Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Ruppel Academy*

*Social Studies Department*

7th Grade Social Studies

Civics, Economics, Geography, and History Strands/Key Concepts

(defined)

**1**

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**7th Grade Social Studies**

**Civics Key Concepts**

**(LEAP Vocabulary)**

**C-1A-M2 through C-1A-M7**

**Democracy-** a form of government in which the people of a nation rule either directly or through elected representatives.

**Republic-** a form of government in which the people elect representatives to carry on the work of government for them.

**Monarchy-** a system of authoritarian government headed by a monarch - a king, queen, shah, or sultan - whose position is usually inherited.

**Dictatorship-** a form of government in which absolute power is held by one person.

**Totalitarian-** a form of government in which a central authority controls all aspects of society, subordinating individual freedom to state interests.

**Oligarchy-** a form of government in which a few persons hold the ruling power.

**Bicameral-** a lawmaking body consisting of two houses (House and Senate).

**Unicameral-** a lawmaking body consisting of one house (i.e., Nebraska)

**Legislative-** the branch of government that makes laws.

**Executive-** the branch of government that carries out or enforces laws (e.g., President, governor, parish president, mayor).

**Judicial-** the branch of government that interprets the laws (i.e., U.S. Supreme Court, state supreme court, lower courts).

**Federalism-** American system of government in which the powers of government are divided between the national government, which governs the whole nation, and the state governments which govern the people of each state.

**Constitution-** a written plan of government describing the government's organization, purpose, basic laws, and the rights of the people.

**3**

**The Constitution of the United States**

**Preamble**

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

**Contents of the Constitution**

Original Constitution

Preamble

Article

1. The Legislative Branch
2. The Executive Branch
3. The Judicial Branch
4. Relations Among the States
5. Amending the Constitution
6. National Supremacy
7. Ratification

Bill of Rights

1 Freedom of Religion, Speech, Press, Assembly, and Petition

2 Right to Bare Arms

3 Lodging Troops in Private Homes

4 Search and Seizure

5 Rights of the Accused

6 Right to Speedy Trial by Jury

7 Jury Trial in Civil Cases

8 Bail and Punishment

9 Powers Reserved to the People

10 Powers Reserved to the States

Additional Amendments

11 Suits Against States

12 Election of President and Vice President

13 Abolition of Slavery

14 Rights of Citizens

15 Voting Rights

16 The Income Tax

17 Direct Election of Senators

18 Prohibition of Alcoholic Beverages

19 Women's Suffrage

20 Presidential Terms; Sessions of Congress

21 Repeal of Prohibition

22 Limit on Number of President's Terms

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23 Presidential Electors for the District of Columbia

24 Abolition of Poll Tax in National Elections

25 Presidential Succession and Disability

26 Voting Age

27 Mid-term Pay Raises for Members of Congress

**Liberties Protected by the First Amendment**

Freedom of the Press

Freedom of Religion

Freedom of Petition

**Principles of the Constitution**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Principle** | **Definition** |
| Popular Sovereignty | Principle of government in which the people hold the final authority of power |
| Limited Government | Principle that the government is not all powerful but can do only what the people  say it can do |
| Federalism | Division of power between the national government and the state governments |
| Separation of Powers | Division of the operations of the national government into three branches, each with its own powers and responsibilities |
| Checks and Balances | Means by which each branch of the national government is able to check, or control, the power of the other two branches |

**Federal Officeholders**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Office** | **Number** | **Term** | **Selection** | **Requirements** |
| Representative | At least 1 per state; based on state population | 2 yrs. | Elected by voters of congressional districts | Age 25 or over, citizen for 7 yrs., resident of state in which elected |
| Senator | 2 per state | 6 yrs. | Original Constitution- elected by state legislature; Amendment 17- elected by voters | Age 30 or over, citizen for 9 yrs., resident of state in which elected |
| President/VP | 1 | 4 yrs. | Elected by Electoral College | Age 35 or over, natural-born citizen, resident of U.S. for 14 yrs. |
| Supreme Court | 9 | life | Appointed by President, confirmed by the Senate | No requirements in Constitution |

**The Federal System**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Powers Delegated to the National Government** | **Powers Reserved to the States** |
| - Regulate interstate and foreign trade | - Create corporation laws |
| - Set standard weights and measures | - Regulate trade within state |
| - Create and maintain armed forces | - Establish and maintain schools |
| - Make copyright and patent laws | - Establish local governments |
| - Establish postal offices | - Make laws about marriage and divorce |
| - Establish foreign policy | - Conduct elections |
| - Create federal courts | - Provide for public safety |
| - Coin money |  |
| - Declare war |  |
| - Admit new states |  |
| **Powers Shared by National and State Government** | |
| - Provide for public welfare  - Administer criminal justice  - Charter banks  - Raise taxes  - Borrow money | |

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**System of Checks and Balances**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Executive Branch**  President Carries Out Laws | Checks on the Legislative Branch  - Can propose laws  - Can veto laws  - Can call special sessions of Congress  - Makes appointments  - Negotiates foreign treaties | Checks on the Judicial Branch  - Appoints federal judges  - Can grant pardons to federal offenders |
| **Legislative Branch**  Congress - Makes Laws | Checks on the Executive Branch  - Can override President's veto  - Confirms executive appointments - Ratifies treaties  - Appropriates money  - Can impeach and remove President | Checks on the Judicial Branch  - Creates lower federal courts  - Can impeach and remove judges  - Can propose amendments to overrule  judicial decisions  - Approves appointments of federal judges |
| **Judicial Branch**  Supreme Court – Interprets Laws | Checks on the Executive Branch  - Can declare executive actions unconstitutional | Checks on the Legislative Branch  - Can declare acts of Congress unconstitutional |

Bill of Rights- the first ten amendments to the U. S. Constitution; ratified in 1791, which set forth basic rights guaranteed to all Americans.

