

Multidisciplinary Performance Task (MDPT) Sample GUIDE

This guide was created to explain the MDPT Sample resources, which were created by Kansas educators who are experts in writing instruction. It provides explanations of each section within the MDPT Sample grid. Embedded within the explanations are reminders related to the format of the MDPT.



GRADE LEVEL, TOPIC, ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

Grade Level: Fourth Grade
Topic: Santa Fe Trail

Essential Questions:

- What choices did travelers make as they prepared for trail travel and what were the consequences of those choices?
- Why do people take risks?

Resources:

Read Kansas: "Traveling the Santa Fe Trail" http://www.kshs.org/teachers/read_kansas/pdfs/i06card02.pdf (319 words)
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 "Manifest Destiny for Kids – Oregon, Mormon, California, Santa Fe Trails": <http://mnmussbaum.com/history-2-2/trails/santa-fe-trail.htm>
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<http://www.socialstudiesforkids.com/graphics/santafetrailmaplarge.jpg>

The grade level and focus topic are indicated here.

We have provided 1-3 possible "Essential Questions" in our samples, in the event that teachers wish to use these samples for instructional purposes.

Note: The Multidisciplinary Performance Task students will encounter during the assessment will not include essential questions.

Writing Types	Guiding Questions	Prompts	Reminders/Things to Consider (Student-Friendly Rubric Descriptors)
Opinion	-According to the texts, what were the benefits and drawbacks of traveling the Santa Fe Trail? -Based on the passages, what would traveling the Santa Fe Trail reveal about the people who made this journey?	After reading each of the passages on the Santa Fe Trail, write an article for a history magazine to be read by other fourth grade students in which you share your opinion of whether or not it was a risk for people to travel the Santa Fe Trail. Support your position with evidence from the passages.	Your product must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear opinion that addresses the resources and prompt • Relevant and accurate details and evidence from the sources • Conventions that are used correctly
Informative/ Explanatory	-What are the key ideas and details described in the passages about the Santa Fe Trail? -Based on the passages, what caused people to travel the Santa Fe Trail? -What were some of the benefits of making this journey? -What were some of the challenges involved in making this journey?	After reading each of the passages about the Santa Fe Trail, write an informative text entry for a new history website to be read by other fourth grade students that informs readers about the importance of the Santa Fe Trail. What conclusions can you draw from the resources and share with others? Support your article with evidence from the texts.	Your product must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clearly stated idea that addresses the resources and prompt • Relevant and accurate facts, definitions, and details • Conventions that are used correctly
Narrative	-Based on the passages, what would traveling the Santa Fe Trail reveal about the people who made this journey? -What do the texts reveal about the implications of journeying along the Santa Fe Trail?	Imagine you are a traveler on the Santa Fe Trail. Your task is to create a journal entry that shares a personal experience that you might have had based on historical references and facts that you have learned from each of the texts.	Your product must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A setting and character(s) • Effective use of dialogue and/or descriptions to develop characters and/or situations • Conventions that are used correctly



RESOURCES

Grade Level: Fourth Grade

Topic: Santa Fe Trail

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Writing Types	Guiding Questions	Prompts	Reminders/Things to Consider (Student-Friendly Rubric Descriptors)
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Informative/ Explanatory	-What are the key ideas and details described in the passages about the Santa Fe Trail? -Based on the passages, what caused people to travel the Santa Fe Trail? -What were some of the benefits of making this journey? -What were some of the challenges involved in making this journey?	After reading each of the passages about the Santa Fe Trail, write an informative text entry for a new history website to be read by other fourth grade students that informs readers about the importance of the Santa Fe Trail. What conclusions can you draw from the resources and share with others? Support your article with evidence from the texts.	Your product must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clearly stated idea that addresses the resources and prompt • Relevant and accurate facts, definitions, and details • Conventions that are used correctly
Narrative	-Based on the passages, what would traveling the Santa Fe Trail reveal about the people who made this journey? -What do the texts reveal about the implications of journeying along the Santa Fe Trail?	Imagine you are a traveler on the Santa Fe Trail. Your task is to create a journal entry that shares a personal experience that you might have had based on historical references and facts that you have learned from each of the texts.	Your product must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A setting and character(s) • Effective use of dialogue and/or descriptions to develop characters and/or situations • Conventions that are used correctly

We have provided a set of resources *SIMILAR* to those students might see on the MDPT in that they are:

- 1) organized around a single topic.
- 2) represent different types of texts.
- 3) represent texts students might encounter at their grade level.

The resource sets provided *MAY DIFFER* from the resource sets students will encounter during the Multidisciplinary Performance Task in that:

- 1) For some grades, we have provided a greater number of resources than students will interact with during the MDPT.
- 2) For some grades, there are links to resources, which may be accessed by either students or teachers, and if necessary, printed out for student use. For other grades, titles of the resources are provided and they are included as documents following the sample grid of guiding questions, prompts, and reminders.
- 3) Some MDPT Sample resources contain more words than the word limits specified for the MDPT, so teachers may wish to excerpt them to fit within the MDPT text guidelines. (All 2-3 texts for grades 3-5 will total approximately 750 words. All 2-3 texts for grades 6-8 will total approximately 1000 words.)

Note: For MDPT Samples in which more than 2-3 resources are provided, teachers are encouraged to read all MDPT Sample resources, and then select 2-3 for use with students. We recommend that teachers select resources for students that differ in format from the texts students are being prompted to create.



