2010 Social Studies Summer Review Institute

Teacher Perspective Textbook Critique

Local school boards may also want to consider other criteria to meet the needs of their student population.
All teachers that reviewed this material are highly qualified in their specific field in education.

Textbook Title: The American Vision: Modern Times
Publisher: McGraw Hill/Glencoe
Grade Level: 9-12
ISBN No. Teacher Edition: 9780078775154
ISBN No. Student Edition: 9780078775147

TEXTBOOK ORGANIZATION

This book is sequential and contains materials for students and teachers. The book provides lessons for directed instruction of academic vocabulary and writing improvement. Essential questions supplant learning objectives for framing units of instruction; the essential questions and big ideas are a novel approach to guide teachers.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT SUPPORT

Though the critical thinking strategies in this book do not always move students to challenge themselves, this book offers consistent starting points for acquiring basic knowledge of American History. Student assessment areas offer discussion based questions and extended writing. Students will be able to navigate the chapter reviews independently.

ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

The emphasis on writing is impressive—the book suggests writing activities for all genres and throughout the text. The interdisciplinary connections and genuine examples of connecting history beyond the course contexts are very good.

ADDITIONAL TEACHER COMMENTS

The vocabulary building opportunities will help teachers in areas with students needing guided instruction in obtaining academic vocabulary. The references to spotlight videos suggest additional promising resources.
-HD, Secondary Social Studies, Teacher