

industrialization

The large-scale growth of manufacturing and industry



Related Words: *industrial development*

Example Usage:

In an **industrialized** society, many men and women work in factories, often on assembly lines, using machines and other new technologies to mass-produce products.

Example: *The warehouse district of many major cities*

Nonexample: *Yellowstone National Park*

Turn and Talk:

Industrialization depended upon new inventions to make manufacturing more efficient. These inventions changed not only economies, but also the way people communicated. What is an invention that has changed the world?

gilded

Covered by a thin layer of gold



Related Words: *gold-plated, overlaid with gold*
(figurative: *whitewashed, sugarcoated*)

Example Usage:

Mark Twain described late 19th century in America as a “**gilded** age,” instead of a “golden age”; he was suggesting that the era’s tremendous industrial growth and wealth generation (and beautiful mansions and big parties) were only superficial, covering terrible greed and political corruption underneath.

Example: \$5 “diamond” ring

Nonexample: 14-carat gold ring

Turn and Talk:

Would you classify the era we live in today as **gilded** or golden? Why?

urbanization

The physical growth of cities and the movement of people from rural to urban areas



Related Words: *urban expansion, development*

Example Usage:

The United Nations forecasts that the pace of global **urbanization** will continue to quicken and that 60% of the world's population will live in cities by 2030. (That is amazing, considering that only 13% of the world's population lived in cities in 1900.)

Example: *New York City*

Nonexample: *A small town in the Midwest*

Turn and Talk:

Choose a position: small town or big city. Tell your partner two benefits to living in a small town or big city.

free enterprise

An economic system in which private businesses operate competitively for profit, with minimal government regulation



Photo from thinkpanama at flickr.com

Related Words: *capitalism, free market, laissez-faire economy*

Example Usage:

Some historians say that the “robber barons” of the Gilded Age operated within a pure **free enterprise** system, with little government intervention. However, others argue that the robber barons paid bribes to senators and judges to stifle competition—the opposite of **free enterprise!**

Example: *Barnes and Noble bookstore*

Nonexample: *Yellowstone National Park*

Turn and Talk:

Should businesses have the right to do anything to be profitable? If not, what limits should be set?

nativism

A policy of favoring native-born citizens over immigrants



Related Words: *anti-immigration, nativist*

Example Usage:

Nativism in the early 1800s increased with the arrival of nearly 5 million immigrants, mostly from Ireland and Germany. Many Americans felt that these newcomers threatened the American way of life with their strange customs, foreign tongues, and willingness to work for low wages.

Example: *A policy that states that immigrants cannot hold public office*

Nonexample: *An employer who hires immigrants at equal pay of citizens*

Turn and Talk:

Some historians say that **nativism** increases during times of economic hardship. Discuss with your partner whether you agree with this theory.