

LEAP Practice Questions

Social Studies Grade 5

Purpose and Use

The LEAP Practice Questions are intended for use in classroom instruction and assessment, meaning that educators may choose to incorporate the sources and items into daily lessons or classroom tests to complement their instructional and assessment materials. The practice questions offer examples of how social studies knowledge and skills may be assessed in alignment with the 2022 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies (LS4) and provide students and teachers an opportunity to engage with the different source and item types on the LEAP Grade 5 Social Studies Assessment.

Table of Contents

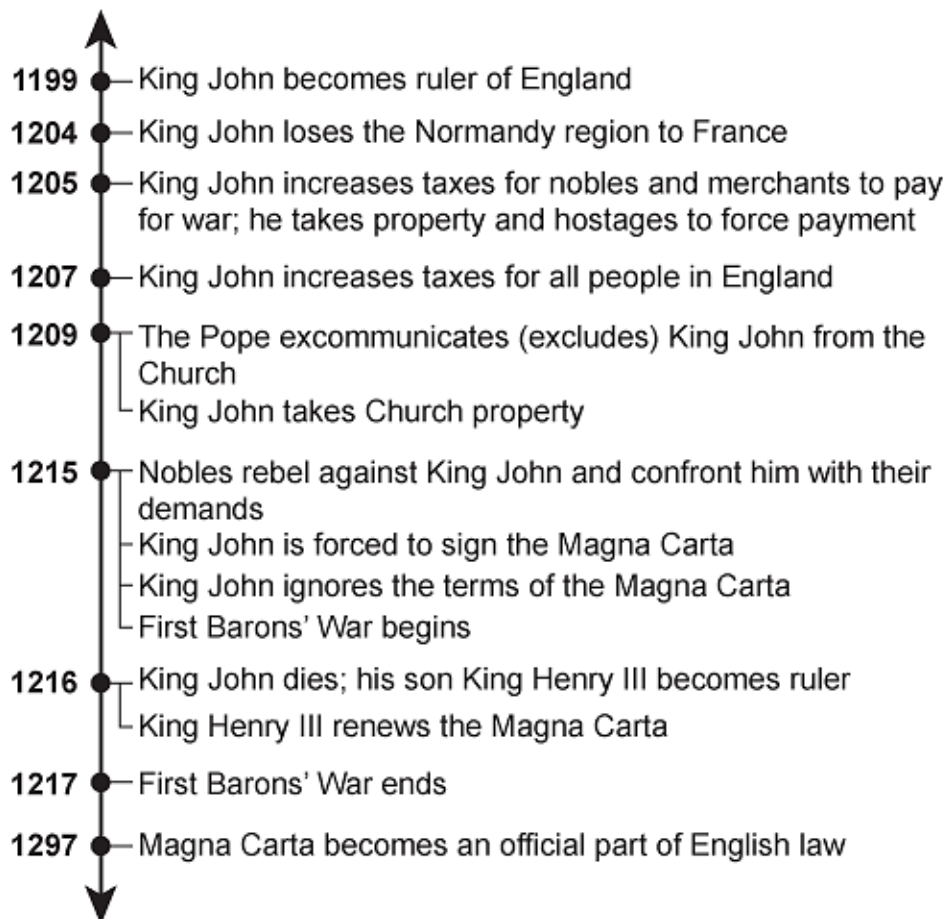
Item Set: The Magna Carta	2
Standalone Items	9
Task: Civilizations of the Americas.....	13
Answer Key and Rubrics.....	19
Scoring Guidance	23
Scoring Activity.....	23

Item Set: The Magna Carta

Read and study the sources about the rule of law in England during the medieval period. Then use the sources to answer the questions.

Source 1

Events Related to the Magna Carta



Source 2

King John

This drawing shows King John of England, who ruled from 1199 to 1216. It was made in the 1500s, as part of a book with biographies and pictures of key people in Europe. In this picture, King John is shown wearing a crown and armor. He is holding a sword in one hand. In his other hand is an object known as *globus cruciger* (orb and cross). It was a common symbol of authority during his time. King John's coat of arms with three lions is shown in the upper left corner.



Office of Assessments, Administration, and Accountability

Source 3**Adapted from the Magna Carta (1215)**

This excerpt is from the Magna Carta, or Great Charter. It was an agreement between King John of England and the people of England. It had 63 points describing rights of the people and powers of the king.

To all free men of our kingdom: We grant forever all the liberties written here. . . .

