# HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE STANDARDS OF LEARNING CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

(2008 & 2015 Hybrid Document)



# KEY:

Blue Text = New content added to the 2015 SOLs
Red Text = Content deleted from the 2008 SOLs

**World Geography** 

# INTRODUCTION

The *History and Social Science Standards of Learning Curriculum Framework 2015*, approved by the Board of Education on [Date TBD], is a companion document to the 2015 *History and Social Science Standards of Learning for Virginia Public Schools*. The Curriculum Framework amplifies the Standards of Learning by defining the content understandings, knowledge, and skills that are measured by the Standards of Learning assessments.

The standards and curriculum framework are not intended to encompass the entire curriculum for a given grade level or course, or prescribe how the content should be taught. School divisions are encouraged to incorporate the standards and curriculum framework into a broader, locally-designed curriculum. The curriculum framework delineates in greater specificity the minimum content that all teachers should teach and all students should learn. Teachers are encouraged to go beyond the standards and select instructional strategies and assessment methods appropriate for their students. Additional details such as the names of individuals whose study further amplify the standards and clarify the concepts under investigation will be are found in the curriculum framework.

The format of the Curriculum Framework consists of facilitates teacher planning by identifying important concepts, and essential understandings, knowledge, and skills. Together, those key elements provide the focus of instruction for each standard. The purpose of each section is explained below:

#### **Standard of Learning Statement**

Each page begins with a complete Standard of Learning statement as a focus for teaching and learning. As a foundation to develop historical thinking skills, students will apply social science skills to understand the interrelationships between the history, geography, economics and civics content.

Application of the social science skills affords the opportunity for students to become actively engaged in their learning.

#### **Essential Skills**

The essential history and social science skills are outlined in Standard 1 for each grade level or course. History and social science skills are a key component of understanding historical, geographic, political, and economic events or trends. They are the tools used to increase student understanding of the history and social science curriculum. The development of these skills is also important in order for students to become better-informed citizens.

The structure of the Curriculum Framework for Standard 1 deviates slightly from that used for the other standards. Like the format for the other standards, the first column for Standard 1 contains "Essential Understandings." However, the second column contains examples of how the skill may be applied in the classroom rather than a description of Essential Knowledge specific to the particular grade level or course. Note: The skills will not be assessed in isolation; rather, they will be assessed as part of the content in the *History and Social Science Standards of Learning*.

#### **Essential Understandings**

The Essential Understandings column includes the fundamental background information necessary to acquire and apply the essential knowledge. Teachers should use these understandings as a basis for lesson planning as they should help students develop a sense of context and why the essential knowledge is relevant to the overarching standard statement.

#### **Essential Knowledge**

This column delineates the key content facts, concepts, and ideas that students should grasp in order to demonstrate understanding of the standard. This information is not meant to be exhaustive or a limitation on what is taught in the classroom. Rather, it is meant to be the principal knowledge defining the standard.

The Curriculum Framework serves as a guide for Standards of Learning assessment development; however, assessment items may not and should not be verbatim reflections of the information presented in the Curriculum Framework.

### **STANDARD WG.1a**

The student will demonstrate skills for historical thinking, geographical analysis, economic decision making, and responsible citizenship by

a) synthesizing evidence from artifacts and primary and secondary sources to obtain information about the world's countries, cities, and environments;

Essential Understandings	Experiences may include but are not limited to
Synthesis involves combining processed information with other knowledge to logically reach a new interpretation and understanding of content.  Primary and secondary sources enable one to examine evidence closely and to place it in a broader context.  An artifact is an object or tool that tells us about the people from the past.  A primary source is an artifact, document, image, or other source of information that was created at the time under study.  A secondary source is a document, image, or other source of information that relates or discusses information originally presented elsewhere.	Geographic information may be acquired from a variety of sources.  Informational Sources: Various factors contribute to determine whether a source is primary or secondary  GIS (Geographic Information Systems) Field work Satellite images Photographs Maps, globes Databases Primary sources Diagrams  Examine and analyze information about cities, countries, regions, and environments. Use the information gathered to gain a new and deeper understanding of the inhabitants, resources, land and water usage, transportation methods, and communications.  Examine and analyze geographic information and demographic data. Use the information gathered to gain a new and deeper understanding of the of economic development.

### **STANDARD WG.1b**

The student will demonstrate skills for historical thinking, geographical analysis, economic decision making, and responsible citizenship by b) using geographic information to determine patterns and trends to understand world regions;

Essential Understandings	Experiences may include but are not limited to
Analyzing and interpreting involves identifying the important elements of geographic sources in order to make inferences and generalizations and draw conclusions.  Knowledge of geography and application of geographic skills enables one to understand relationships between people, their behavior, places and the environment for problem solving and historical understanding.  The physical geography of a location had a direct impact on the lives of people in world regions and how they adapted to their environment.	Geographic information may be acquired from a variety of sources. Variety of sources  GIS (Geographic Information Systems)  Field work  Satellite images  Photographs  Maps, globes  Charts and Graphs  Databases  Primary sources  Diagrams  Analyze the relationship between physical and human geography.  Analyze geographic information related to movement of people, products, resources, ideas, and language to determine patterns and trends.  Examine maps of a location before and after a major conflict to discuss how the conflict impacted the social, political and economic landscape of the region.  Use maps to explain how the location of resources influences the patterns, trends and migration of the population.
Geographic themes include:  Location Place Regions Movement Human-Environmental Interaction	<ul> <li>Five Themes of Geography</li> <li>Location- defined according to its position on the earth's surface. Where is it?</li> <li>Place- locations having distinctive features that give them meaning and character that differs from other locations. What is it like?</li> <li>Region- a unit on the earth's surface that has unifying characteristics. How are places similar or different?</li> <li>Movement- the way people, products and information move from one place to another. How do people, goods, and ideas move from one location to another?</li> <li>Human-Environment Interaction- the relationship between people and their environment. How do people relate to the physical world?</li> </ul>

# STANDARD WG.1c

The student will demonstrate skills for historical thinking, geographical analysis, economic decision making, and responsible citizenship by c) creating, comparing, and interpreting maps, charts, graphs, and pictures to determine characteristics of world regions;

Essential Understandings	Experiences may include but are not limited to
Interpretation involves the process of explaining or translating information.  Interpretation begins with observation of data and then requires students to extract significant information embedded within data in order to draw conclusions.	Interpret a variety of thematic maps to draw conclusions about a region or country.  Gather information depicting characteristics of a world region from a variety of sources to create a chart or graph depicting characteristics of the world region.  Gather information about the push and pull factors of a region. Create a chart differentiating between economic, political and social factors.

# STANDARD WG.1d

The student will demonstrate skills for historical thinking, geographical analysis, economic decision making, and responsible citizenship by d) evaluating sources for accuracy, credibility, bias, and propaganda

Essential Understandings	Experiences may include but are not limited to
It is critical to determine the accuracy and validity of information and recognize bias to draw informed conclusions, solve problems, and make informed decisions.  The context from the time period of the primary or secondary source can influence the information included.  Facts can be verified with evidence while opinions cannot.  Bias: partiality in favor of or against one thing, person, or group compared with another.	Develop criteria or questions to evaluate a source. Consider the following for evaluating a source:  Timeliness of the information Importance of the information Source of the information Reliability, fruthfulness and correctness of the content Reason the information exists  Select a current issue or regional concern. Explore multiple sources that report the same event, issue or concern. Examine the information to determine the accuracy and validity of the sources:  War conflict Immigration Environmental issues Geographic boundaries

### **STANDARD WG.1e**

The student will demonstrate skills for historical thinking, geographical analysis, economic decision making, and responsible citizenship by

e) using maps and other visual images to compare and contrast historical, cultural, economic, and political perspectives;

Essential Understandings	Experiences may include but are not limited to
The skill of comparing and contrasting perspectives involves breaking down information and then categorizing it into similar and dissimilar pieces.	<ul> <li>Select an environmental issue, such as recycling, air pollution, water scarcity, etc.</li> <li>Gather information from a variety of sources such as executive orders; foreign policy outlines; political, business, or environmental Web sites; or social or political blogs with an environmental focus.</li> <li>Compare and contrast varying perspectives of the issue to gain an understanding of historical, cultural, political, and regional perspectives.</li> <li>The impact on the inhabitants of the region.</li> <li>Policies to regulate, encourage, or discontinue activities.</li> <li>Create a post for a social media platform highlighting an issue of environmental concern or benefit.</li> </ul>

### STANDARD WG.1f

The student will demonstrate skills for historical thinking, geographical analysis, economic decision making, and responsible citizenship by

f) explaining indirect cause-and-effect relationships to understand geospatial connections.

