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Social Studies (Grades 5–12)

Subtest 1 Sample Items

1. A flowchart would be most useful for conveying information on which of the following topics?

- A. a debate in Congress over a controversial issue
- B. the process by which laws are enacted in Congress
- C. the relationship between Congress and the executive branch
- D. the division of parties in Congress

2. Before assigning a new chapter in the textbook, a social studies teacher regularly walks students through the chapter's headings and subheadings. The teacher also encourages the students to read the chapter's introduction and summary before they read the entire chapter. These practices promote comprehension of a content-area text most directly by helping the students:

- A. determine what is most important to learn from their reading.
- B. match new vocabulary words in the text to the words' definitions.
- C. identify supplemental materials that are relevant to their reading.
- D. analyze the text from multiple viewpoints and perspectives.

3. Which of the following events occurred after Queen Elizabeth's 45-year reign as ruler of England?

- A. Protestant reformers condemned the sale of indulgences by the Roman Catholic Church.
- B. Renaissance artists created realistic representations of the human body.
- C. Enlightenment philosophers challenged prevailing views about society and government.
- D. Explorers established the first European colonies in Central and South America.

4. Which of the following best describes a major source of economic instability in both western Europe and the United States during the 1920s?

- A. chronic overproduction by farmers
- B. prohibitively high interest rates on consumer loans
- C. declining industrial productivity
- D. excessive deficit spending by national governments

5. Which of the following best describes the strategy of vertical integration that Andrew Carnegie adopted during the late nineteenth century?

- A. collaborating with competitors to form corporate trusts and cartels that controlled the price of steel in all major markets
- B. marketing steel products directly to consumers through newspaper and magazine advertisements
- C. forming company unions to block organization of the workforce by the American Federation of Labor
- D. establishing control over all aspects of the production process from the extraction of raw materials to the distribution of finished steel

Answer Key

Item Number	Correct Response	Subarea	Objective
1	B	I. Social Studies Skills	0001
2	A	I. Social Studies Skills	0004
3	C	II. World History	0007

Item Number	Correct Response	Subarea	Objective
4	A	II. World History	0008
5	D	III. U.S. and Minnesota History	0011

[↑ Top of Page](#)

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