9. Neither we nor our officials will seize any land or rent in payment of a debt, as long as the person is able to pay the debt. . . .

13. The city of London will enjoy all its longstanding liberties and trade without fees, both by land and by water. . . .

20. A free man will be fined according to his offense. He will be fined more for a serious offense. But that fine will not be high enough to take away all his money. . . .

39. No free man will be arrested, imprisoned, or denied his rights or belongings. He will not be exiled. He will not be denied his freedom. We will not use force against him. We will not do these things unless he is legally judged by his equals or by the law of the land. . . .

40. To no one will we deny or delay right or justice. . . .

45. We will only appoint judges, sheriffs, and other officials that know the law and are able to keep it. . . .

49. We will return all hostages immediately. . . .

52. We will return lands, liberties, and rights to any man who we have taken them from, without the legal judgment of his equals.

1. Use **Source 1 and Source 2** to answer the question.

Which words **best** describe the political and social systems in England during the reign of King John?

Select the **two** correct answers.

- A. feudalism
- B. democracy
- C. monarchy
- D. republic
- E. theocracy

Office of Assessments, Administration, and Accountability

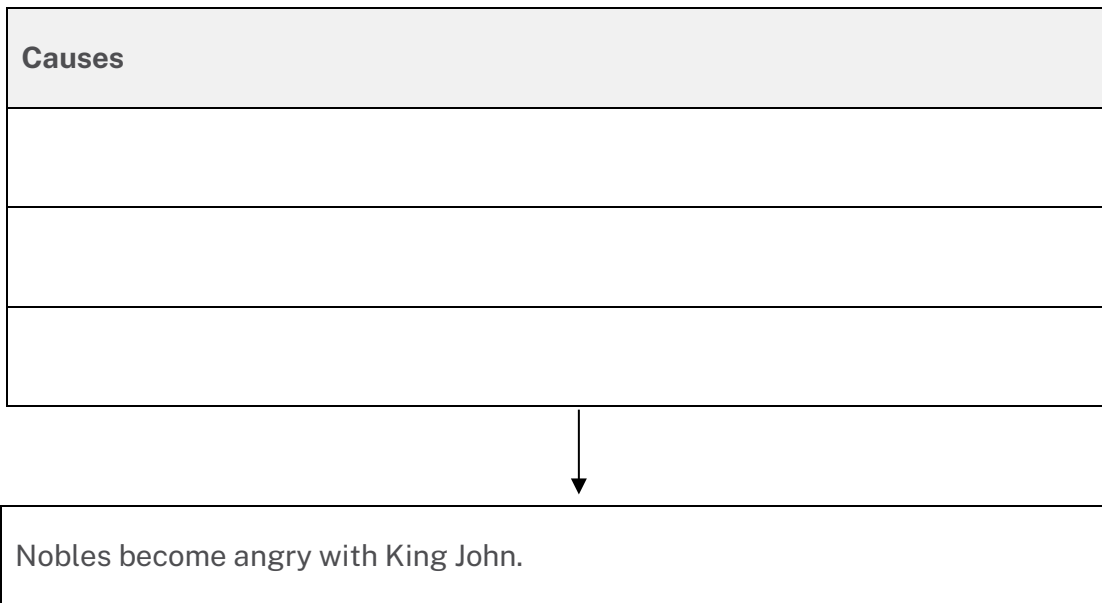
2. Use **Source 2** to answer the question.

Which phrase explains the **most likely** reason the image in Source 2 was created?

- A. to show the role and importance of King John in the history of England
- B. to show that King John was a weak ruler
- C. to show that people of England respected and approved of King John
- D. to show that King John ruled over a large area

3. Use **Source 1** to answer the question.

Write in the chart **three** correct statements that explain why nobles became angry with King John.



Answer Choices:

King John agrees to surrender in the war with France.

King John gives more rights to the peasants.

King John tries to limit the power of the nobles.

King John makes the people pay higher taxes.

King John stops people from joining the Church.

King John takes lands away from the people.

Office of Assessments, Administration, and Accountability

4. Use **Source 3** to answer the questions.

Part A

Which phrase **best** describes the purpose of the Magna Carta?

