

STAAR Alternate 2 Spring 2025

Grade 8 Social Studies Essence Statements

STAAR Reporting Category 1	STAAR Reporting Category 2	STAAR Reporting Category 3	STAAR Reporting Category 4
History: The student will demonstrate an understanding of issues and events in U.S. history.	Geography and Culture: The student will demonstrate an understanding of geographic and cultural influences on historical issues and events.	Government and Citizenship: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the role of government and the civic process on historical issues and events.	Economics, Science, Technology and Society: The student will demonstrate an understanding of economic and technological influences on historical issues and events.
Knowledge and Skills Statement (8.1) History. The student understands traditional historical points of reference in U.S. history through 1877. (Readiness and Supporting Standard) Essence Statement Recognizes important dates and time periods in U.S. history through 1877. Knowledge and Skills Statement (8.3) History. The student understands the foundations of representative government in the United States. (Readiness and Supporting Standard) Essence Statement Recognizes the foundations of representative government in the United States. Knowledge and Skills Statement (8.5) History. The student understands the challenges confronted by the government and its leaders in the early years of the republic and the Age of Jackson. (Readiness and Supporting Standard) Essence Statement Recognizes important challenges faced by the country during its early years.	Knowledge and Skills Statement (8.10) Geography. The student understands the location and characteristics of places and regions of the United States, past and present. (Readiness and Supporting Standard) Essence Statement Recognizes the physical characteristics of the United States and the effects of these historical events. Knowledge and Skills Statement (8.11) Geography. The student understands the physical characteristics of North America and how humans adapted to and modified the environment through the mid-19th century. (Readiness and Supporting Standard) Essence Statement Recognizes the physical characteristics of North America and how humans adapted to and modified the environment. Knowledge and Skills Statement (8.24) Culture. The student understands the major reform movements of the 19th century. (Readiness Standard) Essence Statement	Knowledge and Skills Statement (8.18) Government. The student understands the impact of landmark Supreme Court cases. (Supporting Standard) Essence Statement Recognizes the origin of judicial review and the impact of important U.S. Supreme Court decisions. Knowledge and Skills Statement (8.21) Citizenship. The student understands the importance of the expression of different points of view in a constitutional republic. (Supporting Standard) Essence Statement Recognizes the importance of the expression of different points of view on historical issues. Knowledge and Skills Statement (8.22) Citizenship. The student understands the importance of effective leadership in a constitutional republic. (Supporting Standard) Essence Statement Recognizes the importance of effective leadership and the contributions of significant leaders of the United States.	Knowledge and Skills Statement (8.13) Economics. The student understands how various economic forces resulted in the Industrial Revolution in the 19th century. (Readiness and Supporting Standard) Essence Statement Recognizes the causes of industrialization and urbanization in the United States. Knowledge and Skills Statement (8.28) Science, technology, and society. The student understands the impact of scientific discoveries and technological innovations on daily life in the United States. (Supporting Standard) Essence Statement Recognizes the impact of scientific discoveries and technological innovations on daily life in the United States.

Knowledge and Skills Statement (8.9) History. The student understands the effects of Reconstruction on the political, economic, and social life of the nation (Readiness and Supporting Standard) Essence Statement Recognizes the effects of Reconstruction on the United States.	Recognizes the development and impact of reform movements.		
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