aborigine  an area’s original inhabitants (p. 662)
absolute location  the exact position of a place on the
earth’s surface (p. 20)
accretion  a slow process in which a sea plate slides
under a continental plate, creating debris that can cause
continents to grow outward (p. 40)
acid deposition  wet or dry airborne acids that fall to the
earth (p. 321)
acid rain  precipitation carrying large amounts of dis-
solved acids which damages buildings, forests, and
crops, and kills wildlife (pp. 166, 321)
acupuncture  an ancient practice that involves inserting
fine needles into the body at specific points in order to
cure disease and ease pain (p. 677)
alluvial plain  floodplain, such as the Indo-Gangetic
Plain in South Asia, on which flooding rivers have
deposited rich soil (p. 572)
alluvial-soil deposits  rich soil made up of sand and
mud deposited by running water (p. 423)
altiplano  Spanish for “high plain,” a region in Peru and
Bolivia encircled by the Andes peaks (p. 194)
amendment  in U.S. history, official changes made to the
Constitution (p. 144)
apartheid  policy of strict separation of the races adopted
in South Africa in the 1940s (p. 524)
aquaculture  the cultivation of seafood (p. 695)
aquifer  underground water-bearing layers of porous
rock, sand, or gravel (pp. 49, 470)
arable  suitable for growing crops (p. 464)
archipelago  a group or chain of islands (pp. 646, 720)
aromatic water  underground water supply that is under
enough pressure to rise into wells without being
pumped (p. 794)
Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation Group (APEC)
a trade group, whose members are Japan, China, South
Korea, and Taiwan, that ensures that trade among the
member countries is efficient and fair (p. 689)
Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
an organization formed in 1967 to promote regional devel-
opment and trade in Southeast Asia (p. 763)
atheism  the belief that there is no God (p. 376)
atmosphere  a layer of gases that surrounds the earth (p.
35)
atoll  ring-shaped island formed by coral building up
along the rim of an underwater volcano (p. 796)
autocracy  government in which a single individual pos-
sesses the power and authority to rule (p. 87)
avalanche  mass of ice, snow, or rock that slides down a
mountainside (p. 279)
axis  an imaginary line that runs through the center of the
earth between the North and South Poles (p. 56)
batik  method of dyeing cloth to produce beautiful pat-
terns, developed in Indonesia and Malaysia (p. 751)
bazaar  a traditional marketplace ranging from a single
street of stalls to an entire city district (p. 456)
bedouin  member of the nomadic desert peoples of North
Africa and Southwest Asia (p. 455)
bilingual  speaking or using two languages (p. 148)
Bill of Rights  the first 10 amendments to the United
States Constitution (p. 144)
broadcaster  scientist who studies plant and animal life (p.
324)
biofuel  plant and animal waste used especially as a
source of fuel (p. 613)
biosphere  the part of the earth where life exists (p. 35)
birthrate  the number of births per year for every 1,000
people (p. 76)
black market  any illegal market where scarce or
illegal goods are sold, usually at high prices (p. 388)
blizzard  a snowstorm with winds of more than 35 miles
per hour, temperatures below freezing, and visibility of
less than 500 feet for 3 hours or more (p. 125)
Bolsheviks  a revolutionary group in Russia led by
Vladimir Ilyich Lenin (p. 370)
boomerang  a curved throwing stick used by Aborigines
for hunting in Australia (p. 817)
buffer state  neutral territory between rival powers
(p. 743)
cabinet  heads of departments in the U.S. government
who advise the president (p. 144)
calligraphy  the art of beautiful handwriting (p. 679)
campesinos  farm workers; generally, people who live
and work in rural areas (p. 238)
canopy  top layer of a rain forest, where the tops of tall
trees form a continuous layer of leaves (p. 200)
cartography  the science of mapmaking (p. 24)
cash crop  farm crop grown to be sold or traded rather
than used by the farm family (pp. 238, 538, 612, 760)
cataract  a large waterfall (p. 500)
caudillo — czar

