

## The Best Preparation for Building Academic Reading Skills and Vocabulary

The Reading Key series is designed to help students to understand American school textbooks and to develop background knowledge in a wide variety of academic topics. This series also provides learners with the opportunity to enhance their reading comprehension skills and vocabulary, which will assist them when they take various English exams.

**Reading Key <Volume 1–3>** is a three-book series designed for beginner to intermediate learners.

**Reading Key <Volume 4–6>** is a three-book series designed for intermediate to high-intermediate learners.

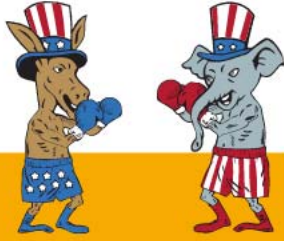
**Reading Key <Volume 7–9>** is a three-book series designed for high-intermediate learners.

### Features

- A wide variety of topics that cover American school subjects helps learners expand their knowledge of academic topics through interdisciplinary studies
- Intensive practice for reading skill development helps learners prepare for various English exams
- Building vocabulary by school subjects and themed texts helps learners expand their vocabulary and reading skills in each subject
- Graphic organizers for each passage show the structure of the passage and help to build summary skills
- Captivating pictures and illustrations related to the topics help learners gain a broader understanding of the topics and key concepts



# Table of Contents



## Chapter 1 Social Studies • History and Geography

Unit 01 ..... 11

History and Culture  
Clues From the Past

Unit 02 ..... 15

The American Government  
Three Important American Documents

Unit 03 ..... 19

The Election System of the United States  
The American Presidential Election System

Unit 04 ..... 23

The American Civil War  
The Civil War

Unit 05 ..... 27

Post-Civil War  
Reconstruction



© COSMOS CULTURE LTD

Unit 06 ..... 31

The Nation Grows  
Industrialization and Urbanization

Unit 07 ..... 35

War and Revolution  
The Age of Imperialism

Unit 08 ..... 39

World War II  
World War II

Wrap-Up Test 1 ..... 43



## Chapter 2 Science

Unit 09 ..... 47

Living Things and Their Environments  
Interactions Among Living Things

Unit 10 ..... 51

How Do Ecosystems Change?  
Biomes and Ecological Succession

Unit 11 ..... 55

Earth's Surface  
Earth's Changing Crust





Unit 12 ..... 59

Earth's Atmosphere  
What Makes up the Atmosphere?

Unit 13 ..... 63

The Properties and Structure of Matter  
Atoms, Elements, and Compounds

Unit 14 ..... 67

Matter and How It Changes  
Mixtures and Solutions

Unit 15 ..... 71

The Human Body  
The Stages of Growth in the Human  
Body

Wrap-Up Test 2 ..... 75

Unit 18 ..... 87

Stories, Myths, and Legends  
Echo and Narcissus

Unit 19 ..... 91

Learning About Language  
Common Mistakes in English

Unit 20 ..... 95

The Renaissance  
The Rebirth of the Arts

Unit 21 ..... 99

Musical Instructions  
Italian for Composers

Wrap-Up Test 3 ..... 103

- Word List 106
- Answers and Translations 115

Chapter 3  
Mathematics • Language •  
Visual Arts • Music



Unit 16 ..... 79

Computation  
The Order of Operations and Inverse  
Operations

Unit 17 ..... 83

Probability and Statistics  
Ratios, Percents, and Probabilities

Workbook for Daily Review



## ● Syllabus Vol. 8 ●

Subject	Topic & Area	Title
<b>Social Studies</b> ★ <b>History and Geography</b>	History and Culture People and Government People and Government American History American History American History World History World History	Clues From the Past Three Important American Documents The American Presidential Election System The Civil War Reconstruction Industrialization and Urbanization The Age of Imperialism World War II
<b>Science</b>	A World of Living Things A World of Living Things Our Earth Our Earth Matter and Energy Matter and Energy The Human Body	Interactions Among Living Things Biomes and Ecological Succession Earth's Changing Crust What Makes up the Atmosphere? Atoms, Elements, and Compounds Mixtures and Solutions The Stages of Growth in the Human Body
<b>Mathematics</b>	Computation Probability and Statistics	The Order of Operations and Inverse Operations Ratios, Percents, and Probabilities
<b>Language and Literature</b>	Literature Language Arts	Echo and Narcissus Common Mistakes in English
<b>Visual Arts</b>	Visual Arts	The Rebirth of the Arts
<b>Music</b>	A World of Music	Italian for Composers

# 1

- Social Studies
- History and Geography





Unit  
**01**


# History and Culture

Visual Preview


How do historians and archaeologists study the past?



Historians often spend their time studying primary and secondary sources.



Archaeologists examine artifacts and remains for clues about the past.



Archaeologists visit ruins of ancient buildings to see how people used to live.

