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I. Purpose of Assessment Guide

This document is designed to assist Louisiana educators in understanding the LEAP 2025 Social Studies assessment for grade 4, which will be administered in the spring.

II. Introduction to LEAP 2025 Social Studies Assessments

The Department is committed to administering consistent and rigorous assessments in social studies. All students in grades 3 through 8 will take LEAP 2025 grade-specific summative assessments in social studies measuring the [2011 Louisiana Social Studies standards and Grade-Level Expectations \(GLEs\)](#). The Spring 2017 LEAP 2025 Social Studies assessments will be operational tests created using questions from the Spring 2016 Social Studies Field Test.

The LEAP 2025 Social Studies assessments will offer the following:

- Grade-specific assessments in grades 3 through 8
- Measurement of the full range of Louisiana content standards in social studies
- Ability to measure the full range of student performance, including the performance of high- and low-performing students
- Flexibility in test administration for grades 3 and 4, with both paper- and computer-based testing available

III. Design of LEAP 2025 Social Studies Assessment

Content and Claims

The new LEAP 2025 Social Studies assessments provide students with opportunities to demonstrate their understanding of social studies through a variety of item types and to engage with source documents while developing **claims** about social studies **content** and concepts.

The instructional priorities for social studies are reflected in the summative assessment.

- **Content:** Students answer meaningful questions to demonstrate an understanding of social studies **content** and concepts.
- **Claims:** Students apply understanding of social studies **content** and concepts by expressing and developing **claims** that make connections and/or show relationships among ideas, people, and events within and across time and place.

Test Design

The LEAP 2025 Social Studies assessments have a **set-based** design.

- One to four related source documents anchor sets of four to six questions.
- Questions ask students to use prior content knowledge and the source documents to show an understanding of social studies content and concepts.
- Item sets include selected-response (i.e., multiple-choice and/or multiple-select) questions and some sets culminate with a short constructed response.
- The task set contains selected-response questions and an extended response. The extended-response item is worth up to 8 points and scored using a two-dimensional rubric measuring content and claims.
- Sample item and task sets for grades 3 through 8 are available [here](#). A sample item set for grade 4 can be found [here](#), and a sample task set for grade 4 can be found [here](#).

Source Documents

Sets include a variety of source documents, such as:

- an excerpt from a text-based primary or secondary source
- an authentic or historical map
- a chart, table, or graph
- a timeline or series of events
- graphic organizer or diagram
- an illustration, painting, or photograph
- a historical poster or political cartoon

Item Types

- Selected Response (SR): This item type includes traditional multiple-choice (MC) questions with four answer options and only one correct answer, as well as multiple-select (MS) questions with more than four answer options and two or more correct answers. All SR items are worth 1 point each. MS questions for grade 4 have five to six answer options. The stem of the question identifies the number of correct answers students should fill in.
- Constructed Response (CR): This item type appears at the end of some item sets and asks students to write a brief response to a question that will be scored using a rubric with a 0-to-2-point scale. Some CR items may include two parts in order to support the assignment of 2 score points.
- Extended Response (ER): This item type appears at the end of the task set. The ER item asks students to write an in-depth response that expresses and develops a claim, incorporating their knowledge of social studies content and concepts along with evidence from the source documents. The ER item is worth up to 8 points and scored using a two-dimensional rubric, measuring content and claims. Each dimension is scored using a 0-to-4 point rubric.

In spring 2017, students will take full-length, operational LEAP 2025 Social Studies assessments. The Grade 4 test contains six (6) operational item sets, twelve (12) discrete stand-alone items, and a task set. The test also contains embedded field test items (i.e., 2 item sets and 3 discrete stand-alone items) that do not count toward students' scores. In comparison, the Spring 2016 Social Studies Field Tests were shortened forms containing 4 to 5 item sets (depending upon grade level), a handful of discrete stand-alone items, and a task set.

The following information outlines the design of the Grade 4 Social Studies Assessment.

Spring 2017 Grade 4 Social Studies Test Design

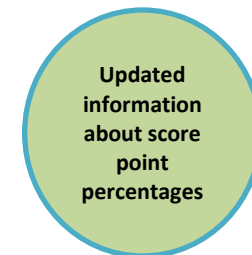
Test Session	Component	Number of Source Documents per Set or Discrete Item	Numbers and Types of Questions	Time Allowed
Session 1	Item Set	1 to 4	6 Selected Response	85 minutes
	Item Set	1 to 4	6 Selected Response	
	Item Set	1 to 4	4 Selected Response 1 Constructed Response	
	Item Set	1 to 4	4 Selected Response 1 Constructed Response	
Session 2	Task Set	3 to 4	3 Selected Response 1 Extended Response	45 minutes
Session 3	Item Set	1 to 4	6 Selected Response	85 minutes
	Item Set	1 to 4	4 Selected Response	
	Discrete Items	0 to 2	12 Selected Response	
Total Operational Form	6 Item Sets 1 Task Set 12 Discrete Items		45 Selected Response 2 Constructed Response 1 Extended Response	215 minutes
Total Embedded Sets/Items	2 Item Sets 3 Discrete Items (embedded across Sessions 1 and 3)		11-13 Selected Response 1 Constructed Response	

Standards Assessed

All 2011 Louisiana Social Studies standards and Grade Level Expectations (GLEs) for grade 4 are eligible for assessment, including all units in the [Social Studies Scope and Sequence for Grade 4](#). Item sets that assess content from the final unit include carefully chosen source documents that allow students to respond using their social studies skills and content knowledge from previous units. The task set, which contains the extended-response question, will not assess content from the final unit.

