

**Question 26**  
**Benchmark A**  
**Spring 2009**

26. Read the passages below from two types of sources about traveling on the Oregon Trail.

Saturday, April 23rd — Still in camp, it rained hard all night, and blew a hurricane almost. All the tents were blown down, and some wagons capsized. Evening — It has been raining hard all day; everything is wet and muddy. One of the oxen missing; the boys have been hunting him all day. Dreary times, wet and muddy, and crowded in the tent, cold and wet and uncomfortable in the wagon.

—from the diary of  
Amelia Stewart Knight

The Oregon pioneers followed the trail that had been traced by explorers and the fur trappers. By the 1840s it became known as the Oregon Trail. The wagon caravans began their journey from towns along the Missouri River. . . . The settlers traveled in large groups. The big covered wagons were drawn by mules or oxen. The journey, about 2,000 miles (3,200 kilometers), was long and took about six months.

—from a middle  
school history textbook

In your **Answer Document**, compare the type of information about the Oregon Trail provided by each source. (2 points)

**Question 21**  
**Benchmark A**  
**May 2007**

The British Parliament’s decision to tax the American colonists caused conflict between the colonies and Britain. Read the following quotations from a British newspaper and a Massachusetts colonist.

“The Colonies were acquired with no other view than to be a convenience to us, and therefore it can never be imagined that we are to consult their interest.”

—*The London Chronicle*, 1764

“If our trade be taxed, why not our lands, or produce ... in short, everything we possess? They tax us without having legal representation.”

—Samuel Adams, 1765

In your **Answer Document**, compare how these two authors differ in their opinions about taxing the colonies. (2 points)

**Question 10**  
**Benchmark B**  
**March 2008**

In 1877, United States troops fought a war with the Nez Perce Indian nation. After many weeks of warfare, the Nez Perce chief, Joseph, made the statement below.

"Our chiefs are killed. ... He who led the young men is dead. ... My people, some of them, have run away to the hills, and have no blankets, no food; no one knows where they are—perhaps freezing to death. I want to have time to look for my children and see how many of them I can find. Maybe I shall find them among the dead. Hear me, my chiefs, I am tired; my heart is sick and sad."

Based on the feelings he expressed, what did Chief Joseph do after making this speech?

- A. He followed the young men into battle against white soldiers.
- B. He surrendered to the commander of the cavalry that pursued him.
- C. He asked chiefs of other nations to join him in an attack against the cavalry.
- D. He said that American Indians were wrong to want to live on the land of their forefathers.

8th Grade Social Studies Ohio Achievement Test  
Social Studies Skills and Methods Standard

**Question 36**  
**Benchmark B**  
**May 2007**

36. Look at the table below.

**Selected Items Traded Between  
Saudi Arabia and the United States in a Recent Year**

<i>Top Three Exports From Saudi Arabia to the United States</i>
crude oil
petroleum products
chemicals
<i>Top Three Exports From the United States to Saudi Arabia</i>
passenger cars
industrial engines
oil drilling equipment

What does the table indicate about the relationship between Saudi Arabia and the United States?

- A. Saudi Arabia and the United States are military allies.
- B. Saudi Arabia and the United States are interdependent.
- C. Saudi Arabia and the United States have similar standards of living.
- D. Saudi Arabia and the United States have similar economic systems.

**Question 7**  
**Benchmark B**  
**May 2007**

7. Look at the outline of a history paper.

I. \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Medicine - Arabic
- B. Philosophy - Greek
- C. Engineering - Roman
- D. Technology - Chinese

II. Ancient Languages

- A. Arabic
- B. Greek
- C. Latin
- D. Mandarin

Which heading belongs in the title of Section I in this outline?

- A. World Civilizations
- B. Ancient Government
- C. Economies of the Ancient World
- D. Achievements of Ancient Civilizations

**Question 38**  
**Benchmark C**  
**March 2008**

Kathryn is doing research for a paper on leaders of the American Civil War. She must choose appropriate sources in order to write a paper that has plenty of supporting details.

A list of sources is shown.

- diaries from Civil War generals
- letters from Civil War generals to their wives
- a history textbook
- maps showing major Civil War battles
- newspaper articles about the progression of the Civil War
- photographs of Civil War battles

Choose from the list two sources that Kathryn could use to find supporting details for her project.

Then, in your **Answer Document**, explain why those two sources would be appropriate to use for her project. (2 points)

**Question 3**  
**Benchmark C**  
**May 2007**

Which part of a research paper provides an organized list of the sources used?

- A. title page
- B. introduction
- C. bibliography
- D. table of contents

**Question 37**  
**Benchmark C**  
**May 2007**

Miguel must write a paper on the American Revolution. He must use one primary source and one secondary source.

Which sources should he choose?

- A. the journal of a Revolutionary War leader and an eyewitness account of a Revolutionary War battle
- B. a colonial patriot's speech and the autobiography of a lawyer who lived during the Revolutionary War
- C. articles on the Revolutionary War from an encyclopedia and a U.S. history textbook
- D. the letters of a Revolutionary War patriot and a biography of a Revolutionary War leader

**Question 35**  
**Benchmark D**  
**March 2008**

When working on a group presentation, what should the members of the group do first?

- A. create art for the presentation
- B. assign tasks and responsibilities
- C. rehearse the presentation several times
- D. gather information from a variety of sources

**Question 16**  
**Benchmark D**  
**May 2007**

Jamal, Louisa and Martin are working in a group in their social studies classroom. Their task is to report information on political parties to the class. Jamal and Louisa disagree on how they should present the information. Jamal suggests that they create an overhead presentation. Louisa wants to have a talk show where guest speakers are interviewed. Jamal and Louisa cannot seem to agree on the form of the presentation.

In your **Answer Document**, explain a method this group could use to make a decision on the presentation format. (2 points)