Essential Understandings	Experiences may include but are not limited to
A cause-and-effect relationship is a relationship in which one event (the cause) makes another event happen (the effect). There can be multiple causes and effects.  An indirect cause-and-effect relationship usually takes time to establish. They are many times unforeseen, unplanned, or connected to the main causes and effects.  Explaining includes justifying why the evidence credibly supports the claim.  Diversity creates a variety of perspectives, contributions, and challenges.	<ul> <li>A process for explaining indirect cause-and-effect relationships:</li> <li>Choose an established effect and brainstorm causes.</li> <li>Categorize the causes into direct or indirect causes.</li> <li>Describe direct and indirect items separately.</li> <li>Compare and contrast direct and indirect causes.</li> <li>Identify the most important difference between the direct and indirect causes.</li> <li>Draw conclusions about the impact on people, places, and events</li> <li>Discuss, defend, and refine conclusions.</li> <li>Compare charts, graphs, and/or maps to determine the role diversity played in affecting the social, economic, and political structures of:  - a region  - standard of living/quality of life  - developing/developed countries</li> <li>Create flow charts, story boards, and timelines to help students explore multiple causes and effects.</li> <li>Determine how the choices of selected people/groups impact:  - a region  - standard of living/quality of life  - developing/developed countries</li> <li>Examine both intended and unintended consequences of an event</li> <li>What was the context for the event to take place?</li> <li>What was the result of these actions?</li> </ul>

# STANDARD WG.1g

The student will demonstrate skills for historical thinking, geographical analysis, economic decision making, and responsible citizenship by

g) analyzing multiple connections across time and place;

Essential Understandings	Experiences may include but are not limited to
Analyzing includes identifying the important elements of a topic.  Analytical thinking is further strengthened when connections are made between two or more topics.	<ul> <li>Research a regional issue. Create a timeline or graphic organizer to illustrate how that issue has changed over time. Organize significant historical events and people that have influenced the issue. Issues may include:</li> <li>Movement</li> <li>Region</li> <li>Human environment</li> <li>Interactions</li> <li>Location and place</li> <li>Identify how cultures change to reflect:</li> <li>Advancements</li> <li>Conflicts</li> <li>Diversity</li> <li>Movements and migrations</li> <li>Human environment interactions</li> </ul>

# STANDARD WG.1h

The student will demonstrate skills for historical thinking, geographical analysis, economic decision making, and responsible citizenship by

h) using a decision-making model to analyze and explain the incentives for and consequences of a specific choice made;

Essential Understandings	Experiences may includ	le but are no	ot limited to	
Decision-making models serve several purposes:	This is new, but it won't highlight:)  • PACED Decision Grid: [Problem, Alternatives, Criteria.  Problem: Rural Brazilian residents making a choice to make the Criteria Alternatives  Remain in the countryside  Move to mega cities  Remain in the countryside and commute to mega cities  Decision:  • Cost-Benefit Analysis:  What are the consequences of ethanol fuel subsidies?  Expected costs  higher monetary costs.  AFTER THE CHOICE W.  Unintended Consequences  Since ethanol is made from corn (in the U.S.), using it for fuel increased food prices, especially food for livestock.  Furthermore, using more resources to grow corn leads to negative consequences for the environment, such as soil erosion, deforestation, and loss of biodiversity.  Decision	Evaluate, Deci- igrate  Income  DICE WAS MA Expected beneated tower carbon of the control of the	Family impact  ADE efits dioxide emissions.	ge of ethanol. This

### STANDARD WG.1i

The student will demonstrate skills for historical thinking, geographical analysis, economic decision making, and responsible citizenship by

i) identifying the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and the ethical use of material or intellectual property; and

Essential Understandings Experiences may include but are not limited to		
Plagiarism is the unauthorized use or theft of intellectual property.  There are consequences of plagiarism according to the guidelines established by local school divisions and the law.	<ul> <li>Promote collaboration with others both inside and outside the classroom.</li> <li>Socratic Seminar</li> <li>Two-Way Journaling</li> <li>Digital Media (Videoconferences, etc.)</li> <li>Explore the ethical and legal issues related to the access and use of information by <ul> <li>properly citing authors and sources used in research;</li> <li>validating Web sites; and</li> <li>reviewing written drafts so that the language and/or thoughts of another are given credit.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Peer Feedback: Provide one another with constructive feedback via the peer editing process with written assignments.</li> <li>Reference Citations: Include the use of proper reference citations and distinguish one's own ideas from information created or discovered by others.</li> </ul>	

# STANDARD WG.1j

The student will demonstrate skills for historical thinking, geographical analysis, economic decision making, and responsible citizenship by

j) investigating and researching to develop products orally and in writing.

Essential Understandings	Experiences may include but are not limited to
Experiences in the classroom provide	Write a college admission essay for an archaeology program. Provide details
opportunities for students to read, think, speak, isten and write about social science content.	in the essay about a specific region of interest. Discuss how the practice of archaeology has changed over time.
The skill of investigating involves acting like a	<ul> <li>Create an online video presentation describing the interactions of humans with weather within a specific region at a specific point in time.</li> </ul>
detective: formulating questions and proactively	Create a gallery exhibit for the National Gallery of Art that illustrates the
setting out to try and answer the questions.	geography of a specific region at a specific point in time. Make
	recommendations of artifacts, documents, or displays to include. Provide a
The skill of researching works in tandem with nvestigating in that students need to uncover	<ul> <li>justification for each item.</li> <li>Write a letter of support on behalf of the United States for a U.S.</li> </ul>
naterial in order to adequately answer questions	Ambassador of a region in turmoil due to movement and increases in the
ormulated when investigating.	refugee population. The letter should acknowledge the social, political,
• •	economic and geographic conditions of the region, how the region has been
Students take more ownership over investigating	impacted by the recent population increase, and the support the United
and researching when able to choose the type of product to produce.	<ul> <li>States would be willing to provide.</li> <li>Use interactive maps and satellite/aerial imagery of a region to write a</li> </ul>
product to produce.	proposal for a clean water organization working to provide clean water to
Student inquiry drives the design process.	residents of an impoverished region. The proposal should highlight the rights
Specifically students:	and responsibilities of the citizens and changes the region has experienced
<ul><li>Formulate a question to investigate;</li><li>Create a goal/hypothesis;</li></ul>	over time that have impacted the region's clean water.
<ul> <li>Create a goal/hypothesis,</li> <li>Conduct research and collaborate</li> </ul>	
with teacher and peers;	
<ul> <li>Revisit and revise goal/hypothesis, if</li> </ul>	
necessary;	
Create product; and	
rite a reflection on the process involved to	
rive at product.	

