

9-12 SOCIAL STUDIES

PERFORMANCE TASK STUDENT INSTRUCTIONS



TASK TITLE

Eight Features of Civilizations

INTRODUCTION

Research a modern country (not the United States) surrounding the 8 features and how your civilization has changed over time.

Your research should be focused around the questions of listed below. This research will provide the basis for the final product.

- Evaluate the 8 features of civilizations and discuss how they have changed over time.
- What qualifies for each of these in your nation?
- Do our class definitions of these 8 features need to be adapted to match our modern society?

Finally, write a 4 paragraph essay, individually, on the following prompt.

Select one feature from your modern civilization (i.e., job specialization) to analyze and then make a determination as to whether this feature makes life "better" today than in the past? Don't forget that your essay must have a thesis statement, must use evidence and examples to support your reasoning, and a clear introduction and conclusion.

SCORING CRITERIA

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	BEGINNING	DEVELOPING	PROFICIENT	EXPANDING
#1 History: B Analyze how a historical development has contributed to current social, economic, or political patterns. (HP3)	Describe the components of an historical development that contributed to current social, economic, or political patterns.	Analyze an historical development that has contributed to current social, economic, or political patterns.	Analyze an historical development (e.g., cycle of poverty or prosperity, low educational attainment) to describe how these circumstances and factors contribute to current social, economic, or political patterns.	Critique multiple accounts of an historical development across time periods to describe how these circumstances and factors contribute to current and/or historical social, economic, or political patterns.



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Research: 5 Use evidence and reasoning to justify claims or conclusions.	Identify evidence to support a claim.	Use reasoning to explain how evidence supports a claim or conclusion.	Support claims or conclusions with evidence and reasoning.	Integrate evidence and reasoning to support claims or conclusions.
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STUDENT DIRECTIONS AND MATERIALS

TASK DIRECTIONS

Construct an essay that selects one feature from your modern civilization (e.g., job specialization) to analyze and then make a determination as to whether this feature makes life "better" today than in the past? The essay must have a thesis statement, use evidence and examples to support your reasoning, and have a clear introduction and conclusion.

Conduct research and complete the Modern Civilization graphic organizer.

Construct an essay that selects one feature from your modern civilization (e.g., job specialization) to analyze and then make a determination as to whether this feature makes life "better" today than in the past? The essay must have a thesis statement, use evidence and examples to support your reasoning, and have a clear introduction and conclusion.

MATERIALS

- Modern Civilization Graphic Organizer
- World History Textbook Chapter 1, Section 3 and Chapter 2 (all)
- Computer Access (Laptop)
- Task Instructions
- Task Rubric

NOTE

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CHECKLIST

Your product must include:

- Research Graphic Organizer
- 4 Paragraph Essay (Intro, Thesis, 2 Body Paragraphs, Conclusion)

STUDENT REFLECTION AND/OR GOAL SETTING

Look back on both the research and writing process then write an exit slip that answers the following question:

- What about this process worked for you?
- What would you change in the future?
- What could I have done to support you better?