



U.S. History Student Questionnaire

2018
Grade 8

VH240003

1. How important was it to you to do well on this test?

- Ⓐ Not very important
- Ⓑ Somewhat important
- Ⓒ Important
- Ⓓ Very important

VH260313

2. How easy or difficult was this test?

- Ⓐ Extremely difficult
- Ⓑ Quite difficult
- Ⓒ Somewhat difficult
- Ⓓ Somewhat easy
- Ⓔ Quite easy
- Ⓕ Extremely easy

VH333658

3. How much effort did you apply to succeed on this test?

- Ⓐ No effort at all
- Ⓑ Very little effort
- Ⓒ Some effort
- Ⓓ Quite a bit of effort
- Ⓔ A lot of effort

VH333660

4. How challenging was taking this test?

- Ⓐ Not challenging at all
- Ⓑ A little challenging
- Ⓒ Somewhat challenging
- Ⓓ Quite challenging
- Ⓔ Extremely challenging

VH333661

5. How much time pressure did you feel when taking this test?

- Ⓐ No time pressure at all
- Ⓑ A little bit of time pressure
- Ⓒ Some time pressure
- Ⓓ Quite a bit of time pressure
- Ⓔ A lot of time pressure

VH240387

6. Are you Hispanic or Latino? Select **one or more** answer choices.

- Ⓐ No, I am not Hispanic or Latino.
- Ⓑ Yes, I am Mexican, Mexican American, or Chicano.
- Ⓒ Yes, I am Puerto Rican or Puerto Rican American.
- Ⓓ Yes, I am Cuban or Cuban American.
- Ⓔ Yes, I am from some other Hispanic or Latino background.

7. Which of the following best describes you? Select **one or more** answer choices.

- Ⓐ White
- Ⓑ Black or African American
- Ⓒ Asian
- Ⓓ American Indian or Alaska Native
- Ⓔ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

8. About how many books are there in your home?

- Ⓐ Few (0–10)
- Ⓑ Enough to fill one shelf (11–25)
- Ⓒ Enough to fill one bookcase (26–100)
- Ⓓ Enough to fill several bookcases (more than 100)

9. Do you have any of the following in your home? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Yes	No	
a. Access to the Internet	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH271105
b. Clothes dryer just for your family	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH336756
c. Dishwasher	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH336759
d. Your own bedroom	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH336762
e. A desktop or laptop computer (including Chromebooks) that you can use	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH591976
f. A tablet (for example, Surface Pro, iPad, Kindle Fire) that you can use	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH271110
g. A smartphone (for example, iPhone, Samsung Galaxy, HTC One) that you can use	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH271112

10. How often do you use the Internet for homework at home?

- A Never
- B About once or twice a month
- C About once or twice a week
- D Almost every day
- E Every day

11. How many days were you absent from school in the last month?

- A None
- B 1 or 2 days
- C 3 or 4 days
- D 5 to 10 days
- E More than 10 days

12. How often do you talk about things you have studied in school with someone in your family?

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once every few weeks
- Ⓒ About once a week
- Ⓓ Two or three times a week
- Ⓔ Every day

13. How far in school did **your mother** go?

- Ⓐ She did not finish high school.
- Ⓑ She graduated from high school.
- Ⓒ She had some education after high school.
- Ⓓ She graduated from college.
- Ⓔ I don't know.

14. How far in school did **your father** go?

- Ⓐ He did not finish high school.
- Ⓑ He graduated from high school.
- Ⓒ He had some education after high school.
- Ⓓ He graduated from college.
- Ⓔ I don't know.

VH336776

15. Does **your mother** work?

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No
- Ⓒ I don't know.

VH336779

16. Does **your father** work?

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No
- Ⓒ I don't know.

17. Do any of the following people live in your home? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Yes	No	
a. Mother	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH271145
b. Stepmother	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH271146
c. Foster mother or other female legal guardian	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH271147
d. Father	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH271148
e. Stepfather	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH271149
f. Foster father or other male legal guardian	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH271150

18. In this school year, how often did you use a **laptop or desktop computer** (including Chromebooks) during your classes at school?

- A Never
- B In some classes
- C In about half of the classes
- D In more than half of the classes
- E In all or almost all classes

19. In this school year, how often did you use a **tablet** (for example, Surface Pro, iPad, Kindle Fire) during your classes at school?

