

# World Geography

## Practice Standards

### **1 The student will apply critical thinking skills to address authentic civic issues.** WG.P.1

- 1** Demonstrate an understanding of the virtue of civil discourse to analyze and address real- world problems. WG.P.1.1
  - A** Evaluate the impact of perspectives, civil discourse, and democratic principles on addressing civic issues. WG.P.1.1.A
  - B** Engage in a range of deliberative and democratic processes to develop strategies to address authentic, real-world problems in community and out-of-school contexts. WG.P.1.1.B
  - C** Gather and evaluate information regarding complex problems, assessing individual and collective actions taken to address them. WG.P.1.1.C
- 2** Develop practices which demonstrate an understanding that social studies involves the evaluation of evidence. WG.P.1.2
  - A** Develop, investigate, and evaluate plausible answers to essential questions that reflect enduring understandings across time, real world circumstances, and social studies disciplines. WG.P.1.2.A
  - B** Evaluate points of agreement and disagreement from reliable information and expert interpretations used to answer supporting questions related to content knowledge. WG.P.1.2.B
  - C** Reinforce critical thinking by evaluating and challenging ideas and assumptions, analyzing and explaining inconsistencies in reasoning. WG.P.1.2.C
  - D** Demonstrate understanding of content through the development of self-driven inquiries and the completion of multi-staged, authentic tasks and assessments. WG.P.1.2.D

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**2 The student will use interdisciplinary tools to acquire, apply, and evaluate content understanding of the four strands of social studies. WG.P.2**

- 1** Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of government, the benefits of democratic systems, and their responsibilities as citizens. WG.P.2.1
  - A** Evaluate various significant documents from the United States and other nations to compare civic virtues and principles of political systems. WG.P.2.1.A
  - B** Evaluate the impact of the structure and powers exercised by governmental systems on public policy, using historical and contemporary examples. WG.P.2.1.B
  - C** Analyze the impact of constitutions, laws, treaties, and international agreements, by comparing how various governmental powers and responsibilities have changed over time. WG.P.2.1.C
- 2** Develop skills which demonstrate an understanding of historical events and the people who shaped our history. WG.P.2.2
  - A** Gather and evaluate the usefulness of various formats of evidence for specific inquiry, analyzing the broader historical context, and assessing potential bias and credibility of sources. WG.P.2.2.A
  - B** Analyze complex and interacting factors that influence multiple perspectives during different historical eras and contemporary events. WG.P.2.2.B
  - C** Evaluate how multiple, complex events are shaped by unique circumstances of time and place; construct and interpret parallel timelines. WG.P.2.2.C
- 3** Demonstrate a mastery of geographic concepts and the use of geographic tools to understand the impact of geography on the past and present. WG.P.2.3
  - A** Actively engage in asking and answering geographic questions by acquiring, organizing, and analyzing multiple sources of data and information about the world's past and present. WG.P.2.3.A
  - B** Compare and analyze complex maps and mapping technologies to analyze spatial patterns of human and physical environments, explaining relationships between the environment and events, past and present. WG.P.2.3.B
  - C** Evaluate the extent to which political and economic decisions have had significant impact on human and physical environments of various places and regions. WG.P.2.3.C
- 4** Identify the principles of economic systems and develop an understanding of the benefits of a market system in local, national, and global settings. WG.P.2.4
  - A** Evaluate economic data from charts and graphs, noting trends and making predictions. WG.P.2.4.A
  - B** Construct arguments using a combination of evidence regarding solutions used by nations to address historical or contemporary economic issues. WG.P.2.4.B
  - C** Evaluate the impact, both intended and unintended, of government policies on market outcomes at national and global levels, past and present. WG.P.2.4.C

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**3 The student will engage in critical, active reading of primary and secondary sources related to social studies concepts.** WG.P.3

- 1 Comprehend, evaluate, and synthesize textual sources to acquire and refine knowledge in the social studies. WG.P.3.1
  - A Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, evaluating features such as author, date, and origin of information. WG.P.3.1.A
  - B Analyze information from visual, oral, digital, and interactive texts (e.g., maps, charts, images, political cartoons, videos, artwork) in order to draw conclusions and defend arguments. WG.P.3.1.B
- 2 Apply critical reading and thinking skills to interpret, evaluate, and respond to a variety of complex texts and perspectives. WG.P.3.2
  - A Evaluate the extent to which historical or cultural perspectives affect an author's stated or implied purpose. WG.P.3.2.A
  - B Evaluate the author's point of view, potential bias, and how authors can reach different conclusions regarding the same issue. WG.P.3.2.B
  - C Actively listen, evaluate, and analyze a speaker's message, asking questions while engaged in collaborative discussions about social studies topics and texts. WG.P.3.2.C

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**4 The student will develop a variety of evidence-based written products designed for multiple purposes.** WG.P.4

