

Social Studies Grade 6 Performance Level Descriptors (PLDs)

World History and Geography: Early Civilizations through the Decline of the Roman Empire

Reporting Category	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
Generic Descriptors	Students who perform at this level have not demonstrated mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and applications of understanding that reflect the knowledge and skill specified by the grade- and course-level content standards and are not prepared for the next level of study.	Students who perform at this level demonstrate partial mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and applications of understanding that reflect the knowledge and skill specified by the grade- and course-level content standards and are minimally prepared for the next level of study.	Students who perform at this level demonstrate mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and applications of understanding that reflect the knowledge and skill specified by the grade- and course-level content standards and are prepared for the next level of study.	Students who perform at this level demonstrate superior mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and applications of understanding that reflect the knowledge and skill specified by the grade- and course-level content standards and are significantly prepared for the next level of study.
Human Origins and the Emergence of Civilizations	A student at this level demonstrates little to no mastery in identifying or describing historical events and ideas. The student does not show a basic understanding of the origins of humans and the emergence of civilizations, and his or her academic performance does not yet reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade- and course-level content standards.	A student at this level demonstrates partial mastery by identifying and comprehending aspects of the origins of humans and the emergence of civilizations below the proficient level and at a consistently low depth of knowledge (DOK). The student can identify and recall historical details; explain relationships between people, places, and events; and refer to important information from	A student at this level demonstrates mastery by examining and understanding aspects of the origins of humans and the emergence of civilizations at the proficient level and at a consistently moderate to occasionally high depth of knowledge (DOK). The student can organize and compare and contrast historical information; understand cause-and-effect relationships	A student at this level demonstrates superior mastery by analyzing and applying information and drawing conclusions about the origins of humans and the emergence of civilizations beyond the proficient level and at a consistently higher depth of knowledge (DOK). The student demonstrates the additional skills necessary to appraise key historical understandings; draw complex conclusions

	<p>Students at the Below Basic level of performance are not prepared for the next level of study.</p>	<p>the time. Students who achieve this basic level of academic performance, thinking ability, and application of understanding that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade- and course-level content standards are minimally prepared for the next level of study.</p>	<p>between people, places, and events; draw conclusions based on social, economic, political, and cultural aspects from the time; and cite evidence from sources to support conclusions. The student displays a clear understanding of social studies content by employing a variety of strategies and resources to analyze the geographic, political, economic, and social structures of emerging civilizations. The student also demonstrates an ability to understand the importance of archaeological discoveries, and time designations and abbreviations for them. Students who achieve this level of academic performance, thinking ability, and application of understanding that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade- and course-level content standards are prepared for the next level of study.</p>	<p>based on social, economic, political, and cultural information from the time; cite relevant evidence from sources to support conclusions; and apply historical knowledge to later events. Students who achieve this superior level of academic performance, thinking ability, and application of understanding that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade- and course-level content standards are well prepared for the next level of study.</p>
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<p>Ancient Civilizations: Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, and Israel</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates little to no mastery in identifying or describing historical events and ideas. The student does not show a basic understanding of the ancient civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, and Israel, and his or her academic performance does not yet reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade- and course-level content standards. Students at the Below Basic level of performance are not prepared for the next level of study.</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates partial mastery by identifying and comprehending aspects of the ancient civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, and Israel below the proficient level and at a consistently low depth of knowledge (DOK). The student can identify and recall historical details; explain relationships between people, places, and events; and refer to important information from the time. Students who achieve this basic level of academic performance, thinking ability, and application of understanding that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade- and course-level content standards are minimally prepared for the next level of study.</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates mastery by examining and understanding aspects of the ancient civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, and Israel at the proficient level and at a consistently moderate to occasionally high depth of knowledge (DOK). The student can organize and compare and contrast historical information; understand cause-and-effect relationships between people, places, and events; draw conclusions based on social, economic, political, and cultural aspects from the time; and cite evidence from sources to support conclusions. The student displays a clear understanding of social studies content by employing a variety of strategies and resources to analyze the geographic and cultural structures of ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, and</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates superior mastery by analyzing and applying information and drawing conclusions about the ancient civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, and Israel beyond the proficient level and at a consistently higher depth of knowledge (DOK). The student demonstrates the additional skills necessary to appraise key historical understandings; draw complex conclusions based on social, economic, political, and cultural information from the time; cite relevant evidence from sources to support conclusions; and apply historical knowledge to later events. Students who achieve this superior level of academic performance, thinking ability, and application of understanding that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade- and course-level content</p>
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<p>Ancient Greece to 300 B.C.</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates little to no mastery in identifying or describing historical events and ideas. The student does not show a basic understanding of Ancient Greece, and his or her academic performance does not yet reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade- and course-</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates partial mastery by identifying and comprehending aspects of the Ancient Greece below the proficient level and at a consistently low depth of knowledge (DOK). The student can identify and recall historical details; explain relationships between people, places, and events; and refer to</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates mastery by examining and understanding aspects of Ancient Greece at the proficient level and at a consistently moderate to occasionally high depth of knowledge (DOK). The student can organize and compare and contrast historical information; understand cause-and-</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates superior mastery by analyzing and applying information and drawing conclusions about Ancient Greece beyond the proficient level and at a consistently higher depth of knowledge (DOK). The student demonstrates the additional skills necessary to appraise key historical understandings;</p>

