
XXIII. History and Social Science, Grade 7

Grade 7 History and Social Science Test

The spring 2007 grade 7 MCAS History and Social Science test was based on learning standards and concepts and skills for grades 6 and 7 found on pages 33–47 of the Massachusetts *History and Social Science Curriculum Framework* (2003). This framework is available on the Department Web site at www.doe.mass.edu/frameworks/current.html.

The test items that appear on the following pages compose one-half of the common items that appeared on the grade 7 History and Social Science test.

In *Test Item Analysis Reports*, grade 7 History and Social Science test results are reported under four reporting categories:

- World Geography 1: Asia (including Australia and Oceania)
- World Geography 2: Europe, Africa, and South America
- Ancient and Classical Civilizations 1: Human Origins and the Rise of Civilization
- Ancient and Classical Civilizations 2: Greece and Rome

For detailed information about the distribution of grade 7 test items by reporting category, please consult pages 4–5 of the *MCAS Guide to History and Social Science Assessments* (February 2007). This publication is available on the Department Web site at www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/2007/admin/hssguide.pdf.

Test Sessions and Content Overview

The 2007 grade 7 MCAS History and Social Science test included two separate test sessions. Each session included multiple-choice and open-response questions.

Reference Materials and Tools

The use of bilingual word-to-word dictionaries was allowed for current and former limited English proficient students only, during both History and Social Science test sessions. No other reference materials were allowed.

Cross-Reference Information

The table at the conclusion of this chapter indicates each item’s reporting category as well as the learning standard or concept and skill it assesses. The coding for grade-level learning standards appears in the table as it appears in the *Framework*. The codes containing the letters “CS” represent standards listed in the Concepts and Skills section of the *Framework* for that grade level.

History and Social Science

SESSION 1

DIRECTIONS

This session contains eleven multiple-choice questions and one open-response question. Mark your answers to these questions in the spaces provided in your Student Answer Booklet.

- 1 Which of the following statements **best** explains why Cairo, Egypt, has grown into a large urban center?
- A. It is located near the Nile River.
 - B. It is located east of Tripoli, Libya.
 - C. It is located west of the Caspian Sea.
 - D. It is located north of Mount Kilimanjaro.

- 2 The government of the Roman Republic was characterized by all of the following features **except**
- A. the rule of law.
 - B. separation of powers.
 - C. the idea of civic duty.
 - D. voting rights for women.

- 3 The map below shows Southeast Asia.

