

UIL A+ SOCIAL STUDIES CONTEST STUDY GUIDE 2009-10

GRADES 7-8

Contest Topics:

Texas (approx. 60% of test)

- Law and Government
 - Key principles of the Texas Constitution, and influences from the U.S. Constitution
 - Structure and functions of state government
 - Major sources of revenue for state and local governments
 - Primary source documents (approximately 8 questions)
- Concepts in History
 - Individuals, events and issues during the Republic of Texas and early Texas statehood
 - Causes and events leading to Texas statehood
- Concepts in Citizenship
 - Rights guaranteed in the Texas Bill of Rights
 - Civic responsibilities of Texas citizens
- Concepts in Culture
 - Examples of the diversity of Texas

United States (25-30% of test)

- Concepts in Government
 - Key principles of the U.S. Constitution
- Concepts in History
 - Foundations of representative government in the U.S.
 - Major issues of the Philadelphia Convention of 1787
- Concepts in Citizenship
 - Rights guaranteed in the Bill of Rights
 - Examples of unalienable rights
 - The importance of free speech and press

World (10-15% of test)

- Concepts in Government
 - Different examples of organizing governments
- Concepts in Culture
 - Compare and contrast institutions that are basic to all societies

Primary Source Documents

The documents listed are available online through the Texas Constitutions project of the Tarlton Law Library at the University of Texas at Austin. Refer to the link under Recommended Resources.

- **Constitution of the Republic of Texas (1836)**
- **Article 1 (Bill of Rights) of the Constitution of the State of Texas (1876)**

Recommended Resources

- Your classroom textbook
- Tarlton Law Library Texas Constitutions Project
tarlton.law.utexas.edu/constitutions/index.html
- TEA Social Studies Center
www.tea.state.tx.us/ssc/index.html
- Texas State Historical Association
www.tsha.utexas.edu
- Portal to Texas History
texashistory.unt.edu
- The National Archives
www.archives.gov
- Teacher Oz
www.teacheroz.com/texas.htm