



6th Grade Social Studies Study Guide **Credit by Exam for Credit Recovery or Acceleration**

The exam you are interested in taking is designed to test your proficiency in the relevant subject matter. You should be thoroughly familiar with the subject matter before you attempt to take the exam. This CBE CR/A Study Guide can help you prepare for the exam by giving you an idea of what you need to review. You can check your familiarity level by reviewing the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for this course. (See below.) To refine your skills, you can refer to any of the state-adopted textbooks.

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)

Every question that appears on this exam is derived from the knowledge and skills statements and student expectations within the Texas-mandated standards, the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). You can view the TEKS for this exam online via the following link: <http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/rules/tac/chapter113/ch113b.html>. Refer to section (b), Knowledge and skills, 1A–23B. Throughout this guide, you’ll see TEKS references. These refer to the numbers listed under (b) Knowledge and skills; for example, 1A or 3B.

Materials Needed

You will need to bring a #2 pencil to complete the exam. You will receive a computer-graded answer sheet when you arrive at the testing center.

Exam Structure

You will be allowed **3 hours** to complete this exam. The exam consists of 64 multiple-choice questions, and covers a wide variety of topics. To help you study, we have isolated 8 key topics and provided study tips and sample questions for each. You can expect multiple-choice questions on each of the following topics:

Topic 1: History

Topic 2: Geography

Topic 3: Economics

Topic 4: Government

Topic 5: Citizenship

Topic 6: Culture

Topic 7: Science, Technology, and Society

Topic 8: Social Studies Skills

Scholastic Honesty

When you arrive at the testing center you will be asked to carefully read the exam rules and sign a statement agreeing to take the exam in accordance with the rules. This is called the Examinee's Certification. The following is a copy of these rules:

Examinee's Certification

This certification must be signed *before* the exam is administered and then returned with the completed examination attached, or credit for the exam will not be given.

Scholastic dishonesty is a serious academic violation that will not be tolerated. Scholastic dishonesty encompasses, but is not limited to:

- copying from another student's work;
- using an unauthorized testing proctor or taking the exam at an unauthorized testing location;
- using materials not authorized by a testing proctor;
- possessing materials that are not authorized by a testing proctor, such as lessons, books, or notes;
- knowingly using or soliciting, in whole or Topic, the contents of an unadministered test;
- collaborating with or seeking aid from another student without authorization during the test;
- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself, in taking a course test or completing any course-related assignment;
- using, buying, stealing, or transporting some or all of the contents of an unadministered test, test rubric, homework answer, or computer program.

Evidence of scholastic dishonesty will result in a grade of *F* on the examination and an *F* in the course (if applicable).

At the testing center, you will be asked to sign a statement that says you have read the above and agree to complete the examination with scholastic honesty.

General Study Tips

The bulleted lists and sample questions in this study guide can assist you in preparing for the exam. It is a fairly complete guide for studying, but does not cover every item on the test. Ultimately, you should use the TEKS to guide your exam preparation.

Additional Study Tips

The following information provides direction for your studies. For each part, you will find study tips and sample questions to give you a general idea of the types of questions you can expect to see on the exam.

Topic 1: History

This topic relates to your knowledge of issues and events in Texas history.

Study Tips for Topic 1:

This topic relates to TEKS 1A–2B. Familiarize yourself with those TEKS, and then be prepared to demonstrate knowledge of the following topics:

- trace characteristics of various contemporary societies in regions that resulted from historical events or factors
- analyze the historical background of various contemporary societies to evaluate relationships between past conflicts and current conditions
- identify and describe the influence of individual or group achievements on various historical or contemporary societies
- evaluate the social, political, economic, and cultural contributions of individuals and groups from various societies, past and present

Sample Questions for Topic 1:

The following are sample questions. You can find the correct answers listed after the questions, but try answering the questions without looking at the answers first to check your comprehension.

DIRECTIONS: Select the BEST responses to the following questions.

1. Which of the following is a result of the Columbian Exchange?
 - A. The Inca used Old World technology to build their empire.
 - B. The New World taught the Old World more efficient farming practices.
 - C. The New World introduced new species like horses and pigs to the Old World.
 - D. Diseases carried from the Old World caused widespread outbreaks in the New World.

2. How did the work of Mahatma Gandhi later impact American society?
- A. His work influenced Barack Obama to run for President in 2008.
 - B. His work led Susan B Anthony to fight for a women's right to vote.
 - C. His work led Abraham Lincoln to deliver the Emancipation Proclamation.
 - D. His work influenced Martin Luther King Jr's strategy in the Civil Rights Movement.