- A Never
- B In some classes
- C In about half of the classes
- D In more than half of the classes
- E In all or almost all classes

VH271337

20. How much does each of the following statements describe a person like you? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Not at all like me	A little bit like me	Somewhat like me	Quite a bit like me	Very much like me	
a. I finish whatever I begin.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271338
b. I try very hard even after making mistakes.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271339
c. I keep working hard even when I feel like quitting.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271342
d. I keep trying to improve myself, even when it takes a long time to get there.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271345

VH271367

21. In this school year, how often have you done each of the following? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never or hardly ever	Less than half of the time	About half of the time	More than half of the time	All or almost all of the time	
a. I started working on assignments right away rather than waiting until the last minute.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271370
b. I paid attention and resisted distractions.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271372
c. I stayed on task without reminders from my teacher.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271374
d. I paid attention in class even when I was not interested.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271375

VH271749

22. How much does each of the following statements describe a person like you? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Not at all like me	A little bit like me	Somewhat like me	Quite a bit like me	Very much like me	
a. I like complex problems more than easy problems.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271750
b. I like activities that challenge my thinking abilities.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271752
c. I enjoy situations where I will have to think about something.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271753
d. I enjoy thinking about new solutions to problems.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271756

VH271934

23. In this school year, how often have you felt any of the following ways about your school? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never or hardly ever	Less than half of the time	About half of the time	More than half of the time	All or almost all of the time	
a. I felt awkward and out of place at school.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271942
b. I felt happy at school.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271944
c. I felt that I learned something that I can use in my daily life.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH336903

VH254028

24. Write the ZIP code of your home address in the box.

□ □ □ □ □

25. In which of the following grades have you learned about United States history? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Yes, I took a class or course mainly focused on United States history.	Yes, I took a class or course that included some United States history topics.	No, I did not take a class or course that taught United States history topics.	I don't remember.	
a. 6th grade	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VH459700
b. 7th grade	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VH459701
c. 8th grade	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VH459702

26. In your social studies class this year, how much have you studied the following periods of United States history? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Not at all	Very little	Some	Quite a bit	A lot	
a. The period before 1815 (for example, age of exploration, colonization, settlement, or American Revolution)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH459720
b. 1815 to 1865 (for example, expansion, reform, sectionalism, or the Civil War)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH459721
c. 1865 to 1945 (for example, Reconstruction, industrial growth, United States role in world events, immigration, the Great Depression, or the First and Second World Wars)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH459722
d. 1945 to the present (for example, the Cold War, Civil Rights movement, women's rights movement, Vietnam War, or environmental movement)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH459723

27. During this school year, how often do you do each of the following activities? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never	About once or twice a year	About once or twice a month	About once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Read material from a United States history textbook (print or digital)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH718237
b. Read extra material about United States history not in the regular textbook (for example, newspapers, magazines, or online sources)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH718238
c. Use primary sources (for example, letters, diaries, photographs, films, or essays written by people from the past)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH718242
d. Conduct research about United States history topics (for example, online, in a library, or through interviews)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH718241
e. Listen to or watch movies, videos, or online content about United States history topics	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH718239

28. During this school year so far, how often have you done each of the following activities? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never	Once	Two or three times	Four or five times	More than five times	
a. Gone on class field trips to learn about United States history topics	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH718302
b. Given class presentations on United States history topics	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH718303
c. Written about your opinion on historical issues (for example, in a letter, e-mail, or blog post)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH718306
d. Taken part in historical debates or panel discussions	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH718305
e. Taken part in role-playing, mock trials, or dramas about United States history topics	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH718304

29. During this school year, how often do you do each of the following activities when you study United States history? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never or hardly ever	Once in a while	Sometimes	Often	Always or almost always	
a. Examine the causes and effects of important events in United States history	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH718592
b. Examine how time periods in United States history are similar or different	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH718593
c. Judge whether information from a source (for example, text, visual graphics, video, or audio) is accurate	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH718594
d. Analyze the relationship between two historical events	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH718598
e. Compare and evaluate different points of view about the past (for example, different ideas about what caused the Civil War)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH718596
f. Come up with research questions about why or how something happened in the past (for example, what were the causes of the Great Depression)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH718597
g. Take and defend a position about a historical issue (for example, how changes in transportation have affected the United States economy)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH718595

