

Uncovering the Past**Lesson 1****MAIN IDEAS**

1. History is the study of the past.
2. We can improve our understanding of people's actions and beliefs through the study of history.
3. Historians use clues from various sources to learn about the past.

Key Terms and People

history the study of the past

culture the knowledge, beliefs, customs, and values of a group of people

archaeology the study of the past based on what people left behind

fossil a part or imprint of something that was once alive

artifacts objects created by and used by humans

primary source an account of an event created by someone who took part in or witnessed the event

secondary source information gathered by someone who did not take part in or witness an event

Lesson Summary**THE STUDY OF THE PAST**

History is the study of the past. Historians are people who study history. Historians want to know how people lived and why they did the things they did. They try to learn about the problems people faced and how they found solutions. They are interested in how people lived their daily lives. They study the past to understand people's culture. **Culture** is the knowledge, beliefs, customs, and values of a group of people.

The study of the past based on what people left behind is called **archaeology** (ahr-kee-ah-luh-jee). Archaeologists explore places where people once lived, worked, or fought. They examine the things that people left in these places to learn about how these people lived.

What do we call people who study how people lived in the past?

Underline the sentence that tells why archaeologists examine the things that people left behind.

Lesson 1, *continued***UNDERSTANDING THROUGH HISTORY**

Understanding the past helps you understand the world today. History can even teach you about yourself. What if you did not know about your own past? You would not know what makes you proud about yourself. You would not know what mistakes you should not repeat.

History is just as important for groups. What would happen if countries had no record of their past? People would not remember their nation's great triumphs or tragedies. History shapes our identity and teaches us the values that we share.

History also teaches about cultures that are unlike your own. Learning other people's stories can help you respect and understand different opinions. You also learn to understand how today's events are shaped by events of the past. History encourages you to ask important questions.

USING CLUES

We learn about history from a variety of sources. **Fossils**, such as bones or footprints preserved in rock, give us clues to life very long ago. **Artifacts**, such as tools, coins, or pottery, also give us information. People invented writing about 5,000 years ago. Since then, laws, poems, speeches, letters, and other things have been written. People have learned from these written sources. Writing can be a **primary source**, which was written by someone who took part in or witnessed an event. Writing can also be a **secondary source**, which is information gathered by someone who did not take part in or witness an event.

CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

Critical Thinking: Make Inferences Imagine a tribe or group of people that might have lived a long time ago. Write a short essay about its culture.

How can studying history teach you about yourself?

Underline the sentence that explains why history helps you relate more easily to people of different backgrounds.

What sources give us clues to life very long ago?

Lesson 1, *continued*

archaeology	artifacts	culture	fossil
history	primary source	secondary source	

DIRECTIONS Use the seven vocabulary terms from the lesson to write a summary of what you learned in the lesson.

DIRECTIONS On the line provided before each statement, write **T** if a statement is true and **F** if a statement is false. If the statement is false, write the correct term on the line after each sentence that makes the sentence a true statement.

- _____ 1. A fossil is a part or imprint of something that was once alive.

- _____ 2. A primary source is information gathered by someone who did not take part in or witness an event.

- _____ 3. Artifacts are objects that were created and used by humans.

- _____ 4. A secondary source is an account of an event created by someone who took part in or witnessed the event.

- _____ 5. The study of the past is called history.

- _____ 6. The study of the past based on what people left behind is called history.

Uncovering the Past**Lesson 2****MAIN IDEAS**

1. Geography is the study of places and people.
2. Studying location is important to both physical and human geography.
3. Geography and history are closely connected.

Key Terms and People

geography the study of the earth's physical and cultural features

environment all the living and nonliving things that affect life in an area

landforms the natural features of the land's surface

climate the pattern of weather conditions in a certain area over a long period of time

region area with one or more features that makes it different from surrounding areas

resources materials found in the earth that people need and value

Lesson Summary**STUDYING PLACES AND PEOPLE**

Historians study geography to understand where events took place and who was there. **Geography** is the earth's physical and cultural features. It includes mountains, rivers, people, cities, and countries.

Geography has two main areas of study. Physical geography is the study of the earth's land and features. Human geography is the study of people and the places where they live. Physical geographers study the **environment**, which includes all the living and nonliving things that affect life in an area. The environment is shaped by the physical processes of weathering, erosion, and pollution. The most important features for physical geographers are **landforms**, the natural features of the land's surface. Physical geographers also study **climate**, the pattern of weather conditions in a certain area over a long period of time.

