

Glossary

A

- abolitionist** one who was against slavery (8)
- academy** a school similar to a high school of today (6)
- ad valorem taxes** taxes that are based on the value of the item being taxed (19)
- affirmative action** programs designed to increase the number of minorities in the workplace (16)
- alliance** a close association to advance the common interests of the parties (3)
- allotment** a specified portion, as of land (5)
- amendment** an addition to a document, such as a constitution (12)
- American Indian Movement (AIM)** a militant American Indian organization organized in the late 1960s to gain Indian rights (16)
- annex** to add on, such as adding territory to an existing town, city, or state (7)
- annuity** a sum of money paid annually or at some other regular interval (6)
- anthropologist** a scientist who studies artifacts, fossils, cave drawings, trails, and oral history to learn the culture of a group and how groups of people lived (2)
- appropriate** to set aside a certain amount of money for a specific purpose (4)
- aquifer** an underground basin that holds water that seeps down from rainfall, lakes, and ponds (1)
- Arbuckle Mountains** a geographic region in the south-central part of the state (1)
- archaeologist** a scientist who studies ancient cultures by examining what they have left behind (2)
- armistice** a temporary stop to fighting (13)
- artifact** an item made or used by people; includes pottery, tools, bone, jewelry, and paintings (2)
- assimilation** the process of one group becoming part of another (5)
- atlatl** a short wooden shaft with a hook at the end that was used to throw darts with more force and accuracy (2)

B

- baby boomer** name given to a child born between the years 1946 and 1964 (15)
- barnstormer** a pilot who gave airplane rides and flying and stunt exhibitions (14)
- barter** to trade one item for another (2)
- basin** a deep sunken area (1)
- bicameral** a legislature that has two houses; in Oklahoma, the Legislature consists of a senate and a house of representatives (12)
- bill** a proposed law (19)
- biomass** renewable plant materials and animal waste (17)
- boll weevil** an insect that attacks the boll of the cotton plant (12)
- boomer** one who took part in the land "booms" of the late 1800s when western land was opened to settlement (11)
- boycott** occurs when people refuse to buy certain items or take certain actions until specific conditions are met (16)
- budget** a plan for receiving and spending money (19)
- buffalo soldiers** the name given to the black troops of the 10th Cavalry by the Native Americans (9)
- buffer zone** a neutral area between two larger areas with different uses (7)
- butte** an isolated hill or mountain with steep sides; smaller than a mesa (1)

C

- calumet** a long ceremonial pipe used by the Native Americans (3)
- caravan** a procession of wagons traveling in single file (7)
- cartographer** a mapmaker (3)
- cede** to turn over, often by treaty (5)
- charter** official permission to operate (12)
- civil law** law that involves situations where people

have been harmed and some kind of financial award can help resolve the problem (19)

Civil Rights Act of 1964 federal legislation that required equal employment opportunity without regard to race, religion, and national origin (16)

climate the average weather of an area over a long period of time, such as 25-30 years (1)

Cold War name given to the period of hostilities after World War II between the United States and the Soviet Union (15)

collective bargaining negotiations between a labor union and an employer over wages, benefits, and working conditions (14)

colony a group of people who settle in another land but who are still under the rule of their native land (3)

Compromise of 1850 legislation by which California was admitted as a free state, the Texas-New Mexico boundary was settled, the northern boundary of the Texas Panhandle was set at 36° 30' N latitude, the slave trade was banned in the District of Columbia, the fugitive slave law was strengthened, and the territories of New Mexico and Utah were organized without mention of slavery (8)

confederacy an alliance (4)

Confederate States of America the government formed by those southern states that seceded from the Union in 1861 (8)

conquistador a Spanish conqueror (3)

constitution a document that sets up the framework of a government (or any other organization) (4)

contract a formal, legally binding agreement between two or more parties (7)

cooperative an organization owned by and operated for those using its services (13)

council of defense a state organization during World War I to coordinate publicity, food and fuel conservation, military preparedness, and campaigns for Liberty Bonds and war savings stamps (13)

county seat the city or town where the county government is located (19)

credit the ability to buy goods now and pay for the items over a period of time (14)

criminal law law that involves investigating crimes, prosecuting defendants, and holding perpetrators accountable for their actions; persons found guilty

of criminal offenses usually receive jail or probationary sentences (19)

culture the way of life of a group of people; includes beliefs, traditions, music, art, and social institutions (18)

