**Unit 1 Vocabulary**

1. Abbasid Caliphate-- N: The Abbasid Caliphate was a major dynasty that ruled over the Islamic Empire during its peak (750-1258)
2. Buddhism – n: a religion, originated in India by Buddha (Gautama) holding that life is full of suffering caused by desire and that the way to end this suffering is through enlightenment
3. bureaucracy – n: a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives
4. caliphate – n: the rule or reign of a caliph or chief Muslim ruler; the area ruled by a caliph
5. caste system – n:  the rigid Hindu system of hereditary social distinctions based on castes
6. centralized government – n: a form of government that is governed by a supreme political authority that has sovereignty over all other governing bodies
7. Champa rice – n:  quick-maturing, drought resistant rice that can allow two harvests in one growing season; changed the history of China
8. Christianity – n: the religion based on the person and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth, or its beliefs and practices
9. Confucianism – n: a system of philosophical and ethical teachings in Classical China founded by Confucius and developed by Mencius
10. decentralized government – n: a form of government with its top-level decision-making processes dispersed throughout the system rather than concentrated in one person, place or legislative body.
11. empire – n: an extensive group of states or countries under a single supreme authority, formerly especially an emperor or empress
12. feudalism – n: the dominant social system in medieval Europe, in which the nobility held lands from the Crown in exchange for military service, and vassals were in turn tenants of the nobles, while the peasants (villeins or serfs) were obliged to live on their lord's land and give him homage, labor, and a share of the produce, notionally in exchange for military protection
13. filial piety – n: Confucianist belief in the important virtue and primary duty of respect, obedience, and care for one's parents and elderly family members
14. Hinduism – n: major world religion originating on the Indian subcontinent and comprising several and varied systems of philosophy, belief, and ritual
15. Islam – n: the religion of the Muslims, a monotheistic faith regarded as revealed through
16. Judaism – n: world's oldest monotheistic, Abrahamic religion developed among the ancient Hebrews
17. manoralism – n: political and economic system defined by the relationship between landowner and land workers during medieval times
18. medieval – adj: relating to the Middle Ages
19. Mesoamerica – n: important historical region and cultural area in the Americas, extending from approximately central Mexico through Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and northern Costa Rica, and within which pre-Columbian societies flourished before the Spanish colonization
20. mit’a -- mandatory public service in the society of the Inca Empire. Historians use the hispanicized term mita to differentiate the system as it was modified and intensified by the Spanish colonial government, creating the encomienda system
21. monotheism – n: the doctrine or belief that there is only one God
22. Muhammad as the Prophet of Allah
23. Muslim – n: follower of the religion of Islam
24. Neoconfucianism – n: movement in religious philosophy derived from Confucianism in China around AD 1000 in response to the ideas of Taoism and Buddhism
25. patriarchy – n: a system of society or government in which men hold the power and women are largely excluded from it
26. quipu – n: an ancient Inca device for recording information, consisting of variously colored threads knotted in different ways
27. serfdom – n: the state of being a serf or feudal laborer
28. Sufism – N: mystical Islamic belief and practice in which Muslims seek to find the truth of divine love and knowledge through direct personal experience of God
29. terrace farming – n: method of growing crops on sides of hills or mountains by planting on graduated terraces built into the slope
30. Vedic religions – n: the ancient religion of the Aryan peoples who entered northwestern India from Persia *c.* 2000–1200 BC. It was the precursor of Hinduism, and its beliefs and practices are contained in the Vedas
31. Zoroastrianism – n: a monotheistic pre-Islamic religion of ancient Persia founded by Zoroaster in the 6th century BC

**Unit 2 Vocabulary**

1. Afro-Eurasia – n: super-continent comprised of Africa, Asia and Europe
2. analysis – n: detailed examination of the elements or structure of something, typically as a basis for discussion or interpretation
3. argumentation – n: the action or process of reasoning systematically in support of an idea, action, or theory
4. assess – v: evaluate or estimate the nature, ability, quality, or value of
5. astrolabe – n: an instrument formerly used in navigation for calculating latitude, before the development of more advanced technology
6. bubonic plague – n: the most common form of plague in humans, characterized by fever, delirium, and the formation of buboes; caused by the bacterium *Yersinia pestis*
7. caravan – n: a group of people or animals traveling together on a long journey especially through the desert.
8. caravanserai – n: roadside inn where travelers could rest and recover from the day's journey. These stops supported the flow of commerce, information and people across the network of trade routes covering Asia, North Africa and Southeast Europe, most notably the Silk Road.
9. causation – n: the relationship between cause and effect
10. compare – v: draw an analogy between one thing and (another) for the purposes of explanation or clarification
11. context – n: the circumstances that form the setting for an event, statement, or idea, and in terms of which it can be fully understood and assessed
12. continuity – n: a state of stability and the absence of disruption
13. describe – v: give an account in words of (someone or something), including all the relevant characteristics, qualities, or events
14. diaspora – n: dispersion of any people from their original homeland:
15. discuss – v: talk or write about (a topic) in detail, considering different ideas and opinions
16. disease pathogen – n: a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that can cause disease
17. evaluate – v: form an idea of the amount, number, or value of; assess
18. explain – v: make (an idea, situation, or problem) clear to someone by describing it in more detail or revealing relevant facts or ideas
19. Ibn Battuta – N: a world-renowned Islamic explorer, he traveled to forty-five nations (75,000 miles) throughout Asia, Africa and the Middle East between 1325-1354
20. khanate – n: area governed by a khan, usually of the Mongol Empire
21. Marco Polo –N: a Venetian merchant believed to have journeyed across Asia at the height of the Mongol Empire (1254-1324)
22. maritime – adj: connected with the sea, especially in relation to seafaring commercial or military activity
23. mercantile – adj: relating to trade or commerce; commercial
24. monsoon – n: a seasonal prevailing wind in the region of South and Southeast Asia, blowing from the southwest between May and September and bringing rain (the *wet monsoon*), or from the northeast between October and April (the *dry monsoon)*
25. nomadism – n: way of life of peoples who do not live continually in the same place but move cyclically or periodically. It is distinguished from migration, which is noncyclic and involves a total change of habitat
26. pandemic – adj: (of a disease) prevalent over a whole country or the world
27. periodization – n: an act or instance of dividing a subject into historical eras for purposes of analysis and study
28. Silk Road – n: ancient network of trade routes that connected the East and West
29. Sudanic Kingdoms
30. Swahili – n: 1 : a member of a Bantu-speaking people of Zanzibar and the adjacent coast. 2 : a Bantu language that is a trade and governmental language over much of East Africa and in the Congo region.