# STANDARD WG.1b (2008 Content)

The student will use maps, globes, satellite images, photographs, or diagrams to b) apply the concepts of location, scale, map projection, or orientation

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Latitude and longitude define absolute location.  Relative location describes the spatial relationships between and among places.  Areas can be represented using a variety of scales.  The amount of detail shown on a map is dependent on the scale used.  A directional indicator (e.g., compass rose) identifies map orientation.  Maps, unlike the globe, distort spatial relationships.	Concepts

### STANDARD WG.2a

The student will analyze how selected physical and ecological processes shape the Earth's surface by

a) explaining regional climatic patterns and weather phenomena and their effects on people and places;

# **STANDARD WG.2a (continued)**

The student will analyze how physical and ecological processes shape Earth's surface by a) explaining regional climatic patterns and weather phenomena and their effects on people and places;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
	Weather phenomena  • Monsoons: South and Southeast Asia  • Typhoons: Western Pacific Ocean  • Hurricanes: Atlantic Ocean and Eastern Pacific Ocean  • Tornadoes: United States  Climate has an effect on  • Crops  • Clothing  • Housing  • natural hazards

### STANDARD WG.2b

The student will analyze how physical and ecological processes shape Earth's surface by b) describing how humans influence the environment and are influenced by it; and

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Physical and ecological processes shape the Earth's surface.  Humans both influence and are influenced by their environment.	Physical and ecological processes      Earthquakes     Floods     Volcanic eruptions     Erosion     Deposition
	<ul> <li>Human impact on environment</li> <li>Water diversion/management</li> <li>Aral Sea</li> <li>Colorado River</li> <li>Dams: (e.g., Aswan High Dam, Three Gorges Dam, Itaipu Dam)</li> <li>Canals</li> <li>Reservoirs</li> <li>Irrigation</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Landscape changes</li> <li>Agricultural terracing (e.g., in China, Southeast Asia)</li> <li>Polders (e.g., in The Netherlands)</li> <li>Deforestation (e.g., in Nepal, Brazil, Malaysia)</li> <li>Desertification (e.g., in Africa, Asia)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Environmental changes</li> <li>Acid rain (e.g., forests in Germany, Scandinavia, China, Eastern North America)</li> <li>Pollution (e.g., in Mexico City, Chernobyl; oil spills)</li> <li>Potential climate change including changes in sea level, temperature, and weather patterns,</li> </ul>

# STANDARD WG.2c

The student will analyze how selected physical and ecological processes shape Earth's surface by c) explaining how technology affects one's ability to modify the environment and adapt to the environment

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Technology has expanded people's ability to modify and adapt to their physical environment.	Influence of technology

### STANDARD WG.3a

# The student will apply the concept of a region by

a) explaining how characteristics of regions have led to regional labels;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Regions are areas of Earth's surface that share unifying characteristics.	Regions are used to simplify study and understanding of the world.  Physical regions
Regions may be defined by	<ul> <li>Sahara</li> <li>Taiga</li> <li>Rain forest</li> </ul>
physical or cultural characteristics.	Great Plains
Regional labels may reflect changes in people's perceptions.	<ul> <li>Low Countries (Belgium, Netherlands, and Luxembourg)</li> </ul>
hash as he ashes	Examples of Cultural regions
	Language
	- Latin America
	- Francophone world
	Ethnic
	- Chinatowns
	- Kurdistan
	- Arab
	Religion
	- Islam
	- Buddhism
	- Roman Catholic
	Economic
	- Wheat Belts
	- European Union (EU)
	Political
	- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
	- African Union (AU)
	Regional labels reflecting changes in perceptions
	Middle East
	Sun Belt
	Rust Belt

### STANDARD WG.3b

# The student will apply the concept of a region by

b) describing how regional landscapes reflect the physical environment and the cultural characteristics of their inhabitants;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Regional landscapes are influenced by climate and underlying geology.  Regional landscapes are influenced by the cultural, economic, and political characteristics of their inhabitants.  Regional landscapes are impacted by human/environmental interactions.  Elements of the physical environment, such as major bodies of water and mountains, influence the economic and cultural characteristics of regions.	Physical characteristics  Climate affects types of natural vegetation. Landforms affect transportation, population distribution, and the locations of cities. Water features and mountains act as natural political boundaries (e.g., Rio Grande, Pyrenees)  Cultural characteristics Architectural structures Religious buildings (e.g., mosques, churches, synagogues, temples, pagodas) Dwellings/Housing (e.g., tiled roofs in Mediterranean, chalets in Switzerland, thatched roofs in Pacific Islands, tents and yurts in Central and Southwest Asia, castles in Europe)  Human interactions with environment Deforestation: Amazon Basin, Nepal, Malaysia Acid rain: Black Forest Decreased soil fertility: Aswan High Dam Desertification: Africa and Asia  Impact of physical elements Rample: Major bodies of water Rio Grande: Forms boundary Ob River: Flows northward into Arctic Ocean Zambezi River: Provides water power Ganges and Brahmaputra rivers: Are flood hazards Example: Mountains Rocky Mountains: Create rain shadows on leeward slopes
	<ul> <li>Himalayas: Block moisture, creating steppes and deserts in Central Asia</li> </ul>

### STANDARD WG.3c

# The student will apply the concept of a region by

c)analyzing how cultural characteristics, including the world's major languages, ethnicities, and religions, link or divide regions;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Cultural difference and similarities can link or divide regions.  People closely identify with the cultural characteristics of their region of origin	Language  Arab world: Arabic Hispanic America: Spanish Brazil: Portuguese Canada: French and English Switzerland: Multiple languages Ethnic heritage Former Yugoslavia: Serbs, Croats, Bosnians, Albanians United States, Switzerland: Multiple ethnicities united in one country Korea, Japan: Predominantly single ethnicity Cyprus: Greeks and Turks  Religion as a unifying force Hinduism Buddhism Judaism Christianity Islam  Religion as a divisive force Conflicts between Hindus and Muslims in Pakistan and India Conflicts between Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland Jews, Christians, and Muslims all claiming Jerusalem as their religious heritage site Conflicts between Sunni and Shi'a

### STANDARD WG.3d

# The student will apply the concept of a region by

d) explaining how different cultures use maps and place names to reflect their regional perspectives; and

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Maps and other visual images reflect changes in perspective over time.  People use maps to illustrate their perspective of the world.	<ul> <li>Knowledge</li> <li>Map of Columbus's time</li> <li>Map of the world today</li> <li>GIS (Geographic Information Systems</li> </ul> Perspectives of the world <ul> <li>Australians putting the South Pole at the top of the map</li> <li>Asian maps centered on the Pacific Ocean</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>European and American maps centered on the Atlantic Ocean</li> <li>Place names</li> <li>Taiwan, Republic of China</li> <li>Palestine, Israel, West Bank, Gaza</li> <li>Arabian Gulf vs. Persian Gulf</li> <li>Sea of Japan vs. East Sea</li> <li>Middle East vs. North Africa and Southwest Asia</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Boundaries</li> <li>Africa: In 1914; in present day after independence in late 20th century</li> <li>Europe: Before World War II; after World War II; since 1990</li> <li>Russia and the former Soviet Union</li> <li>Middle East: Before 1948; after 1967</li> </ul>

# The student will apply the concept of a region by

e) developing and refining mental maps of world regions.

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Mental maps are based on objective knowledge and subjective perceptions.  They help us carry out daily activities, give directions to others, and understand world events.  People develop and refine their mental maps through both personal experience and learning.  Mental maps serve as indicators of how well people know the spatial characteristics of certain places.	Mental maps: an individual's internalized representation of aspects of Earth's surface.  Ways mental maps can be developed and refined  Comparing sketch maps to maps in atlases or other resources  Describing the location of places in terms of reference points (e.g., the equator, prime meridian)  Describing the location of places in terms of geographic features and land forms (e.g., west of the Mississippi River, north of the Gulf of Mexico)  Describing the location of places in terms of the human characteristics of a place (e.g., languages; types of housing, dress, recreation, customs and traditions)

# STANDARD WG.4a

The student will apply social science skills to evaluate the significance of natural, human, and capital resources by a) comparing the distribution of major natural resources throughout world regions.

	Essential Knowledge
Economic activity can be classified as primary, secondary, tertiary, or quaternary.  Natural materials become resources if and when they become useful to humans.  Natural, human, and capital resources influence human activity in regions.  Resources are not distributed equally.	Natural resources  Renewable: Soil, water, forests Nonrenewable: Fossil fuels (oil, coal, natural gas) and metals (gold, iron, copper, bauxite)  Human resources Level of education Skilled and unskilled laborers Entrepreneurial and managerial abilities  Capital resources Availability of money for investment Level of infrastructure Availability and use of tools, machines, and technologies  Levels of economic activity Primary: Dealing directly with resources (e.g., fishing, farming, forestry, mining) Secondary: Manufacturing and processing (e.g., steel mills, automobile assembly, sawmills) Tertiary: Services (e.g., transportation, retail trade, information technology services) Quaternary: Service sector concerned with collection, processing, and manipulation of information and capital (e.g., finance, administration, insurance, legal services)  Effects of unequal distribution of resources Uneven economic development; dependence on outside assistance Energy producers and consumers Imperialism/Colonialism Conflict over control of resources  Natural resources influence economic activity fertile soil and availability of water lead to agriculture natural resources and availability of human resources lead to industry high levels of human resources and capital investment can overcome a lack of natural resources (e.g., Japan)  *Students should connect the availability of natural resources with the economic activities for each culture

# STANDARD WG.4b

The student will apply social science skills to evaluate the significance of natural, human, and capital resources by b) showing the influence of resources on patterns of economic activity and land use; and

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The location of resources influences economic activity and patterns of land use.	Patterns of land use  Economic activities that require extensive areas of land (e.g., commercial agriculture) vs. those that require a limited areas (e.g., subsistence farming)  Land uses that are compatible with each other (open spaces and residential) vs. land uses that are not compatible (e.g., landfills and residential)

# STANDARD WG.4c

The student will apply social science skills to evaluate the significance of natural, human, and capital resources by c) evaluating perspectives regarding the use of resources.

