

Glossary

Artifact

A man-made object representing a specific time or culture.

Car culture

In so many ways, our daily lives are based around automobiles: the way we travel, the things we buy, the things we build. Even the songs we sing and movies we watch often involve cars.

Collaborate

To cooperate or work with others.

Consumption

Buying things.

Curiosity

A desire for learning.

Division of labor

Each worker does one step or task of a larger job.

Human resource

The people required to make a product or provide a service.

Innovation

An invention, idea or improvement adopted by society.

Iron ore

A soft, heavy, magnetic metallic mineral. One of the raw materials necessary to make steel.

Lumber

Timber or logs, often trimmed for use.

Model T

Henry Ford's most successful car and the first affordable automobile. Made between 1908 and 1927. Nicknamed Tin Lizzie.

Mechanical inclination

A natural ability to easily build and fix machines.

Moving assembly line

A way of manufacturing so that the work and the assembly of a product moves from worker to worker. Each worker puts on a new piece of the part, then the part moves along to the next worker.

Perseverance

Being unwilling to give up, even when things are difficult.

Primary source

Documents or objects that have survived from the past, like letters or automobiles, which give us a first-hand view of that time.

Production

Making or building something.

Secondary source

Another person's explanation of a past event; it is one or more steps removed from the event. Examples include textbooks and encyclopedias.

Specialization

A way of manufacturing so that each worker only has to learn and perform one step or task.

Unintended consequences

An action's unexpected effects.

Union

A group of workers with shared interests, like safety and good wages, who agree to stick together so that their employer must either agree to their requests or not have any workers.

Vision

An idea or plan for the future.

Wage

The money a person is paid for work.