Word Quest 6

List 17 · History and the past

Vocabulary and example	Write it

admiral n. /'ædmɜ:rəl/

a very senior officer in the navy

Family: admirals

Admiral Zheng He led huge fleets across the ocean.

afterlife n. /'æftəlaɪf/

life after death, in some beliefs

The Egyptians prepared carefully for the **afterlife**.

Almighty n./adj. /ɒl'maɪti/

God; also, very powerful

Tip: With a capital A when it means God.

People prayed to the **Almighty** for rain.

archeological adj. /ˌɑ:kɪə'lɒdʒɪkl/

about the study of ancient remains

Family: archeology (n.) **Tip:** British English writes “archaeological”.

The **archeological** site is over 3,000 years old.

3,000

artifact n. /'ɑ:tɪfækt/

an object made by people long ago

Family: artifacts **Tip:** British English often writes “artefact”.

The museum displays **artifacts** from the Tang dynasty.

chronicle n./v. /'krɒnɪkl/

a written record of events in time order

Family: chronicles · chronicled

The monk wrote a **chronicle** of the war.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

conquest n. /'kɒŋkwest/

taking control of a place by force

Family: conquests · conquer (v.)

The Spanish **conquest** of Mexico began in 1519.

1519

destiny n. /'destɪni/

what will happen to someone, which seems decided already

Family: destinies

She believed it was her **destiny** to become a doctor.

excavate v. /'ekskəveɪt/

to dig carefully to find old objects

Family: excavates · excavated · excavation (n.)

Archaeologists **excavated** an ancient tomb.

folklore n. /'fəʊklɔ:/

the traditional stories and beliefs of a people

Dragons are important in Chinese **folklore**.

genocide n. /'dʒenəsaɪd/

killing a whole national, ethnic or religious group

Tip: A very serious word.

The world must never forget the **genocide** of the Second World War.

guerilla n./adj. /gə'rɪlə/

a member of a small fighting group that is not a regular army

Family: guerillas **Tip:** Also spelled “guerrilla”.

Guerilla fighters hid in the mountains.

imperial adj. /ɪm'pɪərɪəl/

about an empire or emperor

Family: empire (n.)

The **imperial** palace is now a museum.

Vocabulary and example	Write it

lieutenant n. /lefˈtenənt/

a junior officer in the army or navy

Family: lieutenants **Tip:** British: lef-TEN-ant; American: loo-TEN-ant.

The **lieutenant** led his men across the river.

majesty n. /ˈmædʒɪsti/

great beauty and power; also, a title for a king or queen

Family: majestic (adj.) **Use it with:** Your Majesty

We admired the **majesty** of the mountains.

martial adj. /ˈmɑːʃl/

about fighting or war

Use it with: martial arts · martial law

He studies **martial** arts.

mobilize v. /ˈməʊbɪlaɪz/

to get people ready for action

Family: mobilizes · mobilized · mobilization (n.) **Tip:** British English also writes “mobilise”.

The government **mobilized** the army.

monastery n. /ˈmɒnəstəri/

a place where monks live

Family: monasteries

We visited a **monastery** in Tibet.

omen n. /ˈəʊmen/

a sign of what will happen in the future

Family: omens

A black cat is a bad **omen** in some countries.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

oracle n. /ˈɒrəkl/

in ancient times, a person or place giving advice from the gods

Family: oracles **Use it with:** oracle bones

The king asked the **oracle** about the war.

parish n. /ˈpærɪʃ/

an area with its own church and priest

Family: parishes

The **parish** church is 800 years old.

800

prophecy n. /ˈprɒfəsi/

a statement that something will happen in the future

Family: prophecies · prophesy (v.)

The **prophecy** said a hero would come.

scribe n. /skraɪb/

in the past, a person who copied documents by hand

Family: scribes

The **scribe** copied the book in beautiful writing.

shrine n. /ʃraɪn/

a holy place

Family: shrines

People left flowers at the **shrine**.

supernatural adj. /ˌsuːpəˈnætʃərəl/

that cannot be explained by nature or science

Ghosts are **supernatural** beings.

superstition n. /ˈsuːpəstɪʃn/

a belief in luck or magic not based on reason

Family: superstitions · superstitious (adj.)

It’s a **superstition** that the number 4 is unlucky.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it
telegraph n. /ˈtelɪgræf/ an old system for sending messages through wires News of the war came by **telegraph**.	

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