caudillo  a Latin American political leader from the late 1800s on, often a military dictator (p. 224)
cereal  any grain, such as barley, oats, or wheat, grown for food (p. 431)
chaparral  type of vegetation made up of dense forests of shrubs and short trees, common in Mediterranean climates (pp. 68, 281)
chernozem (cher•nuh•ZYAWM)  rich, black topsoil found in the North European Plain, especially in Russia and Ukraine (p. 346)
chinampas  floating farming islands made by the Aztec (p. 221)
chinook  seasonal warm wind that blows down the Rockies in late winter and early spring (p. 124)
Chipko  India’s “tree-hugger” movement that protects forests through reforestation and by supporting limited timber production (p. 621)
chlorofluorocarbon  chemical substance, found mainly in liquid coolants, that damages the earth’s protective ozone layer (p. 695)
city-state  in ancient Greece, independent community consisting of a city and the surrounding lands (p. 295)
clan  tribal community or large group of people related to one another (pp. 529, 670, 817)
clear-cutting  cutting down whole forests when removing timber (p. 165)
climate  weather patterns typical for an area over a long period of time (p. 55)
Cold War  power struggle between the Soviet Union and the United States after World War II (pp. 298, 371)
collective farm  under communism, a large, state-owned farm on which farmers received wages plus a share of products and profits; also called a kolkhoz (p. 317)
command economy  economic system in which economic decisions about production and distribution are made by some central authority (pp. 89, 388, 685)
commercial farming  farming organized as a business (p. 538)
commodity  goods produced for sale (pp. 158, 465)
commune  a collective farming community whose members share work and products (p. 686)
communism  society based on equality in which workers would control industrial production (pp. 298, 370)
condensation  the process of excess water vapor changing into liquid water when warm air cools (p. 47)
coniferous  trees such as evergreens that have cones and needle-shaped leaves, and keep their foliage throughout the winter (p. 68)
conquistador  Spanish term for “conqueror,” referring to soldiers who conquered Native Americans in Latin America (p. 222)

conservation farming  a land-management technique that helps protect farmland (p. 539)
Constitution  plan of government made for the United States in 1787 (p. 144)
consumer goods  goods that directly satisfy human wants (p. 388)
continental drift  the theory that the continents were once joined and then slowly drifted apart (p. 38)
continental shelf  the part of a continent that extends underwater (p. 36)
cooperative  a voluntary organization whose members work together and share expenses and profits (p. 686)
copra  dried meat of a coconut (p. 834)
coral  limestone deposits formed from the skeletons of tiny sea creatures (p. 795)
cordillera  parallel chains or ranges of mountains (pp. 194, 719)
Coriolis effect  an effect that causes the prevailing winds to blow diagonally rather than along strict north-south or east-west lines (p. 62)
cottage industry  a business that employs workers in their homes (p. 615)
crevasse  huge, deep crack that forms in thick ice or snow (p. 803)
Crusades  series of religious wars (A.D. 1100–1300) in which European Christians tried to retake Palestine from Muslim rule (p. 296)
cultural diffusion  the spread of new knowledge and skills from one culture to another (p. 84)
culture  way of life of a group of people who share beliefs and similar customs (p. 80)
culture hearth  a center where cultures developed and from which ideas and traditions spread outward (pp. 84, 447, 668)
culture region  division of the earth based on a variety of factors, including government, social groups, economic systems, language, or religion (p. 83)
cuneiform  Sumerian writing system using wedge-shaped symbols pressed into clay tablets (p. 447)
current  cold or warm stream of seawater that flows in the oceans, generally in a circular pattern (p. 62)
cyclone  storm with heavy rains and high winds that blow in a circular pattern around an area of low atmospheric pressure (pp. 579, 767)
czar  ruler of Russia until the 1917 revolution (p. 369)
Dalits—extinction