Bill- a proposed law being considered by a lawmaking body.

C-1A-M6

Representatives- the House of Representatives, or the House, as it is sometimes called, has 435 members. It is the larger of the two houses of Congress. Members of the House are referred to as representatives,

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Senate- the Senate is the smaller of the two houses of Congress. The Constitution provides that each state, regardless of size, be represented in the Senate by two members. These members are known as senators.

C-1A-M7

*Marbury v. Madison-* (1803) U.S. Supreme Court case that established the principle of judicial review.

Dred Scott Decision- (1857) U.S. Supreme Court ruling that declared African-Americans were not citizens, that the Missouri Compromise's restriction on slavery was unconstitutional, and that Congress did not have the right to ban slavery in any federal territory.

*Gideon v. Wainwright-* (1963) a U.S. Supreme Court case which declared that every defendant in a felony case is entitled to a lawyer. Those defendants too poor to hire a lawyer must be provided one by the court.

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*Miranda v. Arizona-* (1966) a U.S. Supreme Court case that said the right to be represented by a lawyer applied not only to criminal trials, but also to other critical stages in the criminal justice process such as during police questioning of suspects.

Constitutional- a law or act that is in accord with and does not violate the constitution.

Criminal Law- the branch of law which deals with the enforcement of laws and the punishment of persons who, by breaking laws, commit crimes.

Civil Law- the body of law which deals with the private rights of individuals as distinguished from the criminal laws.

C-1A-M8

Town Meeting- form of government in which all citizens meet together to discuss town's issues.

Public Opinion Poll- surveying taken to measure public opinions.

Lobbyists- people paid to represent an interest group's viewpoint at congressional committee hearings and who tried to influence the votes of Congress members.

C-1A-M9

Taxes- the payment of money by an individual to a government; the major source of revenue for a state. Types of taxes include Social Security, federal/state income tax, sales taxes, tariffs (taxes on imported goods). Taxes provide revenue for schools, police and fire protection, construction, and maintenance-of roads and public buildings.

C-1A-M10

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Social Security Tax- kind of income tax that is used mainly to pay income to retired people.

Sales Tax- state or city tax on items or services sold to the public.

Tariff or Custom Duty- tax on products imported from other countries.

C-1B-Ml

Code of Hammurabi- the oldest known code of laws created by the ancient king of Babylon, it called for "an eye for an eye" form of justice.

Magna Carta- the document signed by King John of England in 1215 that gave nobles certain rights. It said the king could not raise new taxes without the consent of nobles and church leaders; most important, it said the king, like everyone else, had to obey the law.

Mayflower Compact- the agreement made by the Pilgrims in 1620 that said they agreed to consult each other about laws for the colony and promised to work together for the good of the colony.

Articles of Confederation- the first constitution for the new United States (1781-1787); it provided for a weak national government.

C-1B-M3

Declaration of Independence- the document written by Thomas Jefferson in 1776 that stated the colonies had become a free and independent nation

C-1B-M5

Petitions- a document making a formal written request, usually accompanied by the signatures of a number of citizens. The right to petition the government is specifically protected by the First Amendment.

Recall- a special election that allows voters to remove an elected official from office.

Amendment- a formal written change or addition to a constitution.

Impeachment- formal charge brought against a government official. The House has the power to impeach the President and other high officials. An impeached official is tried by the Senate.

Compromise- an agreement in which each side gives up part of its demands.

Strike- situation in which workers walk off the job and refuse to work until disputed labor issues are settled. '

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Sit-ins- non-violent demonstrations in which people protesting against certain conditions, government policies, or laws, sit down in an appropriate place and refuse to move until their demands are considered. (i.e., Rosa Parks on a Montgomery, AL bus).

Boycott- refusing to buy certain goods or services.

Civil Disobedience- intentional breaking of a law to show dissent. (e.g., Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr.).

C-1B-M6

Political Parties- organization of citizens who have similar views on issues and who work for the election of party members to office and for the passage of bills.

Electoral College- a group of electors from each state that meets every four years to vote for President and Vice President.

Census- a count of the population taken every ten years.

Mayor- chief executive officer of a city government.

President- chief executive, or head, of the executive branch of the federal government.

C-1C-Ml

Alliances- groups of countries that share a common purpose (e.g., United Nations, NATO).

Diplomacy- the way nations conduct foreign policy among themselves.

Treaty- an agreement between two or more nations (e.g., Treaty of Paris, Treaty of Versailles, Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, Panama Canal Treaty).

Summit Meeting - meetings between world leaders (i.e., Camp David Summit).

C-1C-M2, C-1C-M3

U.S. Foreign Policy: A Summary­

United States becomes a nation in 1776; President Washington later issues the Proclamation of Neutrality, stating the United States would not fight on any side during a war; England violates U.S. neutrality in 1812, U.S. defeats England in 1814. Monroe Doctrine (1823) tells Europe not to colonize the Western Hemisphere. U.S. is allegedly attacked by Mexico in present state of Texas (1846). U.S. defeats Mexico and acquires western territories and Oregon (this continues U.S. expansion from sea to sea - Manifest Destiny). Civil War (1861-1865) divides the United States. North favors tariffs and expansion of tree territories; South is anti-tariff and pro-slavery in new territories. Following Union (North) victory, South enters the Reconstruction period.

