SOON) n. a strong, seasonal wind that blows across East Asia, p. 109

moral (MAWR ul) adj. acting in a way that is considered good and just by a society's standards, p. 131

Moses (MOH ZUZ) n. (c. 1200s B.C.) Israelite leader who, according to the Torah, led the Israelites from Egypt to Canaan; said to have received the Ten Commandments from God, p. 61

mummy (MUM ee) n. a dead body preserved in lifelike condition, p. 84

myth (mith) n. a traditional story; in some cultures, a legend that explains people's beliefs, p. 38

N

New Babylonian Empire (noo bab uh LOH nee un EM pyr) n. a revival of the old Babylonian empire stretching from the Persian Gulf to the Mediterranean Sea, p. 45

New Kingdom (noo KING dum) n. the period from about 1567 to 1085 B.C., during which dynasties 18, 19, and 20 ruled ancient Egypt, p. 77

New Stone Age (noo stahn ayj) n. the later part of the Stone Age during which people began to grow their own foods and lived in the same place year after year, p. 19

nirvana (nur VAH nuh) n. the lasting peace that Buddhists seek by giving up selfish desires, p. 123

noble (NOH bul) n. in certain societies, a person of high rank; in early civilizations, members of the upper class who were government officials, p. 48

nomad (NOH mad) n. a person who has no settled home, p. 18

Nubia (noo bee uh) n. a desert region and ancient kingdom in the Nile River Valley, on the site of present-day southern Egypt and northern Sudan, p. 71
O

**Odyssey** (oh di see) *n.* a Greek epic, credited to the poet Homer, describing the adventures of the hero Odysseus after the Trojan War, p. 171

**Old Kingdom** (ohld KING dum) *n.* the period from about 2686 to 2181 B.C., during which dynasties 3, 4, and 5 ruled ancient Egypt, p. 77

**Old Stone Age** (ohld stohn aij) *n.* the early part of the Stone Age during which people learned to hunt in groups, discovered how to use fire, and became nomads, p. 17

**oracle** (ohr kul) *n.* in ancient Greece, a sacred site where a god or goddess was consulted; any priest or priestess who spoke for the gods, p. 177

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oral traditions (ohr ul truh DISH unz) *n.* stories passed down through generations by word of mouth, p. 12

**ore** (awr) *n.* a mineral or a combination of minerals mined for the production of metals, p. 99

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**papyrus** (puh PY rus) *n.* an early form of paper made from a reedlike plant found in the marshy areas of the Nile delta, p. 93

**patrician** (puh TRISH un) *n.* a member of a wealthy, upper-class family in the Roman Republic, p. 212

**Pax Romana** (paks roh MAH nah) *n.* the period of stability and prosperity in the Roman Empire, lasting from 27 B.C. to A.D. 180; “Roman peace,” p. 219

**peasant** (PEZ unt) *n.* a member of a class that makes its living through small-scale farming and labor, p. 91

**Peloponnesian War** (pel uh puh NEE shun wawr) *n.* (431–404 B.C.) a war fought for 27 years between Athens and Sparta in ancient Greece that involved almost every Greek city-state, p. 192

**peninsula** (puh NIN suh luh) *n.* an area of land almost completely surrounded by water and connected to a mainland by a narrow strip of land, p. 169

**Persian Empire** (PUR zhun EM pyr) *n.* an empire centered in modern Iran that covered the Fertile Crescent, Egypt, Asia Minor, and parts of Central Asia and India, p. 46

**pharaoh** (FEHR oh) *n.* a king of ancient Egypt, p. 76

**philosopher** (fih LAHS uh fur) *n.* someone who uses reason to understand the world, pp. 146, 177

**philosophy** (fih LAHS uh fee) *n.* a system of beliefs and values, p. 148

**plague** (playg) *n.* a widespread disease, p. 193

**playwright** (PLAY ryt) *n.* a person who writes dramas; also called a dramatist, p. 180

**plebeian** (plih BEE un) *n.* an ordinary citizen in the ancient Roman Republic, p. 212

**polytheism** (PAHL ih thee iz um) *n.* the belief in many gods, p. 38

**prehistoric** (pree HISS tuh ree) *n.* before history; the events in the period of time before writing was invented, p. 11

**prophet** (PRAHF it) *n.* a religious teacher who is regarded as speaking for God or a god, p. 63

**province** (PRAH vins) *n.* a unit of an empire; in the Roman Empire each one having a governor supported by an army, p. 219

**pyramid** (puh ruh mid) *n.* a huge building with four sloping triangle-shaped sides; built as a royal tomb in Egypt, p. 86
quarry (KWAWR ee) n. a site where large holes are
dug into the ground and stone is collected by
digging, cutting, or other means, p. 87

rapids (RAP idz) n. a very fast-moving part of a river,
p. 70

rebellion (rih BEL yun) n. an organized resistance to
the government or other authority, p. 189

reeds (reedz) n. tall, hollow-stemmed grasses that
grow in wet places, p. 93

regent (REE junnt) n. someone who rules for a child
until the child is old enough to rule, p. 80

reincarnation (ree in kahr NAY shun) n. the rebirth
of the soul in the body of another living being,
p. 119

republic (rih PUB lik) n. a type of government in
which citizens who have the right to vote select
their leaders, p. 212

