

SKILLS LIST and SAMPLE ITEMS FOR

PRACTICE TEST, SOCIAL STUDIES, GRADE 8

(Test items developed for skills measured in TERRA NOVA [CTBS]*)

Skills

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|-----|---|-----|---|
| 1.0 | Geography | 4.0 | Economic Perspectives |
| 1.1 | Process | 4.1 | Process Skills |
| 1.2 | Location | 4.2 | Production/Distribution/
Consumption |
| 1.3 | Human-Environment | 4.3 | Science/Technology/
Society |
| 2.0 | Historical and Cultural
Perspectives | 5.0 | Thinking Skills |
| 2.1 | Study of Time, Continuity,
and Societal Change
Throughout History | 5.1 | Generate Ideas |
| 2.2 | Contributions/Influences/
Interactions of Various
Cultures | 5.2 | Gather Information |
| 3.0 | Civics and Government
Perspectives | 5.3 | Organize Information |
| 3.1 | Basic Concepts | 5.4 | Analyze Information |
| 3.2 | Democratic Process | 5.5 | Synthesize Elements |
| 3.3 | Government | | |
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Number of questions: 40

Number of pages: 16

Approximate testing time: 40 minutes

CTBS and CAT are parallel tests

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Terra Nova PRACTICE TEST IN SOCIAL STUDIES - GRADE 8

Directions: An important resource of any country is its people. Every ten years the United States government counts the population in a census. A census may count other things besides people. Some different kinds of census are listed below. Use the information to answer Numbers 1 and 2.

- A. Census of Population: gathers information about people --- their number, age, sex, education, language.
- B. Census of Housing: gathers information about homes, their size and condition.
- C. Census of Agriculture: gathers information about farms, farm workers, and equipment.
- D. Census of Government: gathers information about the form of local government, its employees, and its finances.
- E. Census Bureau: gathers information about the output and resources of business, industry, mining, transportation, and communication.

1. What type of census would be used to find out how the number of horses used in farming has changed in recent years?

- A. Census of Population
 - B. Census of Agriculture
 - C. Census of Housing
 - D. Census of Government
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2. What type of census would be used to determine if more homes are heated by oil or natural gas?

- A. Census of Housing
 - B. Census of Agriculture
 - C. Census of Government
 - D. Census of Population
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3. What would be the most harmful result of air pollution in a community?

- A. It can erode surfaces of buildings.
- B. It can damage soil.
- C. It has a major effect on people's health.
- D. It destroys plants.