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U.S. becomes a world power in 1898; Spanish-American War results in Cuban independence and U.S. acquisitions in the Pacific. U.S., again, assumes neutrality until Germany attacks allied ships and U.S. enters World War I. Following WWI, U.S. assumes a policy of isolation (having

little to do with foreign nations). U.S. remains this way until Pearl Harbor (December 7, 1941) is attacked by Japan and U.S. enters World War II.

Following WWII, the U.S. and Soviet Union become the world's major super powers. This remains throughout the Cold War (state of tension between communist and democratic nations without actual warfare) from 1945-1990. Major events during Cold War years include Korean War in early 1950s, Cuban Missile Crisis-1962, and Vietnam War- 1961-1975. With the collapse of communism and the Soviet Union, the U.S. remains the only major super power in the world.

C-1C-M2

Monroe Doctrine- (1823) policy by President Monroe declaring that European nations should not interfere in the affairs of the Western Hemisphere.

League of Nations- an international organization formed after World War I to resolve disputes.

United Nations- (UN) organization formed to promote peace and cooperation among nations.

Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries- (O.P.E.C.) an organization of major oil exporting nations that sets the price of oil.

NATO- (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) an alliance of sixteen nations pledged to defend one another in Europe and the Middle East.

7th Grade Social Studies

Economics Key Concepts

(LEAP Vocabulary)

E-1A-M1

Resources- all things that are necessary for production. (a) natural resources- crude oil in the ground, or trees before they are cut down. (b) human resources- the labor or work effort that is applied to the natural resource in producing goods and services. (c) capital resources- the tools that are used by labor in making products.

Scarcity of Resources- the condition where the needs or wants of the people are greater than the resources to satisfy them.

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E-1A-M2

The Four Basic Questions of an Economic System- a set of rules that governs (a) what goods and services to produce, (b) how to produce them, ( c) how much to produce, and (d) for whom are they meant, (who will use them).

Cost- the amount paid for anything. (a) fixed costs are expenses that must be paid (examples are rent or mortgage payments and property taxes. (b) variable or changing cost are expenses that change with the number of products produced, examples are wages paid to labor and the cost of the natural resource.

E-1A-M3

Trade-off- means you choose to give up one thing in order to have something else. Example: You have $5.00 to spend. You can buy a hat or go to the movies. You choose to go to the movies.

Opportunity Costs- means the value of a second choice that you gave up when you decided on your first choice. Example: Your opportunity cost is not having the new $5.00 hat. Every time you make a choice you pay an opportunity cost.

E-1A-M4

Specialization- of labor occurs when individual workers concentrate their labor or single tasks, enabling each worker to become more productive. An early example is the assembly line used by automobile manufacturers.

E-1A-M5

Productivity- is the amount of goods and services created for each hour on the job. Your job performance helps determine your advancement and your income increase.

E-1A-M6

Goods- are things that are physical; they are touchable objects.

Services- are things people do, as electricians, waiters, etc. Goods can be accumulated, services cannot.

Economic Systems- (a) traditional system- the economic decisions are based on customs, the way things were done in the past. People learn almost everything they believe in from their families. Many underdeveloped third world nations in Africa and Asia have traditional systems. (a) command system- the economic decisions are made by government authorities. Individuals have little choice. The two types are socialism and communism.

Socialism- the government owns all businesses and the means of production. There are no countries with pure socialism. Mixed socialism is practiced in Sweden, Norway, and Denmark.

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Communism- the government has complete ownership and control of production. Political power is held by a small group that makes and enforces the economic rules for society. All property is taken away and redistributed. Cuba and China are communist systems.

Market System- the economy reflects the decision and. choice of the people. This system is moved by the forces of supply and demand as dictated by the consumer.

E-1A-M7

Three Basic Forms of Business Organization:

Single Proprietorship- is the most common form. An individual owner makes decisions and is personally accountable for all financial obligations. When the owner dies, the business must be reorganized.

Partnerships- are a legal joining of two or more individuals in a business. This is the least common form. Partnerships have the advantage of being able to share expenses. Individuals in partnerships are financially responsible for the personal as well as the business debts of their partners unless specifically exempted in the contract.

Corporation- is the most difficult form to establish. Corporations can raise money through the sale of either stocks or bonds. A corporation is considered a legal person before the law. Individual owners cannot lose more than they have invested. If an owner dies, the firm will continue to operate.

Corporate Stock- a unit of ownership in the firm. The owner of the stock shares in the profit of the firm.

Corporate Bond- is a loan to the firm. Interest must be paid on the loan.

Cooperative- an organization as a store or an apartment house, owned and managed by an association of people. They are able to purchase large quantities as a single unit. Each member shares in the cost and savings of the purchase.

E-1A-M8

Forms of Exchange:

Currency- money in general.

Barter- to trade by exchanging goods and services without using money.

Mortgage- to give a claim on property as security for a loan.

E-1B-Ml

Supply- is the term given to the number of units that a firm is willing to sell.

Demand- is a willingness to buy a product at a particular price.

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Surplus- the amount of a product that a firm offers for sale that is greater than the amount customers are willing to buy.

Shortage- the amount of product that a firm offers for sale that is less than the amount customers are willing to buy.

E-1B-M2

Perfect Competition- customers don't care whose product they buy. They look for the lowest price. Firms have no control over the price they can charge.

Perfect Monopoly- a firm that is the only supplier of a product that has no close substitutes. Consumers buy from monopoly or do without. Monopoly power set prices, can charge any price they want.

Profit- the amount of money gained in a business transaction after deducting all expenses.

Incentive- is something that makes a person want to work or put forth effort. A profit is an incentive.

E-1B-M3

Private Ownership- refers to property and resources individuals own and control.