Curtis Act federal legislation that abolished tribal courts and made everyone in Indian Territory subject to federal law and the laws of Arkansas; forced the tribes to allot land or risk abolishment of tribal governments (11)

D

Dawes Severalty Act federal legislation that dissolved tribal ownership of land, primarily in western Oklahoma, and gave specific amounts of land to each individual Indian; it also extended the protection of U.S. laws over the Indians (11)

deregulation the removal of government rules and regulations (16)

desperado a bold outlaw, especially in the western United States (6)

destitute suffering in extreme poverty (6)

dictator a ruler with complete control (15)

dissenter one who is in disagreement or opposition (13)

diversity a variety of different ideas, customs, skills, arts, foods, and beliefs (18)

draft compulsory enrollment for military service (13)

drought a long period without rainfall (1)

drover a trail driver (10)

dugout a house built half in the ground, half above (9)

Dust Bowl an area hard hit by a drought in the 1930s; included the western half of Kansas, southeastern Colorado, the Oklahoma Panhandle, the northern two-thirds of the Texas Panhandle, and northeastern New Mexico (14)

E

economy a system that includes all the activities involved in the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services (3)

ecosystem an interacting system of living organisms—plants, trees, animals, fish, and so on—and their nonliving environment (1)

elevation the height of a place above sea level (1)

embargo an action stopping all trade with a particular country (16)

emigrant one who leaves one's country to settle in another (6)

Enabling Act federal legislation, signed June 16, 1906, that provided for joining Indian Territory and Oklahoma Territory into the single state of Oklahoma, also called the Hamilton Statehood Bill (12)

encroachment a trespass or an intrusion without permission (4)

environment surroundings (1)

epidemic an outbreak of a contagious disease (4)

erosion the wearing away of land by the action of wind or water (1)

ethnic group a group of people who share common traditions, beliefs, and patterns of living that can include language, religion, customs, characteristics, history, and food (18)

expedition a journey for a specific purpose, such as exploration (3)

F

fossil fuel a fuel formed in the ground from the remains of dead plants and animals; includes oil, natural gas, and coal (1)

fossil a trace or remains of living things (2)

free state a state that did not allow slavery (8)

freedmen former slaves (9)

frontier the area at the edge or just beyond a settled area (4)

G

garrison a military post (9)

geography the study of Earth's physical features and how people interact with them (1)

gerrymandering the process of redrawing voting districts to give an unfair advantage to one political party (13)

governor the head of the executive branch of state government (12)

grandfather clause a clause that, to register to vote, required a person to prove he could read and write parts of the state constitution or was a descendant of a person who was eligible to vote on January 1, 1866; this clause virtually denied blacks the right to vote (13)

Great Depression a period of time in the 1930s when the United States and much of the world suffered under a severe economic downturn (14)

guardianship a situation where someone legally has the authority to make decisions for and care for and control all of the property of someone (8)

guerrilla a member of a small military group that harasses the enemy (8)

Gypsum Hills a geographic region in the western part of the state that covers a large area from the Kansas border to the far southwestern corner of the state (1)

H

headright an interest reserved for each tribal member in the funds collected from mineral leases, sale of lands, etc. (13)

High Plains a geographic region of the state that includes the Panhandle and land along part of the western border of the state (1)

Homestead Act of 1862 federal legislation that enabled citizens to acquire up to 160 acres of land by paying a filing fee, occupying the land for five years, and building a home and improvements (9)

human rights rights believed to belong to all people (6)

I

immigrant one who moves to a new country to settle there (7)

immunity resistance (3)

impeachment the process of charging a public official with wrongdoing while that official is still in office (13)

impressment forcing U.S. sailors to serve in the British navy (5)