What subject helps historians understand where events took place?

What are the two main areas of study in geography?

Underline the sentence that explains what climate is.

Lesson 2, continued

Specialists in human geography study many interesting questions about how people and the environment affect each other.

STUDYING LOCATION

No two places are exactly alike. That is why geographers try to understand how different locations can affect human populations, or groups of people. Geographers use maps to study and compare locations. A map is a drawing of an area. Some maps show physical features, such as mountains, forests, and rivers. Other maps show cities and the boundaries of states or countries. Studying location is often helped by learning about **regions**, or areas with one or more features that make them different from surrounding areas.

What are maps used for?

GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY

Geography gives us clues about the people and places that came before us. We can piece together information about past cultures by knowing where people lived and what the area was like.

Early people settled in places that were rich in resources. **Resources** are materials that are found in the earth that people need and value. They include water, animals, fertile land, stone for tools, and metals. Resources influence the development of cultures and the growth of civilizations and societies. For example, early societies formed along rivers. The relationship between geography and people is not one sided. People have influenced their environments positively by planting trees. They have influenced the environment negatively by creating wastelands where forests once existed.

Underline the sentence that explains how geography gives us clues about the past.

Why might early societies have formed along rivers?

CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

Critical Thinking: Design Draw a map of an imaginary country or region. Include features such as mountains, rivers, and cities.

Lesson 2, continued

climate	environment	geography
landforms	region	resources

DIRECTIONS Look up the vocabulary terms in the word bank in a dictionary. Write the dictionary definition of the word that is closest to the definition used in your textbook.

1. climate _____

2. environment _____

3. geography _____

4. landforms _____

5. region _____

6. resources _____

Uncovering the Past

Lesson 3



MAIN IDEAS

1. The main problem in economics is scarcity.
2. Businesses and countries have to make decisions about economic resources.
3. Businesses and other organizations help people meet their needs and wants.
4. Money is used as a medium of exchange, a store of value, and a unit of account.
5. Economics helps explain events in world history.

Key Terms and People

economy a system of producing, selling, and buying goods and services

scarcity not enough resources to meet people's wants

profit the money an individual or business has left after paying expenses

entrepreneur a person who organizes, manages, and assumes the risk of a business

mixed economy economy in which businesses are free to operate but they must obey a government's laws and rules

trade the activity of buying, selling, or exchanging goods and services

wealth the value of all possessions that a person or country has

Lesson Summary

ECONOMIC FUNDAMENTALS

An **economy** is a system of producing, selling, and buying goods and services. A main economic problem is **scarcity**, or not enough resources to meet people's wants. It forces them to make choices about what they want. The laws of supply and demand determine the price of a good or service.

Profit is money left over after expenses have been paid. Profit and saving money are incentives for people to buy and sell goods and services.

SYSTEMS TO ORGANIZE RESOURCES

Businesses have to make choices about factors of production. These factors are: natural resources, capital, labor, and **entrepreneurs**, people who organize, manage, and assume business risk.

Why is scarcity a main economic problem?

Underline the phrase that explains what entrepreneurs do.

Lesson 3, continued

Countries make production choices, too. Their economic system addresses how they distribute economic resources. Types of economies are traditional, command, and market. Today, many countries follow a **mixed economy**. Businesses are basically free to operate as they wish, but they must follow government laws and rules.

What is an advantage of following a mixed economy?

NEEDS AND WANTS

Today, large businesses aid the economy. They have the resources and tools to produce goods people need and want. The government and nonprofit organizations also help meet people's needs and wants.

MONEY AND TRADE

Trade is buying, selling, or exchanging goods and services. Early trade was called the barter system. Over time, trade routes formed, such as the Silk Road. Trade led to the exchange of languages, religions, tools, and inventions. With more trading, it became harder to agree on the value of products. So countries began to use money as a medium of exchange. Money is a form of wealth. **Wealth** is the value of all possessions that a person or country has.

Why did money become a medium of exchange?

THE IMPORTANCE OF ECONOMICS

Studying economics can help people make everyday decisions about money. It can also help people interpret the past, explain the present, and predict future consequences of economic decisions. Economic growth has been affected by the discovery of new resources and expansion, which increased trade. It also has been helped by technology and education, which increased productivity.

Underline the factors that have helped economic growth.

Lesson 3, *continued*

CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

Critical Thinking: Identify Cause and Effect

What is the effect of scarcity? Write a short essay about why scarcity is likely to continue to exist.

