

Lesson 10

History

All the words in this lesson may refer to history or historical events.

- abduct** V. to take someone by force; to kidnap (The plan to *abduct* the ambassador was discovered in time.)
- anachronism** N. something outdated; something out of its own time (Due to rapid progress in aircraft design, the biplane was soon an *anachronism*.)
- archives** N. written records stored in an organized manner (World War II bombings destroyed the priceless *archives* of many institutions.)
- artifacts** N. human-made products of historical or archeological interest (A chalice and shield are two medieval *artifacts* displayed at the museum.)
- effigy** N. a crude figure of a despised person (During World War II, anti-Nazi groups would sometimes burn an *effigy* of Adolf Hitler.)
- emancipation** N. act of freeing from slavery or oppression (The *emancipation* of the slaves occurred in 1863.)
- fortuitous** ADJ. by chance or accident (The discovery of gold in California was a *fortuitous* event.)
- heretic** N. one who deviates from an accepted belief or doctrine (If found guilty by the Inquisition, a *heretic* was sometimes burned at the stake.)
- horde** N. a large group or mass; a tribe of nomads (Rome was invaded by a *horde* of Germanic tribes during the fifth century.)
- intelligentsia** N. the educated elite or intellectuals of society (The *intelligentsia* of Germany were often arrested by the Nazis.)
- legacy** N. a gift by will of money or other personal property (The Rockefeller family *legacy* is one of humanitarian and cultural aid.)
- panoply** N. a full suit of armor (Sir Gawain's *panoply* reflected the sun with such intensity his opponent was momentarily blinded.)
- proletarian** ADJ. of the working class (Socialist theory argues that economic power should belong to the *proletarian* masses.)
- purge** N. a removal of elements or members regarded as undesirable (The military leaders began a *purge* of those loyal to the old regime.)
- regal** ADJ. royal; of kings (The Queen's stationery bore the *regal* insignia and coat of arms.)
- repercussion** N. an unforeseen effect or result of an act, action, or event (One *repercussion* of the Vietnam War was a distrust of the military.)
- saga** N. a long, detailed account (The nation watched as the ongoing *saga* of the Watergate conspiracy unfolded.)
- scapegoat** N. one who bears the blame for others (A soldier, convicted of murdering civilians, may become the *scapegoat* for the entire army.)
- theocracy** N. government by divine guidance or by leaders who are regarded as divinely guided (The nation of ancient Israel was a *theocracy*.)
- tithe** V. to give ten percent of one's income for the support of a church (Few members of any church actually *tithe* a full ten percent.)