Dalits  the “oppressed”; in India, people assigned to the lowest social class (p. 623)
death rate  the number of deaths per year for every 1,000 people (p. 76)
deciduous  trees, usually broad leaved such as oak and maple, that lose their leaves in autumn (p. 68)
deforestation  the loss or destruction of forests, mainly for logging or farming (pp. 242, 507)
delta  alluvial deposit at a river’s mouth that looks like the Greek letter delta (Δ) (p. 503)
democracy  any system of government in which leaders rule with consent of the citizens (p. 88)
desalination  the removal of salt from seawater to make it usable for drinking and farming (pp. 48, 470)
desertification  process in which arable land is turned into desert (pp. 508, 694)
developed country  country that has a great deal of technology and manufacturing (p. 93)
developing country  country in the process of becoming industrialized (pp. 93, 238)
dharma  in Hinduism, a person’s moral duty, based on class distinctions, which guides his or her life (p. 593)
dialect  local form of a language used in a particular place or by a certain group (pp. 213, 302)
diatoms  plankton that live in cold ocean water (p. 841)
dikes  large banks of earth and stone that hold back water (p. 272)
dissident  a citizen who speaks out against government policies (p. 689)
divide  a high point or ridge that determines the direction rivers flow (p. 118)
doldrums  a frequently windless area near the Equator (pp. 62, 802)
domesticate  to adapt plants and animals from the wild to make them useful to people (pp. 446, 520)
dominion  a partially self-governing country with close ties to another country (pp. 144, 820)
doubling time  the number of years it takes a population to double in size (p. 76)
dry farming  farming method used in dry regions in which land is plowed and planted deeply to hold water in the soil (pp. 143, 321)
dynasty  a ruling house or continuing family of rulers, especially in China (p. 669)
dzong  a fortified monastery of Bhutan, South Asia (p. 604)
e-commerce  selling and buying on the Internet (p. 542)
economic sanctions  trade restrictions (p. 689)
ecosystem  the complex community of interdependent living things in a given environment (p. 22)
etcotourism  tourism based on concern for the environment (pp. 546, 617)
El Niño  a periodic reversal of the pattern of ocean currents and water temperatures in the mid-Pacific region (p. 63)
El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO)  a seasonal weather event that can cause droughts in Australia and powerful cyclones in the South Pacific (p. 841)
embargo  a ban on trade (pp. 452, 468)
demic  native plant or animal species (p. 728)
Enlightenment  a movement during the 1700s, emphasizing the importance of reason and questioning traditions and values (p. 297)
environmentalist  person actively concerned with the quality and protection of the environment (p. 322)
equinox  one of two days (about March 21 and September 23) on which the sun is directly above the Equator, making day and night equal in length (p. 56)
erosion  wearing away of the earth’s surface by wind, flowing water, or glaciers (p. 42)
escarpment  steep cliff or slope between a higher and lower land surface (pp. 196, 500)
estuary  an area where the tide meets a river current (pp. 197, 503)
etnic cleansing  the expelling from a country or killing of rival ethnic groups (p. 288)
etnic diversity  differences among groups of people based on their origins, languages, customs, or beliefs (p. 439)
etnic group  group of people who share common ancestry, language, religion, customs, or combination of such characteristics (pp. 82, 288, 363)
European Union  an organization whose goal is to unite Europe so that goods, services, and workers can move freely among member countries (pp. 300, 313)
eutrophication  process by which a body of water becomes too rich in dissolved nutrients, leading to plant growth that depletes oxygen (p. 168)
evaporation  process of converting into vapor (p. 47)
exports  commodities sent from one country to another for purposes of trade (p. 237)
extended family  household made up of several generations of family members (pp. 229, 529)
extinction  the disappearance or end of a species of animal or plant (p. 546)
fale—hurricane