- A. to give independence to serfs
- B. to outlaw taxation by the government
- C. to ban nobles from positions of authority
- D. to protect the rights of nobles against an unjust king

Part B

Which quotation from Source 3 **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- A. "To all free men of our kingdom: We grant forever all the liberties written here."
- B. "The city of London will enjoy all its longstanding liberties and trade without fees"
- C. "We will only appoint judges, sheriffs, and other officials that know the law"
- D. "We will return all hostages immediately."

5. Use **Source 1** to answer the question.

Select the **best** answer from each list to complete the sentences about the events that followed the signing of the Magna Carta.

King John ignored the Magna Carta. This action led to the

- battle for Normandy.
- election of Henry III.
- First Barons' War.
- separation from the Church.

After the death of King John, the new leader agreed to

- end the manor system.
- establish a democracy.
- restore the charter.
- unite with neighboring countries.

Office of Assessments, Administration, and Accountability

6. Use **Source 3** to answer the question.

Which statements **best** explain why the Magna Carta is historically important?

Select the **two** correct answers.

- A. It created a law that protected the right to free speech.
- B. It stated that the law was the main source of power.
- C. It declared that leaders had permission to disobey the law.
- D. It states that judges interpret the laws of the country.
- E. It established the principle that rulers must follow the laws.

Office of Assessments, Administration, and Accountability

7. Use **the sources** to answer the question.

Explain **two** different effects that the Magna Carta had on England.

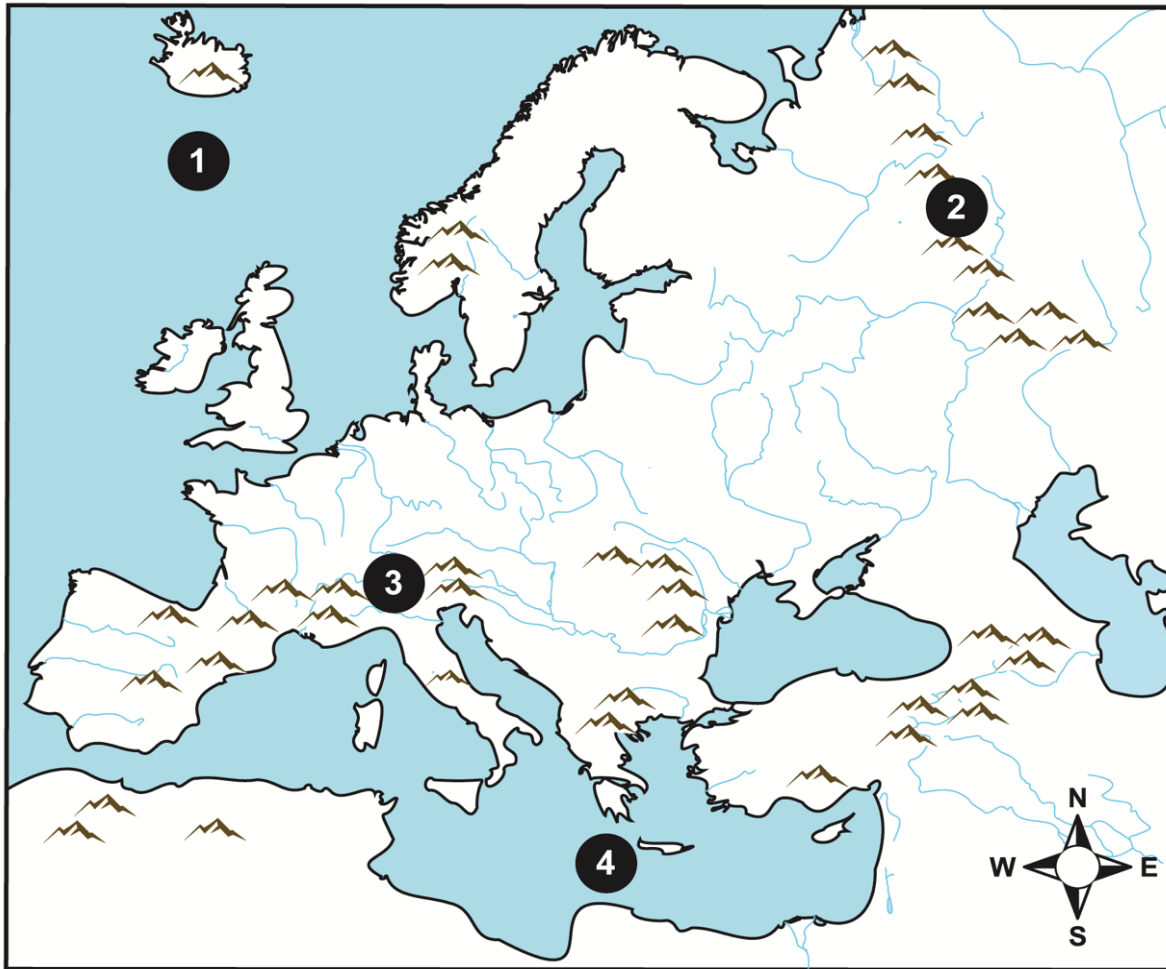
As you write, be sure to fully answer all parts of the prompt using information and examples from your knowledge of social studies.

