

Grade 6 Social Studies Performance Level Descriptors

Limited

A student performing at the **Limited Level** demonstrates a minimal command of Ohio's Learning Standards for Grade 6 Social Studies. A student at this level has an emerging ability to describe the geographic impacts and cultural developments of early civilizations in the Eastern Hemisphere; use appropriate geographic tools to classify and evaluate regions in the Eastern Hemisphere; evaluate how traditions and cultures spread throughout the Eastern Hemisphere; examine sources for accuracy; and explain how scarcity influences economic decision-making.

A student at the **Limited Level** can:

- Recognize and understand the purpose of a timeline (e.g., to display historical events);
- Demonstrate limited understanding of the conventions of time (e.g., place some dates in chronological order, place all dates in ascending order on a timeline, etc.);
- Recognize major locations in the Eastern Hemisphere on a map (e.g., continents, rivers, major countries [India, Saudi Arabia, China]);
- Recognize the use of a geographic map to identify locations;
- Recall some physical and cultural features of ancient Eastern Hemisphere civilizations (e.g., Ancient Mesopotamia was located on the Tigris and Euphrates rivers; it developed the cuneiform writing system);
- Identify a source that can be used for information on a historical event;
- Recognize how societies and individuals make economic decisions (e.g., high prices lead to lower demand, high cost leads to lower production).

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Basic

A student performing at the **Basic Level** demonstrates a partial command of Ohio's Learning Standards for Grade 6 Social Studies. A student at this level has a general ability to describe the geographic impacts and cultural developments of early civilizations in the Eastern Hemisphere, use appropriate geographic tools to classify and evaluate regions in the Eastern Hemisphere, evaluate how traditions and cultures spread throughout the Eastern Hemisphere, examine sources for accuracy, and explain how scarcity influences economic decision-making.

A student at the **Basic Level** can:

- Apply the conventions of one system used to identify and place dates in chronological order (i.e., B.C.E. and C.E. or B.C. and A.D.);
- Demonstrate a simple understanding of the location where ancient river civilizations in the Eastern Hemisphere developed (e.g., Ancient India developed along the Ganges River);
 - Identify the influence of geography (e.g., rivers, climate, terrain);
 - Identify characteristics of the ancient civilizations of the Eastern Hemisphere (e.g., language, foods, technologies);
- Identify geographic tools that can be used to understand people, places, and environments (e.g., a variety of maps, aerial photographs);
- Demonstrate a partial understanding of using longitude and latitude to identify absolute location (e.g., use one correctly but not the other);
- Demonstrate rudimentary understanding of the characteristics of a region (e.g., geographic features, cultural and economic features, cultural diffusion);
- Recognize how to determine the accuracy of a source;
- Identify some features of different types of governments (e.g., monarchies have kings or queens, theocracies have religious leaders, dictatorships have a single leader, democracies are ruled by the people);
- Recognize how economic data can be used;
- Identify ways that societies handle the scarcity of resources (e.g., decide what to produce, how to produce and for whom to produce);
- Identify some ways in which consumers impact the interaction of markets, resources and competition (e.g., the demand for silk has led to trade).

Grade 6 Social Studies Performance Level Descriptors

Proficient

A student performing at the **Proficient Level** demonstrates an appropriate command of Ohio's Learning Standards for Grade 6 Social Studies. A student at this level has a consistent ability to describe the geographic impacts and cultural developments of early civilizations in the Eastern Hemisphere, use appropriate geographic tools to classify and evaluate regions in the Eastern Hemisphere, evaluate how traditions and cultures spread throughout the Eastern Hemisphere, examine sources for accuracy, and explain how scarcity influences economic decision-making.

A student at the **Proficient Level** can:

- Apply the conventions of both systems of historical time (i.e., B.C.E. and C.E., and B.C. and A.D.) to place events in chronological order on a timeline;
- Describe the influence of geography on ancient civilizations in the Eastern Hemisphere (e.g., rivers, climate, terrain);
- Describe characteristics of the ancient civilizations of the Eastern Hemisphere and relate them to traditions found in the region today (e.g., government, language, religion, economic systems, technologies, food);
- Use different kinds of geographic tools to understand people, places, and environments (e.g., globes, maps, photographs, diagrams);
- Use longitude and latitude to describe absolute location;
- Use various criteria to describe, classify, and compare regions in the Eastern Hemisphere (e.g., geographic, population, cultural, economic);
- Explain how different physical environments have influenced human activities (e.g., river valleys, deserts, mountains);
- Explain how tradition and diffusion have influenced modern cultural practices (e.g., religions found in regions outside of their original development, how trade route impacted diffusion);
- Examine sources for accuracy (e.g., can the information be verified in other sources, is the information a primary or secondary source);
- Describe how governments can be organized in different ways (e.g., monarchies, theocracies, dictatorships, democracies);
- Explain ways that societies handle the scarcity of resources (e.g., how global trade develops, how societies answer the fundamental questions of economics);
- Explain how the interaction of buyers and sellers determines market prices.