Topic 2: Geography

This topic relates to your knowledge and examination of geographical interpretations of historical issues and events.

Study Tips for Topic 2:

This topic relates to TEKS 3A-7C. Familiarize yourself with those TEKS, and then be prepared to demonstrate knowledge of the following topics:

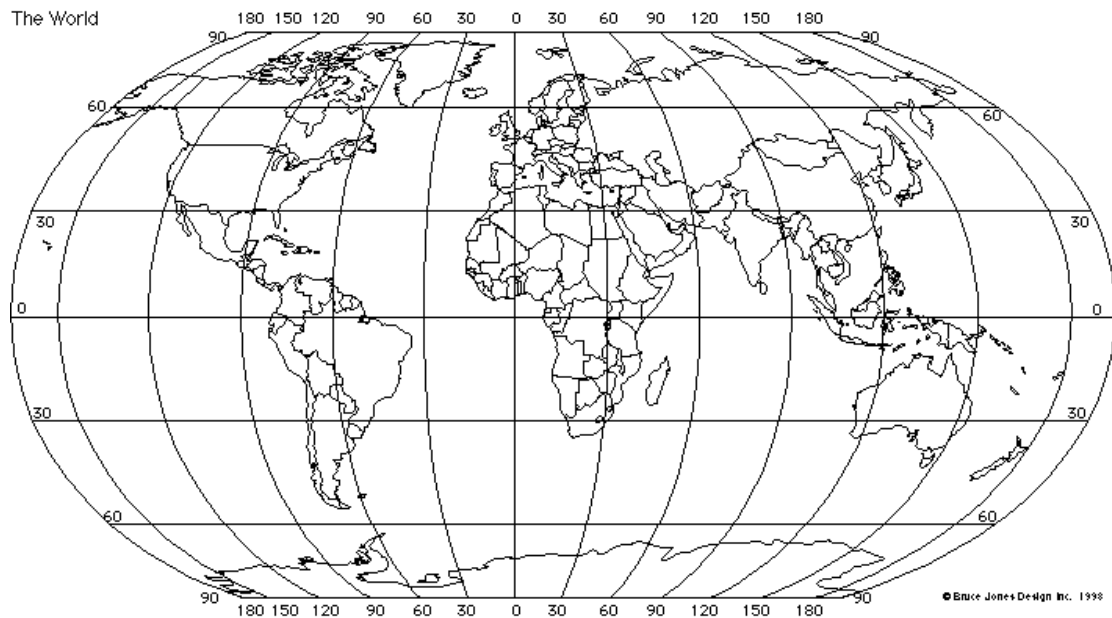
- pose and answer geographic questions, including: Where is it located? Why is it there? What is significant about its location? How is its location related to the location of other people, places, and environments?
- pose and answer questions about geographic distributions and patterns for various world regions and countries shown on maps, graphs, charts, models, and databases
- compare various world regions and countries using data from geographic tools, including maps, graphs, charts, databases, and models
- create thematic maps, graphs, charts, models, and databases depicting aspects such as population, disease, and economic activities of various world regions and countries
- locate various contemporary societies on maps and globes using latitude and longitude to determine absolute location
- identify and explain the geographic factors responsible for patterns of population in places and regions
- explain ways in which human migration influences the character of places and regions
- identify and locate major physical and human geographic features
- draw sketch maps that illustrate various places and regions
- identify the location of major world countries
- identify and explain the geographic factors responsible for the location of economic activities in places and regions
- identify geographic factors that influence a society's ability to control territory
- explain the impact of geographic factors on economic development and the domestic and foreign policies of societies
- describe and explain the effects of physical environmental processes on Earth's surface
- identify the location of renewable and nonrenewable natural resources
- analyze the effects of the interaction of physical processes and the environment on humans
- identify and analyze ways people have adapted to the physical environment
- identify and analyze ways people have modified the physical environment
- describe ways in which technology influences human interactions with the environment

Sample Questions for Topic 2:

The following are sample questions. You can find the correct answers listed after the questions, but try answering the questions without looking at the answers first to check your comprehension.

DIRECTIONS: Select the **BEST** responses to the following questions.

3. Which of the following is NOT an example of a renewable resource found in America today?
- A. oil
 - B. sun
 - C. wind
 - D. lumber
4. Look at the map below.



What is the absolute location of Austin, Texas on the globe?

- A. 30°N, 98°W
- B. 33°N, 44°W
- C. 26°N, 30°W
- D. 55°N, 38°W

Topic 3: Economics

This topic relates to your knowledge of economic and social influences on historical and contemporary issues and events.