The approximate percentage of score points by reporting category for the item sets and discrete items is shown in the table below. As the strand to be addressed by the task set varies by year, the percentages by reporting categories do not take the task set into account.

Reporting Category	Approximate Percentage of Score Points Based on Item Sets and Discrete Items for Grade 4
History	25
Geography	25
Civics	25
Economics	25
Total	100



IV. Sample Test Items

A sample [item set](#) and [task set](#), providing examples of how content and claims may be assessed in a grade 4, are available. The sets include source documents, selected-, constructed-, and extended-response questions.

V. Testing Materials

All students will be provided the following testing materials:

- Scratch paper
- Two sharpened no. 2 pencils with good erasers (extras should be available)
- [Extended Response Checklist](#) for grades 3, 4, and 5

VI. Test Administration Policies

Administration Schedule

The LEAP 2025 ELA, mathematics, and social studies assessments will be administered during **one** testing window and will be available to districts as paper-based tests (PBT) and computer-based tests (CBT) for grade 4. The grade 4 LEAP science assessment, which is available only as a paper-based test, will be administered during the PBT testing window. The table below lists the PBT administration schedule for the spring ELA, mathematics, social studies, and science assessments.

Paper-Based Test Administration Schedule: Grade 4		
Testing Window: May 1, 2017 – May 5, 2017		
May 1	English Language Arts Session 1: Literary Analysis Task + 1 passage set OR Research Simulation Task	90 minutes
	Mathematics Session 1	75 minutes
May 2	English Language Arts Session 2: Research Simulation Task OR Narrative Writing Task + 1 reading set with one or two texts	90 minutes
	Mathematics Session 2	75 minutes
May 3	English Language Arts Session 3: Reading Literary and Informational Texts	45 minutes
	Mathematics Session 3	75 minutes
May 4	Social Studies Session 1: Item Sets	85 minutes
	Social Studies Session 2: Task Set	45 minutes
	Social Studies Session 3: Item Sets and Discrete Items	85 minutes
May 5	Science Session 1: Multiple Choice	Suggested time: 60 minutes
	Science Session 2: Short Answer	Suggested time: 30 minutes
	Science Session 3: Task	Suggested time: 30 minutes

The LEAP 2025 ELA, mathematics, and social studies tests are **strictly timed** and no additional time is permitted, except for students who have a documented extended time accommodation (e.g., an IEP). Although the LEAP science test is not timed, suggested times are included.

The table below lists just one example CBT administration session order for grade 4, followed by the policies and recommendations for the spring ELA, mathematics, and social studies assessments. Examples of testing schedules can be found [here](#).

Computer-Based Test Administration: Grade 4		
Test Window: April 3, 2017 – May 5, 2017		
English Language Arts	Session 1: Literary Analysis Task + 1 passage set OR Research Simulation Task	90 minutes
Mathematics	Session 1	75 minutes
English Language Arts	Session 2: Research Simulation Task OR Narrative Writing Task + 1 reading set with one or two texts	90 minutes
Mathematics	Session 2	75 minutes
English Language Arts	Session 3: Reading Literary and Informational Texts	45 minutes
Mathematics	Session 3	75 minutes
Social Studies	Social Studies Session 1: Item Sets	85 minutes
Social Studies	Social Studies Session 2: Task Set	45 minutes
Social Studies	Social Studies Session 3: Item Sets and Discrete Items	85 minutes

Computer-based testing allows districts some flexibility in scheduling. However, to reduce incidences of testing irregularities, districts must adhere to the following scheduling and administration practices:

- Testing students in the same grade level across the district at or very close to the same time
- Completing makeup testing for students immediately upon their return
- Limiting student interaction during breaks between test sessions
- Isolating students who have not completed testing for the day (e.g., students with extended time accommodation)
- Preventing interaction between groups of students taking the same tests at different times within a testing day
- Requiring the completion of a session once it is opened (i.e., limiting the reopening of test sessions)
- Taking the sessions within a content area in the correct order (e.g., ELA Session 1 taken before ELA Session 2)

We also recommend

- limiting sessions to no more than three in one day for a student; and
- administering no more than one session that includes an extended-response task or writing prompt (i.e., Social Studies Session 2, ELA Session 1, and ELA Session 2) in a day to an individual student.

