

World Geography
Conceptual Strands, Essential Understandings & Skills by Unit

Unit One: General Geography

Conceptual Strands:

- Individuals, Groups & Institutions
- Power, Authority & Governance: Government
- Global Connections:
- Society, Science & Technology:
- Citizenship:
- Places & Environment

Essential Understandings:

- Places and Environment: (1) Regional differences exist and change over time, (2) Society modifies the environment over time to meet changing needs and wants, (3) Populations migrate to meet changing needs and wants, (4) Population change results in environmental consequences.
- Individuals, Groups, and Institutions: (1) Conflict exists between individuals and institutions in society.
- Power, Authority, and Governance: (1) The balance of individual rights versus institutional authority varies from culture to culture
- Production, Consumption, and Distribution: (1) Economic and political systems act in conjunction
- Global Connections: (1) Global connections increase cultural diversity.

Skills:

- Identify and use degrees
- Identify and use minutes
- Identify earth
- Identify globe as model of earth
- Identify and locate oceans
- Identify landforms
- Identify and locate equator
- Identify and locate continents
- Identify and locate hemispheres
- Identify cardinal directions
- Identify in-between directions
- Identify and use a grid system
- Identify and use points of reference
- Identify and use latitude and longitude
- Identify and use time zones
- Recognize and use the scale of a map
- Differentiate and use large and small scale maps
- Identify and interpret a title
- Identify and interpret map symbols
- Identify and interpret a map key or legend
- Identify and interpret a boundary

- Identify and interpret relief/elevation
- Recognize map projections and their best uses
- Recognize and interpret distortion
- Identify and interpret political maps
- Identify and interpret physical maps
- Identify and interpret thematic maps
- Identify and interpret topographic maps
- Identify and interpret highway and road maps
- Compare and infer information from maps
- Differentiate fact from opinion
- Recognize cause and effect relationships

Unit Two: Middle East & North Africa

Conceptual Strands:

- Individuals, Groups & Institutions: Relationships, Traditions, Beliefs & Values, Cultural Appreciation
- Power, Authority & Governance: Government, Conflict & Cooperation
- Global Connections: Culture, Trade (Industry & Manufacturing), Human Rights
- Production, Consumption & Distribution: Consumption, Production
- Society, Science & Technology: Pollution and Environmental Protection
- Citizenship: Conflict Resolution, Equity
- Places & Environment: Location, Place, Human-Environment Interaction, Movement, Region

Essential Understandings:

- Individuals, Groups & Institutions: (1) Conflict exists between individuals and institutions in society.
- Power, Authority & Governance: (1) The balance of individual rights versus institutional authority varies from culture to culture, (2) Conflict results from competing goals and aspirations of societies, (3) The balance of power has shifted over time.
- Production, Consumption & Distribution: (1) Economic sophistication can correlate to global interdependence.
- Citizenship: (1) The rights of citizens have broadened democratically over time.
- Global Connections: (1) Interdependence changes over time, (2) Global connections increase cultural diversity, (3) Elements of conflict change global connections.
- Places & Environment: (1) Society modifies the environment over time to meet changing needs & wants, (2) Population change results in environmental consequences.

Skills:

- Identify and locate countries of the world.
- Identify and locate major cities of other countries.
- Identify the purpose or topic of tables and graphs.
- Interpret information from a table or graph.
- Draw conclusions from a table or graph.

- Construct tables and graphs from raw data.
- Relate time/dates to personal experience.
- Relate events in time.
- Use and interpret an existing timeline.
- Differentiate fact from opinion.
- Recognize cause and effect relationships.
- Identify bias or point of view in any source.
- Interpret graphics (pictures/photos).

Unit Three: Africa South of the Sahara

Conceptual Strands:

- Individuals, Groups & Institutions: Traditions, Beliefs & Values, Cultural Appreciation.
- Power, Authority & Governance: Government, Conflict & Cooperation
- Global Connections: Culture, Health Issues, Human Rights
- Production, Consumption & Distribution: Consumption, Transportation
- Society, Science & Technology: Transportation, Environmental Protection.
- Citizenship: Conflict Resolution, Equity.
- Places & Environment: Location, Place, Human-Environment Interaction, Movement, Region.

