

Subject	Depth of Knowledge			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Social Studies	<p>Requires students to recall facts (who, what, when, and where), terms, concepts, trends, generalizations, and theories. May require students to recognize or identify specific information contained in maps, charts, tables, graphs, drawings, or other graphics.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recall or recognize an event, map, or document • Describe the features of a place or people • Identify key figures in a particular context 	<p>Requires students to compare or contrast people, places, events, and concepts; give examples, classify or sort items into meaningful categories; describe, interpret or explain issues and problems, patterns, reasons, causes, effects, significance or impact, relationships, and points of view or processes.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the causes/effects of particular events • Identify patterns in events or behavior • Categorize events or figures into meaningful groupings • Convert information from one form into another • Explain issues or problems in their own words 	<p>Requires students to draw conclusions, cite evidence, apply concepts to new situations; use concepts to solve problems, analyze similarities and differences in issues and problems; propose and evaluate solutions; recognize and explain misconceptions; make connections and explain main concepts. Requires students to justify their arguments through application and evidence.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze how changes have affected people or places • Apply concepts in other contexts • Form alternate conclusions • Propose and evaluate solutions to problems • Recognize misconceptions and explain them (in their own words) • Make connections across time and place to explain a concept or big idea 	<p>Requires complexity at least at the level of DOK 3 but also, an extended time to complete the task. A project that requires extended time but repetitive or lower-DOK tasks is not at Level 4. May require students to connect and relate ideas and concepts within and among content areas. May involve analyzing and synthesizing information from multiple sources; examining and explaining alternative perspectives across a variety of sources; making predictions with evidence as support; planning and developing solutions to problems.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given a situation/problem research, define and describe the situation/problem and provide alternative solutions • Describe, define and illustrate common social, historical, or geographical themes and how they interrelate

Source: Webb, N. L. (2002). *Alignment study in language arts, mathematics, science and social studies of state standards and assessments for four states*. Washington, DC: Council of Chief State School Officers. Used with permission.