

Social Studies Word List

English–Japanese Vocabulary for New York Grades 6–8

Purpose. This list supports Japanese-speaking students and families learning middle school social studies vocabulary in Grades 6–8. It covers geography, historical thinking, civics, economics, and inquiry with sources and arguments.

How to use it. Begin with the **Core** terms for maps, history, government, and economics, then add the Useful terms as students interpret sources, explain causation, and build arguments.

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Term count by area

Area	Terms
Geography	25
History	25
Civics	26
Economics	26
Inquiry and Interpretation	26
Total	128

Geography

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
map scale	縮尺	しゅくしゃく	6-8	Core	relationship between map distance and real distance
region	地域	ちいき	6-8	Core	area with shared features
hemisphere	半球	はんきゅう	6-8	Core	half of the Earth
latitude	緯度	いど	6-8	Core	imaginary east-west line measuring north-south position
longitude	経度	けいど	6-8	Core	imaginary north-south line measuring east-west position
equator	赤道	せきどう	6-8	Core	line halfway between the poles
prime meridian	本初子午線	ほんしょしごせん	6-8	Useful	zero-degree longitude line
absolute location	絶対位置	ぜったいいち	6-8	Useful	exact place using coordinates
relative location	相対位置	そうたいいち	6-8	Useful	place described compared with another place
spatial pattern	空間的パターン	くうかんてきぱたーん	6-8	Useful	how things are arranged across space
population density	人口密度	じんこうみつど	6-8	Core	number of people in a given area
environment	環境	かんきょう	6-8	Core	surrounding natural and human-made conditions
natural resource	天然資源	てんねんしげん	6-8	Core	material from nature that people use
renewable resource	再生可能資源	さいせいかのうしげん	6-8	Useful	resource that can be replaced naturally
nonrenewable resource	再生不能資源	さいせいふのうしげん	6-8	Useful	resource that cannot be replaced quickly
adaptation	適応	てきおう	6-8	Core	way people adjust to their environment
modification	改変	かいへん	6-8	Useful	change people make to the environment
urbanization	都市化	としか	6-8	Useful	growth of cities and city life
migration	移住	いじゅう	6-8	Core	movement of people from one place to another
immigration	移民としての入国	いみんとしてのにゅうこく	6-8	Core	moving into a new country
emigration	移民としての出国	いみんとしてのしゅっこく	6-8	Useful	leaving one's country to live elsewhere
projection	地図投影法	ちずとうえいほう	6-8	Useful	method for showing Earth's curved surface on a flat map
distribution	分布	ぶんぷ	6-8	Useful	arrangement of people features or resources across space
sustainability	持続可能性	じぞくかのうせい	6-8	Useful	use of resources in a way that can continue over time
settlement	居住地	きょじゅうち	6-8	Core	place where people establish a community

History

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
chronology	年代順	ねんだいじゅん	6-8	Core	arranging events by time order
era	時代	じだい	6-8	Core	long period of history with shared features
periodization	時代区分	じだいくぶん	6-8	Useful	dividing history into periods
turning point	転換点	てんかんでん	6-8	Core	event that caused major change
continuity	継続性	けいぞくせい	6-8	Useful	things that stayed the same over time
change over time	時代による変化	じだいによるへんか	6-8	Core	how people and societies changed
ancient	古代の	こだいの	6-8	Core	from the distant past
medieval	中世の	ちゅうせいの	6-8	Useful	from the Middle Ages
modern	近代の	きんだいの	6-8	Core	related to more recent historical periods
century	世紀	せいき	6-8	Core	period of one hundred years
cause	原因	げんいん	6-8	Core	reason something happened
effect	結果	けっか	6-8	Core	what happened as a result
short-term cause	短期的原因	たんきてきげんいん	6-8	Useful	recent event leading to change
long-term cause	長期的原因	ちようきてきげんいん	6-8	Useful	deeper condition leading to change
consequence	帰結	きけつ	6-8	Useful	important result of an event or decision
interpretation	解釈	かいしゃく	6-8	Core	explanation of historical meaning
historical context	歴史的背景	れきしてきはいけい	6-8	Core	conditions surrounding an event or source
revolution	革命	かくめい	6-8	Core	major political or social change
reform	改革	かいかく	6-8	Core	change made to improve a system
empire	帝国	ていこく	6-8	Core	state ruling many lands or peoples
civilization	文明	ぶんめい	6-8	Core	complex society with cities and institutions
timeline	年表	ねんぴょう	6-8	Core	visual line showing events in time order
sequence of events	出来事の順序	できごとのじゅんじょ	6-8	Core	order in which historical events happened
trigger	きっかけ	きっかけ	6-8	Useful	event that starts or sets off a larger development
consequence	結果	けっか	6-8	Core	result that follows from an action or event