Vocabulary Preview

Write the correct word and the meaning in Chinese next to its meaning.

timeline    archaeologist    remains    eyewitness    clue

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ : a dead body or parts of a dead body
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ : a person who studies the remains of past human cultures
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ : a person who was present at an event
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ : a diagram of events arranged in order according to when they happened
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ : an object or fact that someone discovers that helps them solve a crime or mystery



## Clues From the Past



▲ archaeologist examining artifacts



▲ artifacts

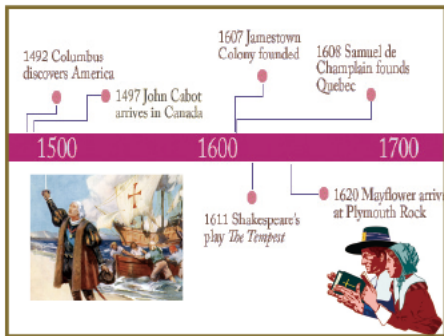
© COSMOS CULTURE LTD

**H**istory is the study of people, places, and events from the past. We study history to learn about the past.

Experts, such as **historians** and **archaeologists**, help us understand the past. To learn about life from long ago, they examine **clues** and records from people in the past. How do they do this? Historians use both primary sources and secondary sources. A primary source is material written at the time an event happened. It is often written by a person who was an **eyewitness** to the event. Primary sources can be books, diaries, reports, official documents, and photographs. A secondary source is material written **based on** primary sources. Some historians also study **oral** history. This is a collection of stories that are told and passed down from one generation to the next.



What happens when there is no record or written history left behind? That is where archaeologists are needed. They examine **artifacts**. These are man-made objects used by past civilizations. Historical artifacts include tools, pottery, clothes, jewelry, and even paintings. Archaeologists also study human **remains**, such as bones and hair. There are many **ruins** of ancient buildings for them to study as well.



▲ timeline

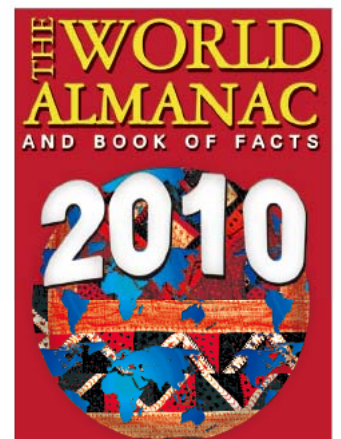
All of these contribute to archaeologists learning how people lived in the past.

Many historians often make **timelines** to list events in history. Timelines show the dates that various events occurred and let historians see the order of past events. On many timelines, there are sometimes the **abbreviations** B.C. and A.D. after dates. B.C. stands for “before Christ.” A.D. stands for *anno Domini*. That is Latin for “years after the birth of Christ.”

Nowadays, historians have access to many modern technologies. This makes studying the past much easier. Many primary sources have been translated and published in books or on CD-ROMs. Other books, such as encyclopedias, almanacs, and atlases, provide much information, too. Studying the past has never been easier than today.



▲ human remains



▲ almanac



▲ atlas

**Quick Check** Check T (True) or F (False).

- |   |   |                            |                            |
|---|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Secondary sources are often written by eyewitnesses to events.      | <input type="checkbox"/> T | <input type="checkbox"/> F |
| 2 | Pottery, clothes, and jewelry are all types of artifacts.           | <input type="checkbox"/> T | <input type="checkbox"/> F |
| 3 | A.D. stands for “ <i>anno Domini</i> ” which means “before Christ.” | <input type="checkbox"/> T | <input type="checkbox"/> F |

## Main Idea and Details

- 1 What is the passage mainly about?**
  - a. How historians and archaeologists do their work.
  - b. The importance of primary and secondary sources.
  - c. How modern technology can help historians.
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ help historians see the dates of past events and the order in which they occurred.**
  - a. CD-ROMs
  - b. Timelines
  - c. Artifacts
- 3 What is oral history?**
  - a. Stories passed down from one generation to the next.
  - b. History books that are spoken aloud to others.
  - c. Speeches and other sayings from famous people in history.
- 4 What does oral mean?**
  - a. Written.
  - b. Official.
  - c. Spoken.
- 5 Complete the sentences.**
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ sources include books, diaries, reports, and official documents.
  - b. The \_\_\_\_\_ of ancient buildings can teach archaeologists about the past.
  - c. B.C. and A.D. are abbreviations that are used with \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6 Complete the outline.**

### Sources of the Past

- Primary sources = material written at the time an event happened
- <sup>a</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ = material written based on primary sources
- Oral history = stories told and passed down from one <sup>b</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ to the next

### Clues From the Past

- Artifacts = <sup>c</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ objects from past civilizations
- Human <sup>d</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ = bones and hair
- Ruins = ancient buildings
- <sup>e</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ = let historians see the order of past events

## Vocabulary Review

Complete each sentence. Change the form if necessary.

clue    based on    remains    ruins    abbreviation

- 1** B.C.E. is an \_\_\_\_\_ for "before the common era."
- 2** They found some human \_\_\_\_\_ while they were digging in the ground.
- 3** The historian is searching for some \_\_\_\_\_ in that ancient text.

© COSMOS CULTURE LTD were part of an ancient city that was powerful a thousand years ago.

- 5** The book that he wrote is \_\_\_\_\_ primary sources.