

GRADE 5

ELEMENTARY-LEVEL SOCIAL STUDIES TEST

BOOKLET 2

DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION (DBQ)

NOVEMBER 17, 2009

Student Name _____

School Name _____

Print your name and the name of your school on the lines above.

The test has three parts. Today you will take Part III of the test.

Part III is based on several documents.

Part III A contains the documents. Each document is followed by one or more questions. Write your answer to each question in this test booklet in the space provided. You will use your answers to the questions to help you write the essay.

Part III B contains one essay question based on the documents. Write your answer to this question in the separate essay answer booklet, beginning on the first page of the booklet.

You will have $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours to answer the questions in Booklet 2 and write your essay.

DO NOT TURN THIS PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.

Part III

DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION

Directions: The task below is based on documents 1 through 7. This task is designed to test your ability to work with historical documents. Look at each document and answer the question or questions after each document. Use your answers to the questions to help write your essay.

Historical Background:

Throughout the history of the United States, the American flag has been an important symbol of freedom and democracy for its citizens.

Task:

For Part A, read *each* document carefully and answer the question or questions after each document. Then read the directions for Part B and write your essay.

For Part B, use your answers to the questions in Part A, the information from the documents, and your knowledge of social studies to write a well-organized essay in your own words. In your essay, you should

- Write about the history of the United States flag and its importance as a symbol of the United States

Part A

Short-Answer Questions

Directions: Read each document and answer the question or questions that follow each document in the space provided.

Document 1

1777



1959



Source: Patricia Ryon Quiri, *The American Flag*, Children's Press, 1998 (adapted)

The Flag's Birthday

On June 14, 1777, the Second Continental Congress authorized the use of a new flag to symbolize [represent] the newly formed United States of America. At the time, the flag consisted of thirteen stripes, alternating red and white, and a union of thirteen white stars on a blue field. Although Congress changed the flag several times between 1777 and 1959, June 14 is considered the “birthday” of the original American flag. . . .

Source: Editors of Sharpman.com, *The Care and Display of the American Flag*, Stewart, Tabori & Chang, 2004 (adapted)

1 What did the first American flag represent? [0.5]

Document 2

After 1818, more and more states joined the Union. But if a new stripe were added for each new state, the flag would get too big. Congressman Peter H. Wendover of New York City had an idea. He suggested that the number of stripes should always be thirteen in honor of the thirteen original [colonies] states, and that a star should be added for each new state that joined the Union. . . .

Source: Patricia Ryon Quiri, *The American Flag*, Children's Press, 1998

2a What do the **stripes** on the flag represent? [0.5]

Score

b What do the **stars** on the flag represent? [0.5]

Score

Document 3

. . . Every part of our [United States] Flag has a meaning which we American citizens should be able to read. The blue field and its fifty white stars stand for the Union of our fifty states, that is, for the United States of America. The thirteen stripes of red and white stand for the thirteen original colonies, which became the first thirteen states of the United States. The colors of the Flag are also symbolic. For hundreds of years red has been the color for courage. The red in our Flag represents courage, too — the courage of our forefathers who fought for independence, the courage of patriots who died for their country, and the courage of all the brave men and women who helped to build our nation. White stands for liberty — the spirit of America. Blue, true blue, is the color of the heavens and stands for loyalty — the loyalty of all Americans to their country and their Constitution. Courage, liberty, loyalty — this is the message that the “Red, White, and Blue” has for us. . . .

Source: Brown and Guadagnolo, *America Is My Country*, Houghton Mifflin Company, 1961

3a What does the **red** on our flag represent? [0.5]

Score

b What does the **white** on our flag represent? [0.5]

Score

c What does the **blue** on our flag represent? [0.5]

Score

Document 4

The original pledge to the flag was written and published in 1892. When people recite the Pledge of Allegiance, they are promising to be loyal to the United States of America.