Office of Assessments, Administration, and Accountability

Standalone Items

8. Use **the map** to answer the question.

Mark on the map the correct name of each geographic feature.



Geographic Features:

Alps

Atlantic Ocean

Mediterranean Sea

Ural Mountains

Office of Assessments, Administration, and Accountability

9. Use **the excerpt** to answer the question.

Adapted from *The Wars of Charlemagne (c. 770-814)*

War had begun against the Saxons, a Germanic group of people. It went on for thirty-three years. The King put military pressure on them. He either went into the field of battle against them himself or sent royal authorities against them. The war at last ended when the Saxons gave in to the terms offered by the King. They gave up their native religious beliefs, converted to Christianity, and agreed to unite with the Franks.

Which statement **best** describes Charlemagne's influence on medieval Europe?

- A. He trained knights to protect manor lands from Roman invaders.
- B. He prevented the spread of the Black Death and conflict in western Europe.
- C. He convinced nobles to support him as the new leader of the Catholic Church.
- D. He conquered much of western Europe and established the Holy Roman Empire.

10. Use **the image** to answer the question.

Monks and Monasteries



Which statements **best** explain the role of monks and monasteries during the Middle Ages?

Select the **two** correct answers.

- A. They collected church taxes for the king.
- B. They provided religious education to the community.
- C. They completed scientific research for the church.
- D. They served as centers of trade for religious artifacts.
- E. They copied manuscripts to preserve important beliefs.

Office of Assessments, Administration, and Accountability

11. Use **the excerpt** to answer the questions.

Adapted from a Letter to the King of England (1492)

by Joan of Arc

Return the keys of all the good cities which you have seized. You must pay back all that you have taken. In whatever place I shall find your men in France, I will make them flee the country, whether they wish to or not. I am sent by the King of Heaven to remove you from France. I promise to you that if you do not leave France, my troops and I will raise a mighty protest. To you and all people who are here at Orleans, I say to you, go home.

Part A

Which conclusion about Joan of Arc can **best** be made from the excerpt?

- A. She believed that divine guidance would allow her to help France defeat England.
- B. She was given the power to collect taxes from England for the king of France.
- C. She believed that she could convince England to surrender land to France.
- D. She was ordered to force peasants from England out of the kingdom of France.

Part B

Which evidence from the excerpt **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- A. "Return the keys of all the good cities which you have seized."
- B. "You must pay back all that you have taken."
- C. "I am sent by the King of Heaven to remove you from France."
- D. "To you and all people who are here at Orleans, I say to you, go home."

Office of Assessments, Administration, and Accountability

12. Select the West African empire that **most closely** relates to each description about the development of the kingdoms.

Select **one** empire for **each** description.

