

Section 956: HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES

- (a) PURPOSE OF THE CONTEST. The purpose of the Social Studies Contest is to challenge high school students to read widely and deeply in the areas of social studies. Particularly, students will be required to:
 - (1) expand and apply their understanding of the nature of geography and the physical setting of the earth to physical and cultural environments.
 - (2) expand and apply their understanding of the governmental systems.
 - (3) expand and apply their understanding of historical trends, movements and eras, the impact and significant of time and place, cause and effect, and change over time.
- (b) ELIGIBILITY. Each student entered in this contest must be eligible under Subchapter M.
- (c) REPRESENTATION.
 - (1) *Individual Competition*. Each participant high school may enter as many as four individuals in the district meet.
 - (2) *Team Competition*. The individuals entered at district constitute the team. A team must have a minimum of three contestants compete in order to participate in the team competition. All four members of the winning team will advance to the next higher meet.
- (d) QUALIFICATIONS: SUBSTITUTES; ALTERNATES.
 - (1) *Individual Competition*. First, second and third place finishers shall advance from district to region, region to state. If an individual qualifier cannot compete at the next higher meet, the alternate shall be notified and allowed to compete.
 - (2) *Team Competition*. The winning team from each district in each conference will advance to region competition. The winning team from each region in each conference will advance to state competition. If a member of a school's team is unable to compete at the next higher level of competition, only one substitution maybe made. The substitute must give the contest director a letter certifying eligibility, signed by a school administrator. If more than one member of a team is unable to compete, the alternate team will then advance. (See Section 903 [b] [4].)
- (e) NATURE OF THE CONTEST. Each year contest directors will select a theme that focuses on a different, specific facet of social studies (history, geography, civics, economics).
 - (1) *Test Questions*. The test will consist of 45 objective questions and an essay. Failure to submit an essay shall result in disqualification.
 - (2) *Topic*. The Supreme Court.
 - (3) *Primary Reading Selection*. The primary reading selection is *The Supreme Court*, by William Rehnquist. Vintage. ISBN 978-0-375-70861-9 (0-375-70861-8). Revised/updated February 2002. Trade Paperback. \$15. Web site: <http://www.randomhouse.com/vintage/index.html>; Texas Educational Paperbacks, 800-443-2078; Fax: 800-437-7070; 4433 Mint Way, Dallas, TX 75236. Web site: <http://www.tepbooks.com>. TEP price: \$9.75. Also available from Amazon.com and new and used book stores.
 - (4) *Supreme Court Cases*.
 - (A) *Barron v. Mayor and City Council of Baltimore*, 32 U.S. 243 (1833)
 - (B) *Brown v. Board of Education*, 349 U.S. 294 (1955)
 - (C) *Dred Scott v. Sandford*, (1857)
 - (D) *Everson v. Board of Education*, 330 U.S. 1 (1947)
 - (E) *Gideon v. Wainwright*, 372 U.S. 335 (1963)
 - (F) *Gitlow v. New York*, 268 U.S. 652 (1925)
 - (G) *Hazelwood School Dist. v. Kuhlmeier*, 484 U.S. 260 (1988)
 - (H) *Lemon v. Kurtzman*, 403 U.S. 602 (1971)
 - (I) *Mapp v. Ohio*, 367 U.S. 643 (1961)

- (J) *Marbury v. Madison*, 5 U.S. 137 (1803)
 - (K) *McCulloch v. Maryland*, 17 U.S. 316 (1819)
 - (L) *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436 (1966)
 - (M) *Near v. Minnesota*, 283 U.S. 697 (1931)
 - (N) *New Jersey v. T.L.O.*, 469 U.S. 325 (1985)
 - (O) *Plessy v. Ferguson*, 163 U.S. 537 (1896)
 - (P) *Regents of the Univ. of Cal. v. Bakke*, 438 U.S. 265 (1978)
 - (Q) *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973)
 - (R) *Santa Fe Independent School Dist. v. Doe*, 530 U.S. 290 (2000)
 - (S) *School District of Abington Township, Pennsylvania v. Schempp*, 374 U.S. 203 (1963)
 - (T) *Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School Dist.*, 393 U.S. 503 (1969)
 - (U) *Texas v. Johnson*, 491 U.S. 397 (1989)
- (5) *Sources of Related Information.*
- (A) History of the Supreme Court. <http://usgovinfo.about.com/blcthistory.htm>.
 - (B) General information and descriptions of major court decisions. <http://www.historicaldocuments.com/SupremeCourtDecisions.htm>.
 - (C) Information about the history of the Court under each of the Chief Justices. <http://www.supremecourthistory.org/>.
 - (D) The “official” Supreme Court web site, contains general information as well as more detailed material related to the current Court. <http://www.supremecourtus.gov/>.
 - (E) Brief information about any case ever heard by the Court and also has links to brief biographies of former Justices. <http://www.oyez.org/>.
 - (F) Historical information. http://www.findlaw.com/10fedgov/judicial/supreme_court/index.html.
 - (G) List of categories of Court cases. <http://straylight.law.cornell.edu/supct/cases/topic.htm>.
 - (H) Information about cases and links to biographic information related to Supreme Court Justices. <http://www.michaelariens.com/>.
 - (I) General information including access to Court cases. <http://supct.law.cornell.edu/supct/index.html>.
- (6) *Length of Testing Period.* A maximum of 90 minutes will be allotted for the actual testing period, exclusive of time required for instructions.
- (7) *Materials.* Contestants must furnish their own #2 pencil and eraser or pen for this event. No reference materials are allowed in the contest room.
- (f) **INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CONTEST DIRECTOR.**
- (1) *Contest Roster.* A contest roster listing contestants will be created from schools’ online entries.
 - (2) *Announcement.* Announce the time for the verification period and the announcement of test results.
 - (3) *Seating.* Exclude all persons except contestants, the contest director and assistants from the room.
 - (4) *Roll Call.* Call roll from the contest roster indicating to students their contest number. Replace any contestant who is not present with a certified substitute.
 - (5) *Test Distribution.* Distribute the tests and answer sheet, instructing students not to look at test questions until the start time. Instruct students to write their contestant number at the top right-hand corner of the answer sheet.
 - (6) *Test Directions.* Instruct the students that a maximum of 90 minutes is allowed for the test. A student may choose to turn in the test early.
 - (7) *Start and Stop Signals.* Give the signal to start, and after exactly 90 minutes have expired, give the stop signal.
 - (8) *Turning in Papers.* All tests and answer sheets must be turned in at the stop signal. Students who