Public Services- are owned and controlled by the government.

Entrepreneur- a person who owns and operates his or her own business.

E-1B-M4

Government Regulations- antitrust laws were passed to promote competition and to prevent monopolies.

Deficit Spending- when government spends more than it collects in tax revenues. This tends to worsen inflation. When government borrows to cover its spending, less credit is available for business growth.

Embargo- is a government restriction that prevents or interferes with trade.

E-1B-M5

Progressive Taxation- people with higher incomes pay a greater percentage in taxes than do people with lower incomes. The personal income tax is an example. The three tax brackets are 15%, 28%, and 33% with an additional surcharge for the highest income people.

Regressive Taxation- people with lower incomes pay a greater percentage in taxes than do people with higher incomes. The sales tax is an example. The sales tax is the greatest source of tax revenue for most states.

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Proportional Taxation- all people pay the same percentage of their income in taxes. The Social Security taxes collected by the federal government is an example.

Federal and State User Fees- money paid by the user of the facility to the government agency. The money is used in maintaining and improving the facility. (E.g., toll roads, bridge tolls)

Redistribution of Income- income is taken from some people through taxes and given to others through entitlements, these are benefits promised by law to eligible citizens by the government. Entitlement programs include Social Security, Welfare, Unemployment Compensation, Veteran's pension, etc.

E-1B-M6

International Trade- is the importing (buying) and exporting (selling) products and services between nations. American imports are coffee, cocoa, crude oil and petroleum, clothing and shoes, electronics, and most motor vehicles. American exports are cotton, aircraft, wheat, machine tools, com, American "pop" culture in music and movies, and banks.

Balance of Payment- an account of the flow of goods, services, and money coming in to and going out of the country.

Trade Defici1- when you buy more products than you sell.

Worldwide Interdependence- all countries import and export goods. Trade can help bring about peaceful alliances, and stimulate economic growth.

E-1B-M7

Tariff- is a tax on imports that makes them more expensive to consumers. This could help protect the jobs of American workers.

Exchange Rates- is the value of one currency compared to another. A strong dollar is an advantage when buying imported goods and services and traveling in countries with weak currencies.

Appreciation- increase in your money.

Depreciation- decrease in your money.

E-1C-Ml

GDP- (gross domestic product) is the total dollar value of final goods and services produced within the country in one year. It measures only final goods as they come to the end user. Example: It measures only the bread not the flour, only the jeans not the fabric. The product must be produced within the United States. If the GDP fails to rise, the economy is in a recession.

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CPI- (consumer price index) measures the average change in prices over time for selected goods and services. The seven categories are food, housing, clothing, transportation, medical care, entertainment, fuel and utilities. It is used to adjust wages for workers covered by collective bargaining, social security. and pension benefits.

E-1C-M2

Recession- economic activity marked by high unemployment, a decline in retail sales, and lower personal incomes.

Inflation- is a time of rising prices, when spending increases at a faster rate than supplies; too much money chasing too few goods.

**7th Grade Social Studies**

**Geography Key Concepts**

**(LEAP Vocabulary)**

G-1A-Ml

Political- anything concerned with a government or politics.

City- a large town. An incorporated municipality whose boundaries and powers are defined by a charter from its state.

Road- a way made for traveling between places.

Transportation- a means of conveyance as in a vehicle.

Product Map- a diagram of a map that contains the products for any given area.

Contour Map- a map showing physical features by means of lines connecting all points of the same elevation.

Landform Map- a map showing the different landforms on any given map.

Scale- the line on a map that represents distance between any given points.

Map Key- a part of a map that explains what the symbols on the map stand for. This is also called a legend.

Map Legend- see Map Key.

Compass Rose- a direction marker on a map.

Symbols- an object used to represent something on a map.

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G-1A-M2

Pictographs- a graph with pictures.

Circle Graphs- a graph in the shape of a circle.

Pie Graphs- a graph in the shape of a pie.

Line Graphs- a graph that depicts the information using lines which go either horizontal or vertical.

Landforms- a feature on Earth's surface, such as a mountain, hill, plateau, or plain.

Bodies of water - these consist of oceans, seas, canals, bays, and rivers.

Equator- an imaginary line that circles the Earth halfway between the North Pole and the South Pole.

Prime Meridian- an imaginary line that circles the Earth, running through the North and South Poles.

Hemispheres- any of the halves of the Earth; the Northern, Southern, Eastern, or Western Hemispheres.

North Pole- the northern end of the Earth's axis.

South Pole- the southern end of the Earth's axis.

Tropic of Cancer- a parallel line north of the equator.

Tropic of Capricorn- a parallel line south of the equator.

Arctic Circle- the line of latitude located at 66° north of the equator.

Antarctic Circle- the line of latitude located at 66° south of the equator.

G-1B-Ml

Religion- beliefs about God of gods.

Language- the ability to communicate with a group of people through the use of words and sounds.

Politics- the science of government.

Population Density- the number of people who live in one square mile or one square kilometer of land.

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Ability to Find Food- the actions used in securing food for your family.

Access to water- the ability to be closer to water for living.

Appalachian Mountains as a Barrier to Migration- a mountain system in eastern North America that extended from Quebec to Alabama.

Irrigation- the ability to supply land with water by means of artificial ditches.

Man-made Boundaries- boundaries made by man such as dams, terraces, and country borders.

Deforestation- the widespread cutting down of the forest.

Migration- a movement of people from one place to another.

Urban Development- the development of the land around large towns or cities.

War- an opened armed conflict between countries or between factions within the same country.

Deserts- a barren, often sandy, area of land that receives very little rain.

Atchafalaya Basin- an area of land located in southern Louisiana.

