



# State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness Alternate 2 (STAAR® Alternate 2) Performance Level Descriptors Grade 8 Social Studies

## Performance Level Descriptors

### Students achieving Accomplished Performance can

- Distinguish among the three branches of government
- Determine the physical characteristics of North America and how humans adapted to and modified the environment
- Analyze the development of different patterns of economic activity among various U.S. regions
- Analyze the effect of technology innovations

### Students achieving Satisfactory Performance can

- Recognize reasons for exploration and colonization
- Identify how individuals, events, and ideas have changed communities, past and present
- Identify the physical characteristics of the United States
- Examine the relationships among people from various groups and their effects on American society
- Determine ways that family structures meet basic human needs and wants
- Compare producing and consuming goods
- Determine how technology helps accomplish specific tasks and meet people's needs

### Students achieving Developing Performance can

- Identify objects associated with past, present, and future time periods
- Recognize major landforms and bodies of water
- Recognize the rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizens
- Identify ways of earning, spending, saving, and donating money