fale traditional type of home in Samoa with open sides and thatched roof (p. 826)
fall line a boundary in the eastern United States where the higher land of the Piedmont drops to the lower Atlantic coastal plain (p. 118)
farm cooperative organization in which farmers share in growing and selling farm products (p. 317)
fault a crack or break in the earth’s crust (pp. 40, 500)
fauna the animal life of a region (p. 724)
federal system form of government in which powers are divided between the national government and the state or provincial government (p. 87)
feudalism in medieval Europe and Japan, system of government in which powerful lords gave land to nobles in return for pledges of loyalty (p. 296)
fishery areas (freshwater or saltwater) in which fish or sea animals are caught (p. 120)
fjord (fee•YORD) long, steep-sided glacial valley now filled by seawater (p. 272)
flora the plant life of a region (p. 724)
foehn (FUHN) dry wind that blows from the leeward sides of mountains, sometimes melting snow and causing avalanches; term used mainly in Europe (p. 279)
fold a bend in layers of rock, sometimes caused by plate movement (p. 40)
food web the interlinking chains of predators and their food sources in an ecosystem (p. 840)
formal region a region defined by a common characteristic, such as production of a product (p. 21)
free port port city, such as Singapore, where goods can be unloaded, stored, and reshipped without the payment of import duties (p. 764)
free trade the removal of trade barriers so that goods can flow freely between countries (p. 94)
functional region a central point and the surrounding territory linked to it (p. 21)
fútbol Spanish term for soccer (p. 230)

gauchos the cowhands of Argentina and Uruguay (p. 197)
genetically modified foods foods whose genes have been altered to make them grow bigger or faster or more resistant to pests (p. 317)
geographic information systems computer tools for processing and organizing details and satellite images with other pieces of information (p. 25)
glaciation the process whereby glaciers form and spread (p. 272)

Glossary

glacier large body of ice that moves across the surface of the earth (p. 42)
glasnost Russian term for a new “openness,” part of Mikhail Gorbachev’s reform plans (p. 371)
global warming gradual warming of the earth and its atmosphere that may be caused in part by pollution and an increase in the greenhouse effect (pp. 58, 322)
glyph picture writing carved in stone (p. 221)
Good Friday Peace Agreement paved the way for Protestant and Roman Catholic communities to share political power in Northern Ireland (p. 304)
grazer person who raises sheep or cattle (p. 834)
greenhouse effect the capacity of certain gases in the atmosphere to trap heat, thereby warming the earth (pp. 58, 322)
green revolution program, begun in the 1960s, to produce higher-yielding, more productive strains of wheat, rice, and other food crops (p. 613)
grid system pattern formed as the lines of latitude and longitude cross one another (p. 20)
gross domestic product (GDP) the value of goods and services created within a country in a year (p. 465)
groundwater water within the earth that supplies wells and springs (pp. 49, 167)
guru a teacher or spiritual guide (p. 601)

habitat area with conditions suitable for certain plants or animals to live (p. 546)
haiku form of Japanese poetry originally consisting of 17 syllables and three lines, often about nature (p. 678)
hajj in Islam, the yearly pilgrimage to Makkah (p. 466)
headwaters the sources of river waters (p. 118)
heavy industry the manufacture of machinery and equipment needed for factories and mines (p. 317)
hemisphere half of a sphere or globe, as in the earth’s Northern and Southern Hemispheres (p. 20)
hieroglyphics Egyptian writing system using pictures and symbols to represent words or sounds (p. 447)
Holocaust the mass killings of 6 million Jews by Germany’s Nazi leaders during World War II (p. 298)
homogeneous of the same or similar kind or nature (p. 663)
human-environment interaction the study of the interrelationship between people and their physical environment (p. 22)
human geography also called cultural geography; the study of human activities and their relationship to the cultural and physical environments (p. 24)
hurricane a large, powerful windstorm that forms over warm ocean waters (p. 125)
hydroelectric power  electrical energy generated by falling water (pp. 197, 348)
hydrosphere  the watery areas of the earth, including oceans, lakes, rivers, and other bodies of water (p. 35)
hypothesis  a scientific explanation for an event (p. 69)

