

Virginia

Standards of Learning Assessments

Test Blueprint

Virginia Studies

2023 History and Social Science *Standards of Learning*

This test blueprint will be effective with the administration of the spring 2026 History and Social Science *Standards of Learning* (SOL) tests.

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Virginia Studies Standards of Learning

Test Blueprint

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General Test Information

Test Blueprint

Much like the blueprint for a building, a test blueprint serves as a guide for test construction. The blueprint indicates the content areas that will be addressed by the test and the number of items that will be included by content area and for the test as a whole. There is a blueprint for each test (e.g., Grade 3 Reading, Grade 7 Mathematics, Virginia Studies, End-of-Course (EOC) Virginia and United States History).

The Virginia Studies SOL test blueprint contains information for the online and traditional/paper format test. All students who take a particular version (online, paper, large print, or braille) of the test respond to the same test questions.

Reporting Categories

Each test covers a number of Standards of Learning. In the test blueprint, the SOL are grouped into categories that address related content and skills. These categories are labeled as reporting categories. For example, a reporting category for the Virginia Studies Standards of Learning test is *Civil War and Postwar Eras*. Each of the SOL in this reporting category addresses the impact the Civil War, Reconstruction, and economic development have had on the history of Virginia. When the results of the SOL tests are reported, the scores will be presented for each reporting category and as a total test score.

Assignment of SOL to Reporting Category

In the Virginia Studies SOL test, each content standard is assigned to only one reporting category, but skills described in SOL VS.a-i may be assessed throughout the reporting categories. For example, SOL VS.11a is assigned to *Virginia: 1900 to Present*, while VS.a may be assigned to any of the four reporting categories for this SOL test.

Coverage of SOL

Due to the large number of SOL in each grade level content area, every standard will not be assessed on every version (form) of an SOL test. By necessity, to keep the length of a test reasonable, each version will sample from the SOL within a reporting category. All SOL in the blueprint will be tested within a three-year period, and all SOL in the blueprint are eligible for inclusion on each version of an SOL test.

Use of [2023 History and Social Science Standards of Learning](#) Resource Documents

The History and Social Science Instructional Guides are provided as supporting documents to the 2023 History and Social Science SOL. The Instructional Guides enhance the SOL by defining the understandings, supporting questions, and skills in practice.

Assessment Resources

[SOL Practice Items \(All Subjects\)](#)

Practice Item sets are available for each course having an associated SOL test. These item sets provide online practice with content that measures the SOL. Practice items for Virginia Studies (2023) will be available in late fall 2025. Downloadable, printable PDF versions of the multiple-choice Practice Items for History and Social Science SOL tests (2023) will also be available on this same page of the VDOE website.

Teachers or other adults are encouraged to read the introduction documents on the SOL Practice Items (All Subjects) page:

- The Introduction to TestNav 8: Multiple-Choice/Technology-Enhanced Item Tests – This document is an introduction to the online navigation, online tools, accessibility features, and overall functionality and appearance of SOL test questions in TestNav 8. This document also provides an overview of the various types of technology-enhanced item students may receive in the online test. It is highly recommended for teachers or other adults read this document before using the Guided Practice Suggestions for a practice item set.
- Guided Practice Suggestions – The Guided Practice Suggestions are designed to be used alongside the practice items for that content area. The document provides specific suggestions for teachers as they lead students through a practice item set. Information about correct answers and item functionality is included within the guide. When the SOL Practice Items are updated for the 2023 History and Social Science SOL in fall 2025, the Guided Practice Suggestions will be updated to reflect those changes.

Virginia Studies SOL Test Blueprint Summary Table

Reporting Category	<u>Virginia Studies Standards of Learning</u>	Number of Items
Skills Are Assessed Throughout Each Reporting Category	VS.a-i	n/a
<u>Reporting Category 1:</u> Physical Geography	VS1.a-c	6 – 8
Virginia’s Indigenous Peoples	VS.2a-e	
<u>Reporting Category 2:</u> 1607 Through the American Revolution	VS.3a-g VS.4a-f VS.5a-d	14 – 16
Political Growth and Westward Expansion: 1775 to the Mid-1800s	VS.6a-e VS.12	
<u>Reporting Category 3:</u> Civil War and Postwar Eras	VS.7a-g VS.8a-f VS.9a-b	10 – 12
<u>Reporting Category 4:</u> Virginia: 1900 to Present	VS.10a-b VS.11a-b VS.13a-b	6 – 8
Number of Operational Items*		40
Number of Field-Test Items**		10
Total Number of Items on Test		50

*Online test forms include multiple-choice and technology-enhanced items (TEI). Up to 15% of the items on an online test form will be TEI.

**Field-test items will be administered to students for potential use on subsequent tests and will not be used to compute students’ scores on the test.