The definitions below provide just-in-time support for understanding challenging words in the prompt and sources. Use them as needed while you read.

## **Prompt**

**Climate** (noun): the typical weather patterns for an area over a few years

**Counterclaim** (noun): an argument for the other side

**Environmental changes** (noun): change to the water, land, or air, usually because of pollution

**Excessive** (adj.): too big

**Pollution** (noun): chemicals, waste, and gases that harm the water, land, or air

## **“Miami: A Case for National Help”:**

**Army Corp of Engineers** (noun): a federal organization that provides engineering services across the country

**Barrier** (noun): a structure created to block something from getting through

**Climate change** (noun): large, lasting changes in Earth’s climate and weather patterns

**Costal** (adj.): near the ocean or other body of water

**Federal** (adj.): having to do with the national government

**Flood** (noun): water overflowing the area where it is usually (ex. a riverbed)

**Inland** (adj.): away from the ocean, in the middle of the country or of an area

**Pump station** (noun): a place that moves liquids using a pump

**Resident** (noun): a person who lives in a certain area

**Storm surge** (noun): a rise in water along the coast caused by hurricanes or other big storms.

## **“Louisiana: The Need for Community-led Programs”**

**Acknowledge** (verb): recognize or agree

**Disaster** (noun): a large event that causes large amounts of damage

**Inequality** (noun): the state of not being even or fair

**Low-income** (adj.): earning less than average from work meaning the person might not have enough money to do fun things or pay bills

**Objective** (noun): goal

**Overdue** (adj.): late

**Rebuild** (verb): to construct something again

**Solution** (noun): a way to solve a problem

**Unique** (adj.): one of a kind

**Vulnerable** (adj.): open to being hurt, injured, or attacked

## **“The Benefits of Local Decision-Making”:**

**Climate change** (noun): large, lasting changes in Earth’s climate and weather patterns

**Combat** (verb): fight against or work to prevent

**Coordinated** (adj.): organized so people work together

**Feasible** (adj.): possible

**Federal** (adj.): having to do with the national government

**Ice cap** (noun): a large area of ice at the north and south poles.

**Retention pond** (noun): man-made bodies of water designed to hold water for a short time

**Various** (adj.): multiple

## **“The Importance of Federal Action”:**

**Costal** (adj.): near the ocean or other body of water

**Environmental** (adj.): Relating to the air, land, and water of Earth

**Infrastructure** (noun): structures such as buildings and roads built for use by everyone within a city, country, or region.

**Polluting** (verb): releasing chemicals, waste, and gases that harm the water, land, or air

**Protect** (verb): guard or keep save

**Require** (verb): to identify as necessary

**Resilient** (adj.): strong or able to recover quickly

**Sea wall** (noun): a structure built along the coast to protect land areas from the effects of the ocean.

**Vulnerable** (adj.): open to being hurt, injured, or attacked