

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.

administrator

- a person who manages, especially business or public affairs

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	administrators, administration, administrative
Synonyms:	executive, bureaucrat, operator
In a sentence:	The middle school's administrators include the principal, vice principal, and dean of academics.

boycott

- the refusal to purchase certain types of goods, refusal to engage in commercial relations with a particular entity

Part of speech:	noun, verb
Word forms:	boycotted, boycotts
Synonyms:	reject, blacklist
In a sentence:	Ghanaian veterans organized a boycott of British goods in order to put pressure on the colonial government.

bureaucracy

- an organized group of hired officials, especially governmental

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	bureaucracies, bureaucratic
Synonyms:	office
In a sentence:	The governor is at the head of the state bureaucracy.

colonialism

- the practice of a foreign government exercising political or economic control of another community

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	colonial, colonialist, colonize
Synonyms:	imperialism
In a sentence:	Colonialism imposed European control over most of Africa in the nineteenth century.

color line

- the role race and racism had in American society after the abolition of slavery

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	
Synonyms:	racial segregation
In a sentence:	DuBois wrote about the color line in an attempt to bring awareness to the injustices stemming from racial segregation after the abolition of slavery.

customs

- the governmental office that administers trade and collects taxes on imports and exports

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	custom
Synonyms:	tariffs, taxes
In a sentence:	The Customs House is where British officials determined tax policies for the Gold Coast colony.

dual consciousness

- the state of feeling as though you have two identities housed in one person or mind

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	
Synonyms:	
In a sentence:	During the era of slavery and segregation, African-Americans often wrote of having a dual consciousness because they felt as though they had two identities: one around whites, who perceived them differently than those of their same race.

exploitative

- making unfair use of a situation for profit or benefit

Part of speech:	adjective
Word forms:	exploitable, exploiter
Synonyms:	manipulative, oppressive
In a sentence:	The employer's practices were exploitative of immigrants desperate for work.

formal colonialism

- direct colonial control of a community by a foreign empire

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	
Synonyms:	formal imperialism
In a sentence:	The system of European formal colonialism in the Caribbean was replaced by the informal colonialism of the United States.

imperialism

- the policy of extending the rule or authority of one nation over others by territorial acquisition or through economic or political dominance

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	imperialist, imperialistic, imperialistically
Synonyms:	militarism
In a sentence:	Nineteenth-century European nations promoted imperialism as a way to "civilize" other parts of the world.

industrial capitalism

- an economic system that combines capitalism with intense manufacturing production in factories, characterized by division of labor to increase efficiency

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	industrial capitalist
Synonyms:	
In a sentence:	Industrial capitalism brought about many changes in how goods were produced, including the creation of the factory system.

modernization

- the process or act of updating or redesigning something to make it look new or contemporary

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	modernize, modernizing, modernized
Synonyms:	innovation, modification
In a sentence:	Modernization allows for technological and scientific advancements to be made.

nonviolent noncooperation

- a form of resistance that refuses to comply with particular orders and laws but does not resort to the use of violence

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	
Synonyms:	nonviolent resistance
In a sentence:	Gandhi pioneered a form of nonviolent noncooperation that eventually forced the British to grant India its independence.

profit

- a financial gain

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	profits, profited, profiting
Synonyms:	gain, proceeds, revenue
In a sentence:	Colonialism generated a lot of profit for many European capitalists.

racism

- the theory or opinion that a certain race or races of people, usually one's own, are superior to others because of certain inborn characteristics and any policy or practice based on said belief

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	race, racist
Synonyms:	discrimination, prejudice
In a sentence:	West Indian psychiatrist Frantz Fanon emphasized the different forms of racism that exist, as those facing colonialism in Africa face different issues than those enslaved in the United States.

rebellion

- an uprising or armed resistance against established authority or a government

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	rebel, rebelling, rebelled
Synonyms:	insurgence, insurrection, revolt, uprising
In a sentence:	The rebellion against the colonizers was filled with warfare and bloodshed.

reparation

- the act or process of making amends for wrongdoing or injury; payment required of a defeated nation by the victors, for damages, alleged atrocities, or other injury

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	reparations
Synonyms:	restitution, compensation
In a sentence:	The Chinese government had reparations to pay to the British government after losing the war.

resistance

- the act of refusing to comply with something; the act of acting to prevent or counter something

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	resist, resisted, resisting
Synonyms:	defiance, opposition, struggle
In a sentence:	Resistance to colonialism took many different forms, from violence to quiet noncooperation.

sabotage

- to damage something with the intent (often political) of causing harm to processes or structures

Part of speech:	verb
Word forms:	saboteur, sabotaged
Synonyms:	cripple, destroy, disrupt, subvert, undermine
In a sentence:	The rebels sought to sabotage the railways to stop the arrival of colonial troops.

segregation

- an act of segregating (separating), or the condition of being segregated, especially as a policy imposing social separation according to racial or ethnic groups

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	segregate, segregated, segregating
Synonyms:	discrimination
In a sentence:	Racial segregation was a legal policy in the United States for many years after the abolition of slavery.

subjects

- noun: a person who owes allegiance to a monarch or to a state; adj: under the power, authority, or influence of someone or something; verb: to bring under one's power, authority, or influence

Part of speech:	noun, adjective, verb
Word forms:	subject
Synonyms:	citizens, subordinates
In a sentence:	The emperor addressed his subjects.

tyranny

- the oppressive or abusive exercise of power, of the government or authority that uses power in this way; unnecessary harshness; cruelty

Part of speech:	noun
Word forms:	tyrannies, tyrannical
Synonyms:	oppression, repression
In a sentence:	The citizens were subjected to the emperor's tyranny.