DIRECTIONS Write a word that has a similar meaning, or synonym, for the term given.

1. entrepreneur _____
2. profit _____
3. scarcity _____
4. trade _____

DIRECTIONS Read each sentence and fill in the blank with the word in the word pair that best completes the sentence.

5. The value of all possessions that a person or country has is called _____. (**money/wealth**)
6. In a _____ economy, businesses are basically free to operate as they please but must obey laws and government rules. (**mixed/traditional**)
7. The activity of buying, selling, or exchanging goods and services is known as _____. (**scarcity/trade**)
8. The _____ is a system of producing, selling, and buying goods and services. (**profit/economy**)
9. _____ occurs when there are not enough resources to meet people's wants. (**wealth/scarcity**)
10. When a business or individual has money left after expenses have been paid, that person or business has made a _____. (**profit/trade**)

Uncovering the Past

Lesson 4



MAIN IDEAS

1. A country's government affects the lives of its people
2. There have been many different forms of government throughout history.
3. Governments have a role to play in the economy, including providing services and collecting taxes.

Key Terms and People

civics the study of citizenship and government

government the organizations and individuals who have the right to rule over a group of people

constitution a written plan of government

democracy the people either rule directly or they elect officials who act on their behalf

republic a system of government in which people elect representatives to carry on the work of government

tax a charge people pay to a government

Lesson Summary

NEED FOR GOVERNMENTS

Civics is the study of citizenship and government. A person who is a citizen is legally recognized by his or her country. The **government** is the organizations and individuals who have the right to rule over the people. Government provides a way for people to unite, solve problems, and cooperate. Government makes people's lives safer and easier.

Government provides services such as establishing schools and providing police and fire departments. It creates highways between its borders and establishes a system of money.

Government provides laws for society. Many countries are ruled by a written plan of government, or a **constitution**. It describes the government's purpose and how it will be organized. Laws cannot go against it, and they

What makes a person a citizen of a country?

List three ways governments affect people.

Lesson 4, continued

must be recorded so people know about them. Many laws guarantee freedoms, such as freedom of speech, press, and religion.

Underline the sentence that describes what laws may guarantee.

FORMS OF GOVERNMENT

Some governments are nondemocratic, so citizens do not have the power to rule. Other governments are democratic. In a **democracy**, the people either rule directly or elect officials who act for them.

Democracy began in Athens in ancient Greece. Then, for a time, Rome had a republic. In a **republic**, the people agree to be ruled by their elected leaders. The United States is a republic. In European countries, governments were monarchies ruled by a king or queen. Then in 1215, Britain's King John was forced to sign the Magna Carta. It protected the rights of English citizens. In the 17th and 18th centuries, John Locke and others said people were born equal with natural rights. These ideas inspired Americans to fight for independence from Great Britain.

Why might it be better to live in a democracy instead of a nondemocratic government?

Underline the sentences that tells the ideas that inspired America to seek its independence from Great Britain.

THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT IN THE ECONOMY

Governments influence economics, because they determine how goods and services are produced and distributed. Many democracies have market or mixed economies.

To be able to provide services and protection, governments collect taxes. A **tax** is a charge people pay to a government. Governments may also participate in economies by making trade laws. They do this to protect jobs and industries from foreign competition. Even still, most governments support international trade.

What is the government's role in the economy?

CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

Critical Thinking: Develop Imagine a country that has just become independent. Draft a constitution to protect its citizens.

Lesson 4, *continued*

civics	constitution	democracy
government	republic	tax

DIRECTIONS Match the terms on the left to their definitions on the right. Write the correct letter on the line before each term.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| _____ 1. civics | a. the people either rule directly or they elect officials who act for them |
| _____ 2. tax | b. a written plan of government |
| _____ 3. government | c. the study of citizenship and government |
| _____ 4. democracy | d. system of government in which people elect representatives to carry on the work of government for them |
| _____ 5. republic | e. the organizations and individuals who have the right to rule over a group of people |
| _____ 6. constitution | f. a charge people pay to a government |

DIRECTIONS On the line provided before each statement, write **T** if a statement is true and **F** if a statement is false. If the statement is false, write the correct term on the line after each sentence that makes the sentence a true statement.

_____ 7. A republic is a written plan of government.

_____ 8. A tax is a charge people pay to a government.

_____ 9. Democracy is the study of citizenship and government.