icon  religious image, usually including a picture of Jesus, Mary, or a saint, used mainly by Orthodox Christians (p. 377)
ideogram  a pictorial character or symbol that represents a specific meaning or idea (p. 674)
immigration  the movement of people into one country from another (p. 133)
impressionism  artistic style that developed in Europe in the late 1800s and tried to show the natural appearance of objects with dabs or strokes of color (p. 305)
indigenous  native to a place (p. 212)
industrial capitalism  an economic system in which business leaders use profits to expand their companies (p. 297)
industrialization  transition from an agricultural society to one based on industry (p. 93)
infrastructure  the basic urban necessities like streets and utilities (pp. 443, 540)
insula  constituting an island, as in Java (p. 720)
interdependent  relying on one another for goods, services, and ideas (p. 763)
introduced species  plants and animals placed in areas other than their native habitat (p. 839)

jai alai  (HY•LY) traditional handball-type game popular with Mexicans and Cubans (p. 231)
Japan Current  a warm-water ocean current that adds moisture to the winter monsoons (p. 655)
jati  in traditional Hindu society, a social group that defines a family’s occupation and social standing (p. 588)
jazz  musical form that developed in the United States in the early 1900s, blending African rhythms and European harmonies (p. 148)
jute  plant fiber used to make string and cloth (p. 612)
karma  in Hindu belief, the sum of good and bad actions in one’s present and past lives (p. 593)

kelkhoz  in the Soviet Union, a small farm worked by farmers who shared in the farm’s production and profits (p. 390)
krill  tiny shrimplike sea animals that live in cold Antarctic oceans (p. 798)
kums  term for deserts in Central Asia (p. 425)
lagoon  shallow pool of water at the center of an atoll (p. 796)
lama  Buddhist religious leader (p. 675)
language family  group of related languages that have all developed from one earlier language (pp. 81, 303)
latifundia  in Latin America, large agricultural estates owned by families or corporations (p. 238)
leach  to wash nutrients out of the soil (p. 506)
leeward  facing away from the direction from which the wind is blowing (p. 64)
lichen  sturdy small plants that grow like a crust on rocks or tree trunks (p. 803)
light industry  manufacturing aimed at making consumer goods such as textiles or food processing rather than heavy machinery (p. 317)
lingua franca  a common language used among people with different native languages (p. 526)
literacy rate  the percentage of people in a given place who can read and write (p. 150)
lithosphere  surface land areas of the earth’s crust, including continents and ocean basins (p. 35)
llanos  (LAH•nohs) fertile plains in inland areas of Colombia and Venezuela (p. 196)
location  a specific place on the earth (p. 20)
lode  deposit of minerals (p. 761)
loess  (LEHS) fine, yellowish-brown topsoil made up of particles of silt and clay, usually carried by the wind (pp. 42, 275, 648)
longhouse  in rural areas of Indonesia and Malaysia, a large, elevated building where people from several related families live (p. 752)

Maastricht Treaty  a 1992 meeting of European governments in Maastricht, the Netherlands, that formed the European Union (p. 314)
magma  molten rock that is pushed up from the earth’s mantle (p. 38)
malnutrition  faulty or inadequate nutrition (p. 230)
mantle  thick middle layer of the earth’s interior structure, consisting of dense, hot rock (p. 38)
mantra—in Hinduism, a sacred word or phrase repeated in prayers and chants (p. 601)

manuka—small shrubs that grow in plateau regions of New Zealand (p. 803)

maquiladoras—in Mexico, manufacturing plants set up by foreign firms (p. 239)

maritime—concerned with travel or shipping by sea (p. 741)

market economy—an economic system based on free enterprise, in which businesses are privately owned, and production and prices are determined by supply and demand (pp. 89, 157, 388)

marsupial—mammal whose offspring mature in a pouch on the mother’s abdomen (p. 839)

mass culture—popular culture spread by media such as radio and television (p. 525)

megacities—cities with more than 10 million people (p. 217)

megalopolis—a “super-city” that is made up of several large and small cities such as the area between Boston and Washington, D.C. (pp. 136, 591)

meltwater—water formed by melting snow and ice (p. 321)

merchant marine—a country’s fleet of ships that engage in commerce or trade (p. 691)

meteorology—the study of weather and weather forecasting (p. 24)

metropolitan area—a region that includes a central city and its surrounding suburbs (p. 135)

mica—silicate mineral that readily splits into thin, shiny sheets (p. 574)

