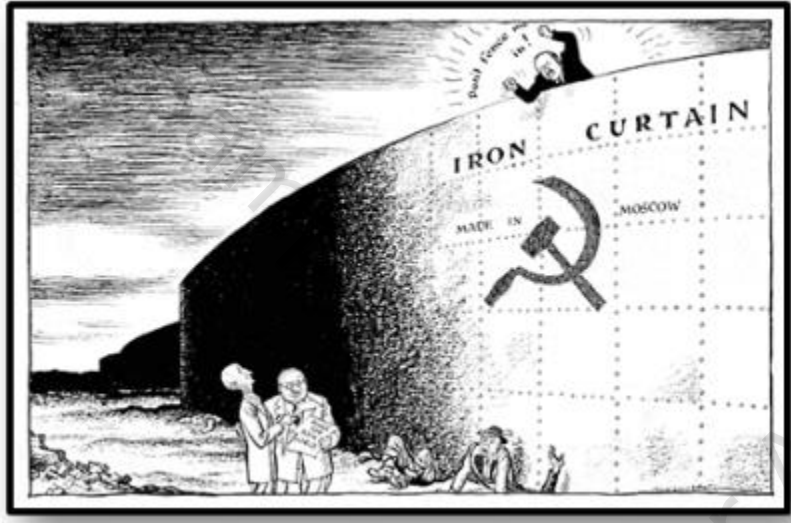


Constructed Response (CR) Sample Items Grades 3 – 5
Social Studies

Sample 1

Examine the political cartoon that was published during the Cold War.



Part A

What did the term "Iron Curtain" represent during the Cold War?

Part B

In the political cartoon, what is the significance of the people under the wall?



Exemplar

Part A

The Iron Curtain symbolized a wall, or a division, between communist-influenced Eastern Europe (Soviet Union) and the democratic nations of Western Europe and the United States. The division occurred during the reestablishment of the European economy following the end of WWII.

AND

Part B

The people under the wall are trying to escape from communist control. It was difficult to leave and many people had to escape. Iron Curtain nations wanted to keep people behind the wall and under their control.

Rubric

0	1	2
<p><i>Response demonstrates a limited to no understanding of the standard.</i></p> <p>Student earns 0 points for not meeting any of the requirements for score point 1.</p>	<p><i>Response demonstrates a partial understanding of the standard.</i></p> <p>Student earns 1 point for 1 part correct and complete.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Student earns 1 point for one part correct and complete and one part partially correct.</p>	<p><i>Response demonstrates a complete understanding of the standard.</i></p> <p>Student earns 2 points for all parts correct and complete.</p>



Sample 2

The Battle of Saratoga is known as the turning point of the American Revolution.

Part A

How did a win at the Battle of Saratoga improve the morale of the colonists?

Part B

How did the American victory at Saratoga encourage the French to enter the war?



Exemplar

Part A

The Battle of Saratoga improved the morale of the colonists because they realized that they could beat the British.

AND

Part B

The French were so impressed with the American victory over the British at Saratoga that they sent troops over to help the Americans fight the British.

Rubric

0	1	2
<p><i>Response demonstrates a limited to no understanding of the standard.</i></p> <p>Student earns 0 points for not meeting any of the requirements for score point 1.</p>	<p><i>Response demonstrates a partial understanding of the standard.</i></p> <p>Student earns 1 point for 1 part correct and complete.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Student earns 1 point for 1 part correct and complete AND for one part partially correct.</p>	<p><i>Response demonstrates a complete understanding of the standard.</i></p> <p>Student earns 2 points for all parts correct and complete.</p>

