A Teacher’s Guide to the Literacy Standards in History/Social Studies
Although PARCC has not designed Model Content Frameworks for History/Social Studies and Science/Technical Subjects, the following information will assist district staff in understanding the design of these tools. Illinois has chosen to move ahead with a teacher’s guide for 6-12 Content Areas that compliments the 3rd – 11th grade teacher guides based on the PARCC information.

The Model Content Frameworks are voluntary resources offered by PARCC to help curriculum developers and teachers as they work to implement the standards in their states and districts. The Model Content Frameworks offer one way of organizing the standards — in this instance into quarterly modules. Equally successful models could be based around semesters, trimesters or other school schedules. Model Content Frameworks allow educators the flexibility to order the modules and the content within the modules in any way that suits their desired purposes. Because the knowledge and skills embedded across the four modules address all the standards for a given grade level, the order in which the four modules may be used is not critical. The Model Content Frameworks are designed with the following purposes in mind:

1. Supporting implementation of the Common Core State Standards, and
2. Informing the development of item specifications and blueprints for the PARCC assessments in grades 3–8 and high school.

The proposed PARCC Assessment System will be designed to measure knowledge, skills and understandings essential to achieving college and career readiness. In ELA/Literacy, these include the following areas as defined by the standards:

**Reading complex texts:**
1. This requires students to read and comprehend a range of grade-level complex texts, including texts from the domains of ELA, science, history/social studies, technical subjects and the arts.
2. Because vocabulary is a critical component of reading comprehension, it will be assessed in the context of reading passages.
3. Students are expected to conduct close, analytic readings as well as compare and synthesize ideas across texts. Each module suggests both the number and types of texts that students read and analyze. Students then write about these texts either to express an opinion/make an argument or to inform/explain. In addition, research and narrative writing tasks appear in each module.

**Writing effectively when using and/or analyzing sources:**
This requires students to demonstrate the interrelated literacy activities of reading, gathering evidence about what is read, as well as analyzing and presenting that evidence in writing.

**Conducting and reporting on research:**
This expands on “writing when analyzing sources” to require students to demonstrate their ability to
1. gather resources,
2. evaluate their relevance, and
3. report on information and ideas they have investigated (i.e., conducting research to answer questions or to solve problems).

The importance of the above skills is reflected in the emphasis the Model Content Frameworks place on students’ needing regular opportunities to grapple with the close, analytic reading of grade-level complex texts and to construct increasingly sophisticated responses in writing. The Model Content Frameworks therefore provide a helpful guide in preparing students for the future PARCC assessments.
9th – 10th Model Curriculum of History/Social Studies
Optional model to consider when constructing a year long course of instruction.

1st Quarter-Length Module

Reading History and Social Studies Texts
Strive to infuse as many of the following reading standards into each quarter as possible, making sure to amply cover them all to proficiency by the end of the 10th grade year.

- Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources attending to such features as the date and origin of the information
- Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source
- Provide an accurate summary of a how key events or ideas develop over the course of the text
- Analyze in detail a series of events described in a text; determine whether earlier events caused later ones or simply preceded them
- Analyze how a text uses structure to emphasize key points or advance an explanation or analysis
- Compare the point of view of two or more authors, for how they treat the same or similar topics, including which details they include and emphasize in their respective accounts
- Integrate quantitative or technical analysis (e.g., charts, research data) with qualitative analysis in print or digital text
- Assess the extent to which the reasoning and evidence in a text support the author’s claims
- Compare and contrast treatments of the same topic in several primary and secondary sources

Writing About Texts

Write Routinely Over Extended Time Frames and for a Range of Discipline-Specific Tasks, Purposes and Audiences

- Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose and audience.
- Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience
- Use technology, including the internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products, taking advantage of technology’s capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically

Writing Arguments

- Introduce precise claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that establishes clear relationships among the claim(s), counterclaims, reasons and evidence
- Develop claim(s) and counterclaims fairly, supplying data and evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both claim(s) and counterclaims in a discipline-appropriate form and in a manner that anticipates knowledge level and concerns
- Use words, phrases, and clauses to link the major sections of a text, create cohesion and clarify the relationships between claim(s), and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims
- Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing
- Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented

Writing Research Projects

- Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem, narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation
- Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advance searches effectively
- Assess the usefulness of each source in answering the research question
- Integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation
- Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection and research

Teach these skills with the content that students read.
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2nd Quarter-Length Module

Reading History and Social Studies Texts

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☐ Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources attending to such features as the date and origin of the information
☐ Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source
☐ Provide an accurate summary of how key events or ideas develop over the course of the text
☐ Analyze in detail a series of events described in a text; determine whether earlier events caused later ones or simply preceded them
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Writing About Texts

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• Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose and audience.
• With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.
• Use technology, including the internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas clearly and efficiently.

Writing Informative/Explanatory Texts, Including the Narration of Historical Events

☐ Introduce a topic and organize ideas, concepts, and information to make important connections and distinctions; include formatting (e.g., heading), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension
☐ Develop the topic with well-chosen, relevant and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience’s knowledge of the topic
☐ Use varied transitions and sentence structures to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts
☐ Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic and convey a style appropriate to the discipline and context as well as to the expertise of likely
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3rd Quarter-Length Module

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4th Quarter-Length Module

Reading History and Social Studies Texts

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Adapted from PARCC Model Content Framework for ELA/Literacy 6
## Primary Sources

A primary source is a document or physical object which was written or created during the time under study. These sources were present during an experience or time period and offer an inside view of a particular event. Some types of primary sources include:

- **ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS** (excerpts or translations acceptable): Diaries, speeches, manuscripts, letters, interviews, news film footage, autobiographies, official records
- **CREATIVE WORKS**: Poetry, drama, novels, music, art
- **RELICS OR ARTIFACTS**: Pottery, furniture, clothing, buildings

Examples of primary sources include:

- Diary of Anne Frank - Experiences of a Jewish family during WWII
- The Constitution of Canada - Canadian History
- A journal article reporting NEW research or findings
- Weavings and pottery - Native American history
- Plato's Republic - Women in Ancient Greece

## Secondary Sources

A secondary source interprets and analyzes primary sources. These sources are one or more steps removed from the event. Secondary sources may have pictures, quotes or graphics of primary sources in them. Some types of secondary sources include:

- **PUBLICATIONS**: Textbooks, magazine articles, histories, criticisms, commentaries, encyclopedias

Examples of secondary sources include:

- A journal/magazine article which interprets or reviews previous findings
- A history textbook
- A book about the effects of WWI

## Primary Sources on the Web

### American History

- **American Memory**
  The Library of Congress's National Digital Library contains more than 40 collections, which feature historical photos, maps, documents, letters, speeches, recordings, videos, prints, and more. [http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/](http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/)

- **Documenting the American South**
  This electronic text archive from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill contains primary source slavery narratives and first-person narratives of the South as well as a digitized library of southern literature. [http://docsouth.unc.edu/](http://docsouth.unc.edu/)

- **A Hypertext on American History**
  This site contains over 100 historical documents relating to United States history, from the 1400s to the present. It includes letters, charters, essays, speeches, journal entries, inaugural addresses, autobiographies, biographies, and more. An outline of American history provides context for the primary source materials. [http://odur.let.rug.nl/~usa/usa.htm](http://odur.let.rug.nl/~usa/usa.htm)

- **Jefferson National Expansion Memorial**
  [http://www.nps.gov/jeff/](http://www.nps.gov/jeff/)
  Learn about the history of the city of St. Louis and the construction of the Gateway Arch through historic photographs at this site. [http://www.nps.gov/jeff/](http://www.nps.gov/jeff/)

- **The Library of Congress**
  Legislative information, historical exhibits, primary source materials, resources for educators, research tools, and more are available from the Library of Congress. [http://lcweb.loc.gov/](http://lcweb.loc.gov/)

