

**animism**

**assimilate**

**belief system**

**caste system**

**centralized  
government**

**city**

**city-state**

**coercive**

**convert**

**culture**

**cuneiform**

**diaspora**

**divisions of labor**

**doctrine**

**dynasty**

**elite**

**empire**

**enslaved**

**government**

**inequality**

**infrastructure**

**Iron Age**

**irrigation system**

**kinship**

**legal code**

**matrilineal**

**merchant**

**meritocracy**

**monotheism**

**nomadic**

**oral tradition**

**origin stories**

**pantheon**

**patriarchal**

**periphery**

**persecute**

**philosophy**

**pilgrimage**

**polytheistic**

**portable**

**prophet**

**ritual**

**sedentary**

**Silk Road**

**smelting**

**social order**

**social stratification**

**society**



**specialist**

**steppe**

**syncretism**

**taxes**

**trade**

**trade network**

**urban**