Silting- the buildup of land through the sediments deposited by rivers.

G-1B-M2

Natural Barriers- boundaries formed by nature.

Remote v. Accessible- these are any areas that are secluded from other areas v. areas that are easily approached or entered.

Locations- an area marked off for a specific purpose.

Mountain Ranges- a series of many mountains.

Rivers- a natural stream of water larger than a creek emptying into an ocean, lake, etc.

Oceans- any of the five principal divisions: Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, Arctic, or Antarctic.

Apennines Mountains in the Punic Wars- mountains in central Italy that was a natural barrier during the Punic Wars.

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Ohio Valley in the American Revolution- an important victory site by George Rogers Clark that gave control of a large area to the Americans. This area later became known as the Northwest Territory.

G-1B-M3

Longitude- the distance between east and west from the prime meridian; lines of longitude are drawn in a north-south direction around the globe.

Latitude- the distance north or south of the equator; lines of latitude are drawn in an east-west direction around the globe.

Hemispheres- any of the halves of the Earth; the Northern, Southern, Eastern, or Western Hemispheres.

Climate- weather conditions in an area over a long period of time.

Vegetation- the types of plants that grow in an area.

Soil- the surface layer of earth, supporting plant life.

Language- the ability to communicate with a group of people through the use of words and sounds.

Political Boundaries- boundaries that are formed by political affiliations. E.g. countries, states, counties/parishes, cities.

Natural Resource - these are forms of wealth supplied by nature such as coal, oil, water.

Destruction of the Rain Forest- this is through the use of logging and burning of trees.

Erosion of Riverbanks- the eroding of the banks of rivers. This may be caused because the rainwater is running off the land instead of soaking into it.

Man-made land use- this is land made by man for his use, such as the building of roads.

Natural Erosion by Water Current Flood- this is caused by the flowing of rainwater that erodes the land instead of soaking into the land.

G-1B-M4

Sacred River- river used for religious purposes.

Holy Land- land dedicated for religious purposes. Palestine is considered this type ofland.

G-1C-M1

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River systems- ,

River systems provide fresh water necessary for survival. Throughout history man has settled along rivers for a water source, fertile soil, trade, and transportation possibilities. River systems feed from many tributaries and flow into the river delta where the mouth of the river is located.

Climate

Several factors affect climate. One factor is latitude, or how far north or south from the equator a region is located. Generally, latitudes near the equator are warmer. These low latitudes have tropical climates. Between the low and high latitudes are the middle latitudes. These latitudes have cold winters and warm summers. The climates here are called temperate climates. The high latitudes near the poles are called polar climates.

Another factor that affects climate is altitude, or height above sea level. In general, the higher the altitude the cooler the temperature.

There is another reason why climates vary. This factor is ocean currents. All oceans have currents. Currents are like rivers or streams flowing through the oceans. Cold currents, flowing from the poles, cool the climate. Warm currents, flowing from the equator, warm the climates.

Geography - The study of the earth.

Environment - All of the surroundings of a place including land, water, weather patterns, plants and animals.

Vegetation- The natural plant life of a region.

Climate- The pattern of weather that a place has over a period of time.

Tropical climate -The warm climate of the low latitudes, generally near the equator.

Temperate climate - The climate of the middle latitudes usually having cold winters and warm summers.

Polar climate-The coldest climate near both of the poles.

Tributary- A smaller river or stream that feeds into a larger river.

Delta- A triangle shaped area of islands and marshes made of soil that a river has carried and left at the place where the river flows into the sea.

Mouth - The mouth of a river is where the river flows into an ocean, usually where the delta is located.

G-1C-M2

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Population characteristics

The population, or number of people living in a particular area, can be studied by examining the birth rate, infant mortality rate, death rate, life expectancy, and population density of that area. The population of an area can be affected by several demographics: education, housing, infrastructure, crime rate, transportation, and cultural diversity.

Birth rate - The amount of people born each year, usually per 1000 population.

Infant mortality rate - The amount of deaths of infants (under one year old) per 1000 live births in a specified group, usually given per year.

Death rate- How many people die each year, usually per 1000 population.

Life expectancy - How long the average person will live, usually in a specified group.

Population density – The average number of people living on a square unit of land.

G-1C-M3

Early migration and settlement

As early man migrated out of Africa and began settling new lands he settled in places that were suitable for food production. These areas were usually in a river valley, (Tigris-Euphrates, Nile, Huang He, Indus). River valleys provided; a fresh water source for both drinking and irrigation, suitable ground for hunting, and later, fertile soil for farming. Early man also sought to settle in areas that were well protected from enemy invasions, such as a mountainous region.

The impact of settlement

As early man began to settle and produce his own food, he relied less on the nomadic lifestyle. He was able to concentrate less on finding food and focus more on other skills and ideas. This led to specialization and division of labor.

Specialization - To become proficient at one particular task.

Division of labor - A system in which members of a group perform different task based on their abilities and the needs of the group.

G-1C-M4

Reasons for migration

Throughout history man has migrated from one area to another. Reasons for migrating include: the search for a better climate, the search for a reliable food source, to escape religious or political persecution, or severe climate conditions such as a drought or severe flooding.

Effects of migration

As people migrated they changed the new landscape that they settled. These changes include changing the courses of waterways for irrigation, the construction of bridges, dams, and cities.

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Migration -Movements of groups of people from one place to another.

G-1C-M5

Cultural diffusion

As people began trading and conquering others, cultural diffusion occurred. Examples of this exchange of ideas are: European exploration, the spread of the Roman Empire, and the Crusades.

Cultural diffusion - The spread of ideas from one place to others.

