

This document contains the answer keys, rubrics, and Scoring Notes for items on the Grade 6 Social Studies Practice Test. For support on how to use sample student work, refer to the [LEAP 2025 Social Studies Practice Test Guidance](#). Additional Practice Test resources are available in the [LDOE Practice Test Library](#).


Session	Set	Sequence	Item Type	Key	Alignment
1	Feudalism	1	MC	A	6.2.9 Describe the characteristics, significance, and influences of feudalism, the Crusades, and the growth of towns and cities through trade and commerce during the Middle Ages
1		2	MC	D	6.2.9 Describe the characteristics, significance, and influences of feudalism, the Crusades, and the growth of towns and cities through trade and commerce during the Middle Ages
1		3	MC	A	6.2.9 Describe the characteristics, significance, and influences of feudalism, the Crusades, and the growth of towns and cities through trade and commerce during the Middle Ages
1		4	MS	B, D	6.6.4 Explain how the development of trade and taxation influenced economic growth in the ancient world
1		5	MC	B	6.6.4 Explain how the development of trade and taxation influenced economic growth in the ancient world
1		6	TEI	see TEI key	6.2.9 Describe the characteristics, significance, and influences of feudalism, the Crusades, and the growth of towns and cities through trade and commerce during the Middle Ages
1	West African Empire: Kingdom of Mali	7	MC	B	6.3.4 Determine world migration patterns and population trends by interpreting maps, charts, and graphs
1		8	MC	A	6.6.4 Explain how the development of trade and taxation influenced economic growth in the ancient world
1		9	MC	C	6.6.3 Describe the economic motivation for expanding trade and territorial conquests in world civilizations using economic concepts
1		10	MC	D	6.2.6 Analyze the origin and spread of major world religions as they developed throughout history
1		11	MC	B	6.4.2 Explain how world migration patterns and cultural diffusion influenced human settlement
1		12	CR	see rubric	6.2.7 Summarize key features of ancient West African kingdoms (Ghana, Mali, and Songhai)

Session	Set	Sequence	Item Type	Key	Alignment
1	Early Humans	13	MC	C	6.3.4 Determine world migration patterns and population trends by interpreting maps, charts, and graphs
1		14	MC	A	6.4.1 Identify and describe physical features and climate conditions that contributed to early human settlement in regions of the world
1		15	MS	C, E	6.4.2 Explain how world migration patterns and cultural diffusion influenced human settlement
1		16	MC	C	6.2.1 Analyze the relationship between geographical features and early settlement patterns using maps and globes
1		17	MC	B	6.2.2 Examine how the achievements of early humans led to the development of civilization
1		18	MC	D	6.4.3 Explain the connection between physical geography and its influence on the development of civilization
1	Renaissance	19	MC	B	6.2.10 Examine the significance of the people and ideas that influenced the Renaissance in Europe
1		20	MC	D	6.2.10 Examine the significance of the people and ideas that influenced the Renaissance in Europe
1		21	MS	A, F	6.2.10 Examine the significance of the people and ideas that influenced the Renaissance in Europe
1		22	MC	C	6.2.10 Examine the significance of the people and ideas that influenced the Renaissance in Europe
1		23	TEI	see TEI key	6.2.10 Examine the significance of the people and ideas that influenced the Renaissance in Europe
1	Spread of Buddhism	24	MC	B	6.2.6 Analyze the origin and spread of major world religions as they developed throughout history
1		25	MC	D	6.2.6 Analyze the origin and spread of major world religions as they developed throughout history
1		26	MC	C	6.2.6 Analyze the origin and spread of major world religions as they developed throughout history
1		27	MC	A	6.4.2 Explain how world migration patterns and cultural diffusion influenced human settlement

Session 1 Item 6

Feudalism was a system that had benefits for both the nobility and peasants.

Drag and drop the phrases about feudalism into the correct columns of the chart to correctly show **two** benefits of feudalism for the nobility and **two** benefits of feudalism for peasants.


?

