



A+ SOCIAL STUDIES CONTEST STUDY OUTLINE 2021-22

GRADES 7-8

Contest Topics:

Texas (approx. 60% of test)

- Texas during the Civil War and Reconstruction
 - Factors leading to secession
 - Effects (political, economic, social)
 - Key events
 - Important historical figures in Texas
 - Primary and Supplemental Sources
(approximately 8 questions each test)
- Concepts in Geography
 - Places and regions of Texas
 - Ways Texans have adapted to and modified the environment
- Concepts in Government
 - Basic structure and functions of government
 - Major sources of revenue for state and local governments

United States (25-30% of test)

- Concepts in History - the Civil War
 - Causes
 - Significant events and individuals
 - Impact of slavery
- Concepts in Economics
 - Reasons for development of the plantation system and spread of slavery
 - Economic differences among different regions during the Civil War
- Concepts in Government
 - Constitutional issues over states' rights

World (10-15% of test)

- Concepts in Geography
 - Influence of geographic factors in economic development
- Concepts in Economics
 - Influences of factors of production
- Concepts in Culture
 - Factors that influence cultural change

Primary & Supplemental Sources

The documents listed are available from online sources as indicated under Recommended Resources. Some are also available from other online sources.

- **Texas Ordinance of Secession**
- **Presidential Proclamation Declaring a State of Peace Between Texas and the United States**
- **Account of the Battle of Palmito Ranch**
(from the Texas State Historical Association's Handbook of Civil War Texas - see link below)

Recommended Resources

- Your classroom textbook
- Texas State Library and Archives Commission *(includes Ordinance of Secession and Presidential Proclamation...)*
www.tsl.state.tx.us/ref/abouttx/secession/index.html
- TSHA Handbook of Civil War Texas *(includes Account of Battle of Palmito Ranch)*
www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/civil-war
- Digital History
www.digitalhistory.uh.edu
- Portal to Texas History
texashistory.unt.edu
- Texas Beyond History
www.texasbeyondhistory.net
- The Civil War Trust
www.civilwar.org