

History Dictionary

Tier 3 Words (Year 7)

Words & Phonetics	Definitions	Examples
Angevin /an.juh.vin/	A family of kings who ruled England and parts of France.	The Angevin kings ruled over both England and parts of France.
Dynasty /dye.nuh.stee/	A family that rules a country for many years.	The Plantagenets were one of the most famous dynasties in English history.
Empire /em.pyre/	A large area of land ruled by one person, like a king.	The Angevin Empire extended from Scotland to the Pyrenees.
Feudalism /few.duh.liz.um/	A system where people got land and protection in exchange for working or fighting for the king.	Feudalism structured medieval society through obligations between lords and vassals.
Archbishop /ark.bish.up/	A high-ranking church leader in charge of a region.	Thomas Becket was appointed Archbishop of Canterbury by Henry II.
Clergy /kler.jee/	People who work for the church, like priests.	The clergy played a key role in medieval society, often advising kings.
Excommunication /eks.kuh.myoo.ni.kay.shun/	Being kicked out of the church.	Becket was threatened with excommunication for defying the king's laws.
Constitutions of Clarendon /kun.sti.too.shuns of klar.un.dun/	Rules made by Henry II to control the Church's power.	The Constitutions of Clarendon sought to reduce the Church's legal influence.
Martyr /mar.ter/	Someone who dies because of their beliefs.	Thomas Becket became a martyr after his murder in 1170.

Words & Phonetics	Definitions	Examples
Crusades /kroo.saydz/	Wars fought by Christians to win back the Holy Land from Muslims.	Richard I led the Third Crusade to reclaim Jerusalem from Muslim control.
Holy Land /hoh.lee land/	An area in the Middle East that is important to Christians, Jews, and Muslims.	The Holy Land was the central focus of the Christian Crusades.
Saladin /sah.luh.din/	A famous Muslim leader who fought against the Crusaders.	Saladin successfully defended Jerusalem from the Crusaders during Richard I's campaign.
Ransom /ran.suhm/	Money paid to free someone who was captured.	Richard the Lionheart was held captive in Germany and ransomed for a huge sum.
Chivalry /shiv.uhl.ree/	A set of rules for knights about being brave and helping others.	The knights who joined the Crusades were expected to follow a code of chivalry.
Magna Carta /mag.nuh kar.tuh/	A document that limited the power of King John.	The Magna Carta was a revolutionary document that limited the power of King John.

History Dictionary

Tier 3 Words (Year 8)

Words & Phonetics	Definitions	Examples
Middle Passage /mid.uhl pas-ij/	The journey enslaved Africans were forced to take from Africa to the Americas across the Atlantic Ocean.	The Middle Passage was notorious for its brutal conditions, where many enslaved Africans died before reaching the Americas.
Auction Block /awk.shun blok/	A platform where enslaved people were displayed and sold to the highest bidder.	Enslaved people were sold at the auction block like property, with buyers inspecting them before placing bids.
Plantation /plan.tay.shun/	Large agricultural estates in the Americas where enslaved people were forced to work, mainly producing crops like sugar and cotton.	Life on the plantation was harsh, with long hours of labour and brutal punishments for enslaved workers.
Abolition /ab.oh.lish.un/	The movement to end the practice of slavery.	The abolition of slavery in the British Empire was made official in 1833 with the passing of the Slavery Abolition Act.
Resistance /re-zis-tance/	Acts of rebellion or opposition by enslaved people against their condition or their owners.	Enslaved people showed resistance in various ways, from escaping to slowing down work on plantations.
Chattel Slavery /chat.tuhl slay.vuh.ree/	A form of slavery where people were treated as personal property to be bought, sold, and owned forever.	Chattel slavery dehumanised African people by treating them as objects, not human beings.
Barter /bar.ter/	A system of exchange where goods are traded directly for other goods without using money.	In 15th-century Africa, many societies used barter to trade gold, salt, and other valuable resources.