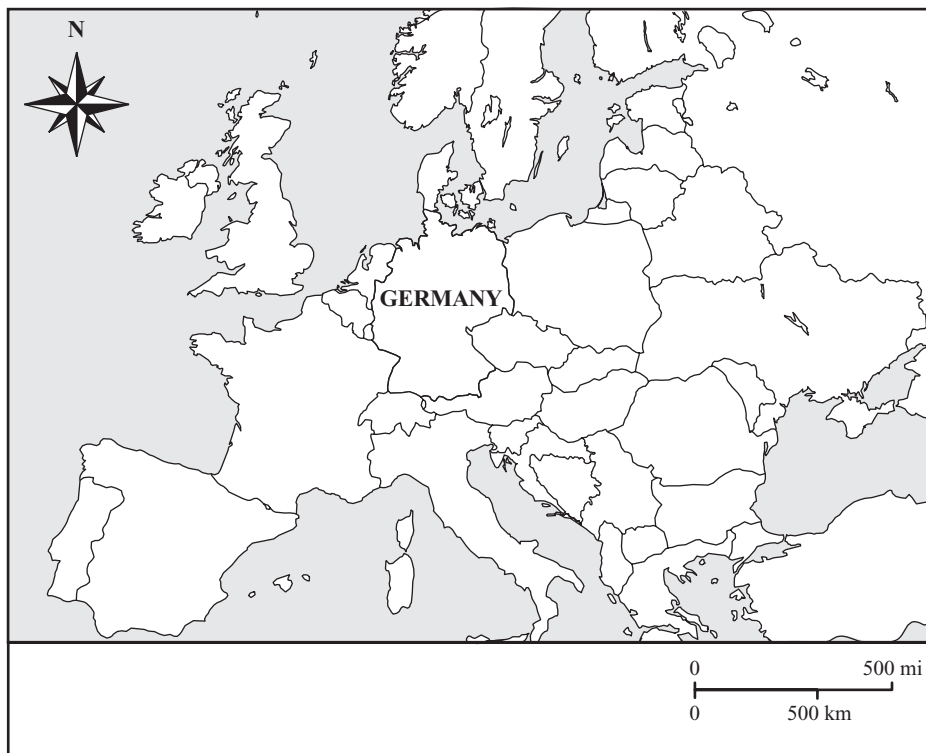


Which Southeast Asian country is shaded on the map?

- A. Cambodia
- B. Laos
- C. Thailand
- D. Vietnam

- 4 The city-states of ancient Greece spread Greek culture to areas around the Mediterranean Sea by
- A. conquering Rome.
 - B. establishing colonies.
 - C. uniting with Carthage.
 - D. building roads for armies.

- 5 The map below shows Europe.



Germany shares part of its eastern border with which country?

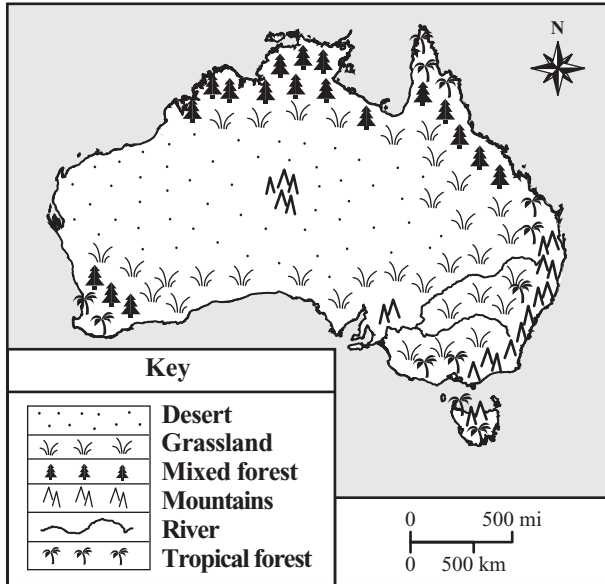
- A. Belgium
- B. Denmark
- C. Poland
- D. Switzerland

- 6 The Peloponnesian War ended the Golden Age of which Greek city-state?
- A. Athens
 - B. Mycenae
 - C. Sparta
 - D. Troy

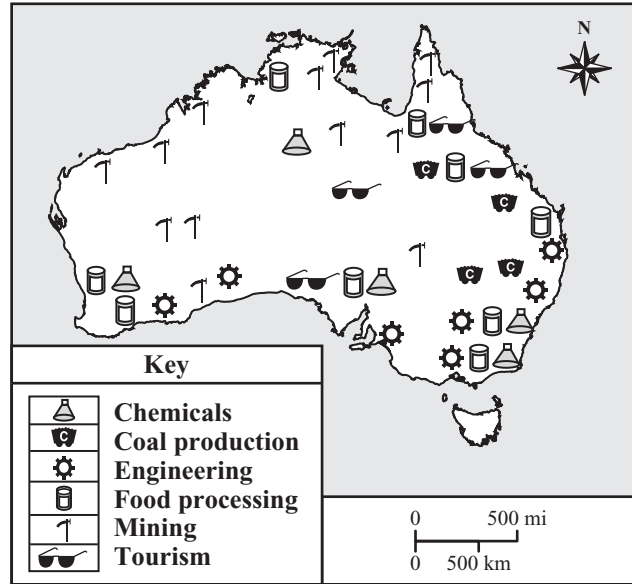
The maps that follow are associated with Australia.

First, you will answer three multiple-choice questions about Australia. Then you will answer two parts of an open-response question about its settlement patterns and economic development.