- 1 Summarize and paraphrase, integrate evidence, and cite sources to create written products, research projects, and presentations for multiple purposes related to social studies content. WG.P.4.1
    - A Compose informative essays and written products, developing a thesis, citing and incorporating evidence from multiple sources and maintaining an organized, formal structure. WG.P.4.1.A
    - B Compose argumentative written products, including a precise claim as distinguished from opposing claims, organizing logical reasoning, and providing credible evidence to develop an argument. WG.P.4.1.B
  - 2 Engage in authentic research to acquire, refine, and share knowledge through written presentations and products. WG.P.4.2
    - A Develop self-generated theses or claims related to independent research and investigations using credible and relevant sources. WG.P.4.2.A
    - B Integrate quotes and summaries of research findings into written products while avoiding plagiarism. WG.P.4.2.B
    - C Construct presentations or products for a designated audience, using research and reasoning to enhance understanding of a topic or issue. WG.P.4.2.C
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## Content Standards

### **1 The student will use maps and other geographic representations, tools and technologies to acquire, process, and solve problems from a spatial perspective.** [WG.C.1](#)

- 1 Analyze key concepts underlying the geographical perspectives of location, space, place, scale, pattern, regionalization, and globalization. [WG.C.1.1](#)
  - 2 Utilize geographic skills to understand and analyze the spatial organization of people, places, and environments on the Earth's surface. [WG.C.1.2](#)
  - 3 Define regions and analyze changing interconnections among places, using historical and contemporary examples. [WG.C.1.3](#)
  - 4 Utilize geographic technologies and geographical data including census data and imagery to draw conclusions about the influence of geography on the world's people and places. [WG.C.1.4](#)
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### **2 The student will analyze how the human population is organized geographically in order to understand how change affects human systems.** [WG.C.2](#)

- 1 Interpret geographic data measuring population including density, distribution, patterns of composition, and population trends and projections to analyze issues related to population change. [WG.C.2.1](#)
  - 2 Examine common characteristics of urban versus rural communities, including the patterns and impact of modern migration to urban centers and megacities. [WG.C.2.2](#)
  - 3 Explain the push and pull theory of migration and its impact on human capital and demographic transitions, including the consequences of major voluntary and involuntary migrations. [WG.C.2.3](#)
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### **3 The student will analyze the components and regional variations of cultural patterns and processes.** [WG.C.3](#)

- 1 Compare the world's major cultural landscapes to analyze cultural differences, cultural identity, social mores, and sets of beliefs which determine a sense of place. [WG.C.3.1](#)
- 2 Describe and draw conclusions about the spatial dimensions of culture as defined by language, religion, and ethnicity. [WG.C.3.2](#)
- 3 Analyze the role of the environment in influencing a region's culture. [WG.C.3.3](#)
- 4 Explain the processes of cultural diffusion and interdependence, analyzing their impact on defining a region. [WG.C.3.4](#)

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#### **4 The student will explain the political organization of space.** WG.C.4

- 1 Analyze the nature and meaning of territorial boundaries and their influence on identity, interaction, and exchange. WG.C.4.1
- 2 Compare the world's political systems of government, based on limited versus unlimited authority, including the rights and opportunities of citizens within each system. WG.C.4.2
- 3 Examine changes and challenges to political/territorial arrangements, by describing the forces that shape the world's contemporary political map, including the rise or devolution of nation-states. WG.C.4.3
- 4 Evaluate how the forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the control and management of territory and resources. WG.C.4.4
- 5 Explain how international alliance networks respond to changing needs of people, places, and regions. WG.C.4.5

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#### **5 The student will analyze patterns of land use among the world's people.** WG.C.5

- 1 Examine how different civilizations have sought to improve the well-being of their people by modifying or adapting to their environments. WG.C.5.1
- 2 Analyze settlement patterns associated with major agricultural regions and linkages among regions of food production and consumption. WG.C.5.2
- 3 Describe the characteristics of modern commercial agriculture including major production regions, variations within major zones, and the effects of markets. WG.C.5.3
- 4 Examine the impact of agricultural practices (e.g., irrigation, levees, terraced farming, crop rotation, artesian wells, conservation, water resource management, and deforestation) on the environment and quality of life. WG.C.5.4
- 5 Explain how transportation improvements (e.g., aqueducts, canals, railroad systems, airports) impacted human development through modification of the environment. WG.C.5.5
- 6 Analyze the influence of geography on current issues to consider decisions regarding future land use, including the costs and benefits of environmental regulation. WG.C.5.6

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**6 The student will analyze the impact of industrialization on economic development.** WG.C.6

- 1 Examine the significance of access to natural resources, energy, and technological innovations (e.g., wind, solar, nuclear) to the economic development of a region. WG.C.6.1
- 2 Compare the impact of government policies in both market and command economic systems on the availability and use of natural resources and development. WG.C.6.2
- 3 Compare contemporary patterns of industrialization and development in selected regions of the world. WG.C.6.3
- 4 Describe common characteristics of developed nations and compare variations in levels of development. WG.C.6.4
- 5 Explain how changes in the physical environment and political environment influence changes in economic activity within a region. WG.C.6.5