Middle Ages—the period of European history from about A.D. 500 to about 1500 (p. 296)

migration—the movement of people from place to place (p. 79)

minifundia—in Latin America, small farms that produce food chiefly for family use (p. 238)

mistral—strong northerly wind from the Alps that can bring cold air to southern France (p. 280)

mixed economy—an economy in which the government supports and regulates enterprise through decisions that affect the marketplace (p. 89)

mixed farming—raising several kinds of crops and livestock on the same farm (p. 317)

mixed forest—forest with both coniferous and deciduous trees (p. 68)

mobility—able to move from place to place (p. 137)

monopoly—total control of a type of industry by one person or one company (p. 162)

monotheism—belief in one God (p. 448)

monsoon—in Asia, seasonal wind that brings warm, moist air from the oceans in summer and cold, dry air from inland in winter (pp. 579, 654)

moraine—piles of rocky debris left by melting glaciers (p. 42)

mosaic—picture or design made with small pieces of colored stone, glass, shell, or tile (p. 228)

mosque—in Islam, a house of public worship (p. 448)

movement—ongoing movement of people, goods, and ideas (p. 22)

mural—wall painting (p. 228)

nationalism—belief in the right of each people to be an independent nation (p. 449)

nationalities—large, distinct ethnic groups within a country (p. 364)

nationalize—to place a company or industry under government control (p. 450)

Native American—North America’s first immigrant, who probably moved into the region from Asia thousands of years ago (p. 134)

natural increase—the growth rate of a population; the difference between birthrate and death rate (p. 76)

natural resource—substance from the earth that is not made by people but can be used by them (p. 91)

natural vegetation—plant life that grows in a certain area if people have not changed the natural environment (p. 66)

nirvana—in Buddhism, ultimate state of peace and insight toward which people strive (p. 594)

North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)—trade agreement made in 1994 by Canada, the United States, and Mexico (p. 240)

nuclear family—family group made up of husband, wife, and children (p. 529)

nuclear proliferation—the spreading development of nuclear arms (p. 623)

nuclear waste—the by-product of producing nuclear power (p. 398)

oasis—small area in a desert where water and vegetation are found (pp. 67, 429)

oligarchy—a system of government in which a small group holds power (p. 88)

oral tradition—stories passed down from generation to generation by word of mouth (p. 528)
organic farming  the use of natural substances rather than chemical fertilizers and pesticides to enrich the soil and grow crops (p. 318)

ozone layer  atmospheric layer with protective gases that prevents solar rays from reaching the earth’s surface (p. 841)