G-1D-Ml

Terracing- The building of large flat areas of land into the side of a hill for planting crops.

Timbering- The use of trees for the construction of buildings and furniture.

Deforestation- The act of clearing and destroying forests by cutting down and burning trees.

Reclaiming land - Land that is taken back by the surrounding environment.

Flooding- an overflowing of water onto land that is not normally under water.

Mining- The act of extracting coal, gold, diamonds or other minerals from the earth.

Industrialization- To introduce industry (modem technology, factories) into (a country, region, or the like); make industrial.

G1-D-M2

Hydrology- The science dealing with the properties, distribution, and circulation of water on and below the surface of the land and in the atmosphere.

Water cycle - Process by which the earth's water moves ftom the oceans to the air to the land and back to the oceans.

Precipitation - Moisture in the form of rain of snow.

Transportation - The putting of water vapor back into the air by plants. Surface runotT - Water that flows into rivers and oceans.

Groundwater - Water that sinks into the ground.

Evaporation - Process by which water is changed into a gas.

Irrigation - The supplying of water to land by man-made means to aid in growing crops.

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Altitude - The height above sea level, elevation.

Sea level- Average height of water in the world's oceans.

G-1D-M3

Natural resources - Something (mineral, waterpower source, forest or kind of animal) that occurs in nature and is of value to human life.

Renewable resource - Resources that can replace or rebuild themselves

Non-renewable resource - Resources that can never be replaced or renewed.

Limited resource - Resources of which there is a limited supply.

Import - the process of bringing products into the country from foreign countries.

Export - the process of sending goods out of the country to foreign countries.

G-1D-M4

Acid rain - Rain or snow that carries pollution.

*The following terms/phrases, along with the appropriate benchmark, should be addressed to help enhance a student's success on the LEAP test. Definitions to these term/phrases will vary, but should be reviewed*

G-1B-Ml

Precipitation Patterns­

Population Patterns­

Settlement Patterns­

G-1B-M2

Island Conditions­

The Mississippi River/Swamp in the Battle of New Orleans­

Nile and Tigris-Euphrates Rivers as "cradles of civilizations"­

Winter in Russia­

G-1B-M3

Migration of the Sahara­

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Coastal Storm (ice or wind)­

Buildup of the Mississippi Delta­

Changes in the Coastal Wetlands­

Coastal Erosion of the Gulf Coast­

G-1B-M4

Settlement Patterns of Religious Groups­

The Search for God. Glory. and Gold­

Preservation of Rain Forest v. Preservation of Natural Habitats­

Day-to-Day Survival v. Aesthetic Natural Conservation­

G-ID-M3

Sustainable resource ­

7th Grade Social Studies

History Key Concepts

(LEAP Vocabulary)

H-1A-Ml

Chronological Order- items arranged in order of time as they occurred.

H-lA-M3

Thomas Alva Edison- American inventor; obtained 1100 patents in areas such as telegraph, phonograph, electric lighting, and photography. His research laboratory was located in Menlo Park, New Jersey.

Pilgrims- members of a Puritan Separatist sect that left England in the early 1600s to settle in the Americas. Members of the Puritan Separatist sect that left Plymouth, England in 1620 on the boat, the Mayflower. They landed off the coast of present-day Massachusetts. They were able to survive with the help of the Indians, especially Squanto and Samoset.

Puritans- Protestants who wanted to reform the Church. of England. Members of the Anglican Church in England who wanted to reform the church from within.

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George Washington- commander of the Continental Army during the American Revolution. His final victory battle was at Yorktown, Virginia where the English army under General Cornwallis met defeat. Presided over the Constitutional Convention. On April 30, 1789, he took the oath of office as President of the United States, the unanimous choice of the 69 electors. He was the first President of the United States. After two terms in office he retired to his home, Mount Vernon, in Virginia.

French Revolution- a revolt in France against the monarchy of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette. The revolt lasted from 1789-1799 when Napoleon gained control. Thousands were executed during the Reign of Terror between 1793-1794.

Napoleon Bonaparte- 1769-1821 Emperor of France. He was born on the French island of Corsica. In the Louisiana Purchase he sold to the United States all of the French possessions between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains. He was defeated by the British under the command of the Duke of Wellington at Waterloo, Belgium.

Adolf Hitler- leader of the German Nazi party during World War II. Germany, Italy, and Japan united to form the Axis Powers. Hitler was responsible for the murder of six million Jews in concentration camps. This is known as the Holocaust. Hitler was defeated by the Allied Powers. The Germans surrendered on May 7, 1945.

H-1A-M4

Primary Source- a record made by people who saw or took part in an event (e.g. diaries, autobiographies, copies of core historical documents).

Secondary Sources- a record of an event, written by someone who was not there at the time. (e.g. political cartoons, almanacs, encyclopedias)

H-1A-M6

Atlas- a bound collection of maps.

Almanac- an annual publication composed of various lists and charts of useful information in many unrelated fields.

H-1B-Ml

Lewis and Clark- sent by Thomas Jefferson to explore and map the Louisiana Territory after the Louisiana Purchase. They crossed the Rocky Mountains with the help of Shoshone woman named Sacajawea.

Marquette and Joliet- Father Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet in 1763 explored the upper Mississippi River down to the Arkansas River for France.

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Hernando de Soto- Spanish explorer, on April 6, 1537, began his trip with one of the largest and best equipped outfits that ever set sail for the New World. DeSoto and his men found no gold, but de Soto is acknowledged as the discoverer of the Mississippi River. Knowledge of the great river spread throughout the European world.

