



# A+ SOCIAL STUDIES CONTEST STUDY GUIDE 2024-2025

## GRADES 5-6

### Contest Topics:

#### United States (approx. 60% of test)

- The Colonial Period
  - Nations and groups - reasons for exploration and colonization
  - Major settlements
  - Significant colonial leaders
  - Important dates and time periods
  - Primary source documents (approximately 8 questions)
- Concepts in Economics
  - Major industries of colonial America
  - Economic patterns of European colonists
  - Development of free enterprise in the colonies
- Concepts in Government & Citizenship
  - Representative government in the colonies
  - Identification of current national leaders

#### World (25-30% of test)

- Concepts in Economics
  - Influences of factors of production
  - Benefits of free enterprise in the U.S. compared to other systems
- Concepts in Government & Citizenship
  - Limited vs. unlimited government
  - Characteristics of societies with representative governments

#### Texas (10-15% of test)

- Concepts in History
  - Motivations for European exploration and settlement
  - Identification of significant explorers
- Concepts in Government & Citizenship
  - Characteristics and influences of Spanish colonial government
  - Origins and significance of state celebrations

### Primary Source Documents

*The documents listed are available online from numerous sources. Refer to the links under Recommended Resources.*

- **Instructions for the Virginia Colony - 1606**
- **The Mayflower Compact - 1620**
- **Charter of Massachusetts Bay - 1629**  
*(functions and key provisions)*

### Recommended Resources

- Your classroom textbook
- Digital History  
[www.digitalhistory.uh.edu](http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu)
- The Avalon Project  
[avalon.law.yale.edu](http://avalon.law.yale.edu)
- America's Story (Library of Congress)  
[www.americaslibrary.gov](http://www.americaslibrary.gov)
- History.com  
[www.history.com/topics/thirteen-colonies](http://www.history.com/topics/thirteen-colonies)
- Social Studies for Kids  
[www.socialstudiesforkids.com/subjects/colonialtimes.htm](http://www.socialstudiesforkids.com/subjects/colonialtimes.htm)
- Teacher Oz's Kingdom of History  
[www.teacheroz.com/toc.htm](http://www.teacheroz.com/toc.htm)