



# State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness Alternate (STAAR™ Alternate) Performance Level Descriptors Grade 8 Social Studies

## Performance Level Descriptors

### Level III: Accomplished Academic Performance

#### Students at Complexity Level 3 can:

- determine the reasons groups moved west
- determine the location of cities in relation to different geographic features
- generate a presentation explaining how governmental services help citizens
- determine the ways energy sources impact daily life

#### Students at Complexity Level 2 can:

- identify a variety of items from the past and the present that meet human needs
- identify travel routes between different cities and geographic features
- identify governmental services that address different problems
- trace products from a variety of natural resources to the consumer

### Level II: Satisfactory Academic Performance

#### Students at Complexity Level 3 can:

- determine what needs were met by colonization and exploration
- determine the reasons a group moved west
- determine the location of a city in relation to a geographic feature
- determine a feature of a celebration from different cultural groups in Texas
- generate a proposal for the school community based on a student-conducted poll
- generate a presentation explaining how a governmental service helps citizens
- determine different types of industries in Texas that employ citizens
- determine ways an energy source impacts daily life

**Students at Complexity Level 2 can:**

- identify items from the past and the present that meet human needs
- identify the importance of the development of the railroad
- identify a travel route between a city and geographic feature
- identify features of a cultural celebration
- take part in conducting an election
- identify the governmental service that addresses a specific problem
- identify one way technology helps people
- trace a product from its natural resource to the consumer

**Students at Complexity Level 1 can:**

- experience traveling to a location to get needs met
- experience ways the early Texas settlers traveled
- experience using a map to find a specific location
- participate in various cultural celebrations
- experience the voting process to determine a classroom activity
- participate in following a rule to be a good school citizen
- participate in using a technological device
- participate in receiving a service from a community worker

**Level I: Developing Academic Performance****Students at Complexity Level 3 can:**

- locate examples of colonization and exploration
- use cardinal directions
- conduct a poll within the school community
- compare different types of energy

**Students at Complexity Level 2 can:**

- identify various modes of transportation
- identify different cultures
- recognize natural resources

**Students at Complexity Level 1 can:**

- respond to arriving at a new location
- respond to items that represent a specific culture
- acknowledge a school rule
- acknowledge a community worker