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The value of resources has changed over time.  Technology has a great impact on the availability and the value of resources.  The use of a resource depends on a nation's culture, values, access to technology, and governmental priorities as they change over time.	Changes in use of energy resources and technology over time  Wood (deforestation) Coal (pollution, mining problems, competition with oil and gas) Petroleum (transportation, environmental considerations) Nuclear (contamination, waste) Social and economic priorities that influence a culture's perspective on resources Economic development priorities Environmental conservation priorities Priorities of indigenous minorities  Examples of technologies that have created demand for particular resources Steam engine: demand for coal Internal combustion engine (cars and trucks): demand for gasoline (oil) Computer chips: demand for skilled labor  Costs Resource depletion Environmental degradation Health problems  Benefits Production of goods and services Employment opportunities Development of technologies

# STANDARD WG.5a

The student will analyze the characteristics of the regions of the United States and Canada,by

a) identifying and analyzing the location of major geographic regions and major cities on maps and globes;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The United States and Canada are located on the North American continent.  Canada is located north of the United States of America.  North America includes a variety of geographic regions.	Major regions of the United States  Northeastern United States  Midwest  South  West  Major regions of Canada  Atlantic Provinces of Canada  Core Provinces  Prairie Provinces  Pacific Provinces and territories  Major cities of the United States  Washington, D.C.  Chicago  New York City  Los Angeles
	<ul> <li>Houston</li> <li>Major cities of Canada</li> <li>Toronto</li> <li>Montreal</li> <li>Ottawa</li> <li>Quebec City</li> <li>Vancouver, (British Columbia)</li> </ul>

# STANDARD WG.5b

The student will analyze the characteristics of the regions of the United States and Canada by b) describing major physical and environmental features.

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The United States and Canada contain many of the major physical features in North America.  The physical features of North America have influenced the development of the United States and Canada.	The United States and Canada  Rivers  St. Lawrence  Mackenzie  Mississippi  Colorado  Rio Grande  Columbia  Other water features  Gulf of Mexico  Great Lakes  Arctic Ocean  Pacific Ocean  Atlantic Ocean  Hudson Bay  Niagara Falls  Land forms  Appalachian Mountains  Pacific Coastal Ranges  Rocky Mountains  Canadian Shield  Great Plains  Interior lowlands  Atlantic Coastal Plains  Basin and Range  Grand Canyon  Colorado Plateau  Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plains  Continental Divide  Varied climatic regions

# STANDARD WG.5c

The student will analyze the characteristics of the regions of the United States and Canada by c) explaining important economic characteristics; and

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The United States and Canada have a wide variety of natural resources.  The abundance of natural resources helped the United States and Canada develop diversified economies.	Economic characteristics  Major exporters of technology, information systems, and foodstuff Highly developed infrastructures Highly diversified economies Rich supply of mineral, energy, and forest resources North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) Multinational corporations A key center of world financial markets (New York Stock Exchange) Disparity of income distribution Export of culture via the global marketplace (e.g., McDonald's, Coca-Cola, entertainment, fashion) High literacy rate High standard of living  Major natural resource Forestry Petroleum Minerals Agriculture Fertile soil Water

The student will analyze the characteristics of the regions of the United States and Canada by d) recognizing cultural influences and landscapes.

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Europeans exerted the major cultural influences on the United States and Canada.  Canada was initially settled primarily by the French and British.  Western Europeans (Britain, France, Spain, and Germany) settled in the United States.  Every country has cultural landscapes that help define the national identity.	Cultural characteristics  Colonized by the Europeans Multicultural societies Increasingly diverse populations through immigration Canada's struggle to maintain a national identity World's longest unfortified border between the United States and Canada Democratic forms of government Arts that reflect the cultural heritage of multicultural societies North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)  Cultural influences Parliament Hill CN Tower U.S. Capitol Golden Gate Bridge Washington Monument Rural, suburban and urban landscapes Diverse ethnic settlements (urban neighborhoods) Bilingual signs Influence of the automobile (e.g., gas stations, motels, interstate highways, drive-up services) Independence Hall St. Louis Gateway Arch Wheat fields

# STANDARD WG.6a

The student will analyze the characteristics of the Latin American and the Caribbean regions by

a) identifying and analyzing the location of major geographic regions and major cities on maps and globes;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Mexico, the Caribbean region, and Central America are located on the North American continent but are culturally tied to South America.	Students should know the major countries in Central and South America as well as the Caribbean region.  Major regions  North America  Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama Belize El Salvador  Caribbean Cuba, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Jamaica Puerto Rico  South America Venezuela, Colombia, Brazil, Peru, Argentina, Chile Guyana Suriname French Guiana Ecuador Bolivia Paraguay Uruguay
	<ul> <li>Major cities</li> <li>Caracas, Venezuela</li> <li>Sao Paulo, Brazil</li> <li>Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</li> <li>Mexico City, Mexico</li> <li>Lima, Peru</li> <li>Santiago, Chile</li> <li>Buenos Aires, Argentina</li> </ul>

# STANDARD WG.6b

The student will analyze the characteristics of the Latin American and the Caribbean regions by b) describing major physical and environmental features;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The physical features of Latin American and the Caribbean have impacted its settlement and development.	Latin America and the Caribbean  Major mountain ranges: Andes, Sierra Madres Isthmus of Panama Rain forests Altiplano Coastal desert: Atacama Reversed seasons south of the equator Amazon River BasiN Orinoco and Paraguay/Paraná rivers Grasslands: pampas, Ilanos Tropical climates predominate. Volcanoes and earthquakes Archipelagoes Vertical zonation (tierra caliente, tierra templada, tierra fria) Wildlife migration pattern (e.g., Monarch Butterflies)

# STANDARD WG.6c

The student will analyze the characteristics of the Latin American and the Caribbean regions by

c) explaining important economic characteristics; and

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The Latin American and Caribbean regions have a wide variety of natural resources.  The abundance of natural resources helped the Latin American and Caribbean countries develop diversified economies.	Latin America and the Caribbean  • Diverse economies  • Subsistence farming  • Plantation agriculture  • Slash-and-burn agriculture  • Cash crops and food crops  • Cattle ranches, gauchos  • Deforestation, especially in rain forests  • Heavy smog, pollution: Mexico City  • Disparity of income distribution  • Panama Canal  • North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA): Mexico, Canada, United States.  • Haciendas  • Oil resources (Ecuador, Venezuela, Mexico)  • Diverse mineral resources (e.g., copper in Chile, Iron Ore in Venezuela and Brazil)  Major natural resources  • Forestry  • Minerals  • Fertile soil  • Water

The student will analyze the characteristics of the Latin American and the Caribbean regions by d) recognizing cultural influences and landscapes.

