

# Grade 4

Adopted 2016

## Historical Understandings

### **SS4H1. Explain the causes, events, and results of the American Revolution.** SS4H1

- a. Trace the events that shaped the revolutionary movement in America: French and Indian War, 1765 Stamp Act, the slogan "no taxation without representation," the activities of the Sons of Liberty, the activities of the Daughters of Liberty, Boston Massacre, and the Boston Tea Party. SS4H1.A
- b. Describe the influence of key individuals and groups during the American Revolution: King George III, George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Benedict Arnold, Patrick Henry, John Adams, Paul Revere, and Black regiments. SS4H1.B
- c. Describe the major events of the American Revolution and explain the factors leading to American victory and British defeat; include the Battles of Lexington and Concord, Saratoga, and Yorktown. SS4H1.C
- d. Explain the writing of the Declaration of Independence; include who wrote it, how it was written, why it was necessary, and how it was a response to tyranny and the abuse of power. SS4H1.D

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### **SS4H2. Analyze the challenges faced by the framers of the Constitution.** SS4H2

- a. Identify the major leaders of the Constitutional Convention (James Madison, George Washington, and Benjamin Franklin). SS4H2.A
- b. Evaluate the major issues debated at the Constitutional Convention: the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation, the rights of states to govern themselves (federal system), the Great Compromise, and slavery (Three-Fifths Compromise). SS4H2.B

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### **SS4H3. Explain westward expansion in America.** SS4H3

- a. Describe the causes and events of the War of 1812; include the burning of the Capitol and the White House and the writing of "The Star Spangled Banner." SS4H3.A
- b. Describe the impact of westward expansion on American Indians; include the Trail of Tears, Battle of Little Bighorn and the forced relocation of American Indians to reservations. SS4H3.B
- c. Describe territorial expansion with emphasis on the Louisiana Purchase, the Lewis and Clark expedition, and the acquisitions of Texas (the Alamo and independence), Oregon (Oregon Trail), and California (Gold Rush and the development of mining towns). SS4H3.C

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**SS4H4. Examine the main ideas of the abolitionist and suffrage movements.** SS4H4

- a. Discuss contributions of and challenges faced by Susan B. Anthony, Frederick Douglass, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Sojourner Truth, and Harriet Tubman. SS4H4.A

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**SS4H5. Explain the causes, major events, and consequences of the Civil War.** SS4H5

- a. Identify Uncle Tom's Cabin and John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry and explain how each of these events was related to the Civil War. SS4H5.A
- b. Discuss how the issues of states' rights and slavery increased tensions between the North and South. SS4H5.B
- c. Identify major battles, campaigns, and events: Fort Sumter, Gettysburg, the Atlanta Campaign, Sherman's March to the Sea, and Appomattox Court House. SS4H5.C
- d. Describe the roles of Abraham Lincoln, Robert E. Lee, Ulysses S. Grant, Jefferson Davis, Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, and William T. Sherman. SS4H5.D
- e. Describe the effects of war on the North and South. SS4H5.E

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**SS4H6. Analyze the effects of Reconstruction on American life.** SS4H6

- a. Describe the purpose of the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments. SS4H6.A
- b. Explain the work of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands (Freedmen's Bureau). SS4H6.B
- c. Explain how slavery was replaced by sharecropping and how freed African Americans or Blacks were prevented from exercising their newly won rights. SS4H6.C
- d. Describe the effects of Jim Crow laws and practices. SS4H6.D

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**Geographic Understandings**

**SS4G1. Locate important physical and man-made features in the United States.** SS4G1

- a. Locate major physical features of the United States: the Atlantic Coastal Plain, the Great Plains, the Continental Divide, the Gulf of Mexico, the Mississippi River, and the Great Lakes. SS4G1.A
- b. Locate major man-made features of the United States: New York City, NY; Boston, MA; Philadelphia, PA; Washington, D.C.; Gettysburg, PA; and the Erie Canal. SS4G1.B

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**SS4G2. Describe how physical systems affect human systems.** SS4G2

- a. Explain how each force (American and British) attempted to use the physical geography of each battle site (Lexington and Concord, Saratoga, and Yorktown) to its benefit. SS4G2.A
  - b. Describe physical barriers that hindered and physical gateways that benefited territorial expansion from 1801 to 1861. SS4G2.B
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## Government/Civic Understandings

### **SS4CG1. Describe the meaning of:** SS4CG1

- a. Natural rights as found in the Declaration of Independence (the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness) SS4CG1.A
  - b. "We the People" from the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution as a reflection of consent of the governed or popular sovereignty SS4CG1.B
  - c. The federal system of government in the U.S. (federal powers, state powers, and shared powers) SS4CG1.C
  - d. Representative democracy/republic SS4CG1.D
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### **SS4CG2. Explain the importance of freedoms guaranteed by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.** SS4CG2

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### **SS4CG3. Describe the structure of government and the Bill of Rights.** SS4CG3

- a. Describe how the three branches of government interact with each other (checks and balances and separation of powers), and how they relate to local, state, and federal government. SS4CG3.A
  - b. Identify and explain the rights in the Bill of Rights, describe how the Bill of Rights places limits on the powers of government, and explain the reasons for its inclusion in the Constitution in 1791. SS4CG3.B
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## Economic Understandings

### **SS4E1. Use the basic economic concepts of trade, opportunity cost, specialization, voluntary exchange, productivity, and price incentives to illustrate historical events.** SS4E1

- a. Describe opportunity cost and its relationship to decision-making across time (e.g., decisions to settle in the west). SS4E1.A
  - b. Explain how price incentives affect people's behavior and choices: decisions about what crops (e.g., cotton, and tobacco) to grow and products (e.g., textiles) to produce. SS4E1.B
  - c. Describe how specialization improves standards of living (e.g., differences in the economies in the North and South). SS4E1.C
  - d. Explain how voluntary exchange helps both buyers and sellers (e.g., Gold Rush mining towns). SS4E1.D
  - e. Describe how trade promotes economic activity (e.g., trade between the U.S. and Europe). SS4E1.E
  - f. Give examples of technological advancements and their impact on business productivity during the development of the United States (e.g., cotton gin, steamboat, steam locomotive, and telegraph). SS4E1.F
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### **SS4E2. Identify the elements of a personal budget (income, expenditures, and saving) and explain why personal spending and saving decisions are important.** SS4E2