Benefits of Feudalism for the Nobility	Benefits of Feudalism for Peasants

allowed them to focus on defense of a specific area

allowed them to disobey laws made by the monarch

provided them with land to grow crops

provided them with a steady supply of workers

provided them with military protection

allowed them to make treaties with foreign kings

OK

Scoring for Session 1 Item 6

Benefits of Feudalism for the Nobility	Benefits of Feudalism for Peasants
allowed them to focus on defense of a specific area	provided them with land to grow crops
provided them with a steady supply of workers	provided them with military protection

allowed them to disobey laws made by the monarch

allowed them to make treaties with foreign kings

OK

Two points = four phrases in the correct columns
One point = three or two phrases in the correct columns
Zero points = one or zero phrases in the correct columns

Scoring for Session 1 Item 12

Based on the sources and your knowledge of social studies, describe **one** characteristic of the West African Kingdom of Mali and explain how that characteristic influenced trade in the kingdom.

Scoring Information	
Score Points	Description
2	Student's response correctly describes one characteristic of the West African Kingdom of Mali and correctly explains how that characteristic influenced trade in the kingdom.
1	Student's response correctly describes one characteristic of the West African Kingdom of Mali, but it does not correctly explain how that characteristic influenced trade in the kingdom. OR Student's response does not correctly describe a characteristic of the West African Kingdom of Mali, but does describe one way in which trade in the kingdom developed.
0	Student's response is blank, incorrect, or does not address the prompt.

Scoring Notes:

Characteristics of the Kingdom of Mali and how each characteristic influenced trade in the kingdom:

- Many people were prosperous and successful.
 - Mali's wealthy ruler impressed other countries, increasing opportunities for trade.
 - Expensive trade goods were imported and enjoyed by the population.
- There were many merchants.
 - Some merchants traveled for trade and some remained in the kingdom to manage shops.
 - Many merchants sold or traded goods that were created by artisans from Mali.
- Mali had plentiful natural resources, such as gold.
 - Mali's resources were valuable and in high demand.
 - Nearby kingdoms wanted the goods and products made with Mali's resources, which encouraged trade.
- Islam expanded in the region.
 - Mosques attracted Muslim travelers who also participated in trade.
 - Muslim merchants from different parts of the kingdom traded with each other.

Accept other reasonable responses.

Student Responses for Session 1 Item 12

Prompt

Based on the sources and your knowledge of social studies, describe **one** characteristic of the West African Kingdom of Mali and explain how that characteristic influenced trade in the kingdom.

Response 1

The one characteristic of the West African Kingdom of Mali is that there are a lot of gold mines in the area, which made the citizens there rich. It influenced trade because some people outside the country had things that the Kingdom of Mali needed and some people outside wanted some of the gold, so that made them trade.

Score: 2

The response earns a score of 2. It accurately describes one characteristic of the West African Kingdom of Mali, "there are a lot of gold mines in the area, which made the citizens there rich," and fully explains how the gold mines encouraged trade within the kingdom.

Response 2

One characteristic of the West Africa Kingdom is the gold that was there. This made the kingdom rich and they could trade the gold for food, livestock, and more.

Score: 2

The response earns a score of 2. It correctly describes one characteristic of the West African Kingdom of Mali, "the gold that was there. This made the kingdom rich." The response explains how that characteristic influenced trade in the kingdom, stating that "they could trade the gold for food, livestock, and more."

Response 3

one characteristic in west africa that influenced trade in the kingdom is the amount of gold and salt mines around the kingdom.

Score: 1

The response earns a score of 1. It accurately describes one characteristic of the West African Kingdom of Mali, "the amount of gold and salt mines around the kingdom," but it does not explain how that characteristic influenced trade in the kingdom.

Response 4

Mali was a powerful kingdom at that time. Because of Mali being a powerful kingdom, it attracted many merchants from all over the land. And with new merchants came new culture, items, and religion.

Score: 1

The response earns a score of 1. Although the response correctly identifies one characteristic of the West African Kingdom of Mali, "Mali was a powerful kingdom," it does not describe that characteristic. The response does explain how that characteristic influenced trade in the kingdom, "it attracted many merchants from all over the land. And with new merchants came new culture, items, and religion."

Response 5

Based on the sources I read I will describe one characteristic of the West African Kingdom of Mali and explain how that characteristic influenced trade in the kingdom. It says in source 4, "The original mosque was built during the thirteenth century, around 1240, when remained an important religious site as Islam became widely practiced throughout the kingdom".

Score: 0

The response earns a score of 0. It does not correctly describe one characteristic of the West African Kingdom of Mali or explain how that characteristic influenced trade in the kingdom. The response includes a quotation from Source 4 but does not show how that information relates to the prompt.

Session 1 Item 23

Many key events influenced the development of the Renaissance in Italy.

