Word List

APARTHEID	In South Africa, a government policy of racial segregation that lasted from 1948 to 1994
BCE	An abbreviation for Before Common Era that refers to the years before 1 CE and has largely replaced BC
BRONZE AGE	A period of ancient history when people mostly used bronze for making tools and weapons
CE	An abbreviation for Common Era that refers to the years 1 CE to the present day and has largely replaced AD
CIVIL WAR	A war between opposing groups of people in the same country
COLD WAR	The period of hostility in the latter half of the 20th century between the West and the Communist countries dominated by the USSR
COLONIZATION	The act of sending settlers to establish a colony in another country, sometimes involving taking control over the people already living there
COUNTER- REFORMATION	The period of change in the Catholic Church after the Protestant Reformation
CRUSADES	Eight military expeditions of the 11th to 13th centuries, in which Christians tried to seize control of Jerusalem from Muslims
DEPRESSION	A period of drastic decline in economic activity, marked by widespread unemployment and hardship
ENLIGHTENMENT	The period of European history, in the 1700s, when radical thinkers tried to reach a new understanding of society, government, and humanity, and then to reform them
IRON AGE	The historical period characterized by the use of iron for making weapons and tools
MEDIEVAL PERIOD	Also known as the Middle Ages, the period in European history that lasted from about the 5th to the late 15th century
NEOLITHIC	The later Stone Age, during which improved stone tools and weapons were made and the first farming began
PREHISTORY	The time before the development of civilizations and before the development of writing
RECESSION	A decline in a country's economic activity, but less serious than a depression
REFORMATION	The reform movement of the 16th century, in which many churches broke from the Catholic Church headed by the Pope in Rome
RENAISSANCE	A period of European history beginning in the 14th century, when far-reaching changes occurred in the arts and intellectual life
REVOLUTION	A sudden and fundamental change in society brought about by an organized group of protesters
STONE AGE	The period of prehistory when humans and their ancestors made tools out of stone

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