



California Subject Examinations for Teachers®

TEST GUIDE

MULTIPLE SUBJECTS SUBTEST I

Subtest Description

This document contains the Multiple Subjects content specifications arranged according to the domains covered by Subtest I of CSET: Multiple Subjects. In parentheses after each named domain is the CCTC-assigned domain code from the Multiple Subjects content specifications.

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California Subject Examinations for Teachers (CSET®)

Multiple Subjects Subtest I: Reading, Language, and Literature; History and Social Science

CONTENT SPECIFICATIONS IN READING, LANGUAGE, AND LITERATURE

Content Domains for Subject Matter Understanding and Skill in Reading, Language, and Literature

0001 Language and Linguistics (SMR Domain 1)

- 1.1 **Language Structure and Linguistics.** Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials are able to identify and demonstrate an understanding of the fundamental components of human language, including phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics, as well as the role of pragmatics in using language to communicate. In the context of these components, they reflect on both the potential for differences among languages and the universality of linguistic structures. Candidates can demonstrate knowledge of phonemic awareness (e.g., the processes of rhyming, segmenting, and blending). They apply knowledge of similarities and differences among groups of phonemes (e.g., consonants and vowels) that vary in their placement and manner of articulation. Candidates know the differences between phoneme awareness and phonics. They know the predictable patterns of sound-symbol and symbol-sound relationships in English (the Alphabetic Principle). Candidates identify examples of parts of speech, and their functions, as well as the morphology contributing to their classification. They recognize and use syntactic components (such as phrases and clauses, including verbals) to understand and develop a variety of sentence types (e.g., simple, compound, and complex sentences).
- 1.2 **Language Development and Acquisition.** Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials apply knowledge of both the development of a first language and the acquisition of subsequent ones. They can describe the principal observable milestones in each domain, and identify the major theories that attempt to explain the processes of development and acquisition. Candidates demonstrate that they understand the range of issues related to the interaction of first languages and other languages. They are able to recognize special features that may identify a pupil's language development as exceptional, distinguishing such features from interlanguage effects.
- 1.3 **Literacy.** Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials understand and use the major descriptions of developing literacy. In both English speakers and English learners, candidates can identify the progressive development of phonemic awareness, decoding,

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comprehension, word recognition, and spelling (including its complexities related to the interaction of phonology, the alphabetic principle, morphology, and etymology). Candidates understand how these processes interact with the development of concepts, of vocabulary (including relationships among etymologies and both denotative and connotative word meanings), and of contextual analysis.

- 1.4 Assessment.** In assessing developing literacy, candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials apply knowledge of the implications that language development and differences have for the processes of learning to read and reading to learn. They know and apply a range of assessment methods and instruments to the respective and interrelated developing abilities in listening (for aural/oral languages), speaking, reading (decoding and comprehension), vocabulary, and spelling conventions.

0002 Non-Written and Written Communication (SMR Domain 2)

- 2.1 Conventions of Language.** Applying their knowledge of linguistic structure, candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials identify and use the conventions associated with what is called standard English. They recognize, understand, and use a range of conventions in both spoken and written English, including varieties of sentence structure, preferred usage and conventional forms of spelling, capitalization and punctuation in written English.
- 2.2 Writing Strategies.** Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials describe the stages of the writing process. They understand the purpose and techniques of various prewriting strategies (e.g., outlining, webbing, note-taking). Candidates revise and edit writing, drawing upon their understanding of principles of organization, transitions, point-of-view, word-choices, and conventions.
- 2.3 Writing Applications.** Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials demonstrate their knowledge of principles of composition, such as paragraphing, transitional phrases, appropriate vocabulary, and context. Candidates compose and/or analyze writing according to conventions in different genres, including narrative, interpretive, descriptive, persuasive and expository writing, as well as summaries, letters, and research reports. They understand and are able to use bibliographic citations in a standard format.
- 2.4 Non-Written Communication.** Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials demonstrate knowledge of non-written genres and traditions, and their characteristics (e.g., organization), including narratives, persuasive pieces, research presentations, poetry recitations, and responses to literature. They apply understandings of language development stages, from pre-production (beginning) to intermediate fluency, to children's developing abilities in such areas. Candidates analyze speech in terms of presentation components (e.g., volume, pace), pronunciation fluency, and identify the integration of nonverbal components (e.g., gesture) with verbal elements (e.g., volume). Candidates demonstrate knowledge of dialects, idiolects, and changes in what is considered standard oral English usage and their effects on perceptions of speaker

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performance, with attention to the dangers of stereotyping and bias. They also demonstrate an understanding of the potential impact on non-written presentations of images, sound, and other features from electronic media.

