



UNIT 12 VOCABULARY LIST

ancestor	(noun) A person in a family who lived generations ago
boardinghouse	(noun) A house that provides food and rooms for paying guests
citizen	(noun) A member by law of a nation or group
culture	(noun) The beliefs, values, and practices learned and shared by a group of people from generation to generation
custom	(noun) A common way of doing things
descendants	(noun) Family members who come from a specific ancestor
emigrant	(noun) A person who leaves a country to live in another country permanently
emigrate	(verb) To leave a country to live in another country permanently
ethnicity	(noun) The shared ancestral, cultural, national, and social experience of a particular group of people
famine	(noun) When there is not enough food for a long period of time and people go hungry
foreign language	(noun) A language that is not commonly spoken in a country
Great Wave	(noun) The time period from 1840–1924 when over 20 million people, mostly from Western and Eastern Europe, immigrated to the United States
heritage	(noun) Something, like traditions or property, that comes to a person or group from ancestors
immigrant	(noun) A person who moves from one country to live in another country



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immigrate	(verb) To move to a new country to live there permanently
immigration	(noun) The act of moving to a new country to live permanently
melting pot	(noun) The United States is sometimes described as a melting pot. Many people and their cultures come to the U.S., and some believe that after a while, they change to become more traditionally American.
migration	(noun) The movement from one place to another
native country	(noun) The country in which a person was born
native language	(noun) The first language a person speaks
possessions	(noun) Things that a person owns and controls
pull factor	(noun) Something that encourages a person to move to a new country
push factor	(noun) Something that makes a person leave their own country
refugee	(noun) A person who leaves their home because they are threatened in some way
salad bowl	(noun) The United States is sometimes described a salad bowl instead of a melting pot. Many people and their cultures come to the United States, and some believe instead of changing to become "more American," they enrich the salad by adding their own ingredients (their culture) and mixing in with others, while still keeping their unique identity.