

Sample Social Studies Test Questions

Sample OGT Social Studies Short-Answer Question

Aligned to Geography Standard

Below is a sample short-answer question and a sample multiple-choice question, both from the March 2007 Ohio Graduation Test in social studies. Following the short-answer test question is a response written by an Ohio student, as well as an explanation of why the student received full credit for the answer. The short-answer test question is worth up to two points.

People from the countries of Scandinavia, Finland, Denmark, Norway, and Sweden immigrated to the United States mainly between the Civil War and World War I. In general, they settled in the American Midwest. Their reasons for leaving their homelands included overpopulation, poor farm production and dissatisfaction with their governments.

Based on your knowledge of immigration patterns to the United States, identify two factors that attracted immigrants such as these to the United States.

The following Ohio student's response was awarded full credit of two points.

One Factor I think would attract Immigrants to the United States would be better Jobs. Another Factor would be they wanted better education for their kids or they wanted to have more Freedom.

This response accurately identifies two factors that attracted immigrants to the United States (better jobs; better education for their kids). "More freedom" is also a relevant factor.

Sample OGT Social Studies Multiple-Choice Question

Aligned to History Standard

Many Latin American nations gained their independence early in the 19th century. The relationship between the people and their government changed. Slavery existed under colonial governments, but some of the new nations, such as Haiti, did not permit slavery. The abolition of slavery was based on Enlightenment ideas of

- A. liberty as a natural right of man.
- B. separation of governmental powers.
- C. personal rights as less important than civil order.
- D. the authority of absolute monarchs.

(Correct Answer: "A")