Roman Empire (ROH mun EM pyr) n. an empire
lasting from 27 B.C. to A.D. 476, whose boundaries
changed over time; at its greatest extent stretching
from Britain to North Africa and the Persian Gulf,
p. 215

Rosetta Stone (roh SET uh stohn) n. an ancient
tablet covered with Egyptian and Greek hiero-
glyphics; provided a key to deciphering hieroglyph-
ics, p. 94

rubble (RUB ul) n. irregularly shaped pieces of rock
or other materials, p. 45

sandstorm (SAND stawtrm) n. a strong wind that
carries clouds of sand and dust as it blows, p. 158

scribe (skryb) n. a professional writer, p. 34

senate (SEH nyt) n. the governing council of ancient
Rome and the later Roman Empire, p. 212

Shi Huangdi (shur hwaahn DEE) n. (c. 259–210 B.C.)
the founder of the Qin dynasty and China’s first
emperor, ruled from about 221 to 210 B.C., p. 151

silk (silk) n. a valuable cloth originally made only in
China from threads spun by caterpillars called silkworms, p. 160

Silk Road (silk rohD) n. an ancient trade route
between China and Europe, p. 158

silt (silt) n. fine soil found on river bottoms, p. 72

Sima Qian (sih MAH chen) n. (c. 145–85 B.C.) a
Chinese scholar, astronomer, and historian; wrote
the most important history of ancient China,
Historical Records, p. 161

slavery (SLAY vur ee) n. the condition of being
owned by, and forced to work for, someone else,
p. 184

social class (SOH shul klas) n. a group, or class, that
is made up of people with similar backgrounds,
income, and ways of living, p. 28

society (suh SY uh tee) n. a group of people distinct
from other groups, who share a common culture,
p. 12

Sparta (SPAHR tuh) n. a city-state in the southern
part of ancient Greece, p. 188

spiritual (SPIH rih choo ul) n. concerned with
religious or sacred matters, p. 122

Stone Age (stohn ayj) n. a period of time during
which people made lasting tools and weapons
mainly from stone; the earliest known period of
human culture, p. 17

subcontinent (sub kahn tih nunt) n. a large land-
mass that juts out from a continent; for example,
India, p. 109

surplus (sur plus) n. more of a thing or product
than is needed, p. 25

Taoism (DOH iz um) n. a religious philosophy of
simple and selfless living, based on the writings of
the Chinese philosopher, Laozi, p. 149
Ten Commandments (ten kuh MAND munts) n. according to the Bible, a code of laws given to the Israelites by God, p. 56

terra cotta (TEHR uh KAHT uh) n. a hard, ceramic-like clay used in pottery and building construction, p. 151

timeline (TYM lyn) n. a simple diagram showing how dates and events relate to one another, p. 14

tolerance (TAHL ur uns) n. freedom from prejudice, p. 131

topsoil (TAHP soyl) n. the layer of soil on the top of the ground, p. 36

Torah (TOH ruh) n. the most sacred text of the early Israelites; recorded their laws and history, p. 55

trade (trayd) n. buying and selling goods; an exchange of one thing for another, p. 27

tragedy (TRAJ uh dee) n. a type of serious drama that ends in disaster for the main character, p. 180

tribute (TRIB yoot) n. regular payment made to a powerful state or nation by a weaker one, p. 175

Trojan War (TROH jun wawr) n. in Greek epic poems and myths, a ten-year war between Greece and the city of Troy in Asia Minor, p. 171

tyrant (TY runt) n. a ruler in ancient Greece who took power by force, with the support of the middle and working classes, p. 172

Upper Nubia (UP ur NOO bee uh) n. an ancient region in northeastern Africa in present-day Sudan, p. 99

V

Vedas (VAY duz) n. a series of religious texts, written in Sanskrit by the Aryan peoples; later a basis for Hinduism, p. 113

vendor (VEN dur) n. a seller of goods, p. 182

veto (VEE toh) n. the rejection of any planned action or rule by a person in power; the Latin word for “forbid,” p. 213

villa (VIL uh) n. a country estate usually owned by a wealthy family; an important source of food and wealth for ancient Rome, p. 225

W

warlord (WAWR lawrd) n. a local leader of an armed group, p. 155

welfare (WEL fair) n. health, happiness, and good fortune; financial or other aid provided to people, especially by the state, p. 118

Wudi (woo dee) n. (c. 156–86 B.C.) the Chinese emperor from 140 to 86 B.C., p. 154

Z

ziggurat (ZIG oo rat) n. a temple of the ancient Sumerians and Babylonians, made of terraces connected by ramps and stairs, roughly in the shape of a pyramid, p. 38

Zoroastrianism (zoh roh AS tree un iz um) n. a religion that developed in ancient Persia, p. 46