The LEAP 2025 ELA, mathematics, and social studies tests are **strictly timed** and no additional time is permitted, except for students who have a documented extended time accommodation (e.g., an IEP).

Paper-Based Tests

The paper-based tests will utilize consumable test booklets. Students, except those using braille test materials, will enter all answers in their test booklets. There will be no separate answer documents.

Multiple-Choice questions have four options. Students will fill in the bubble of the correct answer.

- Option A
- Option B
- Option C
- Option D

Multiple-Select questions for grade 4 have five to seven answer options. Students will fill in the number of correct answers identified in the stem of the question. The sample below asks for two correct answers.

- Option A
- Option B
- Option C
- Option D
- Option E
- Option F

The following information presents guidelines for marking/writing in the LEAP 2025 Social Studies Test booklet.

- Students are encouraged to mark the sources and questions in the test booklet (e.g., highlight or underline evidence, annotate the source document(s), circle key words in the questions, etc.), especially as part of their preparation in responding to the extended-response portion of the task.
- Students may use yellow highlighters to highlight text in the test booklet.
- Highlighting text in options and placing an X to the right of the text in an option are recommended ways for students to eliminate options. However, crossing out options could create scoring issues if students mark through answer circles.

When students are answering items requiring written responses, they should make sure to write their responses in the space(s) provided. Any information written outside the space or which has been scratched out in the printed test booklet will not be scored.

Computer-Based Tests

Students taking the computer-based tests will enter their answers into the online testing system. The way each answer is entered depends on the item type. When composing their written responses for a constructed- or extended-response question, students will type their responses into an answer box using the typing tools provided.

The computer-based tests include the following online tools, which allow a student to select answer choices, “mark” items, eliminate answer options, take notes, enlarge the item, guide the reading of a text or an item line by line (similar to what a student can do on the paper-based tests), and access the Extended-Response Checklist. A help tool is also featured to assist students as they use the online system.

- Pointer tool



- Highlighter tool



- Cross-Off tool



- Sticky Note tool



- Magnifying tool



- Line Guide



- Extended-Response Checklist



- Help Tool



All students taking the computer-based tests should work through the Online Tools Training (available in INSIGHT or [here](#) using the Chrome browser) to practice using the online tools so they are well prepared to navigate the online testing system.

VII. Resources

- Online Tools Training: (*Available now*) provides students and teachers opportunities to become familiar with the tools available in the online testing platform; currently available in INSIGHT or [here](#) using the Chrome browser
- LEAP 2025 Grade 4 Paper-Based Practice Test and Scoring Guide: (*Available Winter-Spring*) offers samples of paper-based grade-level practice tests to help prepare students for the spring assessments; available through INSIGHT and on LDOE website
- LEAP 2025 Grade 4 Computer-Based Practice Test and Scoring Guide: (*Available Winter-Spring*) offers a computer-based grade-level practice test to help prepare students for the spring assessments; accessed through INSIGHT
- LEAP 2025 Social Studies Practice Test Guidance: (*Available Winter-Spring*) provides guidance on how grades 3-8 teachers might better use the social studies practice tests to support their instructional goals
- Guide to Administering the Online Practice Tests: (*Available Winter-Spring*) provides information regarding the administration and scoring process needed for the online practice tests
- [2011 Social Studies Grade-Level Expectations](#): provides the Social Studies standards and GLEs for all grade levels
- [Extended Response Checklist](#): provides students in grades 3, 4, and 5 with support when developing their extended response
- [Fourth Grade Teacher Library](#): provides links to grade-specific resources, such as the standards, shared teacher resources, and instructional plans
- [Grades 3-5 Social Studies 2004 and 2011 GLE Comparison Charts](#): provides a side-by-side look at the 2004 and 2011 GLEs, identifying the changes so teachers can better understand the new instructional and assessment direction
- [Accessibility Features and Accommodations Overview](#): (*Updated version available Winter*) provides information on the accessibility features and accommodations for grades 3 through 8 assessments
- [Social Studies Grade 4 Sample Item Set](#): provides examples of how content and claims may be assessed in a grade 4 item set; includes a constructed-response question
- [Social Studies Grade 4 Sample Task Set](#): provides examples of how content and claims may be assessed in a grade 4 task set; includes an extended-response question
- [Social Studies Resources page](#): provides links to social studies resources for each grade-level, including instructional tasks that show how to incorporate the instructional priorities of content and claims; instructional tasks for grade 4 include:
 - [Westward Expansion \(Grade 4\)](#)
 - [Innovations and Migrations \(Grade 4\)](#)
 - [Civil Rights \(Grade 4\)](#)
- [Social Studies Scope and Sequence for Grade 4](#): provides a yearlong overview of the GLEs categorized into units to show how they support the development of content and claims
- [Social Studies Key Themes for Grade 4](#): shows how the social studies GLEs are connected to help teachers prepare for the new assessments