

# Vocabulary

## Vocabulary

*Use the vocabulary words and definitions below as a reference for this unit.*

**air strikes** ..... an attack by aircraft

**al Qaeda** ..... a radical fundamentalist Muslim terror network organized by Osama bin Laden in the 1990s

**baby-boom generation** ..... persons born following World War II from 1946 to 1964 when there was a sharp increase in the birth rate

**Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)** ..... United States agency that gathers information about foreign countries and affairs

**charter schools** ..... schools that contract with local school districts to offer programs to improve student achievement

**civil liberties** ..... human rights

**democracy** ..... system of government in which power comes from the people

**diplomacy** ..... the peaceful settlement of disputes between persons or groups

**electoral vote** ..... those votes cast by each state's electors

**exile** ..... a person who is forced to live away from his or her home country

# Vocabulary

<b>fundamentalist</b> .....	a person who believes in a strict interpretation of religious or political principles
<b>insurgents</b> .....	resistance fighters
<b>intelligence-gathering agencies</b> .....	organizations like Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) or Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), which are government organizations that gather information about the secret plans of an enemy nation
<b>jihad</b> .....	holy war
<b>loyalists</b> .....	supporters
<b>North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)</b> .....	alliance between United States and European nations to protect one another, particularly from threat of communism
<b>Pentagon</b> .....	the huge five-sided building near Washington, D.C. that houses the United States Department of Defense
<b>popular vote</b> .....	those votes cast by individual voters
<b>preemptive war</b> .....	a military action that is intended to lessen an enemy's ability to attack first
<b>repressive</b> .....	severely restrictive
<b>standardized tests</b> .....	tests that measure a student's knowledge and abilities

# Vocabulary

- Taliban** ..... the very conservative Islamic government in Afghanistan
- terrorist cells** ..... small groups of people who are connected to a terrorist network and operate in many countries throughout the world
- ultimatum** ..... a set of final demands
- United Nations (UN)** ..... an organization of nations that works for peace in the world and tries to solve world problems
- vouchers** ..... tax dollars set aside for public schools given to parents who want to enroll their children in a private school instead of a public school
- weapons of mass destruction (WMD)** ..... all banned chemical or biological weapons, as well as nuclear weapons, which are capable of killing enormous numbers of people
- "winner takes all"** ..... means that a presidential candidate may win a state by only the smallest of margins and still win all the electoral votes for that state

# Vocabulary

## Who's Who in the New Millennium

Osama bin Laden

Saddam Hussein

George H. W. Bush

John F. Kerry

George W. Bush

Ralph Nader

Rudy Giuliani

Colin Powell

Al Gore