



Short Constructed Response Scoring Guide

Spring 2023

General Information

Beginning with the 2022–2023 school year, social studies assessments include short constructed-response questions at every assessed grade level. Students are asked to provide a short response to a question. Responses are scored using a prompt-specific, two-point rubric.

This State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) constructed-response scoring guide provides student exemplars at all score points for constructed-response questions from the STAAR grade 8 social studies operational test. The questions are presented as they appeared on the test, and responses were scored based on the two-point rubrics that were developed with the input of Texas educators. A response earns a specific score point based on the completeness of the response provided as measured against the rubric.

The responses in this guide are actual student responses submitted online during the testing window. To protect the privacy of individual students, all names and other references of a personal nature have been altered or removed. Otherwise, the responses appear as the students wrote them and have not been modified.

Grade 8 Short Constructed Response

Prompt

Select _____ of the following issues. How was each issue a cause of the American Revolution?

Proclamation of 1763

The Stamp Act

Lack of representation in Parliament

British economic policies following the French and Indian War

Think about the question carefully. Then enter your answer in the box provided.

Item-Specific Rubric

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Score two points for correct answers that include references to any two:

Proclamation of 1763:

The British restricted/prevented westward expansion and settlement.

Stamp Act:

All colonists had to pay taxes on documents and paper.

Taxes had to be paid in silver, which was difficult to acquire.

Unfair taxation/lack of representation in Parliament:

Colonists had to pay taxes that were created by a government in which they did not have representation.

British economic policies following the French and Indian War:

The British used taxes from the colonies to pay off debt from the war.

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The response provides only half of the correct details.

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The response is incorrect or irrelevant.

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Sample Student Response (p. 10) | Item ID: 8.01.03.01 | Score: 3

Score Point 2

The response provides relevant explanation for two causes of the American Revolution (“the

The response provides an explanation of the Stamp Act ("Taxed all printed material") and also provides a thorough explanation of the effects of the lack of representation in Parliament ("The British Monarchy did not account for the general population")

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Sample Student Responses

Score Point 0

The student response is irrelevant to the prompt.

The response incorrectly identifies the change in the price of wheat ("the price of wheat went down"). The reason for the price change is also incorrect ("so people would buy it").

This response describes an incorrect change in the price of wheat ("the price of wheat went down"). Two incorrect reasons for the price change are named ("you were able to send

The student response correctly identifies that the price of wheat increased (“the price must go up . . .”). The response also includes a relevant explanation (“supply and demand says that the price must go up to coincide with .