Study Tips for Topic 3:

This topic relates to TEKS 8A-10C. Familiarize yourself with those TEKS, and then be prepared to demonstrate knowledge of the following topics:

- describe ways in which the factors of production influence the economies of various contemporary societies
- identify problems and issues that may arise when one or more of the factors of production is in relatively short supply
- explain the impact of relative scarcity of resources on international trade and economic interdependence among and within societies
- compare ways in which various societies organize the production and distribution of goods and services
- compare and contrast free enterprise, socialist, and communist economies in various contemporary societies
- understand the importance of morality and ethics in maintaining a functional free enterprise system
- examine the record of collective, non-free market economic systems in contemporary world societies
- define and give examples of agricultural, wholesale, retail, manufacturing, and service industries
- describe levels of economic development of various societies using indicators
- identify and describe the effects of government regulation and taxation on economic development and business planning

Sample Questions for Topic 3:

The following are sample questions. You can find the correct answers listed after the questions, but try answering the questions without looking at the answers first to check your comprehension.

DIRECTIONS: Select the BEST responses to the following questions.

5. Which of the following is an example of America's natural resources influencing its economic production?
 - A. milling paper because of an abundance of trees
 - B. building homes in areas where people will buy them
 - C. producing cars because it has a vast highway system
 - D. creating movies because of a demand for entertainment

Topic 4: Government

This topic relates to your knowledge of the structure, functions, and principals in the Texas Constitution.

Study Tips for Topic 4:

This topic relates to TEKS 11A-12C. Familiarize yourself with those TEKS, and then be prepared to demonstrate knowledge of the following topics:

- identify and describe examples of limited and unlimited governments
- compare the characteristics of limited and unlimited governments
- identify reasons for limiting the power of government
- review the record of human rights abuses of limited or unlimited governments
- identify and give examples of governments with rule by one, few, or many
- compare ways in which various societies organize government and how they function
- identify historical origins of democratic forms of government

Sample Questions for Topic 4:

The following are sample questions. You can find the correct answers listed after the questions, but try answering the questions without looking at the answers first to check your comprehension.

DIRECTIONS: Select the BEST responses to the following questions.

6. Which of the following is an example of a country with unlimited government?
- A. Canada, because Parliament shares all decision making.
 - B. England, because there are multiple branches who share power.
 - C. Cuba, because the country's leader has complete control of all decisions.
 - D. Germany, because both the president and the chancellor work with the cabinet.

Topic 5: Citizenship

This topic relates to your knowledge of the rights and responsibilities of Texas citizens and the importance of multiple perspectives and effective leaders in a democratic society.

Study Tips for Topic 5:

This topic relates to TEKS 13A-14B. Familiarize yourself with those TEKS, and then be prepared to demonstrate knowledge of the following topics:

- describe roles and responsibilities of citizens in various contemporary societies
- explain how opportunities for citizens to participate in and influence the political process vary among various contemporary societies
- compare the role of citizens in the United States with the role of citizens from various contemporary societies with representative and nonrepresentative governments
- identify and explain the duty of civic participation in societies with representative governments
- explain relationships among rights, responsibilities, and duties in societies with representative governments

Sample Questions for Topic 5:

The following are sample questions. You can find the correct answers listed after the questions, but try answering the questions without looking at the answers first to check your comprehension.

DIRECTIONS: Select the BEST responses to the following questions.

7. Which of the following best describes how a person can demonstrate their duty of civic participation?
 - A. serving as a juror at a county trial
 - B. hiring a lawyer when accused of a crime
 - C. driving on public roads maintained by the state
 - D. using local park facilities maintained by the city

Topic 6: Culture

This topic relates to your knowledge of the diversity and unity within Texas.

Study Tips for Topic 6:

This topic relates to TEKS 15A-19B. Familiarize yourself with those TEKS, and then be prepared to demonstrate knowledge of the following topics:

- define culture and the common traits that unify a culture region
- identify and describe common traits that define cultures
- define a multicultural society and consider both the positive and negative qualities of multiculturalism
- analyze the experiences and evaluate the contributions of diverse groups to multicultural societies
- analyze the similarities and differences among various world societies
- identify and explain examples of conflict and cooperation between and among cultures
- identify institutions basic to all societies
- compare characteristics of institutions in various contemporary societies
- analyze the efforts and activities institutions use to sustain themselves over time
- identify and describe how culture traits such as trade, travel, and war spread
- identify and describe factors that influence cultural change
- evaluate the impact of improved communication technology among cultures
- identify and define the impact of cultural diffusion on individuals and world societies
- identify examples of positive and negative effects of cultural diffusion
- explain the relationships that exist between societies and their architecture, art, music, and literature
- relate ways in which contemporary expressions of culture have been influenced by the past
- describe ways in which contemporary issues influence creative expressions
- identify examples of art, music, and literature that have transcended the boundaries of societies and convey universal themes
- explain the relationship among religious ideas, philosophical ideas, and cultures
- explain the significance of religious holidays and observances in various contemporary societies

Sample Questions for Topic 6:

The following are sample questions. You can find the correct answers listed after the questions, but try answering the questions without looking at the answers first to check your comprehension.