30. In your social studies class this year, how often do you get the following assignments? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never or hardly ever	Less than half of the lessons	About half of the lessons	More than half of the lessons	All or almost all of the lessons	
a. Assignments that you have to complete together with other students	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH457532
b. Short written responses (for example, a paragraph or less)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH457533
c. Assignments that use different forms of media (for example, photos, videos, or music)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH457534
d. Long written responses (for example, several paragraphs)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH457540
e. Responses to questions based on information from several sources (for example, letters, cartoons, or maps)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH457542

31. When you study social studies, how often do you use computers or other digital devices to do the following? For this question, include both schoolwork and homework assignments. Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never	About once or twice a year	About once or twice a month	About once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Play games or use apps in which you play a role (for example, an explorer, geographer, or historian)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH727925
b. Organize information about United States history topics by creating tables, charts, or graphs	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH459892
c. Create reports or projects about United States history using different forms of media (for example, a slide presentation that combines text and video clips)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH459893
d. Participate in online discussions about United States history on a website (for example, in forums or social media)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH459894
e. Use the Internet to look for evidence or sources (for example, text documents, photographic images, or films)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH459895

32. How much does each of the following statements describe you? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Not at all like me	A little bit like me	Somewhat like me	Quite a bit like me	Exactly like me	
a. I form opinions about historical events only after I have information from more than one source.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH719829
b. I need to know the history leading up to an event to truly understand it.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH719830
c. I want to know what lies behind the story when I study a conflict in history.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH719834
d. I try to understand others better by imagining how things look from their perspective.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH719832
e. I try to look at everybody's side of a disagreement before I make a decision.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH719833
f. I think that there is more than one side to every question, and I try to look at all of them.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH719831

33. Do you think that you would be able to do each of the following? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	I definitely can't	I probably can't	Maybe	I probably can	I definitely can	
a. Explain the causes and effects of important events in United States history	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH460011
b. Explain how time periods in United States history are similar or different	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH460016
c. Judge whether information from a source (for example, text, visual graphics, video, or audio) is accurate	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH460017
d. Understand the relationship between two historical events	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH460041
e. Compare and evaluate different points of view about the past (for example, different ideas about what caused the Civil War)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH460042
f. Come up with research questions about why or how something happened in the past (for example, what were the causes of the Great Depression)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH460043
g. Take and defend a position about a historical issue (for example, how changes in transportation have affected the United States economy)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH460044

34. How much does each of the following statements describe you? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Not at all like me	A little bit like me	Somewhat like me	Quite a bit like me	Exactly like me	
a. I want other students to think I am a good United States history student.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH719844
b. I want to show others that my United States history schoolwork is easy for me.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH719847
c. I want to look smart in comparison to the other students in my social studies or United States history class.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH719845
d. I want to get better United States history grades than most other students in my class.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH719846

35. How much does each of the following statements describe you? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Not at all like me	A little bit like me	Somewhat like me	Quite a bit like me	Exactly like me	
a. I want to learn as much as possible about United States history in my class.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH720608
b. I want to master a lot of new United States history skills in my class.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH720609
c. I want to become a better United States history student this year.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH720611
d. I want to understand as much as I can about United States history in my class.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH720612

36. How much does each of the following statements describe you? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Not at all like me	A little bit like me	Somewhat like me	Quite a bit like me	Exactly like me	
a. United States history is one of my favorite subjects to study.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH718414
b. I enjoy doing schoolwork about United States history.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH718419
c. I enjoy discussing United States history topics with others.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH718417
d. I think that United States history schoolwork helps me understand what is happening in the world around me.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH718418
e. I think that learning about United States history topics will be important for my future.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH718416

37. During this school year, how often do you do each of the following activities **outside of school**? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never	About once or twice a year	About once or twice a month	About once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Read books about history	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH718432
b. Watch movies, videos, or TV programs about history	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH718433
c. Play video games about history	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH718434
d. Go to history museums or historical sites	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH718438
e. Do online research related to historical topics	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH718436
f. Talk to friends or family about historical topics	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH718435

38. How often do you receive help from a tutor, family member, or friend with social studies **outside of school or after school**?

- (A) Never
- (B) About once or twice a year
- (C) About once or twice a month
- (D) About once or twice a week
- (E) Every day or almost every day

39. Approximately how many hours a day do you spend on your **social studies** homework?
- Ⓐ Less than 30 minutes a day
 - Ⓑ 30 minutes up to 1 hour a day
 - Ⓒ 1 up to 2 hours a day
 - Ⓓ 2 up to 3 hours a day
 - Ⓔ 3 up to 4 hours a day
 - Ⓕ More than 4 hours a day