



Practice Test Answer and Alignment Document
Social Studies– Grade 8

Item Number	Answer Key	Kentucky Academic Standard
1.	B, E	7.G.GR.2
2.	B	7.E.MI.2 6.I.U.3
3.	C	7.H.CE.2 6.I.U.1
4.	C	7.E.ST.3 7.I.Q.2
5.	See rubric	7.G.HE.1 7.I.U.1
6.	See rubric	7.G.HI.2 7.I.U.2

Number 5

Rubric	
2	The student response provides a valid answer supported by relevant examples and details from the sources.
1	The student response provides a valid answer but has inaccurate or missing examples and details.
0	The student response is incorrect, irrelevant, or missing.
Exemplar	
China’s physical geography did limit the interactions between the Song Dynasty and other societies. China’s western and northwestern territories are mountainous and covered in desert, which would have made travel more difficult (Source 2). China is also located far away from other societies in central Asia and Europe, which would make travel to and from those places take longer (Source 3). This barrier would limit interactions with other groups.	

Answer Cues

Valid answers may include but are not limited to:

- Support
 - Western and northwestern China are desert. (Source 2).
 - Western China is mountainous. (Source 2).
 - The Pacific Ocean separates China from the Americas. (Source 3).
 - Few of the trade routes on the map are directly from China. (Source 3).
 - Song China reduced overland trade. (Source 3).
 - Song China experienced invasion. (Source 4).
- Refute
 - China interacted with Vietnam to obtain a new type of rice. (Source 1).
 - China adapted the compass to enable sea navigation. (Source 1).
 - The Manchurian Plain allowed easy access to neighbors in the north. (Source 2).
 - China engaged in long-distance trade, by both land and sea. (Source 3).
 - Archaeological evidence suggests trade between Africa and China. (Source 3).
 - Song China interacted with tribes in the north by paying tribute. (Source 4).

Number 6

Rubric	
4	<p>The student response demonstrates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • completion of all important components of the item • clear communication of ideas • in-depth understanding of the relevant concepts and/or practices • appropriate use of more efficient and/or sophisticated processes • appropriate use of insightful interpretations or extensions (generalizations, application, analogies)
3	<p>The student response demonstrates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • completion of most of the important components of the item • clear communication of ideas for the completed components • an understanding of major concepts and/or practices, although the response may overlook or show misunderstanding of some less-important ideas or details
2	<p>The student response demonstrates</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • completion of some of the important components of the item • clear communication of ideas for the completed components • gaps in conceptual understanding
1	<p>The student response demonstrates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • completion of only a limited portion of the important components of the item • minimal understanding of the item
0	The student response is incorrect, irrelevant, or missing.
Exemplar	
<p>Interaction with other people and cultures definitely had some benefits for Song China. Uniting China under a single ruler required interaction between people in China. The result of this interaction was a 300-year golden age. Interaction with Vietnam gave China a new type of rice that produced a crop twice as great as before. Having more food meant that more people survived. In addition, having a surplus of rice also allowed farmers to acquire wealth in the market economy that developed.</p> <p>Although the sources do not directly say this, the evidence suggests that the Song had goods that other cultures wanted. As a result of this trade, the Song gained wealth, which allowed people to have free time. This claim is supported by the fact that the Song developed a lot of art.</p>	
Answer Cues	
<p>Valid answers may include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Interaction with other people <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Achieving unity led to a golden age. (Introduction, Sources 1 and 4) ○ Interaction with Vietnam to get rice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Being able to grow more rice resulted in more food and less famine, which suggests a growth in the population. (Source 1) ▪ Having surplus crops led to wealth for farmers in the market economy. (Source 1) ○ Interaction through trade as a cause of wealth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The arts expanded. (Sources 1 and 4) ○ Interaction as a bridge between people and cultures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ethnocentrism was possibly linked to a lack of interaction with other people. (Source 3) • No <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conflict and war are forms of interaction. (Introduction, Sources 1 and 4) 	

- Conquest led to sadness, as shown in Song art. (Source 4)
- Song had to pay high tributes to avoid invasion. (Source 4)
- Song relied on gunpowder to defend against the Mongols. (Source 4)