Christopher Columbus- he was an Italian explorer. He made four trips across the Atlantic financed by the Spanish monarchs, Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand. Columbus was searching for a shorter route to China and India. His first voyage lasted seventy days. On October 12, 1492, he discovered the land later called America. He landed on what today is the Bahamas.

Leif Ericson- a Norwegian Viking, son of Erik the Red. He discovered Vineland AD 1,000 in present-day Labrador and Newfoundland, Canada.

Middle Passage- the route between Africa and America during the slave trade. Slaves were viewed as cargo.

H-1B-M4

Plymouth- site in Massachusetts where the Pilgrims first landed in North America in 1620. (40 degrees N, 70 degrees W)

Missionary- a person who teaches his or her religion to others.

Maryland Toleration Act- 1649- the colony of Maryland was established for Catholics by Lord Baltimore. In 1649 this act made restricting the religious rights of Christians a crime.

Rhode Island- a state in the northeastern United States. One of the original thirteen colonies. Admitted as a state in 1790. Its capital is Providence.

Jamestown- first successful English colony in America was established in 1607 in Virginia. The leader was John Smith. The colonists were able to survive with the help of the Indian woman Pocahontas. She married the tobacco planter John Rolfe.

Great A wakening- between 1730-1740 a movement by evangelical Christian leaders who tried to change the religious, social, and political life in the colonies.

French and Indian War- known as the Seven Years' War in Europe. The war was between France and England. France lost the war and England was given all of the French land in Canada and the land east of the Mississippi River, except New Orleans.

H-1B-M5

Loyalists- also known as Tories. They were the colonists who remained loyal to Britain during the Revolution.

Patriots- colonists who chose to fight for independence from Britain.

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Triangular Trade- trading networks in which the colonies sold products to plantation owners in the West Indies. In exchange, the colonists received sugar, molasses, and slaves. Some goods were sent to Britain.

Mercantilism- an economic system based on national policies of accumulating gold and silver, establishing colonies, and developing industry to obtain a favorable balance of trade.

H-1B-M6

Benjamin Franklin- was the greatest American of the Enlightenment. He was born in Pennsylvania. He signed both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. He helped work out the Treaty of Paris in 1783 that settled the American Revolution. He was the author of "Poor Richard's Almanac and the inventor of bifocal eyeglasses.

Thomas Jefferson- He wrote the Declaration of Independence. He was Washington's Secretary of State and one of the president's two principal advisers. He believed that government should be kept small and society kept simple. He was elected President in 1800. During his time in office, Jefferson made the Louisiana Purchase, commissioned Lewis & Clark Expedition, and tried to protect American rights of trade and neutrality against British and French violations. His home, Monticello, is in Virginia.

Samuel Adams- was a Boston radical and a founder of the local Sons of Liberty. After the Boston Massacre he began to agitate for independence from Britain. He, John Hancock, and Patrick Henry were Anti-Federalists. They were against the Constitution for its failure to protect basic liberties.

John Hancock- a Boston merchant who was president of the Second Continental Congress that developed the Declaration of Independence. He was the first to sign the document. He signed in bold letters so that King George III of England could read his name.

Lexington- Massachusetts- first battle of the American Revolution. Seven hundred British soldiers were surprised by seventy Minutemen. The British continued on to Concord. The British were forced to turn back. Their casualties were 3 to 1. The Patriots were warned about the Redcoats' attack by the silversmith Paul Revere.

Yorktown- was the last battle for the War for American Independence. On October 19, 1781, British General Cornwallis was forced to surrender his troops to the combined American and French forces of Washington and Count Rochambeau.

Battle of Saratoga- (1777) Revolutionary War battle in New York. It was a major defeat for the British. Their army lost hundreds of soldiers. The, Patriots took 6,000 British prisoners.

H-1B-M7

First Continental Congress- met in Philadelphia in September, 1774. This moderate meeting of colonial representatives condemned the Intolerable Acts, demanded repeal of British taxes, denounced the presence of a British army in the colonies during peacetime, and set up a Continental Association to enforce a ban on British imports. The Congress sent the letter called the "Olive Branch Petition" to King George III.

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Declaration of Independence- (1776) statement of the Second Continental Congress that defined the colonists' rights and their complaints against Great Britain and declared the colonies' freedom. It was written by Thomas Jefferson and signed by 56 men on July 4, 1776. The signers pledged their lives, fortunes, and their sacred honor. It was written to King George III of England.

Ratification- formal approval.

H-1B-M8

Federalist Papers- series of essays that defended the U. S. Constitution and tried to reassure Americans that the states would not be overpowered by the federal government. The best known Federalists were James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay.

Constitution- a set of basic principles that determine the powers and duties of government. The Constitution was written by James Madison and signed by 39 men. It contains seven Articles. The first three Articles deal with the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government. It went into effect in June, 1788.

Bill of Rights- first ten amendments to the U. S, Constitution, which were ratified in 1791. In 1789 James Madison proposed 12 amendments to the Constitution. Ten were adopted as the Bill of Rights.

Town Meeting- New England political meeting at which people made decisions on local issues.

Constitutional Convention- (1787)- meeting in Philadelphia in which 55 men attended from May to September. These men have come to known as the "Founding Fathers". George Washington presided over the convention. Two plans were introduced "The Virginia Plan" and "The New Jersey Plan", Two compromises suggested the "Great Compromise" and the "Three-fifths Compromise".

Articles of Confederation- first blueprint for the national government of the United States. It was ratified in 1781. The main author was John Dickinson. It established. a loose alliance of states rather than a strong central government.

Federalist Era- 1789-1800- the era when the principles of the United States government were established. In 1789 Washington is the first president. In 1800 the U. S. capital is moved to Washington, D,C, Leading Federalist was Alexander Hamilton.