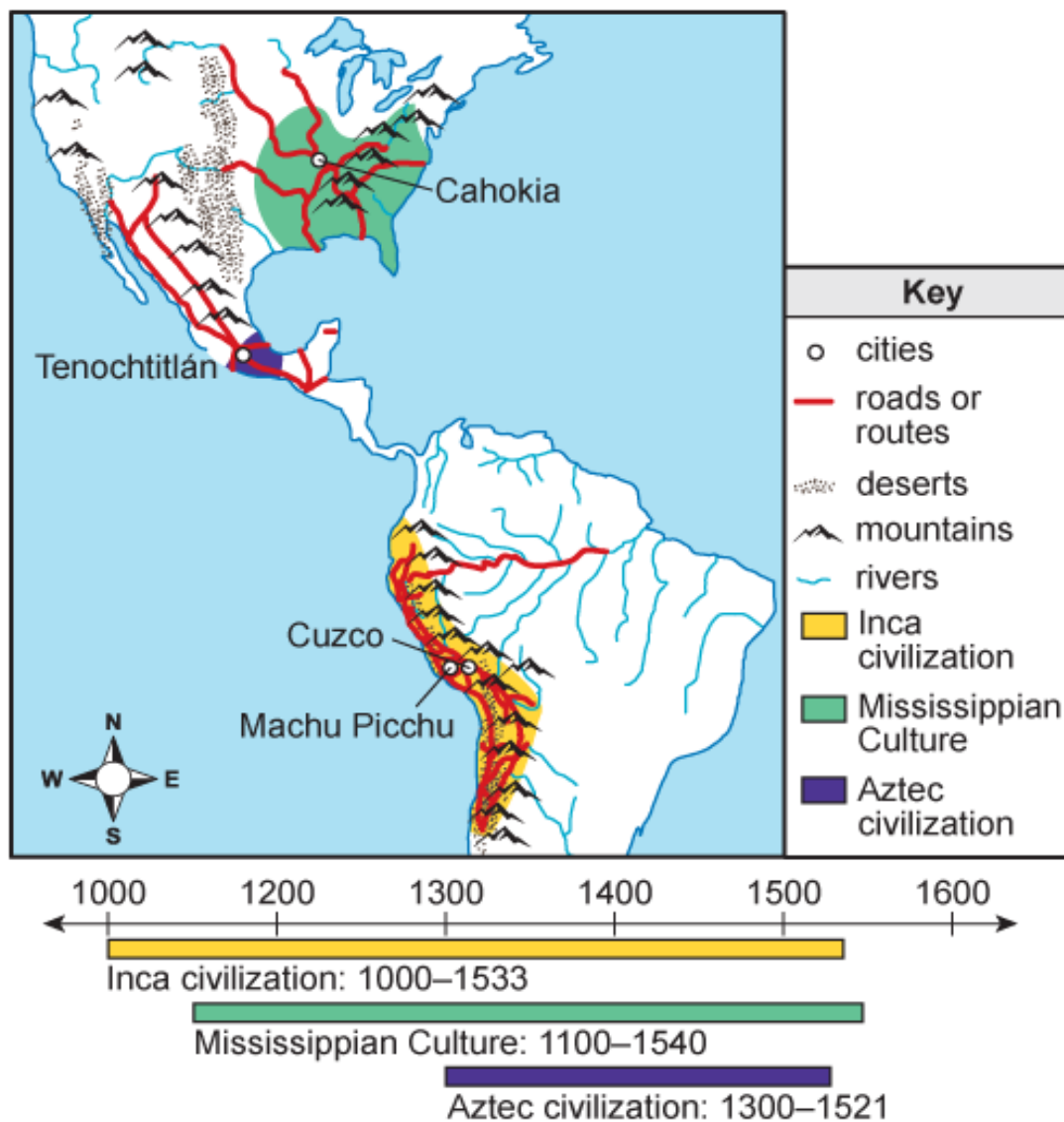
Description	Ghana Empire	Mali Empire	Songhai Empire
Mansa Musa developed new trade relationships.			
Kings established wealth by taxing trade goods.			
Sunni Ali expanded the territory of the empire through military conquest.			
Sundiata Keita created the Manden Charter, a constitution and set of laws.			

Task: Civilizations of the Americas

Read and study the sources about civilizations of the Americas. Use the sources to answer the questions. As you study the sources and answer the questions, get ready to write about how Indigenous groups of the Americas were advanced civilizations.

Source 1

The Americas (1000-1540)



Agricultural Practices in the Americas

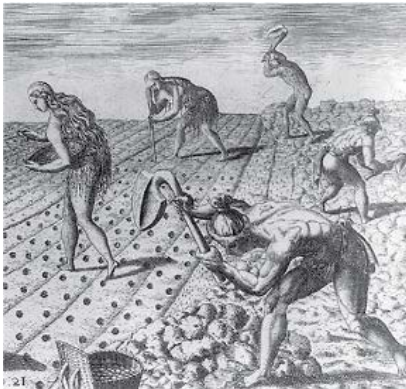
Terraces

This image shows a terrace and archeological ruins on a mountain near Cuzco in South America. Terraces are flat areas that look like steps in a set of stairs dug into the side of a hill or mountain. The Inca grew a variety of crops using terrace farming.