### World History

- **Alex**
  Alex is a comprehensive catalog of books and other works that enables users to find and retrieve the full text of documents on the Internet. It currently indexes almost 1,800 books and shorttexts. [http://www.infomotions.com/alex/](http://www.infomotions.com/alex/)

- **The Chauvet Cave**

- **The History Net**
  This collection of resources highlights topics in United States and world history through eyewitness accounts, interviews, photographs, and other primary and secondary sources. [http://www.thehistorynet.com/](http://www.thehistorynet.com/)

- **The Labyrinth**
  This collection of medieval resources includes an electronic library of poetry and prose in medieval languages, on-line bibliographies, professional directories and news about medieval studies, and links to related teaching resources. [http://www.georgetown.edu/labyrinth/labyrinth-home.html](http://www.georgetown.edu/labyrinth/labyrinth-home.html)

- **Institute of Egyptian Art & Archaeology**
  This site contains an exhibit of ancient Egyptian artifacts and a virtual tour of ancient Egyptian cities. [http://academic.memphis.edu/egypt/artifact.html](http://academic.memphis.edu/egypt/artifact.html)
Mr. Lincoln's Virtual Library
The Library of Congress presents information on Abraham Lincoln, including the Emancipation Proclamation and his assassination, in this online exhibit of primary sources.
http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/alhtml/alhome.html

National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)
NARA preserves historically valuable archives of the U.S. government, including documents, photographs, images, maps, audio clips, letters, speeches, and films. Check out the Exhibit Hall for fascinating primary sources on such topics as the Lincoln assassination and World War II propaganda posters.
http://www.archives.gov/index.html

National Museum of American Art
This museum site offers online exhibitions of American art.
http://nmaa-ryder.si.edu/

New Deal Network
This site contains hundreds of primary sources related to the Depression era and the New Deal, including letters, photographs, posters, political cartoons, government documents, speeches, and more. You can also find background information on New Deal programs. http://newdeal.feri.org/

The Papers of Jefferson Davis
Learn about Jefferson Davis, the President of the Confederacy, through his writings. You can also find background information on his life and family. http://jeffersondavis.rice.edu

Truman Presidential Museum & Library
Find primary source documents, photos, letters, journals, and more on 20th century history from the Truman Presidential Library. http://www.trumanlibrary.org/educatio.htm

Smithsonian Institution
The Smithsonian Institution offers access to primary sources and other resources on a wide variety of topics, including military and political history. http://www.si.edu/

The University of Oklahoma Law Center: A Chronology of US Historical Documents
This site offers an extensive directory of historical documents from pre-colonial days to the present. Many presidential inaugural addresses are included, as are some songs, poems, letters, and more. http://www.law.ou.edu/hist/

The Valley of the Shadow
Learn about the impact of the Civil War on two counties, Pennsylvania's Franklin County and Virginia's Augusta County, through the primary source images, documents, letters, newspapers, and maps at this site.

Perseus Project
Perseus is a growing collection of online resources for studying the ancient world. Materials include ancient texts and translations, maps, articles, essays, and images from over 70 museums around the world.
http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/

Vincent Voice Library
This site features primary source sound samples, such as speech clips from many U.S. presidents and other notable figures in history.
http://www.lib.msu.edu/vincent/
Students compare the similarities and differences in point of view in words by Dee Brown and Evan Connell regarding the Battle of Little Bighorn, analyzing how the authors treat the same event and which details they include and emphasize in their respective accounts. [RH.9-10.6]

The authors analyze the role of African American soldiers in the Civil War by comparing and contrasting primary source materials against secondary synthesis such as Jim Haskin’s Black, Blue, and Gray: African Americans in the Civil War. [RH.9-10.9]

Students determine the meaning of words such as quadrant, astrolabe, equator, and horizon line in Joan Dash’s The Longitude Prize as well as phrases such as dead reckoning and sailing the parallel that reflect social aspects of history. [RH. 9-10.4]