

Colorado Measures of Academic Success Grade 7 Social Studies Performance Level Descriptors (PLDs)

Students demonstrate mastery of social studies concepts and 21st century skills aligned to the Colorado Academic Standards at various performance levels. The performance level descriptors are organized in a manner that assumes students demonstrating higher levels of command have mastered the concepts and skills within the lower levels. For example, a student at moderate command also masters the concepts and skills of limited command.

Students who Exceeded Expectations demonstrated distinguished command of the Colorado Academic Standards and can typically

- analyze historical sources while formulating historical questions and defending a thesis;
- use geographic tools to investigate and analyze data to make inferences and predictions regarding regional issues and perspectives in the Eastern Hemisphere;
- demonstrate how supply and demand influence changes in equilibrium price and quantity;
- evaluate how various governments interact and investigate examples of global collaboration; and
- apply various definitions of good government to evaluate the actions of different governments.

Students who Met Expectations demonstrated strong command of the Colorado Academic Standards and can typically

- explain the historical time periods, individuals, groups, ideas, perspectives, themes, and how people are interconnected within regions of the Eastern Hemisphere;
- summarize the development of early civilizations, including Greece, Rome, China, Africa, and the medieval world;
- describe how the physical environment influences economy, culture, and trade patterns;
- explain how resources, production, choices, supply, demand, price, profit, and taxes are related;
- analyze how national and international government policies influence the global community; and
- compare the rights, roles, and responsibilities of citizens in various governments.

Students who Approached Expectations demonstrated moderate command of the Colorado Academic Standards and can typically

- describe the contributions of various peoples and cultures in the Eastern Hemisphere;
- compare different physical systems and cultural patterns to describe how different regions and places are interconnected;
- examine multiple points of view and issues in various regions in the Eastern Hemisphere;
- recognize how supply and demand influence price, profit, and production in a market economy;
- compare how taxes affect individual income and spending;
- compare different forms of government in the world and their sources of authority; and
- explain the rights and roles of citizens in various governments.

Students who Partially Met Expectations demonstrated limited command of the Colorado Academic Standards and can typically

- recognize the contributions of various peoples and cultures to the Eastern Hemisphere;
- use geographic tools to answer questions and identify patterns in the Eastern Hemisphere;
- identify factors that cause changes in supply, demand, and price;
- define resources and identify trade patterns based on the distribution of resources; and
- list the responsibilities and roles of citizens in various governments.