finish early may leave early.

- (9) *Grading the Contest.* The objective portion of the test may be machine graded or hand graded. The contest director may select contest sponsors to assist in grading.
- (10) *Answer Key Errors.* The answer key shall be confirmed by the graders or grading committee. In the case of an error on the answer key of an objectively-scored contest, graders should notify the UIL State Office of the nature of the error and/or contact the respective state contest director to seek clarification. Mistakes in the answer key should be corrected, and papers should be judged on correctness rather than on an incorrect answer given in the key.
- (11) *Scoring.* The objective portion of all tests will be scored. A judge or judges will then evaluate the essays of the eight contestants with the highest scores in the objective portion of the test. If a tie occurs for the eighth slot, then essays of contestants tied for the eight slots will be judged. Each essay will be read and assigned a score based on a zero to 20 scale, with 20 being the highest score possible. The score will be added to the point total from the objective portion of the test, resulting in an overall score.
- (12) *Places.*
 - (A) *Individual Competition.* First place goes to the contestant making the highest overall score, second place to the contestant with the next highest, third place to the next highest, and so on.
 - (B) *Team Competition.* First place is awarded to the team receiving the highest cumulative score of the top three finishers in the objective portion of the contest only. Second place is awarded to the team making the second highest, and so on. Team members also qualify for individual awards.
 - (C) *Wild Card.* Each region's highest-scoring second place team may advance to the regional academic meet. In case two or more teams tie for the wild card berth, the highest objective score of the fourth place member of the team will be used to break the tie. Should two or more contestants who are the fourth place member of the team have the same objective score, then a tie will be declared, and all involved in the tie shall advance. A team that does not contain a fourth member forfeits the right to participate in the tie breaker. If neither team has a fourth member, neither shall advance. In order to be eligible as a wild card representative, district results must be certified online no later than 5 p.m. on the Monday following the final district academic week. Failure to meet the deadline or to submit correct scores disqualifies the district from advancing teams as wild card representatives. The highest-scoring second place team from the regional meets may advance to the Academic State Meet.
- (13) *Ties.*
 - (A) *Individual Competition.* If a tie exists after the grading of the essays, then those essays involved in the tie will be judged one against the other(s) to break the tie. When a tie occurs, those contestants who are tied shall be awarded a place before any other places are awarded. The decision(s) of the judge(s) is final.
 - (B) *Team Competition.* If at the district or regional meet two or more teams vying for first or second place have the same team score, the higher place shall be awarded to the team with the highest score of the fourth place team member. Should two or more contestants who are the fourth place team member have the same score, then a team tie will be declared and all teams involved in the tie shall advance. In the event of a team tie, the team score to be reported is the sum of the top three scores from each school. For purposes of this tiebreaker, a team without a fourth member will use a score of zero for the fourth place member's score. At the State Meet, no tie breaking procedure will be used for teams in any place; if two first place awards are made based on a declared tie, there will be no second place, etc.

- (14) *Points.* Points are awarded through sixth place for individual competition, and to first and second place teams. See Section 902.
- (15) *Verification Period.* Unofficial individual and team scores and places should be posted and verified. Contestants and coaches shall be given a period not to exceed 15 minutes to examine all test papers and answers and recorded scores. Questions regarding tabulation of scores should be directed to the contest director, whose decision is final.
- (16) *Official Results.* After verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official winners. Official results, once announced, are final.
- (17) *Returning Materials.* If results are final and all test questions resolved, entries may be returned no sooner than the end of the contest on the Saturday of the respective district week. If the regional meet is held on Saturday, tests, keys and essays should be returned to the contestants following the announcement of official results.