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The major cultural influence on Latin America and Caribbean were from indigenous (native) peoples' influence.  Europeans exerted major cultural influences on the Latin American and Caribbean regions.  Mexico and most of Central and South America were initially settled primarily by the Spanish. There was some settlement by Britain and France, Brazil was primarily settled by Portugal.  Africans who were brought to the area had a strong cultural impact on the region.  Every country has cultural landscapes that help define its national identity.	Latin America and the Caribbean  Indigenous civilizations African traditions Influence of European colonization Predominance of Roman Catholic religion Rigid social structure (e.g., mestizos) Location of settlements: coastal in South America Megacities, squatter settlements Rapid population growth Out-migration  Cultural heritage Music: African influences, calypso, steel drum bands, reggae Spanish, Portuguese languages  Cultural landscape Pyramids Cathedrals Machu Picchu Tikal Haciendas Ejidos (communal lands) Christ the Redeemer statue Itaipu Dam

# STANDARD WG.7a

The student will analyze the characteristics of the European region by

a) identifying and analyzing the location of major geographic regions and major cities on maps and globes

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Europe, considered the third-smallest continent, is the western peninsula of Eurasia and located in the northern hemisphere.	Major regions  Northern Europe - Ireland, United Kingdom, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Baltic states  Low Countries - Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg  Central Europe - France, Germany, Switzerland, Austria  Mediterranean Europe - Portugal, Spain, Italy, Greece, Balkan states  Eastern Europe - Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Romania, Ukraine,  Major Cities  London Paris Berlin Rome Athens Kiev Vienna Budapest Madrid Warsaw

# STANDARD WG.7b

The student will analyze the characteristics of the European region by c) describing major physical and environmental features;

Essential Knowledge
Part of large landmass called Eurasia  Peninsulas: Iberian, Italian, Scandinavian, Balkan, Jutland Islands: Great Britain, Ireland, Sicily, Iceland Mountains: Alps, Pyrenees North European plain Fjords  Water features: Rivers: Danube, Rhine, Seine, Rhine, Volga Seas: Mediterranean, Baltic, Black, North, Aegean, Adriatic Oceans: Atlantic, Arctic Strait of Gibraltar  Varied climate regions: middle to high latitudes Effects of the North Atlantic Drift and prevailing westerlies on Europe's climates Reclaimed land: Polders in The Netherlands

## STANDARD WG.7c

The student will analyze the characteristics of the European region by d) explaining important economic characteristics; and

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Europe's abundance of natural resources has helped to develop and shape lifestyles and the economy.	Mountain regions: Tourism, recreation, mineral resources  Areas threatened by air and water pollution because of industry  • Rivers and canals serving as major transportation links  • Oil reserves in the North Sea  • Forests (Black Forest)  • Cities (Venice)  • Rivers (Rhine, Danube, Seine)  -Well-educated work force: Industrial and technological societies -Advanced farming techniques, high crop yields, fertile soils, black earth (chemozem) -Well-developed infrastructure (e.g., The Chunnel)  -Differences in Western and Eastern European industrial development due to differing economic systems in prior years Replacement of communism with capitalism in Eastern Europe -European Union; Trade interdependence -Large role of government in some economies (Sweden and Denmark) -Rivers and canals serving as major transportation links -Development of industrial and transportation centers near mineral deposits (e.g., coal and iron ore)  • Ruhr Valley  • Po Valley

The student will analyze the characteristics of the European region by e) recognizing cultural influences and landscapes.

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Europe's cultural landscape has been and is currently changed by its settlers, and global, religious, and ethnic conflicts. As a result, diversity has increased.	Europe  Birthplace of western culture: Greece and Rome  Spread of European culture to many other parts of the world (exploration, colonization, imperialism)  Birthplace of Industrial Revolution  Highly urbanized  Many ethnic groups with different languages, religions, customs  Sporadic conflict among groups (wars, revolutions)  One of the world's most densely populated areas  North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)  Cultural landscape  Westminster Abbey, Big Ben, Tower of London  Notre Dame, Arc de Triomphe, Louvre, Eiffel Tower  Colosseum, Leaning Tower of Pisa, St. Peter's Basilica  Parthenon  Windmills  Neuschwanstein castle

## **STANDARD WG.8a**

The student will analyze the characteristics of the Russian and Central Asian regions by

a) identifying and analyzing the location of major geographic regions and major cities on maps and globes;

•Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Asia is the largest continent, covering one third of the Earth's land area.  Russia and Central Asia occupy flat plains that stretch across the western and central areas, while the southern and eastern areas are mountainous.	Russia and Central Asia Countries  Russia Kazakhstan Uzbekistan Turkmenistan  Major cities  Moscow St. Petersburg Novosibirsk Vladisvostok

The student will analyze the characteristics of the Russian and Central Asian regions by

b) describing major physical and environmental features;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Asia makes up the eastern	Russia and Central Asia
portion of Eurasia.	<ul> <li>Vast land area: Spans two continents, Europe and Asia (it covers 11 time zones)</li> </ul>
	Vast areas of tundra, permafrost, taiga, and steppe
Varied physical and environmental	Varied climatic regions  Para of and found in high letitudes.
features greatly influence the	Permafrost found in high latitudes  Plack couth helt (right pharmagement)
abundance and use of its natural resources.	<ul> <li>Black earth belt (rich <i>chernozem</i> soil)</li> <li>Mountains (e.g., Ural Mountains, which divide Europe from Asia, Caucasus)</li> </ul>
resources.	<ul> <li>Mountains (e.g., Ural Mountains, which divide Europe from Asia, Caucasus)</li> <li>Siberia (the sleeping land), located east of the Urals</li> </ul>
	Water features:
	- Volga River
	- Ob River
	- Amur River
	- Lake Baikal
	- Caspian Sea
	- Aral Sea
	- Pacific Ocean
	- Arctic Ocean
	- Bering Strait
	Some rivers flow northward to the Arctic Ocean
	<ul> <li>Major oil, natural gas, and mineral resources</li> </ul>

## STANDARD WG.8c

# The student will analyze the characteristics of the Russian and Central Asian regions by

c) explaining important economic characteristics; and

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Within the past 100 years, Russia and Central Asia have experienced long periods of economic and political change.	Russia and Central Asia  Transition from communism to a limited market economy Farming and industry concentrated in the Fertile Triangle region, rich chemozem soils (wheat farming) Infrastructure: Trans-Siberian Railroad, systems of rivers, canals, and railroads Energy resources: Hydroelectric power, oil, natural gas Exporters of oil, natural gas, and mineral resources Russian natural resources not fully developed due to climate, limited transportation links, and vastness of the country Foreign competition for investment in the region (oil pipelines) Widespread pollution due to growth in industry Shrinking of the Aral Sea, cotton production in Central Asia Political and economic difficulties after the breakup of the Soviet Union

## STANDARD WG.8d

The student will analyze the characteristics of the Russian and Central Asian regions by

d) recognizing cultural influences and landscapes.

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The massive area, extremes in climate, and historic events has created a diverse cultural landscape combining the customs and traditions of various ethnic groups.	Russia and Central Asia  Diverse ethnic groups, customs, and traditions (many people of Turkic and Mongol heritage)  Cultural heritage  Ballet Fabergé eggs Music Icons Matryoshka dolls Oriental Carpets Samovars  Cultural landscape Russian Orthodox churches (e.g., St. Basil's Cathedral, Moscow) Red Square Kremlin Mosques, minarets Siberian villages Soviet-style apartment blocks

## STANDARD WG.9a

The student will analyze the characteristics of the Sub-Saharan African region by

a) identifying and analyzing the location of major geographic regions and major cities on maps and globes;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Africa is the second-largest continent situated over the both sides of the equator and provides for the variation in its vegetation, climate, and population structures.  Sub-Saharan Africa's economic and political development has been influenced by colonialism, local African cultures, and changes in the gold-trading empires.	Sub-Saharan Africa  Major regions  • West Africa: Senegal, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire  • Horn of Africa: Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya  • Central Africa: Tanzania, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon  • Southern Africa: Botswana, South Africa, Mozambique, Madagascar, Namibia  Major regions  • West Africa  • Horn of Africa  • Central Africa  • Southern Africa  Major cities  • Lagos  • Dakar  • Johannesburg  • Nairobi

The student will analyze the characteristics of the Sub-Saharan African region by

b) describing major physical and environmental features;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Although the continent of Africa is covered by an enormous plateau, the Sub- Saharan region of Africa contains very distinctive landforms, water features, and landlocked countries.	Sub-Saharan Africa  Continent composed of a huge plateau, escarpments River transportation impeded by waterfalls, rapids, and cataracts Location of equator through middle of region; similar climatic patterns north and south of the equator Storehouse of mineral wealth Smooth coastline; few harbors Large number of landlocked countries Limited fertility of rain forest soils Limited fertility of rain forest soils Limited water resources Kalahari, Namib and Sahara Deserts Sahel Desertification Bodies of water Nile River Nile River Congo River Atlantic Ocean Indian Ocean Red Sea Lake Victoria Lake Tanganyika Nature preserves and national parks Great Rift valley Mt. Kilimanjaro Victoria Falls

## STANDARD WG.9c

The student will analyze the characteristics of the Sub-Saharan African region by

c) explaining important economic characteristics; and

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The limited economic development of Sub-Saharan economy can be traced to many historical factors. Colonialism, for example, structured many of its national economies to become mineral or commodity exporters.  These economies are dependent on imports for equipment, capital goods, consumer goods, and technology.	Sub-Saharan Africa  Large percentage of population engaged in agriculture (primary activity)  Subsistence agriculture  Nomadic herding  Slash-and-burn agriculture  Plantation agriculture  Cash crops and food crops  Poorly developed infrastructure  Substantial mineral wealth (diamonds, gold and other metals)  Major exporters of raw materials  Wide range of per capita incomes  Productivity that lags behind population growth

The student will analyze the characteristics of the Sub-Saharan African region by d) recognizing cultural influences and landscapes.