Indian Removal Act legislation passed in 1830 that forced the Indian tribes living east of the Mississippi River to move onto land west of the Mississippi (5)

indict to charge with a crime (14)

inflation an increase in the prices of goods and services, while purchasing power decreases (14)

initiative a political process where citizens can propose a law or constitutional amendment (12)

interurban a short railroad or electric trolley (12)

irrigation supplying water to land by artificial means (1)

isthmus a narrow strip of land connecting two larger land areas (3)

J

Jim Crow laws laws that limited the rights of black people (12)

jurisdiction the range of actions over which a court has control or influence (10)

K

kickback a bribe or illegal payment made to obtain business or help of some kind (17)

Ku Klux Klan a secret, racist organization that sought to keep political power in the hands of whites by using violence and intimidation; its members were anti-Catholic, anti-Jewish, anti-African American, and opposed to immigration and labor unions (14)

L

latitude the distance north or south of the equator measured in degrees (1)

lighthorseman a tribal policeman (10)

literacy the ability to read and write (6)

long hunter a hunter gone for long periods of time (4)

longitude the distance east or west of the prime meridian measured in degrees (1)

lottery a contest whose winner is chosen by a drawing (5)

M

manifest destiny Americans' desire to gain new land and to spread their beliefs and idealism (4)

MAPS (Metropolitan Area Projects) a capital improvement program begun in 1993 to revitalize downtown Oklahoma City (17)

martial law a temporary use of military rule when civilian authority breaks down (14)

mesa a large flat-topped but steep-sided landform (1)

middleman a trader who buys goods from producers and sells them to other traders or consumers (3)

migrate to move from one place to another (5)

minority a group of people who are a small part of a much larger group (6)

mission a building or compound belonging to a group sent out to do religious or charitable work (6)

missionary one who is sent on a religious mission (3)

Missouri Compromise an 1820 compromise by which Missouri was admitted as a slave state, Maine was admitted as a free state, and slavery was prohibited north of Missouri's southern border at 36° 30' N latitude (5)

N

nanotechnology the manipulation of atoms and molecules to create new structures, devices, and systems (17)

natural resources those things found in nature that are useful to humans (1)

negotiations discussions between people who try to come to an agreement on something (6)

neutral to not take sides in a disagreement (8)

New Deal the name given to the series of laws passed during President Franklin D. Roosevelt's terms that were intended to deal with the conditions caused by the Great Depression (14)

nomadic wandering from place to place (2)

normal school a teacher-training institution (11)

Northwest Passage a hoped-for all-water route to Asia through the North American continent (3)

O

ordinance a local law (13)

Organic Act federal legislation, signed May 2, 1890, that created Oklahoma Territory from western Indian Territory and No Man's Land (11)

Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) an organization founded in 1960 of several petroleum-producing countries to gain control over oil production and pricing (16)

Ouachita Mountains a geographic region in the southeastern part of the state (1)

Ozark Plateau a geographic region in the northeastern part of the state (1)

P

Pacific Railroad Act federal legislation passed in 1862 authorizing the construction of a railroad and a telegraph line across the country (9)

pandemic something that occurs over a wide geographic area; was used to refer to the worldwide influenza epidemic of the late 1910s (13)

partisan describes strong, biased political backing (14)

peacekeeping mission the activity of keeping the peace by military forces (6)

petrochemicals chemicals derived from petroleum or natural gas (14)

petroglyph a picture or symbol that conveys an idea (2)

pirogue a canoe-shaped boat (4)

plateau an elevated, relatively level area (1)

polygamy having more than one wife (2)

popular sovereignty a process by which those living in a territory could decide for themselves on an issue, such as if they wanted slavery (8)

powwow an American Indian gathering to celebrate Indian heritage; often includes singing and dancing (18)

