

Strand 1: History

Concepts	Skills Processes
Historical Significance (HIST 6-8.1)	Multiple Sources, Structure (INQ 6-8.6) Origin, Credibility (INQ 6-8.7)

Strand Understandings:

- Europe's current societal, political, geographic, and economic structures draw from its past.

Essential/Guiding Questions:

- How could conflict and political tension result in the division between Eastern and Western Europe? (C/P)
- How has division influenced Europe's development? (F/C)
- How could Europe's geographic features and population patterns affect its unity? (F/C)

CT Social Studies Framework

- How and why do places change over time?
- How has competition for resources and land affected the development of various regions and/or cultures?
- How do the natural resources in a particular place affect the culture and affect that region's ability to be a part of the global community?

Unit Enduring Understandings:

- Conflict and immigration can shape a country's cultural identity.

Overarching Essential Questions:

- How does cultural diversity promote or obstruct national unity?
- Is the European Union effective in promoting regional unity?

Strand 2: Civics

Concepts	Skills Processes
Changing Societies (CIV 6-7.3) Role of Citizens (CIV 6-7.1) Laws and Rules (CIV 6-7.2)	Information from Multiple Sources, Supporting Claims (INQ 6-8) Development and Analysis of Claims/Counterclaims (INQ 6-8.9)

Strand Understandings:

- Differing political systems may hinder the emergence of a unified Europe.
- The various rules and laws of the EU impact member nations differently.

Essential/Guiding Questions:

- How could differing political systems impede a unified Europe? (C)
- What roles are self-determination, nationalism, and sovereignty playing within the European Union? (C)
- How can the application of various rules and laws impact the unity of the EU? (C)

Unit Focus:
Western and Eastern Europe:
Balancing Diversity and Unity

Concept Lens:
Cultural Landscape, Political Systems, and Cooperation

Strand 3: Economics

Concepts	Skills Processes
Alternative Solutions (ECO 6-7.2) Explanation of Trade Barriers (ECO 6-7.6)	Identification and Analysis of Problems, Causes, Challenges, Opportunities (INQ 6-8.15)

Strand Understandings:

- The creation of the European Union can benefit its member nations through improved global competition.

Essential/Guiding Questions:

- Does membership in the EU improve economic performance in member nations? (C/P)
- What negative factors may lead a country to refuse membership, or be denied membership to the European Union? (F/C)
- What type of economic integration exists among EU member nations? (F/C)
- Does regional economic integration guarantee prosperity for member nations? (C/P)

Strand 4: Geography

Concepts	Skills Processes
Construction of Maps Explaining Patterns (GEO 6.7.1) Analysis of Maps and Visuals to Determine Relationships (GEO 6.7.2) Settlement and Movement (GEO 6-7.7)	Questioning and Key Ideas (INQ 6-8.1) Expert Agreements and Compelling/Supporting Questions (INQ 6-8.2/INQ 6-8.3) Interpretation and Explanation of Concepts (INQ 6-8.3) Compelling and Supporting Questions (INQ 6-8.4)

Strand Understandings:

- Political and social unity can become difficult due to increased migration and immigration to the region.

Essential/Guiding Questions:

- How does multiculturalism affect national identity? (C)
- Can European Countries preserve their own unique cultural identity while still respecting new immigrants' cultural traits? (P)
- How can push factors like conflict impact a neighboring country's culture and values? (C)

Strand 1: History

Concepts	Skills Processes
Historical Significance of People/Events (HIST 6-8.1)	Construction of Reasoned, Sequential, Detailed Explanations (INQ 6-8.11)

Strand Understandings:

- Various ethnic groups influence the Middle East and Africa over time.
- Colonialism and conflicts shape and transform both regions over time.

Essential/Guiding Questions:

- What is the relationship between culture in the Middle East and nationalism and how do they both influence cooperation or conflict amongst a country's citizens? (P)
- How can colonization and the desire for resources divide a region politically? (C/P)

CT Social Studies Framework

- How and why do places change over time?
- How has competition for resources and land affected the development of various regions and/or cultures?
- How do the natural resources of a particular place affect the region's economy and affect that region's ability to be part of the global community?