“I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

Source: <http://www.ushistory.org>

4 What are people promising to do when they say the Pledge of Allegiance? [0.5]

Score

Document 5

Displaying the Flag



Source: Patricia Ryon Quiri, *The American Flag*, Children's Press, 1998 (adapted)

- Raise it quickly and lower it slowly with ceremony.
- Do not let it touch anything beneath it — the ground, the floor, or water.
- Do not place an object or symbol of any kind above the flag.
- Display it from sunrise to sunset.
- Display it at night only if properly lighted.
- Do not display it in bad weather unless it is waterproof.

5 Based on this document, list *two* rules for displaying the flag. [0.5, 0.5]

(1) _____

Score

(2) _____

Score

Document 6

“The Star-Spangled Banner” became our national anthem in 1931. The words were written by Francis Scott Key during the War of 1812. He was happy to see the flag still flying at the end of a battle with Great Britain. He described the flag as a star-spangled banner.

The Star-Spangled Banner
Words by Francis Scott Key

O say, can you see, by the dawn’s early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight’s last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O’er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming!
And the rocket’s red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there:

O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave? . . .

Source: Library of Congress

6 Which symbol of freedom is being described in our national anthem? [0.5]

Score

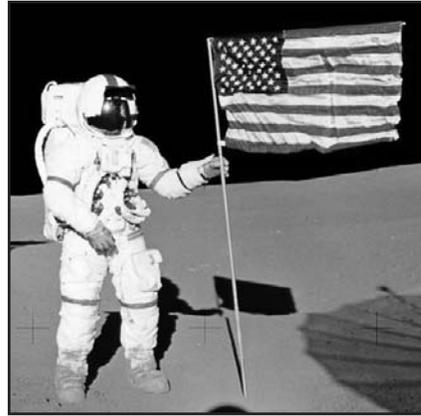
Document 7

Raising our flag is a symbol of our country and our freedom. The flag has been raised in battle, at events symbolizing our accomplishments, and lowered during times of great sadness. It reminds us of the sacrifices and achievements many people have made for our country.



United States marines raised the flag at Iwo Jima (a famous battle) during World War II, 1945.

Source: Photo by Joe Rosenthal,
Associated Press



Apollo 14 Commander Alan Shepard placed the United States flag on the moon in February 1971.

Source: Photo by NASA



Flags are flown at half-staff to honor someone who has died, such as an American president.

Source: Photo from Patricia Ryon
Quiri, *The American Flag*,
Children's Press, 1998

7a What does raising our flag symbolize? [0.5]

Score

b What does a flag flown at half-staff symbolize? [0.5]

Score

FOR TEACHER USE ONLY

Total Part III A Score _____

Maximum Score is 6

Part B

Essay

Directions: In your own words, write a well-organized essay using the documents, the answers to the questions in Part A, and your knowledge of social studies.

Historical Background:

Throughout the history of the United States, the American flag has been an important symbol of freedom and democracy for its citizens.

Task:

Using information from the documents and your knowledge of social studies, write an essay in which you

- Write about the history of the United States flag and its importance as a symbol of the United States

In your essay remember to

- Write about the history of the United States flag and its importance as a symbol of the United States
- Include an introduction, a body, and a conclusion
- Use information from *at least four* documents in your answer
- Include details, examples, or reasons in developing your ideas

FOR TEACHER USE ONLY

Total Part III B Score _____

Maximum Score is 4

Name: _____ School: _____

PLANNING PAGE

You may plan your essay on this page, but do not write your final essay here. Your writing on this page will ***not*** count toward your final score. Write your final answer in the separate essay answer booklet.

Begin writing the final version of your essay in the essay answer booklet.

FOR TEACHER USE ONLY

Part I Score (Maximum Score is 35)	
Part II Score (Maximum Score is 15)	
Part III A Score (Maximum Score is 6)	
Total Part I, II, and III A Score	
Part III B Essay Score (Maximum Score is 4)	
Final Score (obtained from conversion chart) Scaled 0–100	