Essential Understandings:

- Individuals, Groups & Institutions: (1) Institutions develop and change over time.
- Power, Authority & Governance: (1) The balance of individual rights versus authority varies from culture to culture, (2) Conflict results from competing goals and aspirations of society, (3) The balance of power has shifted over time.
- Global Connections: (1) Interdependence changes over time, (2) Global connections increase cultural diversity, (3) Elements of conflict change global connections.
- Citizenship: (1) The rights of citizens have broadened over time.
- Places & Environment: (1) Societies develop in places that meet their needs and wants, (2) Populations migrate to meet changing needs & wants, (3) Population change results in environmental consequences.

Skills:

- Identify and locate countries of the world.
- Identify and locate major cities of other countries.
- Identify the purpose or topic of tables and graphs.
- Interpret information from a table or graph.
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- Construct tables and graphs from raw data.
- Relate time/dates to personal experience.
- Relate events in time.
- Use and interpret an existing timeline.
- Differentiate fact from opinion.
- Recognize cause and effect relationships.

- Identify bias or point of view in any source.
- Interpret graphics (pictures/photos).

Unit Four: South Asia

Conceptual Strands:

- Places and Environment: Location, Place, Human-Environmental Interaction, Movement, Region
- Individuals, Groups, and Institutions: Family, Traditions, Beliefs and Values, Cultural Appreciation
- Power, Authority, and Governance: Rules, Government, Conflict and Cooperation
- Production, Consumption, and Distribution: Work / Income, Consumption, Production, Transportation
- Society, Science, and Technology: Transportation, Inventions and Technology, Pollution and Environmental Protection
- Citizenship: Conflict resolution, Justice / Respect
- Global Connections: Transportation, Communication, Trade, Culture, Immigration, Health Issues, Human rights

Essential Understandings:

- Places and Environment: (1) Civilizations develop in locations based on their needs and wants, (2) People adapt their lifestyle based on their location and environment, (3) Modern mega cities have a negative impact on the environment, (4) Location plays a huge role in the economic capabilities of a society
- Individuals, Groups, and Institutions: (1) Religions and beliefs can develop based on uncertainties in the environment, (2) Family structure is adapted due to overpopulation, (3) Formal societies and cultures existed in Asia thousands of years before the United States
- Power, Authority, and Governance: (1) European imperialism still has an effect on conflict in Asia today, (2) Individual rights vary from culture to culture
- Production, Consumption, and Distribution: (1) Cheap labor and lessened restrictions have created an Asian market for “Western” goods and services, (2) Location on the Pacific has allowed for the economic success of many Asian distributing countries
- Society, Science, and Technology: (1) Technology has allowed societies to adapt to their environment,
- Citizenship: (1) Citizens’ rights are being constricted in parts of East Asia, (2) In Asia there is a link between democracy and economic success
- Global Connections: (1) The United States and other Western countries have become dependant upon Asian countries for manufacturing goods and services, (2) Technology and communication allow cultures of the world to experience and appreciate each other’s diversity, (3) Poor and wealthy societies are interdependent

Skills:

- Identify and locate countries of the world
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- Identify the purpose or topic of tables and graphs

- Interpret information from a table or graph
- Draw conclusions from a table or graph
- Construct tables and graphs from raw data
- Create a calendar
- Interpret a calendar
- Relate events in time
- Differentiate fact from opinion
- Recognize cause and effect relationships
- Identify bias or point of view in any source
- Interpret graphics

Unit Five: East Asia & Southeast Asia

Conceptual Strands:

- Places and Environment: Location, Place, Human-Environmental Interaction, Movement, Region
- Individuals, Groups, and Institutions: Family, Traditions, Beliefs and Values, Cultural Appreciation
- Power, Authority, and Governance: Rules, Government, Conflict and Cooperation
- Production, Consumption, and Distribution: Work / Income, Consumption, Production, Transportation
- Society, Science, and Technology: Transportation, Inventions and Technology, Pollution and Environmental Protection
- Citizenship: Conflict resolution, Justice / Respect
- Global Connections: Transportation, Communication, Trade, Culture, Immigration, Health Issues, Human rights

Essential Understandings:

- Places and Environment: (1) Civilizations develop in locations based on their needs and wants, (2) People adapt their lifestyle based on their location and environment, (3) Modern mega cities have a negative impact on the environment, (4) Location plays a huge role in the economic capabilities of a society
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Skills:

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- Interpret a calendar
- Relate events in time
- Differentiate fact from opinion
- Recognize cause and effect relationships
- Identify bias or point of view in any source
- Interpret graphics

Unit Six: Latin America

Conceptual Strands:

- Individuals Groups, and Institutions: Relationships, Traditions, Beliefs & Values, Cultural Appreciation.
- Power, Authority and Governance: Rules, Government, Conflict and Cooperation.
- Citizenship: Conflict Resolution, Equity, Freedom/Liberty.
- Society, Science, and Technology: Transportation, Inventions and Technology, Pollution and Environmental Protection.
- Global Connections: Transportation, Communication, Culture, Trade: Industry and Manufacturing, Immigration, Health Issues, Human Rights.
- Production, Consumption, and Distribution: Wants/Needs, Work/Income, Taxes, Consumption, Production, Transportation.
- Places and Environment: Location, Place, Human/Environment Interaction, Movement, Region.

