

*SKILLS LIST and SAMPLE TEST ITEMS*

*FOR*

**PRACTICE TEST FOR SOCIAL STUDIES, GRADE 11**

*(Test items developed for skills measured in CAT-5\*)*

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*Skills*

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| 1.0 Geography  | 4.0 Political Science   |
| 1.1 Physical and Cultural Characteristics<br>of Human Environment                          | 4.1 Structure and Functions of<br>Various Political Systems                                       |
| 2.0 Economics  | 5.0 Culture   |
| 2.1 Community, National, and Global<br>Economic Concepts                                   | 5.1 Individuals and Cultures in<br>Different Regions of the World,<br>and Their Impact on Society |
| 3.0 History  | 6.0 Applied Social Science  |
| 3.1 Chronology and the Interrelationships<br>of Social, Political, and Economic<br>History | 6.1 Apply Reasoning Skills to<br>Interrelated Concepts of Social<br>Studies                       |
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(OVER)

## CAT SOCIAL STUDIES PRACTICE TEST - GRADE 11

**DIRECTIONS:** Read these excerpts from first-hand accounts of the building of the transcontinental railroad. Then answer questions 6 and 7.

### Excerpt A

The scene along the road was both interesting and exciting. Here was a fine passenger station in course of construction; there, a freight or water station was being put up, as if by magic. Now, we were halted upon a sidetrack to allow a train of thirty or forty cars laden with ties, rails, chairs, and spikes for the track, to pass. And then, we would meet a train laden with stone or other material for the foundations or superstructure of a distant bridge. . .

One year ago. . . only twelve or fifteen miles had been laid west of Omaha; and it was struggling along at the rate of from one-quarter to a half-mile per day. Today. . . it is steadily progressing at the rate of from one and a half to two miles per day.

*From the diary of engineer Silas Seymour, October 8, 1866*

### Excerpt B

It was a very hilarious occasion. . . California furnished the Golden Spike. Governor Tuttle of Nevada furnished one of silver. Governor Stanford presented one of gold, silver, and iron from Arizona. The last tie was of California laurel.

When they came to drive the last spike, Governor Stanford, president of the Central Pacific, took the sledge and the first time he struck he missed the spike and hit the rail.

What a howl went up!

Everybody yelled with delight. . .

It was a great occasion, everyone carried off souvenirs and there are enough splinters of the last tie in museums to make a good bonfire. When the connection was finally made the U.P. and the C.P. engineers ran their engines up until their pilots touched. Then the engineers shook hands and had their pictures taken.

6. What does Excerpt A tell you about the progress of construction?
- A. The entire process moved quickly.
  - B. The railroad had been built in a short time.
  - C. At first it was slow but the pace had increased.
  - D. The entire project took many years to complete.
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7. What was the atmosphere during the ceremony to mark the completion of the railroad?
- A. festive and party-like
  - B. somber and sullen
  - C. depressed and discouraged
  - D. apprehensive and worried
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8. Which of the following occupations would be needed most in an underdeveloped country?
- A. a space technician
  - B. a nuclear scientist
  - C. a lawyer
  - D. an agricultural expert

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