Unit Enduring Understandings:

- The cultural crossroads of a region may create a climate of conflict.
- Resource allocation may determine the economic development, wealth, and political disposition of a region.
- A lack of economic diversity and political stability may impact a region's development and global influence.

Overarching Essential Questions:

- How does the distribution of resources and cultural diversity of a region help and/or hinder the global relationships among nations and its citizens?
- Under what circumstances can political instability lead to civil war within a region or country?

Strand 2: Civics

Concepts	Skills Processes
Changing Societies (CIV 6-7.3)	Evidence from Multiple Sources (INQ 6-8.10) Construction of Explanations (INQ 6-8.11) Acknowledgment of Strengths/Limitations of Sources/Explanations (INQ 6-8.10/6-8.11) Assessment of Capacities to Take Action (INQ 6-8.16) Application and Taking Action (INQ 6-8.17)

Strand Understandings:

- Human rights abuses may occur within regions controlled by rogue groups and power factions.
- Political aims and goals, when taken to the extreme, can result in the formation of the terrorist organizations.

Essential/Guiding Questions:

- How can civil war and genocide disunify a region's people and result in humanitarian crises? (C/P)
- How are issues such as international relations, immigration, cultural diversity, and security interrelated? (P)
- What evidence can be used to explain one's thinking and understanding? (F/C)

Unit Focus:
The Middle East, North Africa, and Sub-Saharan Africa: Struggle and Progress

Concept Lens:
Resource Distribution, Conflict, Culture, Colonialism

Strand 3: Economics

Concepts	Skills Processes
Evaluation of Alternative Economic Approaches/Solutions (ECO 6-7.2) Impact of Supply and Demand Changes (ECO 6-7.3)	Analysis Using Multiple Disciplinary Lenses (INQ 6-8.15) Identification of Multiple Source Evidence (INQ 6-8.8)

Strand Understandings:

- Resource availability, distribution, and supply play a major role in the global economy.
- The growing global demand for oil presents major challenges on multiple issues for the future.
- The physical features of a region can impede the flow of goods and accessibility to resources which may lead to a lack of economic diversification.

Essential/Guiding Questions:

- Which economic characteristics identify developed versus developing nations? (F/C)
- How can economic diversification, or lack thereof, determine the standard of living within a given region? (F/C)
- What is the relationship between resource distribution of a commodity such as oil and the wealth of a region? (C)
- What contribution can consumers make in developing and implementing solutions to the issue of conservation of resources? (P)

Strand 4: Geography

Concepts	Skills Processes
Mapping/Representation of Places and Regions (GEO 6-7.2) Analysis and Comparison of Different Cultural and Environmental Characteristics (GEO 6-7.4) Connections Between Physical and Human Characteristics of a Region (GEO 6-7.5) Impact of Transportation and Communication Technology (GEO 6-7.6) Conflict and Cooperation/Human-Induced Environmental Changes (GEO 6-7.8)	Assessment of Capacity to Take Action on Global Problems (INQ 6-8.16) Analysis of Relationships Between Humans and Environments (GEO 6-7.7)

Strand Understandings:

- Extreme physical environments pose severe challenges to transportation, resource extraction, and settlement patterns within certain regions of the world.
- Water plays a critical role in settlement patterns.
- Human-environment interaction can bring both positive and negative consequences for a region's wildlife and people.

Essential/Guiding Questions:

- How have limited water resources determined settlement patterns in the Middle East and Africa? (F/C)
- What impact do limited resources have on a region's ecosystems? (F/C)
- How can political boundaries and physical landforms determine resource allocation in the Middle East and Africa and thus determine the standard of living within a given region? (C)

Strand 1: History

Concepts	Skills Processes
Questioning About Historically Significant People or Events (HIST 6-8.1)	Construction of Explanations/ Acknowledgement of Source Strengths and Weaknesses (INQ 6-8.11)

Strand Understandings:

- Social or class structure may promote or hinder the standard of living of a country's citizens.
- Global and regional conflicts can significantly impact global relations and economic development.