Jeffersonian Democracy- rule by the people, strong state governments, strict interpretation of the Constitution. Both Jefferson and Madison held these principles.

Era of Good Feelings- 1816 Republican Presidents James Madison and James Monroe and a Republican majority in Congress. No political rivalry in the country. It was a time to champion federal power.

H-1B-M9

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Trail of Tears- the United States government forced Native Americans from their land in the 1830's relocating them to reservations west of the Mississippi River.

Indian Removal Act of 1830- Andrew Jackson and Congress provided funds for the federal government to remove Native Americans from the eastern United States.

Louisiana Purchase- France under Napoleon Bonaparte sold the Louisiana Territory to the United States for $15,000,000. This doubled the size of the United States. Thomas Jefferson assigned Robert Livingston and James Monroe to France to negotiate the purchase in 1803. '

Monroe Doctrine- in 1823 President Monroe declared the American continents are not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European powers.

H-1B-MI0

Spoils System- politicians' practice of giving government jobs to their supporters. The practice was started in the United States government with Andrew Jackson. He felt it expanded democracy.

Manifest Destiny- in 1840 the belief that the United States was meant to expand across the continent to the Pacific Ocean. This idea ignored the fact that the American Indian and Mexicans had been living in the West for centuries.

Republic of Texas- Texas is annexed as a state in 1845. The Mexican government considered Texas a "stolen province". President James K. Polk had made the annexation of Texas one of his campaign promises.

Mexican War- in 1846 President Polk declared war on Mexico. General Zachary Taylor was in command of the American forces. California was claimed for the United States in the Bear Flag Revolt. The Mexican leader Santa Anna was defeated by U. S. General Winfield Scott. Mexico City was captured. In 1848 the war ended with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

H-1B-Mll

Frederick Douglass- escaped from slavery at the age of twenty, became one of the most important African-American leaders of the 1800s.

Harriet Tubman- the most famous and daring conductor on the Underground Railroad, an escaped slave who helped other fugitives to freedom. When she escaped in 1849, she left behind her husband, parents, sisters, and brothers. Tubman returned to the South nineteen times and succeeded in leading her family and more than 300 slaves to freedom while never losing a fugitive.

William Lloyd Garrison- one of the most outspoken and controversial leaders in the abolitionist movement. He began publishing his anti-slavery newspaper, The Liberator, in 1831. In 1833 Garrison helped found, and later became president of the American Anti-Slavery Society.

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Sojourner Truth- was born Isabella Baumfree in New York state. In 1827, she took her new name, claiming that God sent her to tell the truth about slavery. Although she could not read, Truth was a powerful speaker for abolition and women's rights.

Susan B. Anthony- one of the most important leaders of the women's suffrage movement.

Lucretia Mott- a leading figure in the fight for women's rights in the 1840s along with Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

Know Nothings- a political party in 1849. The party wanted to exclude Catholics and immigrants. When members were asked a question by outsiders, they would answer "I know nothing".

H-1B-M12

Sectionalism- a devotion to the interests of one geographic region rather than those of the country as a whole.

Slavery- an institution in American history of forced servitude from 1619 until 1865.

Gettysburg Address- President Lincoln delivered the address during the dedication of the burial sites at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The Battle of Gettysburg was the turning point of the war for the North. Part of his speech included "Four score and seven years age our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal" .

Emancipation Proclamation- an order issued by President Lincoln on January 1, 1863, abolishing slavery only in the areas still at war with the Union.

Dred Scott Decision- in 1857 the Supreme Court upheld the southern view that slaves were property, and that Scott had no right to sue in a federal court.

Compromise of 1850- agreement proposed by Henry Clay. It had five provisions, among them would be to strengthen the Fugitive Slave Act.

H-1B-M13

Abraham Lincoln- his election to the presidency convinced South Carolinians that the Republicans would try to abolish slavery.

Robert E. Lee- 1807-1870 - a U.S. army officer until 1861 when he became commander of the Confederate army.

Ulysses S. Grant- 1822-1885 - U.S. general in the Civil War; commander of the Union army and 18th President of the United States.

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Compromise of 1877- agreement to settle the presidential election of 1876; Democrats agreed to accept Republican Rutherford B. Hayes as president in exchange for the removal of federal troops. from the South. The Democratic candidate was Samuel 1. Tilden.

Andrew Johnson- had it not been for an incompetent assassin, Andrew Johnson might have been killed or wounded on the same day as President Lincoln. John Wilkes Booth's plot included an attack on Secretary of State William Seward and Vice President Johnson. Andrew Johnson had a long political career before becoming president. Lincoln's Vice President, Johnson became president in 1865.

13th Amendment- 1864- it officially banned slavery throughout the United States.

14th Amendment- 1867- granted citizenship to all persons born in the United States.

Carpetbaggers- name for a northerner who went to the South during Reconstruction.

Freedman's Bureau- provided food and clothing to former slavers. It sent agents into the South to set up schools. The bureau provided medical care for over a million people.

Radical Republicans- angry about the Black Codes and the election of Confederate officers, more Republicans turned against President Johnson. Those who took the lead in opposing him were called Radical Republicans.

Lincoln's Plan- Lincoln outlined a plan for Reconstruction as early as July, 1863. Lincoln's plan called for 10% of the voters in each southern state to swear an oath of loyalty to the United States.

Scalawags- many people in the South thought that any Southerner who worked with the Republicans was a traitor. They called these southern Republicans "Scalawags", a word used for a small, scruffy horse.

H-1B-MI4

Alexander Graham Bell- invented the telephone and revolutionized communications.