Civics

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
government	政府	せいふ	6-8	Core	system that makes and enforces rules
constitution	憲法	けんぽう	6-8	Core	foundational plan of government
democracy	民主主義	みんしゅしゅぎ	6-8	Core	government based on participation by the people
republic	共和国	きょうわこく	6-8	Useful	government where citizens elect representatives
monarchy	君主制	くんしゅせい	6-8	Useful	government led by a king or queen
legislative branch	立法府	りっぽうふ	6-8	Core	branch that makes laws
executive branch	行政府	ぎょうせいふ	6-8	Core	branch that carries out laws
judicial branch	司法府	しほうふ	6-8	Core	branch that interprets laws
separation of powers	三権分立	さんけんぶんりつ	6-8	Useful	division of government powers among branches
checks and balances	抑制と均衡	よくせいときんこう	6-8	Useful	ways branches limit each other
citizen	市民	しみん	6-8	Core	member of a country with rights and duties
right	権利	けんり	6-8	Core	freedom or protection guaranteed by law
responsibility	責任	せきにん	6-8	Core	duty expected of a citizen
liberty	自由	じゆう	6-8	Useful	freedom to act within the law
equality	平等	びようどう	6-8	Core	fair treatment under the law
justice	正義	せいぎ	6-8	Core	fairness in society and law
civic participation	市民参加	しみんさんか	6-8	Core	taking part in community or government life
vote	投票する	とうひょうする	6-8	Core	choose leaders or decide issues
petition	請願	せいがん	6-8	Useful	formal request signed by people
advocacy	擁護活動	ようごかつどう	6-8	Useful	speaking or acting in support of a cause
public policy	公共政策	こうきょうせいさく	6-8	Useful	government plan or course of action
public policy	公共政策	こうきょうせいさく	6-8	Useful	plan or action adopted by government to address an issue
branch of government	政府の部門	せいふのぶもん	6-8	Core	major part of government with different powers and duties
civic participation	市民参加	しみんさんか	6-8	Useful	ways people take part in public life and government
petition	請願	せいがん	6-8	Useful	formal request signed by people and sent to those in authority
freedom of speech	言論の自由	げんろんのじゆう	6-8	Core	right to express opinions and ideas

Economics

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
economy	経済	けいざい	6-8	Core	system for producing and using goods and services
producer	生産者	せいさんしゃ	6-8	Core	person or business that makes goods or services
consumer	消費者	しょうひしゃ	6-8	Core	person who buys or uses goods or services
market	市場	しじょう	6-8	Core	place or system where buying and selling happen
supply	供給	きょうきゅう	6-8	Core	amount producers are willing to sell
demand	需要	じゅよう	6-8	Core	amount consumers are willing to buy
price	価格	かかく	6-8	Core	amount paid for a good or service
competition	競争	きょうそう	6-8	Useful	rivalry among producers or sellers
scarcity	希少性	きしょうせい	6-8	Core	condition of limited resources and wants
opportunity cost	機会費用	きかいひよう	6-8	Useful	value of the next best choice given up
specialization	専門化	せんもんか	6-8	Useful	focus on making one kind of product or work
trade	交易	こうえき	6-8	Core	exchange of goods or services
barter	物々交換	ぶつぶつこうかん	6-8	Useful	direct trade without money
currency	通貨	つうか	6-8	Core	money used in a country or region
tax	税	ぜい	6-8	Core	money collected by government
budget	予算	よさん	6-8	Core	plan for spending and saving money
savings	貯蓄	ちよちく	6-8	Core	money kept for future use
investment	投資	とうし	6-8	Useful	use of money or resources for future gain
import	輸入	ゆにゅう	6-8	Core	good brought into a country
export	輸出	ゆしゅつ	6-8	Core	good sent to another country
interdependence	相互依存	そうごいぞん	6-8	Useful	reliance of people or countries on one another
economic system	経済体制	けいざいたいせい	6-8	Useful	way a society organizes production and trade
productivity	生産性	せいさんせい	6-8	Useful	amount of output produced from a given amount of work or resources
labor	労働	ろうどう	6-8	Core	human effort used to produce goods and services
profit	利益	りえき	6-8	Core	money left after costs are paid
entrepreneur	起業家	きぎょうか	6-8	Useful	person who starts and manages a business

