**Unit 1 Vocabulary**

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|  | **Term** | **Definition** |
|  | Group 1 |  |
| 1 | Exoduster | name given to African Americans who migrated from states along the Mississippi River to Kansas in the late nineteenth century |
| 2 | Homestead | a dwelling with its land and buildings, occupied by the owner as a home and exempted by law from seizure or sale for debt. |
| 3 | Bonanza farm | very large **farms** in the United States performing large-scale operations, mostly growing and harvesting wheat |
| 4 | Reaper | a machine for cutting standing grain |
| 5 | Dugout | a shelter that is dug in the ground and roofed over |
| 6 | Debt peonage | reduces debtors to slave labor. For example, a debtor with no money agrees to work for the creditor free until her bill is paid off. |
| 7 | Soddy | A house built of sod |
| 8 | Transcontinental | Crossing a continent |
|  | Group 2 |  |
| 9 | Nomadic | To live with no settled home, moving from place to place |
| 10 | Massacre | an indiscriminate and brutal slaughter of people |
| 11 | Americanization |  to make or become American in character; assimilate to the customs and institutions of the U.S |
| 12 | Assimilation | the process by which a person or a group's language and/or culture come to resemble those of another group |
| 13 | Migration | movement by people from one place to another with the intention of settling temporarily or permanently in the new location |
|  | Group 3 |  |
| 14 | Gilded | covered thinly with gold leaf or gold paint /  having a pleasing or showy appearance that conceals something of little worth |
| 15 | Plutocracy | a country or society governed by the wealthy |
| 16 | Meritocracy | government or the holding of power by people selected on the basis of their ability |
| 17 | Monopoly | the exclusive possession or control of the supply or trade in a commodity or service |
| 18 | Lassiez-faire | a policy or attitude of letting things take their own course, without interfering |
| 19 | Consolidation | State of unifying separate things |
|  | Group 4 |  |
| 20 | Union | an organized association of workers formed to protect and further their rights and interests |
| 21 | Collective bargaining |  a process of negotiations between employers and a group of employees aimed at reaching agreements to regulate working conditions. The interests of the employees are commonly presented by representatives of a trade union to which the employees belong |
| 22 | Arbitration | the settling of disputes (especially labor disputes) between two parties by an impartial third party, whose decision the contending parties agree to accept |
| 23 | Strikes | a refusal to work organized by a body of employees as a form of protest, typically in an attempt to gain a concession or concessions from their employer. |
| 24 | Closed shop | an arrangement whereby an employer agrees to hire—and retain in employment—only persons who are members in good standing of the trade union |
| 25 | Blacklisting |  to deny someone work in a particular field, or to ostracize a person from a certain social circle |
| 26 | Yellow dog contract | an agreement between an employer and an employee in which the employee agrees, as a condition of employment, not to be a member of a [labor union](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trade_union) |
|  | Group 5 |  |
| 27 | Tenements | a room or a set of rooms forming a separate residence within a house or block of apartments |
| 28 | Ethnic islands | A neighborhood that is made up of mostly the same type of persons |
| 29 | Melting pot | a place (such as a city or country) where different types of people live together and gradually create one community |
| 30 | Pluralism | a condition or system in which two or more states, groups, principles, sources of authority, etc., coexist |
| 31 | Settlement house | a place or organization that provides various community services to people in a crowded part of a city |
|  | Group 6 |  |
| 32 | Fraud | wrongful or criminal deception intended to result in financial or personal gain |
| 33 | Graft | the unscrupulous use of a politician's authority for personal gain |
| 34 | Corruption | dishonest or fraudulent conduct by those in power, typically involving bribery |
| 35 | Patronage | exchanging jobs or other favors in return for political support. |
| 36 | Civil service | the permanent professional branches of a government's administration |
| 37 | Tariff | Taxes on imported goods |
|  | Group 7 |  |
| 38 | Platform | the declared policy of a political party or group. |
| 39 | Deflation | reduction of the general level of prices in an economy |
| 40 | Bimetallism | a system allowing the unrestricted currency of two metals (e.g., gold and silver) as legal tender at a fixed ratio to each other |
| 41 | Greenbacks | a U.S. legal-tender note, printed in green on the back since the Civil War, originally issued against the credit of the country and not against gold or silver |
| 42 | Regulation | a rule or directive made and maintained by an authority (for ex: the government) |
| 43 | Lynching | when a mob kills someone, especially by hanging, for an alleged offense without a legal trial |