Instructions for Social Studies Task Card Use

The Social Studies Task Cards were created for use with Social Studies content readings. The majority of the questions are taken from the Language Arts task cards, but were edited for specific use with Social Studies content. The cards and appropriate questions should be selected based on the area the teacher wishes to target. For example, if the school improvement plan is targeting an increase in the reporting category of *Informational Text*, the teacher should focus on questions from those cards. The task cards can be used with primary source documents, works of historical fiction, textbook readings, current events articles or other appropriate readings and documents.

The task cards can be implemented by printing and laminating one set for the teacher and/or additional sets for student use. A teacher may select one card, specific questions or a single question, depending on the length of the reading. The task question(s) can be written on a whiteboard, PowerPoint slide or any other method which allows all students to view the question(s).

Directions for creating durable cards:

1. Print the set of cards on white paper.
2. Select colored paper to print the cards on, preferably red, white and blue to distinguish the edited task cards from the Language Arts task cards.
3. Print desired numbers of copies on the colored paper. It may be advantageous to print Category 1 in red, Category 2 in blue, etc. to make it easier for the teacher and student to find the desired question.
4. Copies should be laminated, if possible. Most Media Centers have laminating machines.
5. After copies have been laminated, they should be trimmed with scissors or a paper cutter and assembled using wire ring for ease of use.

The task cards have been grouped in the following order:

Grades 1-2 Group 1

- SAT-10 Functional
- SAT-10 Informational

Grades 1-2 Group 2

- SAT 10 - Informational
- SAT 10 - Literary

Grades 3-5 Group 1

- VOCABULARY
- AUTHOR'S PURPOSE & PERSPECTIVE
- MAIN IDEA
- CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER

Grades 3-5 Group 2

- CAUSE & EFFECT
- RELEVANT SUPPORTING DETAILS
- TEXT STRUCTURES/ ORGANIZATIONAL PATTERNS
- THEME/ TOPIC

Grades 3-5 Group 3

- COMPARE & CONTRAST
- DESCRIPTIVE, IDIOMATIC & FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE
- TEXT FEATURES- In Literary Text
- LOCATE /INTERPRET /ORGANIZE INFORMATION & TEXT FEATURES in Informational Text

Grade 5 *ONLY*

- VALIDITY & RELIABILITY - *Grade 5 only

Grades 6-8 Group 1

- MAIN IDEA
- PATTERNS OF ORGANIZATION- TEXT STRUCTURE
- CHARACTER & PLOT DEVELOPMENT- POINT OF VIEW/SETTING CONFLICT RESOLUTION
- VALIDITY & ACCURACY OF INFORMATION

Grades 6-8 Group 2

- COMPARE/ CONTRAST
- ANALYZE AND EVALUATE/SYNTHESIZE INFORMATION
- AUTHOR'S PURPOSE/ PERSPECTIVE
- TEXT FEATURES IN INFORMATIONAL/LITERARY TEXT

Grades 6-8 Group 3

- CAUSE/ EFFECT
- VOCABULARY
- DESCRIPTIVE, IDIOMATIC, and FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE
- EDITORIAL CARTOON ANALYSIS

Grades 9-12 Group 1

- PRIMARY SOURCE- POINT OF VIEW/ SETTINGCONFLICT RESOLUTIONTONE
- DESCRIPTIVE, IDIOMATIC FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE
- TEXT FEATURES
- CAUSE/ EFFECT

Grades 9-12 Group 2

- MAIN IDEA
- TEXT STRUCTURE/ORGANIZATIONAL PATTERNS
- COMPARE/ CONTRAST
- AUTHOR'S PURPOSE & PERSPECTIVE

Grades 9-12 Group 3

- SYNTHESIZE INFORMATION
- ANALYZE & EVALUATE INFORMATION
- VALIDITY & RELIABILITY OF INFORMATION
- TEXT FEATURES

SOCIAL STUDIES Individual TASK CARDS:

Group 1:

- Visual Analysis
- Supporting a Position
- Analyzing Primary and Secondary Sources
- Recognizing Bias

Group 2:

- Problem Solving
- Geographic Literacy
- Decision making
- Frame of Reference and Point of View

Group 3:

- Sequencing
- Using Reliable Information