

# Key Unit Vocabulary

This report provides a summary of key vocabulary for this unit. For each word, you will find the definition, part of speech, word forms (plurals/tenses), synonyms, and examples of how the word, or forms of the word, are used in a sentence.

#### alliance

• a formal pact or agreement between or among nations

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	alliances
Synonyms:	agreement, compact, pact, treaty
In a sentence:	The two nations formed an alliance in hopes of defeating their common enemy in war.

### antisemitism (also anti-Semitism)

· prejudice, discrimination, or hostility toward Jews

Part o	of speech:	noun
Wo	ord forms:	antisemitic
S	ynonyms:	prejudice, discrimination, hate
In a	sentence:	The genocide of the Holocaust was largely motivated by the Nazi's antisemitism.

#### authoritarian

• of, pertaining to, or advocating complete obedience or subjection to authority, especially political authority, without concern for individual rights

Part of speech:	adjective
Word forms:	authoritarianism
Synonyms:	repressive
In a sentence:	Tsar Alexander II was less authoritarian in his views than his father, and this led him to eventually free the serfs.

# blitzkrieg

· a swift military attack from the air or ground

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	blitz
Synonyms:	attack, assault
In a sentence:	During World War 2, Hitler used a military tactic known as a blitzkrieg to swiftly take over Poland.

### **Bolsheviks**

• a member of the majority faction of the party that seized power in 1917 and formed the Communist party in the Soviet Union

Part of speech:	proper noun, noun
Word forms:	Bolshevik, Bolshevist, Bolshevism
Synonyms:	communist
In a sentence:	The Bolsheviks wanted to revolt against the Russian government instead of waiting for change to happen over time.

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## casualty

• a member of the armed forces removed from active duty as a result of being killed, wounded, captured, or missing in action

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	casualties
Synonyms:	victim, fatality
In a sentence:	There were thousands of casualties after the battle.

### communism

• the theory of a classless social system in which all property and means of production are owned in common; socialist theory deriving from the works of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	communist
Synonyms:	
In a sentence:	The nation practiced communism as their political and economic system.

# concentration camp

 a prison camp in which large numbers of political prisoners, aliens, or those considered undesirable are confined and sometimes executed

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	concentration camps
Synonyms:	
In a sentence:	During the 1940s, Japanese Americans on the West coast were forced into concentration camps by the US military.

# conscription

• compulsory enrollment in military service

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	conscript, conscripted, conscripted
Synonyms:	draft
In a sentence:	The men became soldiers through conscription rather than volunteering.

# diplomacy

• the practice or skill of conducting negotiations between nations or governments

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	
Synonyms:	statesmanship
In a sentence:	The negotiations to end the war were successful due to diplomacy.



### disillusion

· disappointment that something was not as one initially perceived it to be

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	disillusionment, disillusions, disillusioned
Synonyms:	dismay, disappoint
In a sentence:	At first, the soldiers were proud to fight for their nation in the war, but after fighting for years, they were in a state of disillusion about its purpose and progress.

### ethnic

• of or related to a large group of people who share a distinctive culture, language, or religion, or who are of the same race or national heritage

Part of speech:	adjective
Word forms:	ethnicity
Synonyms:	
In a sentence:	The school had a high level of ethnic diversity as there were large Chinese, Indian, and Ethiopian populations in the district.

# eugenics

· the false science, study of, or belief in the genetic improvement of the human race through control of breeding

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	
Synonyms:	
In a sentence:	Part of Hitler's inspiration for a "master race" came from the American support of eugenics, which stated that America would be a healthier nation if the "feeble-minded" did not reproduce.

### fascism

• a system of government characterized by strong, often dictatorial control of political and economic affairs, and often by warlike nationalism and brutal suppression of political protestors and ethnic minorities

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	fascist, Fascist (when referring to the Italian political party)
Synonyms:	tyranny
In a sentence:	Fascism began in Italy with the party of Benito Mussolini and his brutal takeover of the Italian government.

# genocide

· the intentional attempt to exterminate all members of a certain race, nationality, religious, or ethnic group

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	genocides, genocidal
Synonyms:	massacre
In a sentence:	Within the borders of Rwanda, there was a mass genocide against a minority group.



## **Great Depression**

 the decade of the 1930s in the United States and other countries, characterized by extreme economic hardship; the Depression

Part of speech:	proper noun
Word forms:	
Synonyms:	
In a sentence:	American companies struggled to sell goods during the Great Depression.

### mobilization

• the act of assembling and preparing (troops or the like) for active military duty or service to a country; the act of assembling, organizing, or adapting (industries, supplies, facilities, or the like) for immediate use or service in times of war or states of emergency

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	mobilize, mobilized, mobilizing
Synonyms:	assembling, preparing
In a sentence:	The prime minister ordered for the mobilization of troops to prepare for the upcoming battle.

## persecution

 a purposeful course of harassing, punishing, or exterminating others, especially because of their race or religious, moral, or political beliefs

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	persecuted, persecute
Synonyms:	oppression
In a sentence:	The minority group experienced persecution for not having the same beliefs as the majority.

# propaganda

• information or opinions that are made public to promote or attack a movement, cause, or person

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	propagandist, propagandistic
Synonyms:	advertisement, disinformation
In a sentence:	Both the Allied and Axis Powers in World War 2 used propaganda to encourage people to support their side in the war.

### Social Darwinism

• a late-nineteenth-century social theory in which Darwinism is applied to the understanding of human society, as in the belief of the genetic superiority of some individuals or groups over others

Part of speech:	proper noun
Word forms:	Social Darwinist
Synonyms:	
In a sentence:	She believed some people are born better than others, and was intrigued by the theory of Social Darwinism.



#### total war

• a global war in which all warring nations mobilize for the war effort including soldier and civilian populations, who are both participants and targets; usually defined as meeting four criteria: mobilization, blurring of lines between soldier and civilian, total control of society, and rejection of a compromise peace

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	
Synonyms:	
In a sentence:	Some historians argue that World War 1 was the first example of total war.

#### tsar

• the title of male Russian rulers before 1917

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	tsars
Synonyms:	czar, monarch
In a sentence:	In Imperial Russia the leader used to be referred to as the tsar.