paddy  flooded field in which rice is grown (p. 760)
pagoda  a style of architecture most often found in traditional East Asian buildings, marked by gracefully curved tile roofs in the tower style (p. 679)
Pampas  grassy, treeless plains of southern South America (p. 196)
parliament  in Canada, national legislature made up of the Senate and the House of Commons (p. 145)
pastoralism  the raising of livestock (p. 430)
patois  dialects that blend elements of indigenous, European, African, and Asian languages (p. 213)
patriarch  the head of the Eastern Orthodox Church (p. 377)
patriotism  love for or devotion to one’s country (p. 151)
perceptual region  a region defined by popular feelings and images rather than by objective data (p. 21)
perestroika  (PEHR•uh•STROY•kuh) in Russian, “restructuring”; part of Gorbachev’s plan for reforming Soviet government (p. 371)
permafrost  permanently frozen layer of soil beneath the surface of the ground (pp. 68, 281, 349)
pesticide  chemical used to kill insects, rodents, and other pests (p. 398)
petrochemical  chemical product derived from petroleum or natural gas (p. 465)
phosphate  natural mineral containing chemical compounds often used in fertilizers (p. 426)
physical geography  the study of Earth’s physical features (p. 24)
pidgin English  a dialect mixing English and a local language (p. 813)
pipeline  long network of underground or aboveground pipes (p. 162)
place  a particular space with physical and human meaning (p. 21)
plate tectonics  the term scientists use to describe the activities of continental drift and magma flow which create many of Earth’s physical features (p. 38)
poaching  illegal hunting of protected animals (pp. 546, 619)
pogrom  in czarist Russia, an attack on Jews carried out by government troops or officials (p. 378)
polder  low-lying area from which seawater has been drained to create new farmland (p. 272)
pollution  the existence of impure, unclean, or poisonous substances in the air, water, or land (p. 94)
population density  the average number of people in a square mile or square kilometer (p. 77)
population distribution  the pattern of population in a country, a continent, or the world (p. 77)
population distribution  an economy with less emphasis on heavy industry and manufacturing and more emphasis on services and technology (p. 158)
priarie  an inland grassland area (pp. 68, 124)
prefecture  moisture that falls to the earth as rain, sleet, hail, or snow (p. 47)
presenting wind  wind in a region that blows in a fairly constant directional pattern (p. 62)
primate city  a city that dominates a country’s economy, culture, and government and in which population is concentrated; usually the capital (pp. 217, 738)
privatization  a change to private ownership of state-owned companies and industries (p. 389)
prophet  person believed to be a messenger from God (p. 448)
qanat  underground canal used in water systems of ancient Persians (p. 447)
quipu  (KEE•poo) knotted cords of various lengths and colors used by the Inca to keep financial records (p. 222)
radioactive material  material contaminated by residue from the generation of nuclear energy (p. 397)
rain shadow  dry area found on the leeward side of a mountain range (p. 64)
raj  Hindu word for empire (p. 595)
realism  artistic style portraying everyday life that developed in Europe during the mid-1800s (p. 305)
reclamation  replanting young trees or seeds on lands where trees have been cut or destroyed (p. 244)
Reformation  religious movement that began in Germany in the 1400s, leading to the establishment of Protestant churches (p. 297)
refugee  one who flees his or her home for safety (p. 288)
region  places united by specific characteristics (p. 21)
reincarnated  in Hindu belief, being reborn repeatedly in different forms, until one has overcome earthly desires (p. 593)
relative location—supercells

relative location location in relation to other places (p. 20)
Renaissance in Europe, a 300-year period of renewed interest in classical learning and the arts, beginning in the 1300s (p. 296)
reparations a payment for damages (p. 298)
republic form of government without a monarch in which people elect their officials (p. 142)
retooling converting old factories for use in new industries (p. 161)
revolution in astronomy, the earth’s yearly trip around the sun, taking 365 ¼ days (p. 56)
rift valley a crack in the earth’s surface created by shifting (p. 500)
romanticism artistic style emphasizing individual emotions that developed in Europe in the late 1700s and early 1800s as a reaction to industrialization (p. 305)
Russification in nineteenth-century Russia, a government program that required everyone in the empire to speak Russian and to become a Christian (p. 370)