DIRECTIONS: Select the BEST responses to the following questions.

8. Food, language, and _____ are all common traits that define culture.
- A. movies (because they illustrate what people like)
 - B. nicknames (because they are given by friends and family)
 - C. careers (because they show how a person makes a living)
 - D. traditions (because they are a demonstration of past behaviors)

Topic 7: Science, Technology, and Society

This topic relates to your knowledge of the impact of scientific and technological innovations on the development of Texas.

Study Tips for Topic 7:

This topic relates to TEKS 20A–C. Familiarize yourself with those TEKS, and then be prepared to demonstrate knowledge of the following topics:

- give examples of scientific discoveries and technological innovations that have transcended the boundaries of societies and have shaped the world
- explain how resources, belief systems, economic factors, and political decisions have affected the use of technology
- make predictions about future social, political, economic, cultural, and environmental impacts that may result from future scientific discoveries and technological innovations

Sample Questions for Topic 7:

The following are sample questions. You can find the correct answers listed after the questions, but try answering the questions without looking at the answers first to check your comprehension.

DIRECTIONS: Select the BEST responses to the following questions.

9. How did the innovation of the assembly line reshape the modern world?
- A. It made the production of roadways cheaper and more efficient.
 - B. It created a network of labor unions that made the workplace safer.
 - C. It standardized the production process to make goods faster and cheaper.
 - D. It created a communication network that paved the way for the telephone.

Topic 8: Social Studies Skills

This topic relates to your ability to apply critical thinking, problem solving, and decision making skills to organize and use information from valid sources.

Study Tips for Topic 8:

This topic relates to TEKS 21A-23B. Familiarize yourself with those TEKS, and then be prepared to demonstrate knowledge of the following topics:

- differentiate between, locate, and use valid primary and secondary sources to acquire information about world cultures
- analyze information by sequencing, categorizing, identifying cause-and-effect relationships, comparing, contrasting, finding the main idea, summarizing, making generalizations and predictions, and drawing inferences and conclusions
- organize and interpret information from outlines, reports, databases, and visuals, including graphs, charts, timelines, and maps
- identify different points of view about an issue or current topic
- identify the elements of frame of reference that influenced participants in an event
- use appropriate mathematical skills to interpret social studies information such as maps and graphs
- use social studies terminology correctly
- incorporate main and supporting ideas in verbal and written communication based on research
- express ideas orally based on research and experiences
- create written and visual material based on research
- use standard grammar, spelling, sentence structure, and punctuation
- use proper citations to avoid plagiarism
- use a problem-solving process to identify a problem, gather information, list and consider options, consider advantages and disadvantages, choose and implement a solution, and evaluate the effectiveness of the solution
- use a decision-making process to identify a situation that requires a decision, gather information, identify options, predict consequences, and take action to implement a decision

Sample Questions for Topic 8:

The following are sample questions. You can find the correct answers listed after the questions, but try answering the questions without looking at the answers first to check your comprehension.

DIRECTIONS: Select the BEST responses to the following questions.

10. Which of the following demonstrates the contrast between an oligarchy and a democracy?
- A. In an oligarchy one person makes decisions, while many make decisions in a democracy.
 - B. In an oligarchy a small group of people make decisions, while many make decisions in a democracy.
 - C. In an oligarchy many people make decisions, while only the president makes decisions in a democracy.
 - D. In an oligarchy many people make decisions, while only a small group makes decisions in a democracy.
11. Look at the following table showing census data for Austin, Texas.

Official Texas Census Count	
YEAR	Population
1960	186,545
1970	251,808
1980	345,890
2000	656,562
2010	790,390
2015	900,701

For a presentation in class, what would be the best way to display the information?

- A. a political cartoon that demonstrates the population changes
- B. a written report that describes the reasons for population changes in Austin
- C. a bar graph that shows the different years and the annual population numbers
- D. a pie chart that shows the different years with the respective population numbers

Answer Key

Question	Correct Answer	TEKS expectation
1	D	1A
2	D	2B
3	A	6B
4	A	4A
5	A	8A
6	C	11A
7	A	14A
8	D	15B
9	C	20A
10	B	21B
11	C	22D