Essential Understandings:

- Individuals, Groups, & Institutions: 1) Traditions bond people with the past. 2) Holidays reflect values and beliefs. 3) Families differ among cultures.
- Power Authority and Governance: 1) Governments are determined the way power is divided. 2) Change results from the interaction between conflict and compromise.
- Citizenship: 1) The rights of citizens have changed over time. 2) Countries use symbols to instill national pride. 3) The level of freedom depends on the type of government.

- Global Connections: 1) Elements of conflict change global connections. 2) Human rights differ from culture to culture. 3) People immigrate for many reasons. 4) Customs and traditions continue in new environments.
- Production, Consumption, and Distribution: 1) Unequal distribution of income exists. 2) Unlimited wants and limited resources cause conflict. 3) States cooperate through trade to meet people's needs and wants.
- Places and Environment: 1) Maps and globes emphasize geographic differences. 2) Changes of natural features affect people. 3) The interactions between people and the environment result in positive or negative effects.
- Society, Science, and Technology: 1) All things create waste.

Skills:

- Identify and locate countries of the world.
- Identify and major cities of other countries.
- Create a large scale map.
- Identify the purpose or topic of tables and graphs.
- Interpret information from a table or graph.
- Construct tables and graphs from raw data.
- Recognize cause and effect relationships.
- Interpret graphics (i.e. pictures/photos).

Unit Seven: US & Canada

Conceptual Strands:

- Individuals, Groups, & Institutions: Relationships, Traditions, Cultural Appreciation, Beliefs & Values.
- Places and Environment: Location, Place, Human Environmental interaction, Movement, Region.
- Power, Authority, and Governance: Rules, Government, Conflict and Cooperation.
- Citizenship: Freedom/Liberty, Equity, Justice/Respect, Rights and Responsibility, Resources.
- Society, Science and Technology: Transportation, Inventions and Technology, Pollution and Environmental Protection.
- Production, Consumption, and Distribution: Wants/Needs, Consumption, Production, Transportation.
- Global Connections: Communication, Culture, Trade: Industry and Manufacturing, Immigration, Health issues, Human rights.

Essential Understandings:

- Individuals, Groups, and Institutions: 1) Families differ because of ethnic backgrounds. 2) Countries develop alliances. 3) Values and beliefs evolve and influence a culture's growth and development. 4) Cultural appreciation and prejudice are learned behaviors.
- Places and Environment: 1) Natural resources affect the migration of people. 2) The interactions between people and environment result in positive or negative effects. 3) Limited natural resources exist.

- Power, Authority, & Governance: 1) Change results from the interaction between conflict and compromise. 2) Government responsibilities are divided. 3) Constitutional governments develop to promote stability and adapt to change.
- Citizenship: 1) Decisions about citizenship and allegiance are based on a variety of factors. 2) The characteristics of a democratic society include roles, rights, and responsibilities. 3) Countries use symbols to instill nationalistic pride.
- Global Connections: 1) Trade may increase power. 2) Trade affects standards of living. 3) Powerful nations spread their influence through trade. 4) Human rights differ from culture to culture. 5) Populations can be affected by health issues.
- Society, Science, and Technology: 1) Transportation affects patterns of settlement. 2) Transportation links regions. 3) The pollution of one region can affect other regions. 4) Technology empowers people.
- Production, Consumption, and Distribution: 1) Resource depletion alters economic development. 2) People and businesses sell products and services for profit. 3) Nations of the world cooperate in an attempt to meet people's needs and wants.

Skills:

- Identify, locate, and write the fifty states.
- Create a large scale map.
- Identify the purpose or topic of tables and graphs.
- Interpret information from a table or graph.
- Draw conclusions from a table or graph.
- Construct tables and graphs from raw data.
- Relate events in time.
- Differentiate fact from opinion.
- Recognize cause and effect relationships.
- Interpret graphics (i.e. pictures/photos).