**Topics**

Compare and contrast governmental systems, current and historical, including those that are democratic, totalitarian, monarchic, and theocratic, and describe their impact.

a. Apply the following principles of constitutional democracy to historical and contemporary issues

1. checks and balances
2. separation of powers
3. federalism
4. representation
5. popular sovereignty
6. due process of law
7. judicial review

Determine the civic responsibilities of individual citizens

Assess the changing roles of government

1. philosophy
2. limits
3. duties

Describe the historical foundations of the United States governmental system as reflected in the following documents

1. Magna Carta
2. Enlightenment writings of Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Montesquieu, and the Social Contract Theory
3. Mayflower Compact
4. Declaration of Independence
5. Articles of Confederation

Evaluate the Enlightenment, including its principle ideas, its antecedents, its challenge to absolutist monarchies and others and its effects on world history

Explain the relevance and connection of constitutional principles in the following documents:

1. U.S. Constitution
2. Federalist Papers
3. Amendments to Constitution, emphasizing Bill of Rights

Key Supreme Court decisions *Marbury v. Madison, McCulloch v. Maryland, Miranda v. Arizona, Plessy v. Ferguson, Brown v. Topeka Board of Education*

Describe the structure of government and the purposes of laws (with emphasis on the federal and state governments) in general

Explain the importance of the following principles of government:

1. **limited government**
2. **majority rule**and minority rights
3. constitution and civil rights
4. checks and balances
5. merits of the above principles

Explain the processes pertaining to:

1. selection of political lead­ers (with an emphasis on presidential and parliamentary systems)
2. functions and styles of leadership (including authoritarian, democratic and ***laissez faire***)
3. governmental systems
4. how laws and rules are made, enforced, changed and interpreted
5. Evaluate the roles and influence of political parties and interest groups

Analyze the evolution of American **democracy**, its ideas, institutions and political processes, including:

1. Constitution and amendments
2. struggle for civil rights
3. expanding role of government

Explain the importance of the following principles of government since Reconstruction

1. **majority rule** and minority rights
2. constitution and civil rights
3. checks and balances

Assess the changing roles of the following:

1. checks and balances
2. **separation of powers**
3. **federalism**
4. define and explain judicial review

Evaluate the roles and influence of political parties and interest groups

Analyze the roles that people, businesses and government play in economic systems, such as:

1. **monetary policy** (why the Federal Reserve System influences interest rates and money supply)
2. **fiscal policy** (government taxation and spending)

Identify the roles of government in a **market economy** (defining and protecting property rights, maintaining competition, promoting goals such as full employment, stable prices, growth and justice)

Compare and contrast the major ideas and beliefs of different cultures

Analyze how the roles of class, ethnic, racial, gender and age groups have changed in society, including causes and effects

Describe the major social institutions (family, education, religion, economy and government) and how they fulfill human needs

Predict the consequences that can occur when:

1. institutions fail to meet the needs of individuals and groups
2. individuals fail to carry out their personal responsibilities

Determine the causes, consequences and possible resolutions of cultural conflicts

Distinguish between and analyze **primary sources** and **secondary sources**

Create maps, charts, diagrams, graphs, timelines and political cartoons to assist in analyzing and visualizing concepts in social studies

Distinguish between fact and opinion and analyze sources to recognize bias and points of view

\*Develop a research plan and identify appropri­ate resources for investigating social studies topics

Interpret maps, statistics, charts, diagrams, graphs, timelines, pictures, political cartoons, audiovisual materials, continua, written resources, art and artifacts