

SOCIAL STUDIES

Key TASC Vocabulary Words

1. **Statistics**: a branch of mathematics concerned with quantitative data.

“The report released Wednesday cited **statistics** showing that 1 in 7 Americans live in poverty, including 20% of children.”

2. **Demographic**: a statistic characterizing human populations

“She also repeated her concerns that the economic recovery has been uneven for some **demographic** groups, including African-Americans and Hispanics.”

3. **Data**: a collection of facts from which conclusions may be drawn

“For the study, Kira and her colleagues collected **data** on cardiac arrests from more than 1,000 hospitals across the United States.”

4. **Bias**: influence in an unfair way

“Do you feel the reporter showed **bias** against males when she only interviewed female nurses?”

5. **Equilibrium**: a stable situation in which forces cancel one another

“Last year, the government issued every taxpayer a \$1200 refund in hopes of restoring **equilibrium** to a depressed economy.”

6. **Due process of law**: (law) the administration of justice according to established rules and principles; based on the principle that a person cannot be deprived of life or liberty or property without appropriate legal procedures and safeguards

“Moreover, the Fifth Amendment also guarantees that no person shall be deprived of liberty without **due process of law**.”

7. **Gross Domestic Product (GDP)**: the measure of an economy adopted by the United States in 1991; the total market values of goods and services produced by workers and capital within a nation's borders during a given period (usually 1 year)

“**Gross domestic product** grew at a 0.8% annual rate in the first quarter, according to revised estimates released by the Commerce Department on Friday.”

8. **Correlate**: mutually related

“According to Burke, passive consumption of Facebook also **correlates** to a marginal increase in depression.”

9. **Chronological**: relating to or arranged according to temporal order

“Messenger currently displays threads like most other texting apps — in **chronological** order with the most recent conversation at the top of the screen.”

10. Immigration: the body of people coming to a country

“The new arrivals via immigration are mostly coming from Cuba.”

11. Ambiguous: having more than one possible meaning

“If our government rewrote poorly defined, ambiguous laws, people would better understand them.”

12. Propaganda: information that is spread to promote some cause

“Nazi propaganda spread the idea of the “smelly Jew” being a disease-ridden parasite to be exterminated.”

13. Munition: military supplies

“Although no highly explosive items were found, 125 pounds of munition items — including practice bombs, bomb fragments and fuses — were removed.”

14. Hemisphere: half of the terrestrial globe

“The sun reached its highest point in the sky in the Northern Hemisphere, introducing the first day of summer.”

15. Valid: well-grounded in logic or truth or having legal force

“Our teacher is always encouraging us to use valid resources when writing a paper.”

16. Economics: science dealing with the circulation of goods and services

“Honestly, it's Economics 101: the cheaper product in a price-sensitive market will always dominate that market, provided it's within striking distance of the best product.”

17. Temporal: of or relating to or limited by time

“Electricity is a temporal product; unlike oil, it can't be put aside for days or weeks or years.”

18. Trend: a general direction in which something tends to move

“The birth rate among teens has been declining for a long time, and that trend is holding.”

19. Inference: drawing a conclusion on the basis of circumstantial evidence

“The company says it can use that data to make inferences about the behavior of non-members, an approach known as "lookalike" targeting.”

20. Conclusion: the proposition arrived at by logical reasoning

“The lead investigator in the case has sent her conclusions to prosecutors, asking for all of them to be arrested.”