Grade 6 Social Studies Performance Level Descriptors

Accelerated

A student performing at the **Accelerated Level** demonstrates a strong command of Ohio's Learning Standards for Grade 6 Social Studies. A student at this level has a superior ability to describe the geographic impacts and cultural developments of early civilizations in the Eastern Hemisphere, use appropriate geographic tools to classify and evaluate regions in the Eastern Hemisphere, evaluate how traditions and cultures spread throughout the Eastern Hemisphere, examine sources for accuracy, and explain how scarcity influences economic decision-making.

A student at the **Accelerated Level** can:

- Explain how geography has influenced ancient civilizations in the Eastern Hemisphere (e.g., how river valleys affected agriculture and led to crop surpluses);
- Compare the characteristics of the ancient civilizations of the Eastern Hemisphere and their influences in the regions today (e.g., location of civilizations, religion, trade routes);
- Select and use a variety of geographic tools that can be used to understand people, places and environments (e.g., use maps with multiple types of information compiled [e.g., a landform map and an industry map]);
- Apply criteria that describe, classify and compare regions in the Eastern Hemisphere (e.g., what are similarities and differences);
- Evaluate how variations among physical environments in the Eastern Hemisphere have influenced ancient and modern human activities (i.e., how does where you live influence how you live?);
- Evaluate how human activities altered physical environments (e.g., how successful are alterations to the environment, what larger impacts do those alterations have);
- Evaluate the influence of tradition and diffusion on modern cultural practices;
- Evaluate religious diffusion in the modern world of the Eastern Hemisphere;
- Distinguish between historic and contemporary perspectives of sources;
- Explain why sources are accurate or inaccurate;
- Explain the relationship between those in power and citizens in different types of governments;
- Use and compare economic data to identify and explain relationships;
- Evaluate ways that societies handle the scarcity of resources (e.g., the degree of success in finding trading partners, why countries will give up some of one resource for another);
- Evaluate how the interaction of buyers and sellers determines market prices and thereby allocates scarce resources, goods and services.

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Advanced

A student performing at the **Advanced Level** demonstrates a distinguished command of Ohio's Learning Standards for Grade 6 Social Studies. A student at this level has a sophisticated ability to describe the geographic impacts and cultural developments of early civilizations in the Eastern Hemisphere, use appropriate geographic tools to classify and evaluate regions in the Eastern Hemisphere, evaluate how traditions and cultures spread throughout the Eastern Hemisphere, examine sources for accuracy, and explain how scarcity influences economic decision-making.

A student at the **Advanced Level** can:

- Evaluate the influence of geography on ancient civilizations in the Eastern Hemisphere (e.g., why civilizations settled where they did, how crop surpluses led to specialized industry and societal development);
- Analyze the characteristics of the ancient civilizations of the Eastern Hemisphere and explain their influence today;
- Apply different maps and a variety of geographic tools to gather, process, and report information to understand people, places, and environments;
- Evaluate and apply criteria that describe, classify and compare regions within the Eastern Hemisphere (e.g., when is one set of criteria more appropriate than another, why might it be the incorrect criteria to use);
- Analyze and evaluate how variations among physical environments in the Eastern Hemisphere influence human activities;
- Analyze and evaluate how human activities altered physical environments (e.g., what are the short- and long-term consequences of alterations);
- Analyze and evaluate the influence of tradition and diffusion on modern cultural practices (e.g., what set of circumstances led to the lasting impact of certain products or practices);
- Analyze and evaluate religious diffusion in the modern world of the Eastern Hemisphere (e.g., how Islam spread faster along trade routes because the Arabian Peninsula was a center for trade);
- Evaluate historic and contemporary sources that reflect multiple perspectives on a topic;
- Analyze and evaluate how different types of governments can have distinct or overlapping characteristics;
- Analyze and evaluate economic data to identify and explain relationships;
- Analyze and evaluate ways that societies handle the scarcity of resources and the degree of success to which they engage in global trade;
- Explain how competition can exert strong influences over market prices (i.e., can dictate prices when supply and demand stay constant).