

Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills Performance Level Descriptors

Social Studies Grade 8

Did Not Meet the Standard	Met the Standard	Commended Performance
Unsatisfactory performance; below state passing standard; insufficient understanding of the social studies TEKS curriculum	Satisfactory performance; at or above state passing standard; sufficient understanding of the social studies TEKS curriculum	High academic achievement; considerably above state passing standard; thorough understanding of the social studies TEKS curriculum
Students Who Did Not Meet the Standard	Students Who Met the Standard	Students Who Achieved Commended Performance
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Struggle with grade-level reading comprehension 2. Possess a limited or below-grade-level knowledge of social studies vocabulary 3. Have difficulty organizing and articulating ideas 4. Struggle to recognize significant events and individuals in early U.S. history 5. Have difficulty using basic social studies skills 6. Have difficulty reading and understanding maps, graphs, tables, and other visuals 7. Have difficulty recalling factual information about the origins, structure, functions, and development of the early U.S. government 8. Struggle to recognize geographic influences in early U.S. history 9. Have difficulty connecting economic influences and events in U.S. history 10. Struggle to understand how social movements influenced early U.S. history 11. Have difficulty identifying major scientific and technological innovations in early U.S. history 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read and understand grade-level social studies documents, including primary and secondary sources 2. Use grade-level and content-appropriate vocabulary 3. Can organize historical information both chronologically and thematically 4. Possess an understanding of significant events and individuals in early U.S. history 5. Utilize grade-level social studies skills, such as identifying cause-and-effect relationships, comparing and contrasting, interpreting, and analyzing 6. Read and understand maps, graphs, tables, and other visuals 7. Recall factual information about the origins and underlying principles of the U.S. government 8. Recognize how geography has influenced early U.S. history 9. Identify economic factors that have affected events in early U.S. history 10. Recognize the impact of social movements on early U.S. history 11. Explain the impact of scientific and technological innovations on early U.S. history 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apply prior knowledge to analyze and interpret grade-level and above-grade-level primary and secondary sources 2. Use grade-level or above-grade-level social studies vocabulary 3. Demonstrate advanced social studies skills, such as making inferences and recognizing bias 4. Analyze and interpret information about significant events and individuals in early U.S. history 5. Analyze extended and/or complex cause-and-effect relationships between historical events 6. Analyze and interpret information presented in maps, graphs, tables, and other visuals 7. Have extensive understanding of the origins and principles of the U.S. democratic process 8. Analyze and draw conclusions about geographic influences on U.S. history 9. Distinguish patterns of economic development and describe their impact on U.S. history 10. Evaluate the impact of social movements on early U.S. history 11. Evaluate the impact of scientific and technological innovations on early U.S. history

Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills Performance Level Descriptors

Social Studies Grade 10

Did Not Meet the Standard	Met the Standard	Commended Performance
Unsatisfactory performance; below state passing standard; insufficient understanding of the social studies TEKS curriculum	Satisfactory performance; at or above state passing standard; sufficient understanding of the social studies TEKS curriculum	High academic achievement; considerably above state passing standard; thorough understanding of the social studies TEKS curriculum
Students Who Did Not Meet the Standard	Students Who Met the Standard	Students Who Achieved Commended Performance
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Struggle with grade-level reading comprehension 2. Have difficulty organizing and articulating ideas 3. Possess a limited or below-grade-level knowledge of social studies vocabulary 4. Have difficulty recognizing cause-and-effect relationships 5. Have difficulty reading and understanding maps, graphs, tables, and other visuals 6. Have difficulty recognizing major events in world history 7. Have limited knowledge of the physical geography of the world 8. Struggle to understand how geography affects human activities 9. Struggle to understand economic concepts and types of economic systems 10. Have difficulty identifying major scientific and technological innovations 11. Have difficulty recalling factual information about the origins, structure, functions, and development of the U.S. government 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read and understand grade-level social studies documents, including primary and secondary sources 2. Can organize historical information both chronologically and thematically 3. Use grade-level and content-appropriate social studies vocabulary 4. Recognize cause-and-effect relationships between historical events 5. Read and understand maps, graphs, tables, and other visuals 6. Recognize the impact of major events in world history 7. Have the ability to locate major landforms, bodies of water, and climate zones of the world 8. Understand the connection between geography and human activities 9. Understand economic concepts, different economic systems, and the impact of economic factors on events in world history 10. Explain the impact of major scientific and technological innovations on world history 11. Recall factual information about the origins, structure, functions, and development of the U. S. government 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyze and evaluate grade-level or above-grade-level social studies documents, including primary and secondary sources 2. Make generalizations based on specific historical examples 3. Use grade-level or above-grade-level social studies vocabulary 4. Synthesize complex cause-and-effect relationships between historical events 5. Analyze and interpret information presented in maps, graphs, tables, and other visuals 6. Connect the impact of major events in world history across time and place 7. Have detailed knowledge of the physical geography of the world 8. Analyze and draw conclusions about how geography affects human activities 9. Apply knowledge of economic concepts and different economic systems to determine the impact of economic factors on world events 10. Evaluate the impact of scientific and technological innovations on world history 11. Apply knowledge of U. S. history and government to current world events 12. Possess an awareness of connections between the past and the present

Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills Performance Level Descriptors

Social Studies Grade 11

Did Not Meet the Standard	Met the Standard	Commended Performance
Unsatisfactory performance; below state passing standard; insufficient understanding of the social studies TEKS curriculum	Satisfactory performance; at or above state passing standard; sufficient understanding of the social studies TEKS curriculum	High academic achievement; considerably above state passing standard; thorough understanding of the social studies TEKS curriculum
Students Who Did Not Meet the Standard	Students Who Met the Standard	Students Who Achieved Commended Performance
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Struggle with grade-level reading comprehension 2. Possess a limited or below-grade-level knowledge of social studies vocabulary 3. Have difficulty organizing and articulating ideas 4. Have difficulty recognizing cause-and-effect relationships 5. Have difficulty reading and understanding maps, graphs, tables, and other visuals 6. Struggle to identify major events and individuals in U.S. history 7. Have difficulty recalling factual information about the origins, structure, functions, and development of the U.S. government 8. Struggle to understand how geography affects human activities 9. Struggle to understand basic economic concepts and their role in historical events 10. Struggle to understand how social movements have influenced U.S. history 11. Have difficulty identifying major scientific and technological innovations 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read and understand grade-level social studies documents, including primary and secondary sources 2. Use grade-level and content-appropriate social studies vocabulary 3. Can organize historical information both chronologically and thematically 4. Recognize cause-and-effect relationships between historical events 5. Read and understand maps, graphs, tables, and other visuals 6. Possess an understanding of significant events and individuals in U.S. history 7. Recall factual information about the origins, structure, functions, and development of the U.S. government 8. Understand the connection between geography and human activities 9. Understand economic concepts and economic influences on historical events 10. Recognize the impact of social movements on U.S. history 11. Explain the impact of major scientific and technological innovations on U. S. and world history 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyze and evaluate grade-level or above-grade-level social studies documents, including primary and secondary sources 2. Use grade-level or above-grade-level social studies vocabulary 3. Make generalizations based on specific historical examples 4. Synthesize complex cause-and-effect relationships between historical events 5. Analyze and interpret information presented in maps, graphs, tables, and other visuals 6. Analyze and interpret information about significant events and individuals in U.S. history 7. Apply knowledge of U. S. history to current world events 8. Analyze and draw conclusions about how geography affects human activities 9. Apply knowledge of economic concepts and different economic systems to determine the influence of economic factors on historical events 10. Evaluate the impact of social movements on U.S. history 11. Evaluate the impact of technological and scientific innovations on U.S. and world history 12. Possess an awareness of connections between the past and the present

Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills Distinguishing Features

Social Studies

GRADE 8	GRADE 10	GRADE 11
Did Not Meet the Standard vs. Met the Standard	Did Not Meet the Standard vs. Met the Standard	Did Not Meet the Standard vs. Met the Standard
Students Who Met the Standard	Students Who Met the Standard	Students Who Met the Standard
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read at grade level and comprehend social studies vocabulary 2. Use fundamental social studies skills 3. Know most of the social studies content and concepts outlined in the Grades K-8 social studies TEKS 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read and comprehend social studies documents, including primary and secondary sources 2. Use fundamental social studies skills 3. Know most of the historical issues and events and social studies concepts listed in the TEKS 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read and comprehend social studies documents, including primary and secondary sources 2. Use fundamental social studies skills 3. Know most of the historical issues and events and social studies concepts listed in the TEKS
GRADE 8	GRADE 10	GRADE 11
Met the Standard vs. Commended Performance	Met the Standard vs. Commended Performance	Met the Standard vs. Commended Performance
Students Who Achieved Commended Performance	Students Who Achieved Commended Performance	Students Who Achieved Commended Performance
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read at or above grade level and comprehend advanced social studies vocabulary 2. Demonstrate advanced and higher-order thinking skills 3. Make connections and apply concepts outlined in the Grades K-8 social studies TEKS 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyze and evaluate social studies documents, including primary and secondary sources 2. Use a wide variety of advanced social studies skills 3. Use prior knowledge when learning about and analyzing social studies concepts and historical events 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyze and evaluate social studies texts, including primary and secondary sources 2. Use a wide variety of advanced social studies skills 3. Use prior knowledge when learning about and analyzing social studies concepts and historical events