Renaissance and Exploration

AP European History · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
rediscovery of classical works /ˌriːdɪˈskʌvəri ɒv ˈklæsɪkl wɜːks/	The **rediscovery of classical works** brought old Greek and Roman ideas back to life.
Indigenous populations /ɪnˈdɪdʒənəs ˌpɒpjʊˈleɪʃnz/	European diseases killed many **Indigenous populations** in the Americas.
commercial and agricultural capitalism /kəˈmɜːʃl ænd ˌægrɪˈkʌltʃərəl ˈkæpɪtəlɪzəm/	**Commercial and agricultural capitalism** grew as trade and farming made more profit.
struggle for sovereignty /ˈstrʌgl fɔː ˈsɒvərɪnti/	Kings fought nobles and the Church in a **struggle for sovereignty**.
Italian Renaissance humanists /ɪˈtælɪən rɪˈneɪsəns ˈhjuːmənɪsts/	**Italian Renaissance humanists** studied Greek and Roman writers.
Petrarch /ˈpetrɑːk/	**Petrarch** collected old Latin books and is called the father of humanism.
philological /ˌfɪləˈlɒdʒɪkl/	Humanists did **philological** work: they studied old texts and words closely.
Medici	The **Medici** family of bankers ruled Florence.
patronage /ˈpætrənɪdʒ/	Rich families gave **patronage** to artists by paying for their work.
individualism /ˌɪndɪˈvɪdʒuːəlɪzəm/	Renaissance **individualism** praised each person's talents.

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secular	**Secular** ideas focus on this world, not on religion.
printing press /ˈprɪntɪŋ pres/	The **printing press** made books cheaper and faster to produce.
civic humanism /ˈsɪvɪk ˈhjuːmənɪzəm/	**Civic humanism** taught that educated people should serve their city.
enhancing their prestige /enˈhænsɪŋ ðeə preˈstiːʒ/	Rich families paid for churches and art, **enhancing their prestige**.
linear perspective /ˈlɪnɪə pəˈspektɪv/	**Linear perspective** makes a flat painting look deep.
human-centred naturalism /ˈhjuːmən ˈsentəd ˈnætʃərəlɪzəm/	Renaissance art showed **human-centred naturalism**: real bodies and faces.
Christian humanism /ˈkrɪstʃn ˈhjuːmənɪzəm/	**Christian humanism** used humanist study to improve religious life.
Erasmus /ɪˈræzməs/	**Erasmus** criticised the Church but stayed Catholic.
religious reform /rɪˈlɪdʒəs rɪˈfɔːm/	Many people called for **religious reform** to end Church corruption.
new monarchies /njuː ˈmɒnəkiz/	The **new monarchies** made kings stronger and nobles weaker.
monopolies on tax collection /məˈnɒpəliz ɒn tæks kəˈlekʃn/	Kings took **monopolies on tax collection** away from nobles.
employing military force /emˈplɔɪɪŋ ˈmɪlɪtəri fɔːs/	Rulers kept power by **employing military force** against rebels.

Word	Example
Spanish Inquisition	The **Spanish Inquisition** punished people accused of false beliefs.
secular state /ˈsekjʊlə steɪt/	Machiavelli described a **secular state** run without Church rules.
mercantilism /ˈmɜːkəntəlɪzəm/	**Mercantilism** says a country gets rich by exporting more than it imports.
Christianity was a stimulus /ˌkrɪstɪˈænɪti wʌzə ˈstɪmjʊləs/	**Christianity was a stimulus** for exploration: explorers wanted to spread their faith.
caravel /ˈkærəvl/	The **caravel** was a small, fast ship for long voyages.
compass /ˈkʌmpəs/	A **compass** shows sailors which way is north.
astrolabe /ˈæstrəleɪb/	Sailors used the **astrolabe** to find their position from the stars.
through coercion and negotiation /θruː ˌkəʊˈɜːʃn ænd nɪˌgəʊʃɪˈeɪʃn/	The Spanish ruled the Americas **through coercion and negotiation**.
trading-post empire /ˈtreɪdɪŋ pəʊst ˈempaɪə/	Portugal built a **trading-post empire** of ports along the coasts.
encomienda	Under the **encomienda** system, Spanish settlers forced local people to work.
Treaty of Tordesillas	The **Treaty of Tordesillas** split new lands between Spain and Portugal.
joint-stock company /dʒɔɪnt stɒk ˈkʌmpəni/	A **joint-stock company** let many investors share the costs and profits.

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Word	Example
charter	The king gave the company a **charter**: the right to trade.
VOC	The **VOC**, the Dutch East India Company, controlled the spice trade. (VOC)
Columbian Exchange /kəˈlʌmbɪən eksˈtʃeɪndʒ/	The **Columbian Exchange** moved crops, animals and diseases across the Atlantic.
Price Revolution	The **Price Revolution** was a long rise in prices caused by American silver.
plantation economy /plænˈteɪʃn ɪˈkɒnəmi/	The **plantation economy** used enslaved workers to grow sugar.
Subsistence agriculture /sʌbˈsɪstəns ˈægrɪkʌltʃə/	**Subsistence agriculture** grows only enough food for the family.
three-crop rotation /θriː krɒp rəʊˈteɪʃn/	**Three-crop rotation** left only one field in three empty each year.
two-crop rotation /tuː krɒp rəʊˈteɪʃn/	In **two-crop rotation**, half the land rested each year.
sanitation /ˌsænɪˈteɪʃn/	Poor **sanitation** in towns spread disease.
overpopulation /ˌəʊvəˌpɒpjʊˈleɪʃn/	**Overpopulation** meant there was not enough food for everyone.
morality /mɒˈrælɪti/	Preachers spoke about **morality**: how people should behave.
money economy /ˈmʌni ɪˈkɒnəmi/	In a **money economy**, people pay with coins instead of goods.

Word	Example
free peasantry /fri: ˈpezəntri/	In the west, a **free peasantry** grew as serfdom ended.
serfdom was codified /ˈsɜːfdəm wɒz ˈkəʊdɪfaɪd/	In eastern Europe, **serfdom was codified**: laws tied peasants to the land.
revolt /rɪˈvəʊlt/	Hungry peasants rose in **revolt** against their lords.
Little Ice Age /ˈlɪtl aɪs eɪdʒ/	The **Little Ice Age** brought colder winters and poor harvests.

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