Inquiry and Interpretation

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
primary source	一次資料	いちじしりょう	6-8	Core	source created during the time studied
secondary source	二次資料	にじしりょう	6-8	Core	source created later about the past
evidence	証拠	しょうこ	6-8	Core	information used to support a claim
claim	主張	しゅちょう	6-8	Core	statement that can be supported with evidence
reliability	信頼性	しんらいせい	6-8	Useful	how dependable a source is
perspective	見方	みかた	6-8	Core	point of view shaped by position or experience
bias	偏り	かたより	6-8	Useful	one-sided viewpoint in a source or argument
corroborate	裏づける	うらづける	6-8	Useful	confirm with another source
quotation	引用	いんよう	6-8	Core	exact words taken from a source
citation	出典表示	しゅってんひょうじ	6-8	Useful	reference showing where information came from
inference	推論	すいろん	6-8	Core	conclusion based on evidence and reasoning
argument	論証	ろんしょう	6-8	Core	claim supported by reasons and evidence
counterargument	反論	はんろん	6-8	Useful	response to an opposing idea
reasoning	論理	ろんり	6-8	Core	thinking that connects evidence to a claim
analysis	分析	ぶんせき	6-8	Core	careful study of evidence and ideas
summary	要約	ようやく	6-8	Core	brief statement of main points
paraphrase	言い換え	いいかえ	6-8	Useful	restate in different words
presentation	発表	はっぴょう	6-8	Core	spoken explanation of research or argument
audience	聞き手	ききて	6-8	Core	people listening or reading
thesis	中心主張	ちゅうしんしゅちょう	6-8	Useful	main argument of a piece of writing
conclusion	結論	けつろん	6-8	Core	final statement drawn from evidence
artifact analysis	遺物分析	いぶつぶんせき	6-8	Useful	careful study of an object to learn about the past
context	文脈	ぶんみやく	6-8	Core	background or circumstances that help explain a source or event
topic sentence	主題文	しゅだいぶん	6-8	Core	sentence stating the main idea of a paragraph
relevant evidence	関連する根拠	かんれんするこんきょ	6-8	Core	evidence that directly supports the point being made
explanation	説明	せつめい	6-8	Core	clear statement showing how evidence supports an idea

Civics (sorted)

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
branch of government	政府の部門	せいふのぶもん	6-8	Core	major part of government with different powers and duties
civic participation	市民参加	しみんさんか	6-8	Useful	ways people take part in public life and government
public policy	公共政策	こうきょうせいさく	6-8	Useful	plan or action adopted by government to address an issue
checks and balances	抑制と均衡	よくせいときんこう	6-8	Useful	ways branches limit each other
constitution	憲法	けんぽう	6-8	Core	foundational plan of government
democracy	民主主義	みんしゅしゅぎ	6-8	Core	government based on participation by the people
executive branch	行政府	ぎょうせいふ	6-8	Core	branch that carries out laws
government	政府	せいふ	6-8	Core	system that makes and enforces rules
judicial branch	司法府	しほうふ	6-8	Core	branch that interprets laws
legislative branch	立法府	りっぽうふ	6-8	Core	branch that makes laws
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responsibility	責任	せきにん	6-8	Core	duty expected of a citizen
right	権利	けんり	6-8	Core	freedom or protection guaranteed by law

vote	投票する	とうひょうする	6-8	Core	choose leaders or decide issues
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Economics (sorted)

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
competition	競争	きょうそう	6-8	Useful	rivalry among producers or sellers
consumer	消費者	しょうひしゃ	6-8	Core	person who buys or uses goods or services
demand	需要	じゅよう	6-8	Core	amount consumers are willing to buy
economy	経済	けいざい	6-8	Core	system for producing and using goods and services
labor	労働	ろうどう	6-8	Core	human effort used to produce goods and services
market	市場	しじょう	6-8	Core	place or system where buying and selling happen
opportunity cost	機会費用	きかいひよう	6-8	Useful	value of the next best choice given up
price	価格	かかく	6-8	Core	amount paid for a good or service
producer	生産者	せいさんしゃ	6-8	Core	person or business that makes goods or services
productivity	生産性	せいさんせい	6-8	Useful	amount of output produced from a given amount of work or resources
scarcity	希少性	きしょうせい	6-8	Core	condition of limited resources and wants
specialization	専門化	せんもんか	6-8	Useful	focus on making one kind of product or work
supply	供給	きょうきゅう	6-8	Core	amount producers are willing to sell
barter	物々交換	ぶつぶつこうかん	6-8	Useful	direct trade without money
budget	予算	よさん	6-8	Core	plan for spending and saving money
currency	通貨	つうか	6-8	Core	money used in a country or region
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savings	貯蓄	ちよちく	6-8	Core	money kept for future use

