

Steck-Vaughn Social Studies Test Preparation for the GED® Test, Second Edition

Overview

Resource Type	Subject(s)	NRS Level(s)
Print	Social Studies	ABE 5,6

Publisher and Website

Aztec Paxen Publishing

<https://www.aztecsoftware.com/high-school-equivalency/print-publications/steck-vaughn-ged-prep-series/>

https://www.aztecsoftware.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/355-016-GED-Sheet_5.8.2021.pdf

<https://www.aztecsoftware.com/product/steck-vaughn-ged-2nd-edition/>

Summary

General Information

Steck-Vaughn's Test Preparation for the GED® Test, Second Edition print resource series includes two print resources (Student Book and Workbook) for each of the four GED® subject categories - Mathematical Reasoning, Reasoning through Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies. The two print resources, Student Book and Workbook, were designed to be used in conjunction with each other. The Student Book is designed to be the first book the student uses. Instructional content and practice opportunities are provided, and if the student needs no additional instruction or practice, they continue with the lessons in the Student Book. However, the Workbook is designed to offer additional

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instruction if needed, along with additional practice opportunities on each concept. A print resource titled Instructor Edition is also available for the series.

Organizational Format

Both print resources offer the following introductory material:

- An overview of the entire GED® test
- Features of the computerized GED® test
- Steck-Vaughn's approach to presenting GED® test material
- Specifics about the GED® Social Studies Test
- Steck-Vaughn's approach to presenting social studies topics
- Directions for using the TI-30XS calculator
- Test-taking tips
- Study skills

The lesson material is divided into four units. Each unit begins with GED® Journey, which presents a famous person who pursued their HSE through the GED® testing, along with their career accomplishments.

The social studies topics and their unit components are as follows:

Unit 1 – Geography and the World: 5 two-page lessons, a Unit Review (40 questions), and a Geography at Work section (18 questions)

Unit 2 – United States History: 7 two-page lessons, 2 High Impact Lessons, a Unit Review (34 questions), and United States History at Work section (22 questions)

Unit 3 – Civics and Government: 17 two-page lessons, 3 High Impact Lessons, a Unit Review (30 questions), and Civics and Government at Work section (20 questions)

Unit 4 – Economics: 5 two-page lessons, 1 High Impact Lesson, a Unit Review (28 questions), and Economics at Work section (22 questions)

After the last unit, there is an answer key for all questions.

Lesson Overview

Each two-page lesson in the Student Book uses the following approach:

- Naming of the social studies content topic and Social Studies Practices standard underneath the lesson heading
- Learn the Skill - presentation of the concept
- Practice the Skill - a passage/graph/map/timeline associated with the concept/event with comments and tips provided in the margin for guidance
- Apply the Skill - multiple questions to demonstrate competency with the concept. On average, each lesson has about five questions within the Apply the Skill section. Students base their answers on the information provided and are not expected to have social studies facts or concepts memorized.

The High Impact Lessons are four pages in length and focus on the high impact indicators as identified by the GED® Testing Service. These lessons address critical thinking skills that can help learners improve their test performance.

The Social Studies at Work sections present additional practice questions that are based on workplace contexts identified by specific career clusters.

Interspersed throughout lessons are spotlight items which present technology-enhanced question formats that are now used on the GED® test.

The lesson format in the Workbook is four pages per lesson and includes a cross reference to the pages in the Student Book that cover the same topic. The assessment targets (standards) are also noted. Instead of Learn the Skill, Practice the Skill, and Apply the Skill, the Student Workbook uses headings of Review the Skill, Refine the Skill, and Master the Skill. The Master the Skill section offers more practice than the Apply the Skill section. Often, these questions have multiple parts. Also similar to the Student Book, the Workbook features High Impact lessons and Social Studies at Work sections. However, these sections are shorter in length than those in the Student Book. Whereas the Student Book includes a set of questions within a Unit Review, the Workbook does not.

Question/Answer Format

Questions are primarily multiple choice for both the Student Book and the Student Workbook; however, there are some that are fill in the blank, drag and drop, hot spot identification, or short response. As mentioned above, Spotlight Items highlight some of the technology-enhanced questions that are now used on the GED® test.

Question/Answer Format

The answer key not only provides the correct answer, but it also provides a short explanation along with the DOK level, content topic, and practices addressed by the question. There are analysis charts for the unit review questions which identify the lesson that corresponds to the topic covered by the question.

Standards Alignment

Each lesson notes the social studies practice standard. In the answer key, the DOK level, content topic, and social studies practice standard are provided.

Other Resources

In addition to the print resources, the publisher's website shows availability of subject matter material via the following Aztec online resources:

- Individual ePUB: ePUB designed for individual named users.
- Organization ePUB: Online, electronic books designed for delivery via institutional LMS platforms.
- Aztec ePUB: ePUB delivered in the Aztec learning system.

<https://www.aztecsoftware.com/high-school-equivalency/print-publications/steck-vaughn-ged-prep-series/>

Accessibility Features

Online platforms may include different accessibility features to aid learners. To learn more about these features contact the publisher's sales representative or customer support. Some platforms may offer a document titled a Voluntary Product Accessibility Template to delineate the features offered. Information that may help you understand a VPAT is available in our [informational document](#).