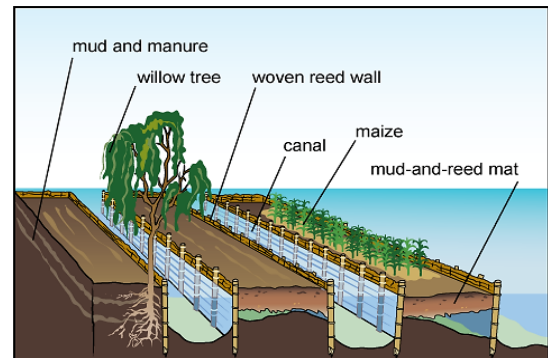
Tilling and Planting

This image, created in the late 1500s, shows Timucua men and women in a field preparing the soil and planting seeds. The Timucua people lived in the southeastern part of North America.



Chinampas

This drawing shows an Aztec chinampa. Chinampas are human-made islands built on a lake for agriculture. The Aztec used chinampas to grow many different crops.



Monuments are Culture in the Americas

Inca Temple of the Sun

This image shows the archeological ruins of the Temple of the Sun in the ancient city of Machu Picchu in South America. The temple is located on the top of a mountain. It is made of carefully carved and placed granite stones. Scholars believe that the temple and areas around it were important to the Inca and likely had many purposes.



Aztec Templo Mayor

This image shows a model of Templo Mayor. It was the main temple in the Aztec capital city of Tenochtitlán. Most of the real temple was destroyed in 1521. This model is part of an exhibit at the National Museum of Anthropology in modern-day Mexico.



Monks Mound, Mississippian Culture

This image shows Monks Mound in the ancient city of Cahokia in North America. Monks Mound is one of the largest earthen structures in North America. Archeological evidence suggests that Cahokia was a prosperous settlement with a large population.



Office of Assessments, Administration, and Accountability

13. Use **Source 1 and Source 2** to answer the questions.

Part A

Which feature **most** supported the agricultural practices of ancient civilizations and cultures?

- A. access to desert soil
- B. access to mountain tops
- C. access to water sources
- D. access to trade networks

Part B

Which statement **best** explains how the agricultural practices of the Inca, Aztec, and Mississippians influenced their development?

- A. It allowed them to produce surpluses of food that could feed large populations.
- B. It encouraged them to build large monuments to watch over farm workers.
- C. It allowed them to grow the food used in many religious rituals.
- D. It encouraged them to place farmers in positions of power in society.

14. Use **the sources** to answer the question.

Which statement **best** describes a way that the Inca, Aztec, and Mississippians were similar?

- A. They all moved from place to place to establish new settlements.
- B. They all used the same systems for transportation and communication.
- C. They all adapted to and modified the environment to meet their needs.
- D. They all followed the same leader to govern the people of their territories.

15. Use **Source 1** to answer the questions.

Which phrases **best** explain how roads and routes supported the Inca Empire?

Select the **two** correct answers.

- A. by protecting communities from disasters caused by humans and nature
- B. by allowing for easy movement of armies and merchants
- C. by establishing direct pathways for travel to other continents
- D. by guarding cities from invasions by surrounding groups
- E. by helping government officials send messages to each other

Office of Assessments, Administration, and Accountability

16. Use **Source 3** to answer the question.

Which statement **best** describes what the building of mounds suggests about the people of Cahokia?

- A. They had a stable form of government.
- B. They had better technology than other cultures.
- C. They lived in homes shared by the entire family.
- D. They made everyone in society help with public projects.

17. Use **Source 3** to answer the question.

Which statement **best** describes the culture of the Aztec civilization?

- A. They made buildings to collect historical artifacts.
- B. They built religious structures to honor their gods.
- C. They separated religion from their everyday activities.
- D. They enjoyed peaceful relationships with their neighbors.

Answer Key and Rubrics

Group	Question	Type	Key	Points	Alignment
Item Set: The Magna Carta	1	MS	A, C	1	Content: 5.9e, 5.9d S&P: 5.3
	2	MC	A	1	Content: 5.9e S&P: 5.3
	3	TE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> King John tries to limit the power of the nobles King John Makes the people pay higher taxes King John takes lands away from the people Scoring Rules Full (2 pts): 3 of 3 correct responses Partial (1 pt): 2 of 3 correct responses None (0 pts): 0 or 1 of 3 correct responses	2	Content: 5.9d S&P: 5.1
	4	TPD	Part A: D Part B: A See Scoring Guidance .	2	Content: 5.9e S&P: 5.2b
	5	TE	Key 1: First Baron's War Key 2: restore the charter Scoring Rules Full (2 pts): 2 of 2 correct answers selected Partial (1 pt): 1 of 2 correct answers selected None (0 pts): 0 of 2 correct answers selected	2	Content: 5.9e S&P: 5.3
	6	MS	B, E	1	Content: 5.9e S&P: 5.2a
	7	CR	See rubric .	4	Content: 5.9e S&P: 5.3
Standalone Items	8	TE	1. Atlantic Ocean 2. Ural Mountains 3. Alps 4. Mediterranean Sea Scoring Rules Full (2 pts): 4 of 4 correct answers selected Partial (1 pt): 2 or 3 of 4 correct answers selected	2	Content: 5.9a S&P: 5.6