Prairie Plains a geographic region of the state to the west of the Ozark Plateau (1)

prehistoric people those who lived before recorded history (2)

price parity the point where prices received for farm products keep pace with the costs of other products and services to ensure a constant standard of living (16)

progressive movement a movement in the early 1900s that believed government was best equipped to correct the problems in society (12)

prohibition forbidding by law the making or selling of alcoholic beverages (12)

protégé a young person who receives experienced guidance (4)

protohistoric refers to the era between prehistoric and recorded history (2)

Q

quarantine a restriction of people's or animals' movement to stop the spread of disease (10)

R

railhead the end of a railroad line (10)

rapproach relationship (9)

ratify to formally approve something, such as a treaty (4)

ration to limit the supply of something (15)

Reconstruction the process of rebuilding the country after the Civil War (9)

Red Bed Plains a geographic region in the middle

of the state that extends from Kansas to Texas (1)

Red River Plains a geographic region in the southeastern part of the state that lies along the Red River (1)

referendum a procedure whereby citizens are able to vote on a law that affects them before that law goes into effect (12)

renegade a deserter (4) or an outlaw (9)

reservation an area set aside for use by a particular people (9)

reserves supplies that are known, but not yet produced (17)

rider an addition (11)

rodeo a competition among cowboys that usually includes roping, bronco riding, calf roping, and steer wrestling (18)

royalty a payment for the right to exploit a natural resource (10)

S

Sandstone Hills a geographic region of the state just east of the Red Bed Plains region (1)

secede to break away, as a state breaking away from the Union (8)

segregation separating groups by race (10)

seminary a residential school (10)

shaman a wise medicine man (2)

shelterbelt a row of trees planted to anchor the soil and buffer the wind (14)

sit-in a type of demonstration that occurs when a group of people enter a public facility and refuse to leave until they are recognized or their demands are met (15)

skirmish a minor, short-term fight (3)

slave state a state that did permit slavery (8)

sooner one who crossed the starting line of a land run before the appointed time (11)

squatter one who settles on unoccupied land in order to gain title to it (11)

states' rights the principle that the rights and responsibilities of the states should take precedence over the rights and responsibilities of the federal government (8)

station a regular stopping place along a stagecoach line (7)

stock market the place where shares of ownership—stock—in corporations are bought and sold (14)

strike a work action that occurs when workers refuse to work until their demands are met (10)

subscription school an early school where parents paid a monthly fee, usually ranging from \$1 to \$2 (12)

subsidy a sum of money paid by the government to individuals, companies, or other groups needing help (14)

subsistence the minimum resources needed to support life (5)

suburbs a residential area on the edge of a city (15)

suffrage the right to vote (12)

survey to make a detailed map of an area, including its boundaries and elevation (6)

syllabary a group of symbols that stand for whole syllables (5)

T

tariff a tax, often on imported goods (8)

tax an amount charged citizens and businesses by their governments—federal, state, local—to pay for services provided (13)

tenant farmer a farmer who cleared the land and planted a crop, but who did not own the land (10)

terrorism acts of violence aimed at demoralizing or intimidating others (17)

Title IX an amendment to the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that stated that any educational institution receiving federal funding was required to provide equal opportunities in educational programs and activities (16)

topography physical features of the land, such as mountains or plateaus (1)

tornado a severe windstorm caused when clashing air masses create funnels of winds that rotate counterclockwise (1)

totem an animal or bird whose spirit guided a Native American (2)

township an area consisting of 36 one-mile-square parcels of land called *sections*; each section contains 640 acres of land (11)

transcontinental railroad a railroad that spans the continent from ocean to ocean (7)

treaty a formal agreement between two or more nations (4)

tributary a stream or river that flows into a larger river (1)

U

Underground Railroad a secret network of safe places for slaves to hide as they escaped to the North or Canada (8)

urban sprawl the unplanned, uncontrolled spread of urban development into areas on the edge of a city (17)

V

veto to not approve or sign a bill into law (19)

viceroy a Spanish governor (2)

W

weather a measure of the current conditions of the atmosphere; includes temperature, precipitation, and wind (1)

Wichita Mountains a geographic region in the middle of the state south of the Red Bed Plains (1)

wildcatter an oil-industry risk taker; one who drills in a doubtful or untapped area (1)