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
A variety of cultural traditions exist as a result of diversity of ethnicities and populations throughout the region. This range of ethnicity can be found between states and also within states.	Sub-Saharan Africa  • Uneven population distribution • Many ethnic groups, languages, customs • Large numbers of refugees as a result of political, ethnic, and environmental crisis • Knowledge of history through oral tradition (i.e. griots) • Country names related to historical empires (Mali, Ghana, Zimbabwe)  Cultural heritage • Masks • Sculpture • Dance • Music, drumming
	<ul> <li>Colorful traditional dress</li> <li>Jewelry</li> <li>Griots</li> </ul>
	Cultural Influences - European influences from colonization and decolonization have greatly influenced the region.
	<ul> <li>Cultural landscape</li> <li>Markets</li> <li>Churches</li> <li>Mosques, minarets</li> <li>Villages</li> <li>Modern city cores and schools</li> </ul>

## STANDARD WG.10a

The student will analyze the characteristics of the North African and Southwest Asian regions by

a) identifying and analyzing the location of major geographic regions and major cities on maps and globes;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Known also as the Middle East, the North African and Southwest Asian regions are comprised of various countries on two continents.	North Africa - Morocco, Libya, Egypt, Sudan Southwest Asia - Turkey, Syria, Israel, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, United Arab Emirates (UAE) Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan  Major cities - Baghdad, Iraq - Cairo, Egypt - Istanbul, Turkey - Jerusalem, Israel - Mecca, Saudi Arabia - Tehran, Iran - Dubai, UAE - Rabat, Morocco

The student will analyze the characteristics of the North African and Southwest Asian regions by b) describing major physical and environmental features;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Physical and environmental features such as peninsulas, mountains, rivers, seas, and deserts have created borders, influenced interactions, and isolation.	Major features  Crossroads of Europe, Africa, and Asia Desert and semiarid climates: Sahara, sahel, steppes  Mountains - Atlas - Taurus - Zagros  Water features - Mediterranean Sea - Red Sea - Black Sea - Persian/Arabian Gulf - Strait of Hormuz - Bosporus Strait - Dardanelles Strait - Nile River - Tigris River - Euphrates River - Arabian Sea - Jordan River  Seasonal flooding, alluvial soils, delta regions, oases, wadis Peninsula - Sinai - Arabian

The student will analyze the characteristics of the North African and Southwest Asian regions by c) explaining important economic characteristics; and

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Most of the economies in North Africa and Southwest Asia are dominated by the petroleum industry.	North Africa and Southwest Asia (Middle East)  Heavy reliance on primary economic activity (oil drilling, agriculture, pastoralism)  Major producer of world's oil  Oil revenues: Positive and negative effects  Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)  Water: The region's most precious resource  Great variation in standard of living, ranging from very high to poverty-stricken  Regional conflicts, political unrest that affects tourism  Aswan High Dam: Positive and negative effects  Suez Canal: Enhanced shipping routes in the region  Guest workers  Wide range of per capita incomes and levels of development  Contemporary trade routes (sea lanes)  Trade important to region from earliest time

The student will analyze the characteristics of the North African and Southwest Asian regions by d) recognizing cultural influences and landscapes.

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The cultural landscape of the North African and Southwest Asian regions are influenced by religious traditions and modern ongoing conflicts.	North Africa and Southwest Asia (Middle East)  Rapid urbanization  Modernization centered in urban areas while traditional life continues in rural areas  Population unevenly distributed  Arab countries and Arabic language  Non-Arab countries: Turkey, Iran, Israel  Birthplace of three major monotheistic religions—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam  Conflict over Israel/Palestine  Nomadic lifestyles  Art that reflects the diversity of religions (stained glass, geometric tiles, calligraphy please avoid all activities related to calligraphy;) mosaics, prayer rugs)  Large percentage of population under 15  Cultural landscape  Mosques, minarets  Church of the Holy Sepulcher  Hagia Sophia  Bazaars, suqs  Western Wall  Dome of the Rock  Kaaba  Pyramids  Walled cities  Oil Rigs

## STANDARD WG.11a

The student will analyze the characteristics of the South and Southeast Asian regions by

a) identifying and analyzing the location of major geographic regions and major cities on maps and globes;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
South Asia consists of countries that reach from eastern India to China. Southeast Asia island nations in the Pacific, South Asia and Southeast Asia are extensions of the Asian continent.	South Asia  Pakistan  Nepal  Bangladesh  India  Sri Lanka  Bhutan  Southeast Asia  Philippines  Indonesia  Thailand  Cambodia  Burma (Myanmar)  Vietnam  Singapore  Malaysia  Laos  Brunei  Major cities  New Delhi  Mumbai  Bangkok  Islamabad  Manila

The student will analyze the characteristics of the South and Southeast Asian regions by

b) describing major physical and environmental features.

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
There are varying physical features that distinguish the mainland from the islands of the Southeast and South Asia regions.  The region lies between the tropics, with temperatures that are generally warm.	South and Southeast Asia  Influence of mountains on population, settlements, movement, climate  Mountains  - Himalayas  - Western and Eastern Ghats  - Hindu Kush  Varied climatic regions, ranging low latitudes to middle latitudes  Natural hazards: flooding, typhoons, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, and tsunamis  Influence of wind and water (fivers, seas, ocean currents, and monsoons) on agriculture, trade, and transportation  Bodies of water  - Arabian Sea  - Indian Ocean  - Bay of Bengal  - Ganges River  - Indus River  - Brahmaputra River  - Mekong River  - Straits of Malacca  Abundant arable land

## STANDARD WG.11c

The student will analyze the characteristics of the South and Southeast Asian regions by

c) explaining important economic characteristics; and

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The economies of South and Southeast Asia have seen rapid integration into the global economy with many benefits and challenges.	South and Southeast Asia  Varied economies in the region, ranging from subsistence/commercial agriculture to high-tech industrial manufacturing and service industries  Increased participation in global markets  Environmental degradation  Deforestation  Fishing  ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations)  Rice, tropical crops, cotton, tea  Green revolution

The student will analyze the characteristics of the South and Southeast Asian regions by d) recognizing cultural influences and landscapes.