- 2.5 Research Strategies.** Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials demonstrate their ability to use a variety of research sources, both print and electronic. They interpret such research, putting to use their findings and interpretations to construct their own reports and narratives. Candidates also understand the importance of citing research sources, using recognizable and accepted conventions for doing so.

0003 Texts (SMR Domain 3)

- 3.1 Concepts and Conventions.** Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials analyze narrative and expository texts, with special attention to children’s literature, from a range of cultures, for both literary elements and structural features. They identify themes derived from cultural patterns and symbols found in rituals, mythologies, and traditions. Candidates identify and analyze evidence of an author’s or narrator’s perspective in both fiction and non-fiction. Candidates identify and evaluate structural devices in prose and poetry (such as rhyme, metaphor, and alliteration), and they examine the connections among organizational structures, the writer’s view point, and the goals of reading.
- 3.2 Genres.** Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials analyze texts in different literary genres (novels, short stories, folk and fairy tales, and poetry of various types, for example), as they are represented in different cultures, according to their structure, organization, and purpose. Candidates demonstrate an understanding of structural features and their applications in various types of expository and narrative materials, including popular media such as magazines and newspapers. They understand and evaluate the use of elements of persuasive argument in print, speech, videos, and in other media.
- 3.3 Interpretation of Texts.** Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials analyze both implicit and explicit themes and interpret both literal and figurative meanings in texts, from a range of cultures and genres, using textual support for inferences, conclusions, and generalizations they draw from any work. They evaluate the structure, purpose, and potential uses of visual text features, such as graphics, illustrations, and maps. Candidates recognize and analyze instances of bias and stereotyping in a text.

CONTENT SPECIFICATIONS IN HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

**Part I: Content Domains for
Subject Matter Understanding and Skill in
History and Social Science**

0004 World History (SMR Domain 1)

1.1 Ancient Civilizations. Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials trace the impact of physical geography on the development of ancient civilizations (i.e., Mesopotamian, Egyptian, Kush, Hebrew, Greek, Indian, Chinese, and Roman civilizations). They identify the intellectual contributions, artistic forms, and traditions (including the religious beliefs) of these civilizations. They recognize patterns of trade and commerce that influenced these civilizations.

1.2 Medieval and Early Modern Times. Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials describe the influence of physical geography on the development of medieval and early modern civilizations (i.e., Chinese, Japanese, African, Arabian, Mesoamerican, Andean Highland, and European civilizations). They trace the decline of the Western Roman Empire and the development of feudalism as a social and economic system in Europe and Japan. They identify the art, architecture, and science of Pre-Columbian America. Candidates describe the role of Christianity in medieval and early modern Europe, its expansion beyond Europe, and the role of Islam and its impact on Arabia, Africa, Europe and Asia. They trace the development of the Renaissance and Scientific Revolution in Europe. They define the development of early modern capitalism and its global consequences. They describe the evolution of the idea of representative democracy from the Magna Carta through the Enlightenment.

0005 United States History (SMR Domain 2)

2.1 Early Exploration, Colonial Era, and the War for Independence. Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials identify and describe European exploration and settlement, and the struggle for control of North America during the Colonial Era, including cooperation and conflict among American Indians and new settlers. They identify the founders and discuss their religious, economic and political reasons for colonization of North America. They describe European colonial rule and its relationship with American Indian societies. Candidates describe the development and institutionalization of African slavery in the western hemisphere and its consequences in Sub-Saharan Africa. They describe the causes of the War for Independence, elements of political and military leadership, the impact of the war on Americans, the role of France, and the key ideas embodied within the Declaration of Independence.

