



High School Mock Trial Correlations to Social Studies Standards

United States History and Constitution

Standard USHC-1: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the conflicts between regional and national interest in the development of **democracy** in the United States.

Enduring Understanding

Contemporary democratic ideals originated in England, were transplanted to North America by English settlers, and have evolved in the United States as a result of regional experiences. To understand this evolution of **democracy** and the conflict between local and national interests, the student will utilize the knowledge and skills set forth in the following indicators:

USHC-1.1 Summarize the distinct characteristics of each colonial region in the settlement and development of British North America, including religious, social, political, and economic differences.

USHC-1.2 Analyze the early development of representative government and political rights in the American colonies, including the influence of the British political system and the **rule of law** as written in the Magna Carta and the English Bill of Rights, and the conflict between the colonial legislatures and the British **Parliament** over the right to tax that resulted in the American Revolutionary War.

USHC-1.3 Analyze the impact of the Declaration of Independence and the American Revolution on establishing the ideals of a democratic republic.

USHC-1.4 Analyze how dissatisfactions with the government under the Articles of Confederation were addressed with the writing of the Constitution of 1787, including the debates and compromises reached at the Philadelphia Convention and the ratification of the Constitution.

USHC-1.5 Explain how the fundamental principle of **limited government** is protected by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, including **democracy**, **republicanism**, federalism, the **separation of powers**, the system of **checks and balances**, and individual rights.

United States Government

Standard USG-1: The student will demonstrate an understanding of foundational political theory, concepts, and application.

Enduring Understanding

To appreciate the governmental system of the United States, citizens must understand the nature and purpose of government in general. An understanding of basic political ideas allows nations to organize and structure the institutions of government in the most effective, logical manner. To understand and evaluate basic governmental function, organization, and effectiveness, the student will utilize the knowledge and skills set forth in the following indicators:

USG-1.1 Analyze political theories related to the existence, necessity, and purpose of government, including natural rights, balance of the public and private interests, and physical and economic security.

USG-1.2 Analyze components of government and the governing process, including politics, power, authority, sovereignty, legitimacy, public institutions, efficacy, and civic life.

USG-1.4 Analyze the institutional and organizational structure of government that allows it to carry out its purpose and function effectively, including the branches of government and legitimate bureaucratic institutions.

USG-1.5 Evaluate **limited government** and **unlimited government** with regard to governance, including **rule of law**, the role of **constitutions**, civil rights, political freedom, economic freedom, and the ability of citizens to impact or influence the governing process.

Standard USG-2: The student will demonstrate an understanding of foundational American political principles and the historical events and philosophical ideas that shaped the development and application of these principles.

Enduring Understanding

As it exists today, the United States Constitution is a product of numerous influences that were critical not only to its inception but also to its evolution over time. The principles set forth in the Constitution serve as the framework upon which United States government was established and on which it operates today. To understand the advancement of the principles, the student will utilize the knowledge and skills set forth in the following indicators:

USG-2.1 Summarize core principles of United States government, including **limited government**, federalism, **checks and balances**, **separation of powers**, **rule of law**, **popular sovereignty**, **republicanism**, individual rights, freedom, equality, and self-government.

USG-2.3 Analyze the British heritage that fostered development of the core political principles of American government, including the Magna Carta, the Petition of Right (1628), the Glorious Revolution, the English Bill of Rights, and the Mayflower Compact.

<p>USG-2.4 Evaluate significant American founding documents in relation to core political principles, including the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, state constitutions, the United States Constitution, <i>The Federalist Papers</i>, and the Bill of Rights.</p>
<p>USG-2.5 Evaluate significant American historical documents in relation to the application of core principles (e.g., the Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions, the Ordinance of Nullification, the Seneca Falls Declaration, the Emancipation Proclamation, Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Letter from a Birmingham Jail"), the eleventh through the twenty-seventh amendments to the Constitution, and critical Supreme Court cases.</p>
<p>Standard USG-3: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the basic organization and function of United States government on national, state, and local levels and the role of federalism in addressing the distribution of power.</p>
<p>Enduring Understanding The organization and structure of government at national, state, and local levels in the United States is based upon principles established in the U.S. Constitution. The most fundamental aspects of organized government within the United States are the distribution of power, oversight, and responsibilities that function to limit the ability of any one institution of that government to concentrate power. To understand the structure and organization of United States government as the embodiment of constitutional principles, the student will utilize the knowledge and skills set forth in the following indicator.</p>
<p>USG-3.4 Analyze the organization and responsibilities of local and state governments in the United States federal system, including the role of state constitutions, the limitations on state governments, the typical organization of state governments, the relationship between state and local governments, and the major responsibilities of state governments.</p>
<p>Standard USG-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of civil rights and civil liberties, the role of American citizens in the American political system, and distinctive expressions of American political culture.</p>
<p>Enduring Understanding An informed, participatory citizenry is essential to the American political process. To understand what it means to be an American citizen, the student will utilize the knowledge and skills set forth in the following indicators.</p>
<p>USG-4.1 Evaluate the role of the citizen in the American political process, including civic responsibilities and the interaction between the citizen and government.</p>
<p>USG-4.5 Evaluate the importance of civil rights and civil liberties for citizens in American political culture and the protective role of the national government through the Bill of Rights, the judicial system, and the Fourteenth Amendment.</p>
<p>USG-4.6 Explain how fundamental values, principles, and rights often conflict within the American political system; why these conflicts arise; and how these conflicts are and can be addressed.</p>

Modern World History

Standard MWH-5: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the influence of ideas and technology on the development of nation-states and empires in the sixteenth through the nineteenth centuries.

Enduring Understanding

New ideas and technological developments during this period led to changes in how people viewed the world and how people, in turn, changed their social, economic, and political circumstances. To understand how ideas and technology led to the development of modern society, the student will utilize the knowledge and skills set forth in the following indicator.

MWH-5.2 Analyze the ideas of social equality, democracy, constitutionalism, and nationalism brought about by the Enlightenment and their effects on institutions.

Standard MWH-6: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the creation of nation-states in Europe and the struggle by non-European nations to gain and/or maintain sovereignty.

Enduring Understanding

The self-determination of national groups became an ideal in Western Europe that expanded gradually to Central and Eastern Europe and eventually to colonized peoples. To understand the development of democracy across the globe and the continuing struggle for this ideal in many nations, the student will utilize the knowledge and skills set forth in the following indicator.

MWH-6.1 Explain the impact of English political institutions and attitudes on their North American colonies, and the American Revolution.

Standard MWH-8: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the causes and consequences of decolonization in the second half of the twentieth century and the beginning of the twenty-first century.

Enduring Understanding

Newly independent countries sought partners for economic and political alliances as technological developments of the past sixty years made the world more interconnected. To understand the effects of the economic, political, social, and technological changes that shape his or her place in the world, the student will utilize the knowledge and skills set forth in the following indicator.

MWH-8.5 Analyze the impact of movements for equality in the United States, Africa, and Southeast Asia as well as the varying reactions around the world to equity issues.