Office of Assessments, Administration, and Accountability

Group	Question	Type	Key	Points	Alignment																				
			None (0 pts): 0 or 1 of 4 correct answers selected																						
	9	MC	D	1	Content: 5.9c S&P: 5.2a																				
	10	MS	B, E	1	Content: 4.9b																				
	11	TPD	Part A: A Part B: C See Scoring Guidance .	2	Content: 5.9h S&P: 5.2b																				
	12	TE	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Description</th> <th>Ghana Empire</th> <th>Mali Empire</th> <th>Songhai Empire</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mansa Musa developed new trade relationships.</td> <td><input type="radio"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="radio"/></td> <td><input type="radio"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kings established wealth by taxing trade goods.</td> <td><input checked="" type="radio"/></td> <td><input type="radio"/></td> <td><input type="radio"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sonni Ali expanded the territory of the empire through military conquest.</td> <td><input type="radio"/></td> <td><input type="radio"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="radio"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sundiata Keite created the Manden Charter, a constitution and set of laws.</td> <td><input type="radio"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="radio"/></td> <td><input type="radio"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Scoring Rules Full (2 pts): 4 of 4 correct answers selected Partial (1 pt): 2 or 3 of 4 correct answers selected None (0 pts): 0 or 1 of 4 correct answers selected</p>	Description	Ghana Empire	Mali Empire	Songhai Empire	Mansa Musa developed new trade relationships.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Kings established wealth by taxing trade goods.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Sonni Ali expanded the territory of the empire through military conquest.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Sundiata Keite created the Manden Charter, a constitution and set of laws.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	2	Content: 5.11b S&P: 5.4
Description	Ghana Empire	Mali Empire	Songhai Empire																						
Mansa Musa developed new trade relationships.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>																						
Kings established wealth by taxing trade goods.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>																						
Sonni Ali expanded the territory of the empire through military conquest.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>																						
Sundiata Keite created the Manden Charter, a constitution and set of laws.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>																						
Item Set: Civilizations of the Americas	13	TPI	Part A: C Part B: A See Scoring Guidance .	2	Content: 5.13 S&P: 5.2a																				
	14	MC	C	1	Content: 5.13 S&P: 5.2c																				
	15	MS	B, E	1	Content: 5.13j S&P: 5.7																				
	16	MC	A	1	Content: 5.13c																				
	17	MC	B	1	Content: 5.13f																				
	18	ER	See Rubric .	4	Content: 5.13 S&P: 5.5a																				

Office of Assessments, Administration, and Accountability

Constructed Response Rubric (Ancient Mesopotamia)

Score	Scoring Description
4	Student correctly explains two different effects that the Magna Carta had on England.
3	Student correctly explains one effect that the Magna Carta had on England. AND Student correctly identifies a second effect that the Magna Carta had on England without explaining it.
2	Student correctly identifies two different effects that the Magna Carta had on England without explaining either. OR Student correctly explains one effect that the Magna Carta had on England.
1	Student correctly identifies one effect that the Magna Carta had on England without explaining it. OR The response includes correct information related to the prompt that demonstrates some student content knowledge about the Magna Carta.
0	The response contained only incorrect or irrelevant information or the item was left blank.

Note: Responses are not penalized for any errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar, or capitalization.

Sample Response: One effect of the Magna Carta was it limited the monarch's power by establishing the rule of law. Another effect of the Magna Carta is it ensured a fair trial by jury by stating no man could go to prison without being judged by his equals.

