



Vocabulary

Grade 5 Unit 3: Early American Civilizations:
Myths, Pyramids, and Kings



Word Origins & Word Histories

Introduction: Word Origins & Word Histories



We can use **print and digital dictionaries** to determine the meaning of words and phrases, as well as their **origin and history**.

Not all print and digital dictionaries provide information on the origin and history of the word.

Remember that you can use multiple sources to find the origin and history of the word if your glossary or dictionary doesn't include the information.

Let's look at the entry for the following vocabulary word:

trade

trade, 1. v. to give something in exchange for something else; 2. n. a job that requires special training or skills (traded)

This entry provides only the definition of the word, not the origin or history of the word. To find the history we will need to look at an additional source.

trade, 1. v. to give something in exchange for something else; 2. n. a job that requires special training or skills (traded); first used in 1553 as a verb; comes from Middle English.

By using additional sources we can determine the year the word was first used and the history of where it came from.

Let's Try It Together!



Look at the entry for the following vocabulary word:

dispersed

disperse (v.): to spread apart in different directions (dispersed); first used in the 14th century; from Latin *dispersus*

Based on the entry for the word **dispersed**, turn to a partner and discuss the history of the word.

Raise your hand to share the history of the word **dispersed** and the year it was first used as a verb.

Let's look at one more together. Look at the entry for the following vocabulary word:

vast

vast (adj.): large or great in size, amount, or extent;
first used as an adjective in 1585; from Latin *vastus*

Based on the entry for the word **vast**, turn to a partner and discuss the history of the word.

Raise your hand to share the history of the word **vast** and the year it was first used.

Now Try One by Yourself!



Read the following entry from multiple sources:

bustling (adj.): busy with activity; first used in 1582;
from Middle English

Identify the history of the word.

Write a sentence correctly using the word.

Answer



History — Middle English

Sentences may vary, but possible answers could include: **Bustling** marketplaces filled Tenochtitlán and other cities.