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
A distinctive feature of a region is its cultural diversity.  In the past, differences in the physical environment have enabled various areas to develop in isolation and adapt to the environment. Over the years, external influences have given way to a blend of different customs and traditions	South and Southeast Asia  Areas of extremely dense and sparse population Contrast between rural and urban areas Religious diversity: Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, Christianity Religious conflicts (Hindu vs. Muslim)  Cultural heritage Silks Batik Jewels  Cultural landscape Taj Mahal Angkor Wat Mosques, minarets Pagodas Temples and shrines Terraced rice fields Stupa

## STANDARD WG.12a

The student will analyze the characteristics of the East Asian region by
a) identifying and analyzing the location of major geographic regions and major cities on maps and globes;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The physical landscape of East Asia includes peninsulas and archipelagos.	East Asia  - Mongolia  - China (People's Republic of China)  - Japan  - Taiwan (Republic of China)  - North Korea  - South Korea   Major cities  • Tokyo  • Beijing  • Shanghai  • Hong Kong  • Seoul

## STANDARD WG.12b

The student will analyze the characteristics of the East Asian region by b) describing major physical and environmental features;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The vast land expanses of East Asia include plateaus, plains, basins, foothills, mountains, and varied waterways.	East Asia  Influence of mountains on population, settlements, movement, climate  Mountains: Himalayas and Mount Fuji  Flooding and wind  Varied climatic regions ranging from low to middle latitude climates  Natural hazards: Typhoons, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, and tsunamis  Bodies of water  Pacific Ocean  Sea of Japan /East Sea  Yangtze River (Chang Jiang)  Yellow River (Huang He)  South China Sea  China has abundant arable land  Loess  Plateau of Tibet  Gobi Desert

## STANDARD WG.12c

The student will analyze the characteristics of the East Asian region by c) explaining important economic characteristics; and

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Many East Asian countries are crucial link is in the production network under competitive pressure from and cooperative relations with neighboring countries by upgrading their industrial capabilities from low-tech to high-tech.	East Asia  Varied economies in the region, ranging from subsistence/commercial agriculture, to high-tech industrial manufacturing, and service jobs  Strong participation in global markets Automotive  Electronics Shipping magnets China in transition from a centrally planned economy Environmental degradation Deforestation Fishing Rice

The student will analyze the characteristics of the East Asian region by

d) recognizing cultural influences and landscapes.

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The East Asian region traces its cultural landscape back to ancient civilizations that arose in China and influenced the region	<ul> <li>East Asia</li> <li>Areas of both extremely dense and sparse population</li> <li>Contrast between rural and urban areas</li> <li>Religious diversity: Buddhism, Christianity, Taoism, Shintoism, Confucianism</li> <li>Respect for ancestors</li> </ul> Cultural heritage <ul> <li>Silks</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Silks</li> <li>Wood and ivory carvings</li> <li>Ideograms, unique alphabets</li> </ul>
	Cultural landscape      Great Wall of China     Pagodas     Temples and shrines     Terraced rice fields

## STANDARD WG.13a

The student will analyze the characteristics of the Australian and Pacific Islands regions by

a) identifying and analyzing the location of major geographic regions and major cities on maps and globes;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The Australian and Pacific Islands regions have vast and diverse landforms, resources, people, cultures, and economies.	Australia and Pacific Islands  • Australia • New Zealand  Cities as centers of culture and trade  • Canberra, A.C.T. (Australian Capital Territory)  • Sydney  • Auckland

## STANDARD WG.13b

The student will analyze the characteristics of the Australian and Pacific Islands regions by

b) describing major physical and environmental features;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The Australian and Pacific Islands regions contain peninsulas, volcanoes, coral reefs, and an abundance of islands.	Australia and Pacific Islands  Wide range of vegetation, from tropical rain forests to desert shrub  Australia, mostly desert  The Great Dividing Range  The Great Barrier Reef  Australia's isolation, resulting in unique animal life  Pacific Islands: Volcanic, coral, or continental

## STANDARD WG.13c

The student will analyze the characteristics of the Australian and Pacific Islands regions by c) explaining important economic characteristics; and

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The physical environment of the region influences the distribution of economic activities.	Australia and Pacific Islands  • Air and water travel bring goods and services to remote areas  • Arid areas of Australia well suited to cattle and sheep ranching  • Consequences of introducing nonnative plants and animals  • Ranching, mining (primary activities)  • Communication and financial services (tertiary and quaternary activities)  • Tourism and traditional economies in the Pacific Islands

The student will analyze the characteristics of the Australian and Pacific Islands regions by d) recognizing cultural influences and landscapes.

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Although many locations are isolated, and populations are small, the vast ocean environment of the region influences contemporary culture.	Australia and Pacific Islands  Pacific Islands are sparsely populated. Most of Australia's population lives near the coasts. Traditional culture continues to shape life in the Pacific Islands. Lifestyles range from subsistence farming to modern city living. Cultures reflect the interaction of European and indigenous cultures (e.g., Maori and aborigines).  Cultural landscape Sydney Opera House Cattle and sheep stations (Australia) Thatched-roof dwellings (Pacific Islands)

### STANDARD WG.14a

The student will apply social science skills to compare and contrast the distribution, growth rates, and characteristics of human population by a) examining demographic data to determine the relative level of development;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Levels of economic development vary from country to country and from place to place within countries.	Indicators of economic development  Urban-rural ratio Labor force characteristics (primary, secondary, tertiary, and quaternary sectors) Gross Domestic Product per capita Educational achievement

### STANDARD WG.14b

The student will apply social science skills to compare and contrast the distribution, growth rates, and characteristics of human population by b) distinguishing between developed and developing countries; and

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Many criteria are used to assess the standard of living and quality of life.	<ul> <li>Demographics typical of developed economies</li> <li>High per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP)</li> <li>High life expectancy</li> <li>Low population growth rate</li> <li>Low infant mortality rate</li> <li>High literacy rate</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Demographics typical of developing economies</li> <li>Low per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP)</li> <li>Low life expectancy</li> <li>High population growth rate</li> <li>High infant mortality rate</li> <li>Low literacy rate</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Differences between developed and developing nations</li> <li>Access to natural resources</li> <li>Access to capital resources (investment in technology and infrastructure)</li> <li>Number and skills of human resources</li> <li>Levels of economic development</li> <li>Standard of living and quality of life</li> <li>Relationships between economic development and quality of life</li> </ul>

### STANDARD WG.14c

The student will apply social science skills to compare and contrast the distribution, growth rates, and characteristics of human population by c) comparing and contrasting the level of economic development to the standard of living and quality of life.

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Availability of resources and technology influences economic development and quality of life.	Characteristics of human populations  Birth and death rates (war, disease, migration)  Age distribution  Male/female distribution  Life expectancy  Infant mortality rate  Urban/rural distribution  Gross Domestic Product (GDP)  Education  Factors that influence population growth rates  Modern medicine and hygiene  Education  Industrialization and urbanization  Economic development  Government policy  Role of women in society

### STANDARD WG.15a

The student will apply social science skills to analyze past and present trends in human migration and cultural diffusion by a) determining how they are influenced by social, economic, political, and environmental factors.; and

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Migrations occur because of social, economic, political, and environmental factors.  Migrations have influenced cultural landscapes.  Modern transportation and communication encourage higher levels of cultural interaction worldwide.	Push factors  Overpopulation Religious persecution Lack of job opportunities Agricultural decline Conflict Political persecution Natural hazards (e.g., droughts, floods, famines, volcanic eruptions) Limits on personal freedom Environmental degradation  Pull factors Religion religious freedom and/or religious unity Conomic opportunity Land availability Political freedom and stability Ethnic and family ties Arable land Impact of migrations on regions Language Religion and religious freedom Customs and traditions Cultural landscape

### STANDARD WG.15b

The student will apply social science skills to analyze past and present trends in human migration and cultural diffusion by b) determining how they influence the current human characteristics of places and regions.