Extended Response Rubric (Civilizations of the Americas)

Score	Scoring Description
4	Response includes a correct claim about how the characteristics of indigenous groups of the Americas show that they were advanced civilizations. Response includes a correct explanation that addresses the prompt and includes at least one reference to a given source and relevant content knowledge that is not directly provided in the given sources.
3	Response includes a correct claim about how the characteristics of indigenous groups of the Americas show that they were advanced civilizations. Response includes a correct explanation that addresses the prompt and includes at least one reference to a given source or relevant content knowledge that is not directly provided in the given source, but not both. OR Response includes a correct explanation to address how the characteristics of indigenous groups of the Americas show that they were advanced civilizations. The explanation includes at least one reference to a given source and relevant content knowledge that is not directly provided in the given source.
2	Response includes a correct claim about how the characteristics of indigenous groups of the Americas show that they were advanced civilizations with at least one reference to a given source or relevant content knowledge that is not directly provided in the given source. OR Response includes a correct explanation to address how the characteristics of indigenous groups of the Americas show that they were advanced civilizations. The explanation includes at least one reference to a given source or relevant content knowledge that is not directly provided in the given source.
1	Response includes a correct claim about how the characteristics of indigenous groups of the Americas show that they were advanced civilizations. OR Response includes correct information that is not directly relevant to the prompt, but that demonstrates some student content knowledge about the characteristics of indigenous groups of the Americas.
0	Response does not include any elements described above.

Note: Responses are not penalized for any errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar, or capitalization.

Sample Response: The characteristics of indigenous groups of the Americas, such as using technology for farming and growing a surplus of food, show that they were advanced civilizations. Indigenous groups of the Americas advanced their technology to grow more crops so that they could have enough food to feed everyone in their civilization. In Source 2 it says that the Aztec used chinampas to grow many different crops, and the Inca grew crops using terrace farming.

Scoring Guidance

Item Type	Scoring Rules
Two-Part Independent (TPI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full credit (2 pts): Both Part A and Part B have correct answers Partial credit (1 pt): Either Part A or Part B have correct answers No credit (0 pts): Neither Part A nor Part B have correct answers
Two-Part Dependent (TPD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full credit (2 pts): Both Part A and Part B have correct answers Partial credit (1 pt): Part A has a correct answer, but Part B has an incorrect answer No credit (0 pts): Part A has an incorrect answer, and Part B has a correct answer OR neither Part A nor Part B has a correct answer

Scoring Activity

The scoring activity is recommended for use by educators to develop scoring materials. This activity, when done with a group of teachers who teach the same grade level/course, can be invaluable. By analyzing the rubrics, choosing papers at each score point, and discussing the scoring of student papers collaboratively, teachers not only gain a better understanding of expectations for student writing, but they also discover strengths and weaknesses and how they might be addressed within their own classroom or within their schools or school systems. This activity can be used with students as well. By having students work through the scoring process, they learn about what is expected, and they see the rubric in action as they score and discuss different responses. School and school system leaders are also encouraged to incorporate the scoring activity into their professional development and/or to set aside time for teachers to engage in the kind of discussions about student work that are at the heart of the scoring activity.

Purpose: To establish common expectations for student writing in social studies

Outcomes:

- Learn to use the rubric and identify qualities of writing that meet the standards for social studies
- Reveal grade/course-specific expectations
- Learn about and discuss different approaches that can improve teaching and learning

Process:

- Have students respond in writing to a common prompt.
- Collect students' responses to the common prompt.
- Work collaboratively to understand the rubric.
 - Review the scoring criteria on the chosen rubric. Read each part carefully. Highlight key words on the rubric that show the expectations and differences between each score point.
 - Create or gather anchor papers for each score point. These are papers that all participants agree represent a solid score (e.g., 4 points in Constructed Response). Annotate the papers

Office of Assessments, Administration, and Accountability

to identify which qualities match the rubric. They will serve as models of each score point on the rubric.

4. Score student responses collaboratively.
 - a. Individually score the responses using the rubric and anchor set.
 - b. Then come together as a group. Read each response aloud and, as a group, discuss the individual scores using the rubric and the anchor papers.
 - c. Try to reach consensus on the scores for each response. Discuss any scores that are not consistent.
5. After the responses are scored, discuss the responses in general – strengths, weaknesses, different approaches to the prompt, etc. Determine any patterns that exist in the responses overall (e.g., development of claims, use of content knowledge, relevance of evidence from sources, ability to make connections, ability to explain connections). Individual teachers should also consider their own students’ papers to determine any patterns.
6. Finally, discuss the instructional implications: “How will we address the general weaknesses?” “How will I address my own students’ weaknesses, etc.?” Develop a plan.