tax	税	ぜい	6-8	Core	money collected by government
trade	交易	こうえき	6-8	Core	exchange of goods or services

Geography (sorted)

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
adaptation	適応	てきおう	6-8	Core	way people adjust to their environment
emigration	移民としての出国	いみんとしてのしゅっこく	6-8	Useful	leaving one's country to live elsewhere
environment	環境	かんきょう	6-8	Core	surrounding natural and human-made conditions
immigration	移民としての入国	いみんとしてのにゅうこく	6-8	Core	moving into a new country
migration	移住	いじゅう	6-8	Core	movement of people from one place to another
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sustainability	持続可能性	じぞくかのうせい	6-8	Useful	use of resources in a way that can continue over time
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region	地域	ちいき	6-8	Core	area with shared features

relative location	相対位置	そうたいいち	6-8	Useful	place described compared with another place
spatial pattern	空間的パターン	くうかんてきぱたーん	6-8	Useful	how things are arranged across space

History (sorted)

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
cause	原因	げんいん	6-8	Core	reason something happened
civilization	文明	ぶんめい	6-8	Core	complex society with cities and institutions
consequence	帰結	きけつ	6-8	Useful	important result of an event or decision
effect	結果	けっか	6-8	Core	what happened as a result
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timeline	年表	ねんぴょう	6-8	Core	visual line showing events in time order
turning point	転換点	てんかんてん	6-8	Core	event that caused major change

Inquiry and Interpretation (sorted)

English	日本語	よみ	Grade	Priority	Student note / use
analysis	分析	ぶんせき	6-8	Core	careful study of evidence and ideas
argument	論証	ろんしょう	6-8	Core	claim supported by reasons and evidence
audience	聞き手	ききて	6-8	Core	people listening or reading
conclusion	結論	けつろん	6-8	Core	final statement drawn from evidence
counterargument	反論	はんろん	6-8	Useful	response to an opposing idea
explanation	説明	せつめい	6-8	Core	clear statement showing how evidence supports an idea
paraphrase	言い換え	いいかえ	6-8	Useful	restate in different words
presentation	発表	はっぴょう	6-8	Core	spoken explanation of research or argument
reasoning	論理	ろんり	6-8	Core	thinking that connects evidence to a claim
relevant evidence	関連する根拠	かんれんするこんきょ	6-8	Core	evidence that directly supports the point being made
summary	要約	ようやく	6-8	Core	brief statement of main points
thesis	中心主張	ちゅうしんしゅちょう	6-8	Useful	main argument of a piece of writing
topic sentence	主題文	しゅだいぶん	6-8	Core	sentence stating the main idea of a paragraph
artifact analysis	遺物分析	いぶつぶんせき	6-8	Useful	careful study of an object to learn about the past
bias	偏り	かたより	6-8	Useful	one-sided viewpoint in a source or argument
citation	出典表示	しゅってんひょうじ	6-8	Useful	reference showing where information came from
claim	主張	しゅちょう	6-8	Core	statement that can be supported with evidence
context	文脈	ぶんみゃく	6-8	Core	background or circumstances that help explain a source or event
corroborate	裏づける	うらづける	6-8	Useful	confirm with another source
evidence	証拠	しょうこ	6-8	Core	information used to support a claim
inference	推論	すいろん	6-8	Core	conclusion based on evidence and reasoning
perspective	見方	みかた	6-8	Core	point of view shaped by position or experience
primary source	一次資料	いちじしりょう	6-8	Core	source created during the time studied
quotation	引用	いんよう	6-8	Core	exact words taken from a source
reliability	信頼性	しんらいせい	6-8	Useful	how dependable a source is
secondary source	二次資料	にじしりょう	6-8	Core	source created later about the past