Words & Phonetics	Definitions	Examples
Transatlantic Slave Trade /trans.uh.lan.tik slayv trayd/	The large-scale trading of enslaved Africans across the Atlantic Ocean between Europe, Africa, and the Americas.	The transatlantic slave trade lasted for over 300 years, devastating African societies.
Dehumanisation /dee.hyoo.man.eyə .zay.shun/	The process of depriving a person or group of their human qualities.	The dehumanisation of African people was evident in the brutal treatment they faced during the Middle Passage and on plantations.
Indentured Servitude /in.den.churd sir.vi.tood/	A system where people worked for a certain number of years in exchange for passage to the New World, but were not enslaved for life.	Indentured servitude was different from slavery because servants were eventually freed after their term, though conditions were often harsh.
Emancipation /ee.man.si.pay.shun/	The act of freeing enslaved people.	The Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 by Abraham Lincoln declared enslaved people in Confederate states to be free.
Slave Code /slayv kohd/	Laws that controlled the lives of enslaved people and restricted their rights.	Slave codes in the Caribbean and the southern United States limited the movement and education of enslaved people.
Manumission /man.yoo.mish.un/	The act of an enslaver freeing an enslaved person, sometimes after a lifetime of service.	Some enslaved people gained their freedom through manumission, though it was rare and often required payment or favours to their owners.
Triangular Trade /try-ang-yoo-lar trayd/	The three-way system of trade where goods and enslaved people were exchanged between Europe, Africa, and the Americas.	The triangular trade involved European ships taking manufactured goods to Africa, enslaved Africans to the Americas, and raw materials back to Europe.
Revolt /re.volt/	A violent uprising or rebellion by enslaved people against their enslavers.	Slave revolts, like the one led by Nat Turner in 1831, showed the desperation and determination of enslaved people to fight for their freedom.

History Dictionary

Tier 3 Words (Year 9)

Words & Phonetics	Definitions	Examples
Militarism /mil.i.tar.izm/	The belief or desire of a government or people that a country should maintain a strong military capability.	Militarism was one of the main causes of World War I, as nations built up their armies in preparation for conflict.
Imperialism /im.peer.ee.al.izm/	A policy of extending a country's power and influence through colonization or military force.	Imperialism led to tensions between European nations as they competed for colonies in Africa and Asia.
Nationalism /nash.uh.nal.izm/	A strong feeling of pride in and devotion to one's nation.	Nationalism fueled the desire for independence among ethnic groups, contributing to the outbreak of World War I.
Alliances /uh.ly.uhn.sez/	Agreements between nations to aid and protect one another.	The system of alliances meant that a conflict between two nations could quickly involve many more.
Assassination /uh.sas.uh.nay.shun/	The murder of an important person, often for political reasons.	The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand sparked a chain of events that led to World War I.
Trench Warfare /trench war.fair/	A type of combat where opposing troops fight from trenches dug into the battlefield.	Trench warfare created a stalemate on the Western Front, with both sides suffering heavy casualties.
Western Front /wes.turn frunt/	The main battlefield of WWI located in France and Belgium, where much of the fighting occurred.	The Western Front saw some of the most brutal fighting of the war, with millions of soldiers losing their lives.

Words & Phonetics	Definitions	Examples
No Man's Land /noh manz land/	The area between opposing trenches, very dangerous to cross during battle.	Crossing No Man's Land was incredibly dangerous due to enemy fire and barbed wire.
Mustard Gas /mus.tard gas/	A chemical weapon used in WWI, causing severe blisters and blindness.	Mustard gas was used to break the stalemate of trench warfare, causing horrific injuries to soldiers.
Shell Shock /shel shok/	A psychological condition caused by the stress of combat, now known as PTSD.	Many soldiers on the Western Front suffered from shell shock, struggling to cope with the horrors of war.
Field Hospitals /feeld hos.pit.uhls/	Medical facilities set up near the front lines to treat wounded soldiers.	Field hospitals provided critical care to wounded soldiers, often in difficult and dangerous conditions.
Treaty of Versailles /tree.tee ov ver.sai/	The peace treaty that ended WWI and imposed heavy penalties on Germany.	The Treaty of Versailles imposed heavy reparations on Germany, leading to economic hardship and resentment.
Nazism /naw.tz.izm/	A political ideology associated with the Nazi Party, focused on German nationalism and anti-Semitism.	Nazism gained popularity in Germany after World War I due to widespread dissatisfaction with the Treaty of Versailles.
Putsch /pooch/	An attempt to overthrow the government, usually by force.	Hitler's failed putsch in 1923 showed his willingness to use violence to achieve his political goals.
Conscription /kon.skrip.shun/	The mandatory enlistment of people into military service.	Conscription was introduced in many countries during World War I to ensure there were enough soldiers for the war effort.