

Table 1: Sample Depth-of-Knowledge Level Descriptors for Social Studies
(Based on Webb, Karin Hess, 2005, National Center for Assessment www.nciea.org)

Level 1 Recall of Information	Level 2 Basic Reasoning	Level 3 Complex Reasoning	Level 4 Extended Reasoning
<p>a. Recall or recognition of: fact, term, concept, trend, generalization, event, or document</p> <p>b. Identify or describe features of places or people</p> <p>c. Identify key figures in a particular context meaning of words</p> <p>d. Describe or explain: who, what, where, when</p> <p>e. Identify specific information contained in maps, charts, tables, graphs, or drawings</p>	<p>a. Describe cause-effect of particular events</p> <p>b. Describe or explain: how (relationships or results), why, points of view, processes, significance, or impact</p> <p>c. Identify patterns in events or behavior</p> <p>d. Categorize events or figures in history into meaningful groups</p> <p>e. Identify and summarize the major events, problem, solution, conflicts</p> <p>f. Distinguish between fact and opinion</p> <p>g. Organize information to show relationships</p> <p>h. Compare and contrast people, events, places, concepts</p> <p>i. Give examples and non-examples to illustrate an idea/concept</p>	<p>a. Explain, generalize, or connect ideas, using supporting evidence from a text/source</p> <p>b. Apply a concept in other contexts</p> <p>c. Make and support inferences about implied causes and effects</p> <p>d. Draw conclusion or form alternative conclusions</p> <p>e. Analyze how changes have affected people or places</p> <p>f. Use concepts to solve problems</p> <p>g. Analyze similarities and differences in issues or problems</p> <p>h. Propose and evaluate solutions</p> <p>i. Recognize and explain misconceptions related to concepts</p>	<p>a. Analyze and explain multiple perspectives or issues within or across time periods, events, or cultures</p> <p>b. Gather, analyze, organize, and synthesize information from multiple (print and non print) sources</p> <p>c. Make predictions with evidence as support</p> <p>d. Plan and develop solutions to problems</p> <p>e. Given a situation/problem, research, define, and describe the situation/problem and provide alternative solutions</p> <p>f. Describe, define, and illustrate common social, historical, economic, or geographical themes and how they interrelate</p>