GRID ORGANIZATION

Grade Level: Fourth Grade

Topic: Santa Fe Trail

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Since students will be asked to write one of three types of texts for the MDPT, we have provided the following for each text type:

- 1) Guiding questions,
- 2) Prompts, and
- 3) A set of "Reminders" aligned to the MDPT scoring rubrics.

Writing Types	Guiding Questions	Prompts	Reminders/Things to Consider (Student-Friendly Rubric Descriptors)
Opinion	-According to the texts, what were the benefits and drawbacks of traveling the Santa Fe Trail? -Based on the passages, what would traveling the Santa Fe Trail reveal about the people who made this journey?	After reading each of the passages on the Santa Fe Trail, write an article for a history magazine to be read by other fourth grade students in which you share your opinion of whether or not it was a risk for people to travel the Santa Fe Trail. Support your position with evidence from the passages.	Your product must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear opinion that addresses the resources and prompt • Relevant and accurate details and evidence from the sources • Conventions that are used correctly
Informative/ Explanatory	-What are the key ideas and details described in the passages about the Santa Fe Trail? -Based on the passages, what caused people to travel the Santa Fe Trail? -What were some of the benefits of making this journey? -What were some of the challenges involved in making this journey?	After reading each of the passages about the Santa Fe Trail, write an informative text entry for a new history website to be read by other fourth grade students that informs readers about the importance of the Santa Fe Trail. What conclusions can you draw from the resources and share with others? Support your article with evidence from the texts.	Your product must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clearly stated idea that addresses the resources and prompt • Relevant and accurate facts, definitions, and details • Conventions that are used correctly
Narrative	-Based on the passages, what would traveling the Santa Fe Trail reveal about the people who made this journey? -What do the texts reveal about the implications of journeying along the Santa Fe Trail?	Imagine you are a traveler on the Santa Fe Trail. Your task is to create a journal entry that shares a personal experience that you might have had based on historical references and facts that you have learned from each of the texts.	Your product must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A setting and character(s) • Effective use of dialogue and/or descriptions to develop characters and/or situations • Conventions that are used correctly

Text types are listed in the far left column.



GUIDING QUESTIONS

Grade Level: Fourth Grade

Topic: Santa Fe Trail

Essential Questions:

- What choices did travelers make as they prepared for trail travel and what were the consequences of those choices?
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Writing Types	Guiding Questions	Prompts	Reminders/Things to Consider (Student-Friendly Rubric Descriptors)
Opinion	-According to the texts, what were the benefits and drawbacks of traveling the Santa Fe Trail? -Based on the passages, what would traveling the Santa Fe Trail reveal about the people who made this journey?	After reading each of the passages on the Santa Fe Trail, write an article for a history magazine to be read by other fourth grade students in which you share your opinion of whether or not it was a risk for people to travel the Santa Fe Trail. Support your position with evidence from the passages.	Your product must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear opinion that addresses the resources and prompt • Relevant and accurate details and evidence from the sources • Conventions that are used correctly
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Narrative	-Based on the passages, what would traveling the Santa Fe Trail reveal about the people who made this journey? -What do the texts reveal about the implications of journeying along the Santa Fe Trail?	Imagine you are a traveler on the Santa Fe Trail. Your task is to create a journal entry that shares a personal experience that you might have had based on historical references and facts that you have learned from each of the texts.	Your product must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A setting and character(s) • Effective use of dialogue and/or descriptions to develop characters and/or situations • Conventions that are used correctly

Each Sample MDPT has a set of guiding questions similar to what students will encounter during the assessment. The guiding questions are intended to provide students “a reason to read” during Activity 1, since students will not see the writing prompts until the beginning of Activity 2.

The guiding questions are written specifically for each prompt, and are intended to help students recognize aspects of the resources that will be helpful in answering the prompt.

During Activity 1, students will have the opportunity to make notes about the resources. It is not a requirement that students answer the guiding questions, and students’ notes will not be scored. However, it is recommended that students use the guiding questions to help shape their thinking about the resources.



PROMPTS

Grade Level: Fourth Grade

Topic: Santa Fe Trail

Essential Questions:

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Writing Types	Guiding Questions	Prompts	Reminders/Things to Consider (Student-Friendly Rubric Descriptors)
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The MDPT Sample prompts are written specifically for each text type, and show the kind of prompts students might encounter during the assessment.

Students will receive their prompt at the beginning of Activity 2, and will be able to use any notes they made during Activity 1 to inform their writing during Activity 2.



REMINDERS

Grade Level: Fourth Grade

Topic: Santa Fe Trail

Essential Questions:

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- Why do people take risks?

Resources:

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The MDPT in KITE will not display the scoring rubric for the task.

Therefore, a list of “reminders” will be provided in KITE during the assessment. The reminders are written in student-friendly terms, and are aligned with the performance level 4 rubric descriptors.



POTENTIAL USES

Teachers are welcome to use these samples for instructional purposes. For example:

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A fourth-grade teacher could elect to weave the sample topic and essential questions into his/her instruction...

...then use the resources provided in the sample, OR select 2-3 of the listed resources (if the sample includes more resources and the teacher wishes to provide students a writing experience more similar to the MDPT).

A teacher could then use the guiding questions, prompt, and reminders provided within the sample to create a writing experience for students.

We also encourage teachers to simply use the format of the samples to create writing experiences tailored to their students using existing course curricula.