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Various technological and digital platforms increase the capacity for culture diffusion and global interactions to occur.	Evidence of cultural interaction  • Diffusion of United States culture to other regions • Popularization of other cultural traditions in the United States • Refugee crises around the world due to conflict or oppression

The student will apply social science skills to analyze the patterns of urban development by a) applying the concepts of site and situation to major cities in each region;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Site and situation are important	Terms to know
geographic concepts when studying the	site: the actual location of a city
growth of cities.	<ul> <li>situation: relative location, e.g., the location of a city with respect to other geographic</li> </ul>
	features, regions, resources, and transport routes
Patterns of urban development occur	
according to site and situation.	Examples of site (local characteristics)
	Harbor sites: New York City; Istanbul, Turkey
	Island sites: Hong Kong, Singapore
	Fall line sites: Richmond, Virginia     Confluence sites: Kharteum, Sudan: Bittahurah, Bannaulyania
	<ul> <li>Confluence sites: Khartoum, Sudan; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania</li> <li>Hilltop sites: Rome, Athens, Jerusalem</li> </ul>
	Oasis sites: Damascus, Syria; Siwa, Egypt
	<ul> <li>Sites where rivers narrow: London, Québec City</li> </ul>
	Silos Wildia Hallaw. Ediladii, Quadaa aliy
	Examples of situation (regional/global connections)
	Baghdad: Command of land between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers
	<ul> <li>Istanbul: Command of straits and land bridge to Europe</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Mecca, Saudi Arabia; Varanasi (Benares), India: Focal point of pilgrimage</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Cape Town, South Africa; Hawaii, United States; Supply station for ships</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Novosibirsk, Vladivostok: Cities that grew up along the Trans-Siberian Railroad</li> </ul>

## STANDARD WG.16b

The student will apply social science skills to analyze the patterns of urban development by b) explaining how the functions of towns and cities have changed over time; and

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
The functions of towns and cities change over time.	Functions of towns and cities  Security, defense Religious centers Trade centers (local and long distance) Government administration Manufacturing centers Service centers Examples of cities whose functions have changed over time Rio de Janeiro: Move of Brazil's capital from Rio de Janeiro to Brasilia Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: Early function connected to defense, then became steel manufacturing center, later shifted to diverse services (financial, light manufacturing) New York City: Changes in trade patterns - coastal and transatlantic trade, trade from Great Lakes via Erie Canal, worldwide trade and finances Mining towns, "ghost" towns: Resource depletion, changes in the environment

The student will apply social science skills to analyze the patterns of urban development by c) describing the unique influence of urban areas and some challenges they face.

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Urban populations exercise a powerful influence in shaping the world's cultural, political, and economic ideas and systems.  Urban development may lead to problems related to human mobility, social structure, and the environment.	Influences of urban areas on their regions and countries  Nation-building (monuments, symbols) Transportation/communication hubs Magnets for migration Seed beds of new ideas and technologies Diversity, leading to creativity in the arts Universities, educational opportunities Corporate headquarters/regional offices Media centers (news, entertainment)  Problems associated with growth of urban areas Transportation problems emerge, especially as automobile travel increases. Rich and poor neighborhoods exist in different areas isolated from one another. Providing essential services (fresh water, sewage disposal, electricity, schools, clinics) becomes a problem (e.g., cities in Latin America, Africa, and Asia). Air, water, and noise pollution increase. Sprawl results in conversion of agricultural land to urban uses, especially in North America.  In developing countries, major cities are connected more to regions outside the country than to regions within the country.

The student will apply social science skills to analyze the impact of globalization by

a) identifying factors, including comparative advantage, that influence the distribution of economic activities and trade;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
	Terms to know
Resources are not equally distributed.	Comparative advantage: The ability of countries to produce goods and services at lower relative costs than other countries, resulting in exports of goods and services.
Economic activities are influenced	
by availability of resources, cultural	Factors that influence economic activity
values, economic philosophies, and	Access to human, natural, and capital resources, such as
levels of supply and demand for	- skills of the work force
goods and services.	- natural resources
	- new technologies
No country has all the resources it	- transportation and communication networks
needs to survive and grow.	- investment capital
	<ul> <li>Location and ability to exchange goods</li> </ul>
Nations participate in those	- Landlocked countries
economic activities compatible	- Coastal and island countries
with their human, natural, and	- Proximity to shipping lanes
capital resources.	- Access to communication networks
International trade fosters	<ul> <li>Membership in political and economic alliances that provide access to markets (e.g.,</li> </ul>
interdependence.	European Union [EU], North American Free Trade Agreement [NAFTA])
	Effects of unequal distribution of resources
	<ul> <li>Specialization in goods and services that a country can market for profit</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Exchange of goods and services (exporting what a country can market for profit; importing what a</li> </ul>
	country cannot produce profitably)
	Some countries' use of resources
	Japan: Highly industrialized nation despite limited natural resources
	Russia: Numerous resources, many of which are not economically profitable to develop
	United States: Diversified economy, abundant natural resources, specialized industries
	Côte d'Ivoire: Limited natural resources, cash crops exchanged for manufactured goods
	Switzerland: Limited natural resources, production of services on a global scale
	,,

## **STANDARD WG.17a (continued)**

The student will apply social science skills to analyze the impact of globalization by

a) identifying factors, including comparative advantage, that influence the distribution of economic activities and trade;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
	Reasons why countries engage in trade  To import goods and services that they need To export goods and services that they can market for profit  Effects of comparative advantage on international trade
	<ul> <li>Enables nations to efficiently produce goods and services that they can trade, increasing total output</li> <li>Supports specialization and efficient use of human resources</li> </ul>

## STANDARD WG.17b

The student will apply social science skills to analyze the impact of globalization by

b) describing ways that economic and social interactions changed over time; and

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge		
Economic, social, and, therefore, spatial relationships change over time.  Improvements in transportation and communication have promoted globalization.	Changes over time  Industrial labor systems (e.g., cottage industry, factory, office, telecommunications)  Migration from rural to urban areas  Industrialized countries export labor-intensive work to developing nations  Growth of trade alliances  Growth of service (tertiary) industries  Growth of financial services networks and international banks (quaternary)  Internationalization of product assembly (e.g., vehicles, electronic equipment)  Technology that allows instant communication among people in different countries  Modern transportation networks that allow rapid and efficient exchange of goods and materials (e.g., Federal Express, United Parcel Service, U. S. Postal Service)  Widespread marketing of products (e.g., Fuji Film, Nike, etc.)  Globalization of markets using technology (e.g., e-commerce, containerized shipping)		

## STANDARD WG.17c

The student will apply social science skills to analyze the impact of globalization by

c) mapping, describing, and evaluating economic unions.

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge		
As a global society, the world is increasingly interdependent.  Economic interdependence fosters the formation of economic unions.	Examples of economic unions  Examples of economic unions  EU: European Union  NAFTA: North American Free Trade Agreement  ASEAN: Association of Southeast Asian Nations  OPEC: Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries  Advantages of economic unions  More efficient industries  Access to larger markets  Access to natural, human, and capital resources without restrictions  Greater influence on world market  Disadvantages of economic unions  Closing of some industries  Concentration of some industries in certain countries, leaving peripheral areas behind  Difficulty in agreeing on common economic policies		

### STANDARD WG.18a

The student will apply social science skills to analyze how forces of conflict and cooperation affect the division and control of Earth's surface by

a) explaining and evaluating reasons for the creation of different political divisions; and

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge		
Political divisions or jurisdictions are regions of the Earth's surface over which groups of people establish social, economic, and political control.  Political divisions may generate conflict.  Political divisions may generate cooperation.	Examples of political divisions  Neighborhoods Election districts School districts Regional districts (e.g., waste disposal, conservation districts, planning districts, zip code zones) Cities Counties States  Reasons for political divisions Need to solve local problems Need to solve local problems Need to administer resources more efficiently  Reasons for conflict Boundary disputes Cultural differences Competition for scarce resources  Reasons for cooperation Natural disasters Cultural similarities, ethnic neighborhoods Addressing regional issues (e.g., waste management, magnet schools, transportation)		

### STANDARD WG.18b

The student will apply social science skills to analyze how forces of conflict and cooperation affect the division and control of Earth's surface by

b) describing ways cooperation among political jurisdictions is used to solve problems and settle disputes.

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge	
Political divisions or jurisdictions are regions of the Earth's surface over which groups of people establish social, economic, and political control.  Political divisions may generate conflict.  Cooperation may eliminate the need for the division and control of the Earth's surface.	Examples of political divisions  North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) European Union ( United Nations (UN) Organization of American States (OAS) League of Arab States African Union (AU)  Reasons for political divisions Differences in culture, language, religion Retention of historical boundaries Imperial conquest and control Economic similarities and differences  Reasons for conflict Boundary and territorial disputes (Syria-Israel, Western Sahara-Morocco, China-Taiwan, India-Pakistan) Cultural differences: Canada (Québec) Economic differences (fertile land, access to fresh water, access to coast, fishing rights, natural resources, different economic philosophies) Ethnic differences (Kurds)  Examples of cooperation Humanitarian initiatives (e.g., Red Cross and Red Crescent) Cultural alliances (e.g., Francophone world, Commonwealth of Nations) Problem-solving alliances (e.g., Antarctica Treaty, United Nations [UN] peacekeepers) Programs to promote international understanding (e.g., Peace Corps)	