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Glossary

Term	Definition
Ancient	Belonging to a very early period in history.
Archaeology	The study of the human past through material remains.
Archaeologist	A person who studies the past by examining artefacts and sites.
Archive	A place where historical documents are kept.
Artefact	An object made or used by people in the past.
Century	A period of one hundred years.
Chronicle	A historical record of events in the order they happened.
Civilisation	A society with its own culture, government and way of life.
Colony	A territory controlled by another country.
Compass	A navigation instrument that shows direction.
Conquest	The act of taking control of a place by force.
Culture	The beliefs, customs, arts and way of life of a society.
Democracy	A system of government in which people choose their leaders.
Discovery	Finding or learning something new.

Term	Definition
Dynasty	A series of rulers from the same family.
Economy	The system of producing, buying and selling goods and services.
Empire	A group of territories ruled by one government or emperor.
Evidence	Information or objects used to support a conclusion.
Exploration	Travelling to discover new places.
Explorer	A person who travels to discover unknown places.
Feudalism	The medieval system based on land ownership and loyalty.
Fossil	The preserved remains or traces of ancient living things.
Government	The group of people who control a country or state.
Gravity	The force that attracts objects towards the Earth.
Humanism	A Renaissance movement that focused on human potential and education.
Indigenous	Native to a particular place.
Invention	A new device, method or process.
Kingdom	A country ruled by a king or queen.
Knight	A soldier of high social rank in the Middle Ages.
Law	A rule made by a government.
Manuscript	A document written by hand.
Merchant	A person who buys and sells goods.
Middle Ages	The period of European history from the 5th to the 15th century.
Monarchy	A form of government ruled by a king or queen.
Monastery	A place where monks live and work.
Monk	A man who lives in a religious community.

Term	Definition
Mummy	The preserved body of a dead person, especially in Ancient Egypt.
Navigation	The process of planning and controlling a journey by sea or air.
Noble	A person belonging to the highest social class.
Papyrus	An ancient writing material made from a plant.
Parliament	A group of elected people who make laws.
Pharaoh	The ruler of Ancient Egypt.
Philosopher	A person who studies ideas about life, knowledge and existence.
Primary source	An original document or object from the period being studied.
Printing press	A machine used to produce books quickly.
Pyramid	A large stone structure built as a tomb in Ancient Egypt.
Reformation	The religious movement that began in the sixteenth century.
Renaissance	The cultural movement that renewed interest in Classical learning.
Revolution	A major change in society or government.
Ruins	The remains of old buildings or structures.
Scientist	A person who studies science through observation and experiments.
Scientific Revolution	A period of important scientific discoveries in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.
Secondary source	A text that explains or analyses historical events using primary sources.
Society	A group of people living together in an organised community.
Source	Any document, object or evidence used to study history.
Temple	A building used for religious worship.

Term	Definition
Timeline	A diagram showing events in chronological order.
Trade	The buying and selling of goods.
Trade route	A path used to transport goods between places.
Treaty	A formal agreement between countries.
Tribe	A social group with common traditions and ancestors.
Universe	Everything that exists, including stars, planets and space.
Voyage	A long journey, especially by sea.