	<p>level content standards. Students at the Below Basic level of performance are not prepared for the next level of study.</p>	<p>important information from the time. Students who achieve this basic level of academic performance, thinking ability, and application of understanding that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade- and course-level content standards are minimally prepared for the next level of study.</p>	<p>effect relationships between people, places, and events; draw conclusions based on social, economic, political, and cultural aspects from the time; and cite evidence from sources to support conclusions. The student displays a clear understanding of social studies content by employing a variety of strategies and resources to analyze the geographic and social structures of Ancient Greece. The student also recognizes the importance of geographic location and the influence on the major cultural and political accomplishments of the ancient Greeks and their influence on modern civilization. Students who achieve this level of academic performance, thinking ability, and application of understanding that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade- and course-level content</p>	<p>draw complex conclusions based on social, economic, political, and cultural information from the time; cite relevant evidence from sources to support conclusions; and apply historical knowledge to later events. Students who achieve this superior level of academic performance, thinking ability, and application of understanding that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade- and course-level content standards are well prepared for the next level of study.</p>
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			standards are prepared for the next level of study.	
<p>Ancient Rome to 500 A.D.</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates little to no mastery in identifying or describing historical events and ideas. The student does not show a basic understanding of Ancient Rome, and his or her academic performance does not yet reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade- and course-level content standards. Students at the Below Basic level of performance are not prepared for the next level of study.</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates partial mastery by identifying and comprehending aspects of Ancient Rome below the proficient level and at a consistently low depth of knowledge (DOK). The student can identify and recall historical details; explain relationships between people, places, and events; and refer to important information from the time. Students who achieve this basic level of academic performance, thinking ability, and application of understanding that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade- and course-level content standards are minimally prepared for the next level of study.</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates mastery by examining and understanding aspects of Ancient Rome at the proficient level and at a consistently moderate to occasionally high depth of knowledge (DOK). The student can organize and compare and contrast historical information; understand cause-and-effect relationships between people, places, and events; draw conclusions based on social, economic, political, and cultural aspects from the time; and cite evidence from sources to support conclusions. The student displays a clear understanding of social studies content by employing a variety of strategies and resources to analyze the geographic, social, and political structures of Ancient Rome. The student also</p>	<p>A student at this level demonstrates superior mastery by analyzing and applying information and drawing conclusions about Ancient Rome beyond the proficient level and at a consistently higher depth of knowledge (DOK). The student demonstrates the additional skills necessary to appraise key historical understandings; draw complex conclusions based on social, economic, political, and cultural information from the time; cite relevant evidence from sources to support conclusions; and apply historical knowledge to later events. Students who achieve this superior level of academic performance, thinking ability, and application of understanding that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade- and course-level content standards are well prepared</p>

			<p>explains how geographic location contributed to the major cultural and political accomplishments of the ancient Romans and their influence on modern culture.</p> <p>Students who achieve this level of academic performance, thinking ability, and application of understanding that reflect the knowledge and skills specified by the grade- and course-level content standards are prepared for the next level of study.</p>	<p>for the next level of study.</p>
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