

Sample 4-Point Constructed Response Item for MCAP Social Studies Grade 8 Assessment

One of the items on the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) Social Studies Grade 8 assessment is the four-point constructed response question. These items measure students' understanding of United States History content identified in the assessment limits of the grade 8 framework. Below find an example of the formatting for the 4-point content constructed response questions.

Use your knowledge of United States History to answer the constructed-response question.

- Identify the views expressed by large and small states at the Constitutional Convention about how representation should be determined in the legislature.
- Explain the impact that the Great Compromise had on the structure of the legislative branch.
- Use details and examples to support your response.

Type your answer in the space provided.

Student responses to these items will be scored with the following rubric:

4 Point Rubric for Content CRs

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| Level 4 | <p>The response demonstrates comprehensive understanding of the content, question, and/or problem. The response is insightful and completely integrates knowledge to thoroughly answer the question.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addresses all aspects of the question. Both bullets are answered with details. • Demonstrates comprehensive knowledge of United States history. Minimal misconceptions do not interfere with understanding. • When appropriate, applies evidence correctly from the stimulus to support response. |
| Level 3 | <p>The response shows adequate understanding of the content, question, and/or problem. The response is satisfactory and integrates knowledge to answer the question.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addresses most aspects of the question. Both bullets are answered, although one may be less developed than the other. • Demonstrates adequate knowledge of United States history. Minor misconceptions do not interfere with understanding. • When appropriate, applies evidence from the stimulus to support response, although connection between evidence and response may be incomplete or slightly flawed. |
| Level 2 | <p>The response shows partial understanding of the content, question, and/or problem. The response is general, demonstrates incomplete knowledge, and partially answers the question.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addresses few aspects of the question. One bullet may be omitted or both may be inadequately developed. • Demonstrates partial knowledge of United States history. Misconceptions interfere with understanding. • When appropriate, applies little evidence from the stimulus or applies evidence poorly. |
| Level 1 | <p>The response shows minimal understanding of the content, question, and/or problem. The response is related to the question, but is inadequate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimally addresses the question. • Demonstrates minimal knowledge of United States history. Significant misconceptions interfere with understanding. • When appropriate, applies little to no evidence from the stimulus. |
| Level 0 | <p>The response is completely incorrect, irrelevant to the question, or too vague.</p> |