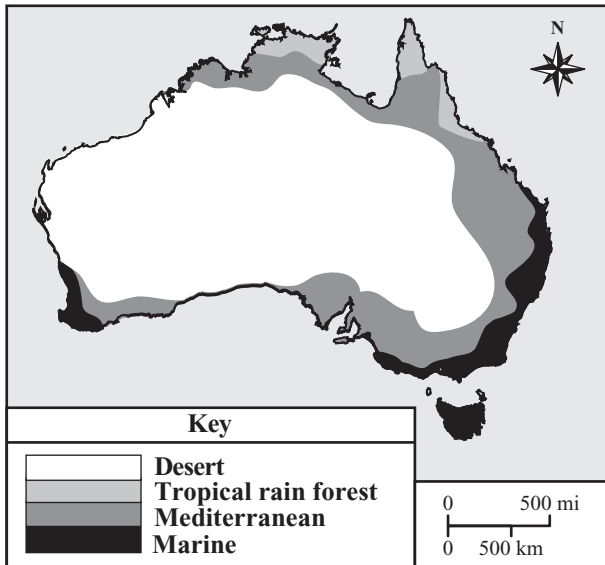
Australia: Physical Features Map



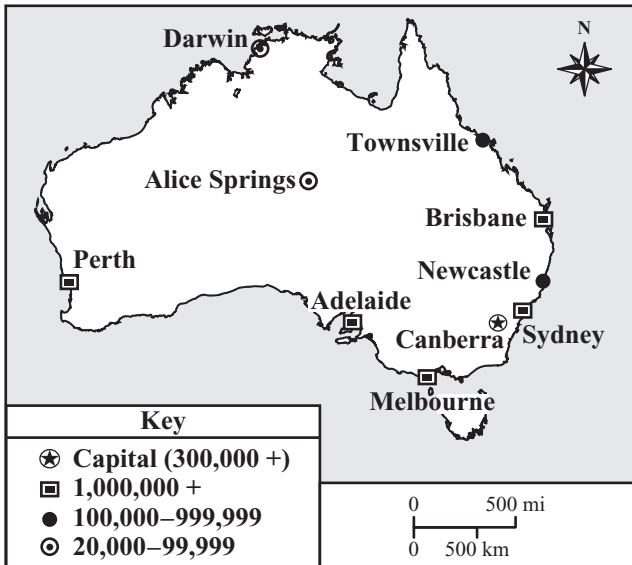
Australia: Industry Map



Australia: Climate Map



Australia: Major Cities Map



Mark your answers to questions 7 through 9 in the spaces provided in your Student Answer Booklet.

- 7 The map titled “Australia: Industry Map” is **most** useful for
- A. finding rivers in Australia.
 - B. studying the economy of Australia.
 - C. predicting the weather of Australia.
 - D. planning a camping trip in Australia.
- 8 The geography of western Australia **mostly** consists of
- A. tropical rain forests.
 - B. river valleys.
 - C. mountains.
 - D. deserts.
- 9 Which of the following describes the climate of Alice Springs?
- A. tropical
 - B. temperate
 - C. hot and arid
 - D. hot and semiarid

Write your answer to open-response question 10 in the space provided in your Student Answer Booklet.

- 10 Australia, which is both a country and a continent, has a number of geographic regions. The variety of Australia’s regions has affected its overall development.
- a. Describe where **most** of Australia’s population has settled and built major industries. Support your answer with information from the maps and your knowledge of Australian geography.
 - b. Explain how the physical features and climate of Australia have influenced its settlement patterns and economic development. Support your answer with information from the maps and your knowledge of Australian geography.

Mark your answers to questions 11 and 12 in the spaces provided in your Student Answer Booklet.

- 11 Which of the following physical features have had the most significant impact on Switzerland's settlement patterns?
- A. deserts
 - B. marshes
 - C. mountains
 - D. plains

- 12 Many archaeologists believe that early hunters and gatherers migrated from Asia to North America. This migration most likely occurred during a time when the climate changed and Earth entered
- A. a long ice age.
 - B. a severe drought.
 - C. an era of global warming.
 - D. an age of volcanic activity.

History and Social Science

SESSION 2

DIRECTIONS

This session contains five multiple-choice questions. Mark your answers to these questions in the spaces provided in your Student Answer Booklet.

13 Which of the following was the **main** reason the Greeks held the Olympic games?

- A. to encourage trade
- B. to establish colonies
- C. to spread Greek culture
- D. to honor the Greek god Zeus

14 Ancient Egypt was governed by a series of dynasties. When a dynasty collapsed, a new pharaoh emerged to found a new dynasty.

