



A+ SOCIAL STUDIES CONTEST STUDY OUTLINE 2020-2021

GRADES 7-8

Contest Topics:

Texas (approx. 60% of test)

- Concepts in History and Citizenship
 - Important issues, events and people of the 20th century, with emphasis on the following:
 - The Great Depression
 - The Dust Bowl
 - World War II
 - In Focus: prominent Texans of the 1930s and 1940s
(approximately 8 questions each test)
- Concepts in Geography
 - Effects of geographic factors such as the Dust Bowl on economic and social development
 - Effects of changing population distribution and growth during the 20th and 21st centuries
- Concepts in Science, Technology & Society
 - Effects of discoveries and innovations on the development of important industries
 - Effects of discoveries and innovations on the use of resources

United States (25-30% of test)

- Concepts in Economics
 - Economic differences among regions
 - Reasons for the increase in urbanization
- Concepts in Geography
 - Compare places and regions of the US in terms of physical and human characteristics
- Concepts in Science, Technology & Society
 - Ways that industrialization has changed life in the US

World (10-15% of test)

- Concepts in Economics
 - Influences of factors of production
 - Impacts of resource scarcity on economic interdependence
- Concepts in Government
 - Characteristics of limited and unlimited governments

In Focus: Prominent Texans

The Texans listed below played key roles in the American response to the enormous challenges posed by the Great Depression and World War II.

Test questions will be based on entries in the online Handbook of Texas published by the Texas State Historical Association (see link below).

- **Oveta Culp Hobby**
(first director of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, later became first US Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare)
- **John Nance (Cactus Jack) Garner**
(served as Vice President of the United States from 1933-1941)
- **Admiral Chester W. Nimitz**
(commander of the US Pacific Fleet during WWII)

Recommended Resources

- Your classroom textbook
- Texas State Historical Association - Handbook of Texas
www.tshaonline.org/handbook
- The Texas Almanac
www.texasalmanac.com
- Texas PBS - The Dust Bowl
texaspbs.org/dust-bowl/
- Digital History
www.digitalhistory.uh.edu
- America's Story (Library of Congress)
www.americaslibrary.gov
- History Channel Online
history.com/topics