sickle large, curved knife with a handle, used to cut grass or tall grains (p. 760)
sirocco hot desert wind that can blow air and dust from North Africa to western Europe’s Mediterranean coast (pp. 280–281)
slash-and-burn farming traditional farming method in which all trees and plants in an area are cut and burned to add nutrients to the soil (p. 244)
smog haze caused by the interaction of ultraviolet solar radiation with chemical fumes from automobile exhausts and other pollution sources (pp. 69, 167)
socialism political philosophy in which the government owns the means of production (p. 370)
socialist realism realistic style of art and literature that glorified Soviet ideals and goals (p. 380)
socioeconomic status level of income and education (p. 150)
solstice one of two days (about June 21 and December 22) on which the sun’s rays strike directly on the Tropic of Cancer or Tropic of Capricorn, marking the beginning of summer or winter (p. 57)
sovereignty self-rule (p. 365)
sovkhoz in the Soviet Union, a large farm owned and run by the state (p. 390)
sphere of influence area of a country in which a foreign power has political or economic control (p. 743)
spreading a process by which new land is created when sea plates pull apart and magma wells up between the plates (p. 40)
state farm under communism, a state-owned farm managed by government officials (p. 317)
station Australian term for an outlying ranch or large farm (p. 834)
steppe wide, grassy plains of Eurasia; also, similar semi-arid climate regions elsewhere (p. 355)
Strine colloquial English spoken in Australia (p. 813)
stupa a dome-shaped structure that serves as a Buddhist shrine (p. 604)
subcontinent large landmass that is part of a continent but still distinct from it, such as India (p. 569)
subduction a process by which mountains can form as sea plates dive beneath continental plates (p. 39)
subsistence crop a crop grown mainly to feed the farmer’s family (p. 760)
subsistence farming producing just enough food for a family or a village to survive (pp. 538, 826)
suburbs outlying communities around a city (p. 135)
Sunbelt mild climate region, southern United States (p. 135)
supercells violent thunderstorms that can spawn tornadoes (p. 124)
sustainable development  technological and economic growth that does not deplete the human and natural resources of a given area (pp. 242, 619)
syncretism  a blending of beliefs and practices from different religions into one faith (p. 228)

taiga  Russian term for the vast subarctic forest, mostly evergreens, that covers much of Russia and Siberia (p. 353)
tariff  a tax on imports or exports (p. 163)
temperature  degree of hotness or coldness measured on a set scale, such as Fahrenheit or Celsius (p. 56)
tierra caliente  Spanish term for “hot land”; the lowest altitude zone of Latin American highlands climates (p. 203)
tierra fría  Spanish term for “cold land”; the highest altitude zone of Latin American highlands climates (p. 203)
tierra templada  Spanish term for “temperate land”; the middle altitude zone of Latin American highlands climates (p. 203)
timberline  elevation above which it is too cold for trees to grow (pp. 124, 279)
trade deficit  spending more money on imports than earning from exports (pp. 163, 689)
trade surplus  earning more money from export sales than spending for imports (pp. 163, 689)
traditional economy  a system in which tradition and custom control all economic activity; exists in only a few parts of the world today (p. 89)
tributary  smaller river or stream that feeds into a larger river (p. 118)
trust territory  region placed by United Nations under temporary political and economic control of another country after World War II (p. 819)
tsunami  Japanese term used for a huge sea wave caused by an undersea earthquake (p. 646)
tundra  vast, treeless plains in cold northern climates, characterized by permafrost and small, low plants, such as mosses and shrubs (p. 352)
typhoon  a violent tropical storm that forms in the Pacific Ocean, usually in late summer (pp. 655, 768, 802)

Underground Railroad  an informal network of safe-houses, in the United States, that helped thousands of enslaved people escape to freedom (p. 143)

unitary system  a government in which all key powers are given to the national or central government (p. 87)
universal suffrage  equal voting rights for all adult citizens of a nation (p. 524)
urbanization  the movement of people from rural areas into cities (pp. 135, 216, 290, 517, 737)

viceroys  representative of the Spanish monarch appointed to enforce laws in colonial Latin America (p. 222)

wadi  in the desert, a streambed that is dry except during a heavy rain (p. 424)
wat  in Southeast Asia, a temple (p. 750)
water cycle  regular movement of water from ocean to air to ground and back to the ocean (p. 47)
wattle  woven framework made from acacia saplings by early Australian settlers to build homes (p. 801)
weather  condition of the atmosphere in one place during a short period of time (p. 55)
weathering  chemical or physical processes, such as freezing, that break down rocks (p. 42)
welfare state  nation in which the government assumes major responsibility for people’s welfare in areas such as health and education (p. 306)
windward  facing toward the direction from which the wind is blowing (p. 64)
World Trade Organization (WTO)  an international body that oversees trade agreements and settles trade disputes among countries (p. 690)

ziggurat  large step-like temple of mud brick built in ancient Mesopotamia (p. 454)