Which of the following is the **best** definition of the term *dynasty*?

- A. a ruling family
- B. a group of priests
- C. a group of nobles
- D. a large bureaucracy

15 According to Roman tradition, who were Romulus and Remus?

- A. Roman gods
- B. Roman emperors
- C. enemies of Rome
- D. founders of Rome

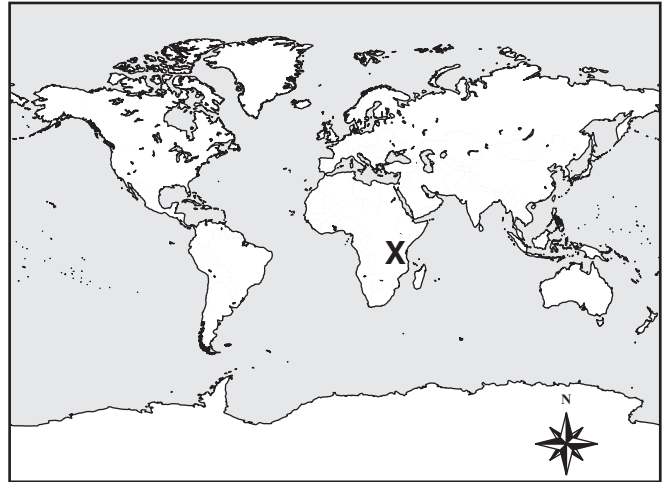
16 Some of the religious beliefs of an ancient people are listed in the box below.

- belief in one God
- belief in the Ten Commandments
- belief in individual worth
- belief in personal responsibility for behavior

This list **best** reflects the religious beliefs of which of the following ancient peoples?

- A. Egyptians
- B. Greeks
- C. Hebrews
- D. Phoenicians

17 A map of the world is shown below.



The **X** on the map marks the location of which physical feature?

- A. the Deccan Plateau
- B. the Great Rift Valley
- C. the Andes Mountains
- D. the Himalaya Mountains

Grade 7 History and Social Science
Spring 2007 Released Items:
Reporting Categories, Standards, and Correct Answers

Item No.	Page No.	Reporting Category	Learning Standard/ Concept and Skill	Correct Answer (MC)*
1	579	<i>World Geography 2: Europe, Africa, and South America</i>	6.A.3	A
2	579	<i>Ancient/Classical 2: Greece and Rome</i>	7.38	D
3	579	<i>World Geography 1: Asia (including Australia and Oceania)</i>	6.SEA0.2	D
4	580	<i>Ancient/Classical 2: Greece and Rome</i>	7.25	B
5	580	<i>World Geography 2: Europe, Africa, and South America</i>	6.E.2	C
6	581	<i>Ancient/Classical 2: Greece and Rome</i>	7.30	A
7	583	<i>World Geography 1: Asia (including Australia and Oceania)</i>	6.CS.1	B
8	583	<i>World Geography 1: Asia (including Australia and Oceania)</i>	6.SEA0.3	D
9	583	<i>World Geography 1: Asia (including Australia and Oceania)</i>	6.SEA0.3	C
10	583	<i>World Geography 1: Asia (including Australia and Oceania)</i>	6.SEA0.3	
11	584	<i>World Geography 2: Europe, Africa, and South America</i>	6.E.3	C
12	584	<i>Ancient/Classical 1: Human Origins and the Rise of Civilization</i>	7.1	A
13	585	<i>Ancient/Classical 2: Greece and Rome</i>	7.33	D
14	585	<i>Ancient/Classical 1: Human Origins and the Rise of Civilization</i>	7.14	A
15	585	<i>Ancient/Classical 2: Greece and Rome</i>	7.37	D
16	586	<i>Ancient/Classical 1: Human Origins and the Rise of Civilization</i>	7.21	C
17	586	<i>World Geography 2: Europe, Africa, and South America</i>	6.A.1	B

* Answers are provided here for multiple-choice items only. Sample responses and scoring guidelines for the open-response item, which is indicated by the shaded cell, will be posted to the Department's Web site later this year.