Drag and drop the **four** correct statements into the flow chart in chronological order from earliest to most recent to show the development of the Renaissance in Italy.

The Development of the Renaissance in Italy

Italian merchants engage in foreign trade.

Works of art and scientific discoveries flourish in Italian society.

The Catholic Church forces artists to focus on religious themes.

Banks are founded to help prosperous citizens manage their money.

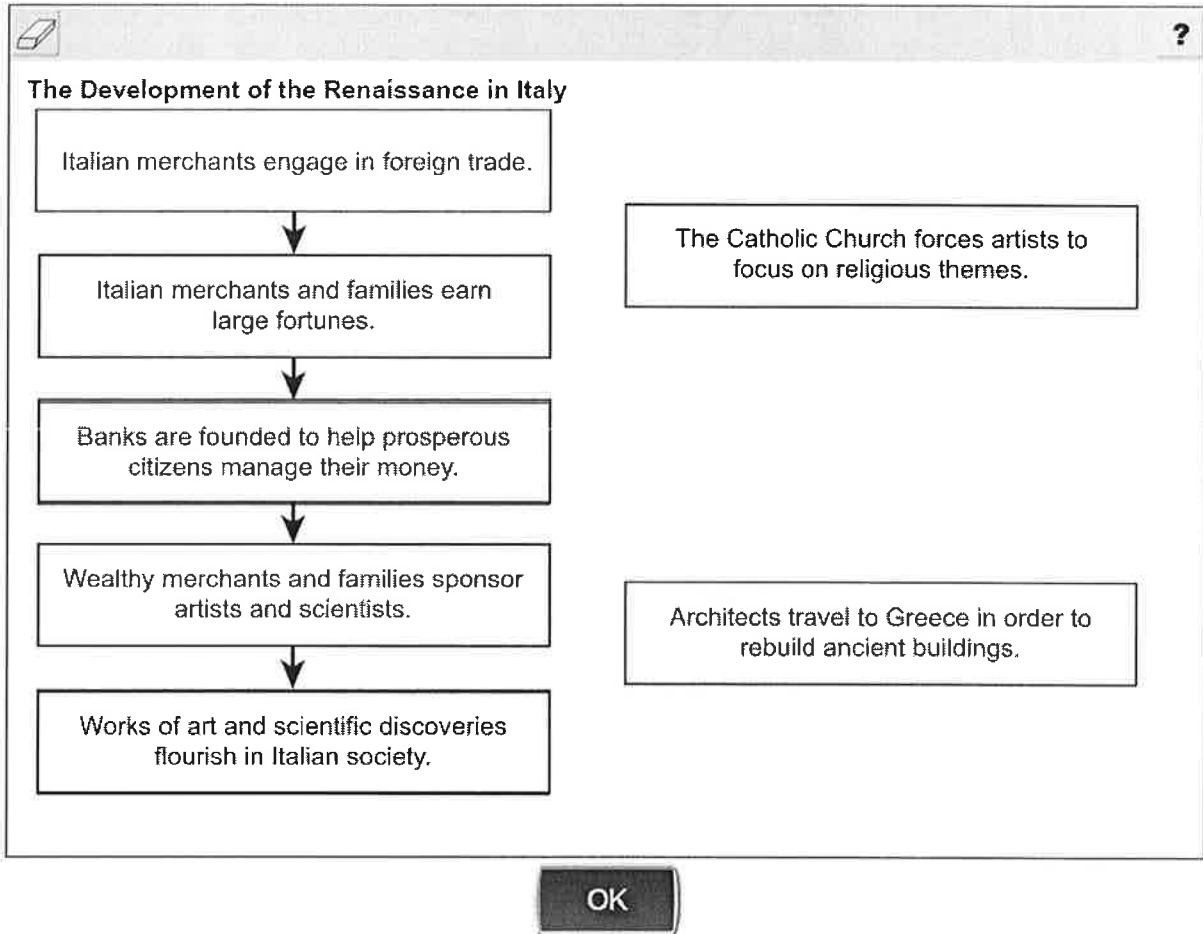
Italian merchants and families earn large fortunes.

Architects travel to Greece in order to rebuild ancient buildings.

Wealthy merchants and families sponsor artists and scientists.

OK

Scoring for Session 1 Item 23



Two points = four statements in the correct positions

One point = three or two statements in the correct positions

Zero points = one or zero statements in the correct positions