

Newman Collegiate History Tier 3 words

Abdication – Formally handing over power or responsibility to another.

Abolition – The act of doing away with something completely.

Allies/Allied forces – People or countries working together. In World War I and World II, the Allies, or Allied forces, were the countries fighting against Germany.

Armistice – An agreement that is reached to end a conflict.

Assassination – The murder of a key figure by surprise attack, carried out for political or religious reasons.

Authoritarian – A term applied to leaders or governments who exercise power with little or no regard for democracy or other constraints.

Axis powers – Nations on Germany's side in World War II, including Italy and Japan.

Barbarian – The name given by the Romans to tribes outside the Roman Empire

BCE – Before Common Era. The years before 1CE. This abbreviation has largely replaced BC (Before Christ).

Caliph – The title of a political and religious leader of an Islamic empire, or caliphate.

Capitalism – An economic system based on the private ownership of property and free competitive conditions for business.

Casualties – People killed or injured as a result of a war or an accident.

Cavalry – Military troops mounted on horseback.

CE – Common Era. The years from 1CE to the present day. This abbreviation has largely replaced AD (Anno Domini which is Latin for 'in the year of our lord).

Citizen – A person who belongs to a city or a bigger community such as a state or country.

City-State – A city, and its surrounding territory, that has its own independent government.

Civil rights – The rights of citizens to be socially and politically equal.

Civil War – A war fought by opposing inhabitants of the same country.

Civilisation – Culture and way of life of people living together in an organised and developed society.

Colonisation – The act of sending settlers to establish a colony in another country, largely involving taking political control over the people already living there.

Colony – An area under the political control of another state, usually in a foreign country. The people that settle there are called colonists.

Communism – The political belief in a society in which ownership of property and wealth is shared.

Concentration Camp – A prison camp for non-military prisoners. At Nazi concentration camps, prisoners included Jews and other groups considered to be enemies of the state.

Confucianism – A Chinese religion based on the teachings of Confucius.

Conquistador – One of the Spanish conquerors of Native American civilisations.

Constitution – A set of laws that determines the political principles of a government.

Counter-reformation – The period of change in the Roman Catholic Church after the Protestant Reformation. This included internal reform and opposition to Protestantism.

Crusades, The – Military expeditions of the 11th to 13th centuries, in which Christian knights tried to seize the city of Jerusalem from the Muslims.

Culture – The customs, beliefs, and behaviour shared by society.

Decolonisation – The process of giving back political control to a former colony, resulting in its independence.

Democracy – A political system in which people have power to control their government, usually by electing politicians to represent their views.

Dictator – A leader who rules a country alone, with no restrictions on the extent of his or her power.

Dynasty – A royal family ruling a country for successive generations.

Empire – A group of lands or peoples brought under the rule of one government or person.

Extinct – Describes a species that has no living members.

Fascism – A political movement stressing nationalism, which places the strength of the state above individual citizens' welfare.

Heresy – Beliefs that are considered to be in conflict with a religious group's established beliefs.

Holocaust – The mass murder of the Jews by the German state in WWII.

Immigrant – A person who moves to a new country from abroad in order to settle there permanently.

Indigenous – When applied to people, the word indigenous describes the original settlers of a country or region.

Mausoleum – A large tomb, or an impressive building for housing several tombs.

Missionary – A religious person who seeks out and persuades others to adopt his or her religion.

Monarchy – A type of government in which a king or queen is recognised as the head of state, whether or not they hold real power.

Nation – An independent country, or a group of people who share historical or cultural ties.

Nationalism – Loyalty and devotion to a nation, and the political belief that its interests should be pursued as the primary goal of a political party.

Neanderthal – An extinct species of hominin, closely related to our own species.

Nomadic – Describing people who move from place to place without establishing a permanent settlement.

Peasant – A worker on the land, usually an agricultural labourer.

Persecute – To oppress or harass a person or group because of their origins or beliefs.

Pharaoh – Title given to a king in ancient Egypt. People believed that the pharaohs had sacred powers.

Philosophy – A set of beliefs or ideas.

Pilgrim – A religious person who makes a journey to a holy place.

Prehistoric – Dating from prehistory – the time before the invention of writing.

Propaganda – Method used to change and control how people think and behave. It may take the form of posters, broadcasts, or air-dropped leaflets, for example.

Protestantism – A form of Christianity, resulting from the Reformation, which is separate from the Roman Catholic Church.

Reconnaissance – Taking a preliminary look at an area before sending in troops, usually in order to locate an enemy.

Reformation – A religious movement of the 16th century, in which many Christians in Europe broke away from the traditions and teachings of the Roman Catholic Church.

Renaissance – A period of European history, beginning in the 14th century, when art and literature were influenced by the rediscovery of knowledge from the ancient world.

Republic – A country without a monarch or emperor. Modern republics are usually led by presidents.

Revolt – An organised uprising intended to overthrow whoever is in authority.

Revolution – A sudden and fundamental change in society brought about by an organised group of protestors. Can also be used to mean a major change in the way people do or think about things.

Script – The written characters that make up a writing system, such as an alphabet.

Segregation – Separation, particularly of one race from another within a racist social system.

Serf – a peasant who is obligated to undertake agricultural work on their lord's land.

Siege – To surround a city or fortress with the intention of capturing it.

Slave – a person who is held as the property of another.

Stalemate – A situation where further action by either side in a conflict appears impossible.

State – A country – or a region within a country – and its people. A state is ruled by a government.

Superpower – A country with great political and military power, capable of influencing international politics.

Treason – The crime of betraying one's country.

Treaty – An official, written agreement between parties to bring hostilities to an end.

Trench – A ditch dug by soldiers for protection against enemy fire.

Tribute – Money or goods paid to a state monarch in recognition of their superior status.

United Nations – A global organisation set up after World War II to help maintain international peace.