Essential/Guiding Questions:

- How does class division relate to the economy, including poverty and social mobility? (C/P)
- What is the relationship between religious diversity and unity and/or disunity? (C/P)
- How can the need for political power (ideology) and resources contribute to global conflict and cooperation? (C/P)

CT Social Studies Framework

- How and why do places change over time?
- How has competition for resources and land affected the development of various regions and/or cultures?
- How do the natural resources in a particular place affect the culture and affect that region's ability to be a part of the global community?

Unit Enduring Understandings:

- Globalization has both benefits and challenges for newly developed nations.
- The emergence of modern industry and urbanization present societal and environmental challenges.
- A region's culture can contribute to and determine its economic development and success.

Overarching Essential Questions:

- How does population growth and increased urbanization and industrialization impact a country's environment and infrastructure?
- What is the connection between globalization, human rights violations, and economic prosperity?
- How can cultural values and government systems determine a nation's economic growth?

Strand 2: Civics

Concepts	Skills Processes
Explanation of Specific Roles of Citizens (CIV 6-7.1) Comparison of Historical and Contemporary Means of Changing Societies (CIV 6-7.3)	Agreement About Interpretations of Disciplinary Concepts (INQ 6-8.2) Development of Claims and Counterclaims (INQ 6-8.9)

Strand Understandings:

- Increased population growth and growing urbanization can present challenges and opportunities for a country's standard of living and environment.
- A society's cultural values may determine its foreign and domestic policy.
- Differing political systems amongst Asia's countries can impact the citizens under their leadership.

Essential/Guiding Questions:

- How are countries like India and China facing their population issues? (F)
- What pull factors and economic benefits are responsible for increased urbanization in the major cities of Asia? (F)
- How are the lives of everyday people in Asian countries influenced by their governments? (C)

Unit Focus:

Asia: Benefits and Costs of Prosperity

Concept Lens:

Globalization, Urbanization, Ideology, and Human Rights

Strand 3: Economics

Concepts	Skills Processes
Economic Decisions and Well-Being (ECO 6-7.1) Role of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (ECO 6-7.4) Market Economy (ECO 6-7.4/6-7.5) Roles of Institutions (ECO 6-7.5) Benefits and Costs of Trade Policies (ECO 6-7.7)	Determination of Sources (INQ 6-8.5) Consideration of Multiple Points of View (INQ 6-8.5) Assessment of Collective Capacity to Take Action Addressing Global Problems (INQ 6-8.16)

Strand Understandings:

- The development and growth of a global interconnected economy poses both benefits and consequences for a country's/region's citizens.
- Increased technology can play an integral role in the development of emerging newly developed economies.
- A region's emerging economy can result in a shift in its international status as a global economic powerhouse.

Essential/Guiding Questions:

- What is the connection between industrialization, globalization, standard of living and child labor? (C/P)
- How does a country's international status change as its economy develops? (C)

Strand 4: Geography

Concepts	Skills Processes
Influence of Cultural Patterns and Economic Decisions (GEO 6-7.3) Mapping and Images for Explanations of Relationships Between Places and Environments (GEO 6-7.2) Regional Variation in Cultural and Environmental Characteristics (GEO 6-7.9) Environmental Characteristics and Production of Goods in Relationship to World Trade (GEO 6-7.10) Global Population Distribution Changes and Land Usage (GEO 6.7-11)	Manifestations of Problems Over Time (INQ 6-8.15) Adaptations of Arguments and Explanations (INQ 6-8.12) Presentations of Topics for Outside Audiences (INQ 6-8.12)

Strand Understandings:

- Increasing growth can lead to international competition for global finite resources such as oil and natural gas.
- Cultural practices, industrialization, and urbanization change land, air and water resources over time.

Essential/Guiding Questions:

- How does sub-continental Asia's physical location in proximity to the Pacific Ring of Fire determine the formation of extreme weather such as tsunamis and cyclones? (F)
- How might religious and economic practices and ceremonies impact the major rivers of the region? (C)
- How does population growth impact global environment, and to what extent can it be reduced or reversed through government intervention? (C/P)