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- 2.2 The Development of the Constitution and the Early Republic.** Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials describe the political system of the United States and the ways that citizens participate in it through executive, legislative and judicial processes. They define the Articles of Confederation and the factors leading to the development of the U.S. Constitution, including the Bill of Rights. They explain the major principles of government and political philosophy contained within the Constitution, especially separation of powers and federalism. Candidates trace the evolution of political parties, describe their differing visions for the country, and analyze their impact on economic development policies. They identify historical, cultural, economic and geographic factors that led to the formation of distinct regional identities. They describe the westward movement, expansion of U.S. borders, and government policies toward American Indians and foreign nations during the Early Republic. They identify the roles of Blacks (both slave and free), American Indians, the Irish and other immigrants, women and children in the political, cultural and economic life of the new country.
- 2.3 Civil War and Reconstruction.** Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials recognize the origin and the evolution of the anti-slavery movement, including the roles of free Blacks and women, and the response of those who defended slavery. They describe evidence for the economic, social and political causes of the Civil War, including the constitutional debates over the doctrine of nullification and secession. They identify the major battles of the Civil War and the comparative strengths and weaknesses of the Union and the Confederacy. They describe the character of Reconstruction, factors leading to its abandonment, and the rise of Jim Crow practices.
- 2.4 The Rise of Industrial America.** Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials recognize the pattern of urban growth in the United States, the impact of successive waves of immigration in the nineteenth century, and the response of renewed nativism. They understand the impact of major inventions on the Industrial Revolution and the quality of life.

0006 California History (SMR Domain 3)

- 3.1 The Pre-Columbian Period through the Gold Rush.** Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials identify the impact of California's physical geography on its history. They describe the geography, economic activities, folklore and religion of California's American Indian peoples. They discuss the impact of Spanish exploration and colonization, including the mission system and its influence on the development of the agricultural economy of early California. They describe Mexican rule in California. They state the causes of the war between Mexico and the United States and its consequences for California. They describe the discovery of gold and its cultural, social, political and economic effects in California, including its impact on American Indians and Mexican nationals.

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- 3.2 Economic, Political, and Cultural Development Since the 1850's.** Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials identify key principles of the California Constitution, including the Progressive-era reforms of initiative, referendum and recall, and they recognize similarities and differences between it and the U. S. Constitution. They identify patterns of immigration to California, including the Dust Bowl migration, and discuss their impact on the cultural, economic, social and political development of the state. They identify the effects of federal and state law on the legal status of immigrants. They describe historical and contemporary perspectives on cultural diversity in the United States and in California. Candidates understand the development and identify the locations of California's major economic activities: mining, large-scale agriculture, entertainment, recreation, aerospace, electronics and international trade. They identify factors leading to the development of California's water delivery system, and describe its relationship to California geography.

Part II: Subject Matter Skills and Abilities
Applicable to the Content Domains in History and Social Science

Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials utilize chronological and spatial thinking. They construct and interpret timelines, tables, graphs, maps and charts. They locate places based on ordinal directions, latitude and longitude, the equator, prime meridian, the tropics, the hemispheres, time zones and the international dateline. They identify and interpret major geographical features of the earth's surface including continents and other large landmasses, mountain ranges, forested areas, grasslands, deserts and major bodies of water and rivers. They describe the cultural, historical, economic and political characteristics of world regions, including human features of the regions such as population, land use patterns and settlement patterns.

Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials analyze, interpret and evaluate research evidence in history and the social sciences. They interpret primary and secondary sources, including written documents, narratives, photographs, art and artifacts revealed through archeology. In relation to confirmed research evidence they assess textbooks and contrast differing points of view on historic and current events.

In the interpretation of historical and current events, candidates identify, explain and discuss multiple causes and effects. They recognize the differing ramifications of historical and current events for people of varying ethnic, racial, socio-economic, cultural and gender backgrounds.

Candidates draw on and apply concepts from history and other social studies including political science and government, geography, economics, anthropology, and sociology. They explain concepts related to human, government and political institutions, including power and authority, monarchy, totalitarianism, republicanism, democracy, limited government and the roles and responsibilities of citizenship. They draw on and apply basic economic concepts. They discuss basic concepts of sociology related to individuals, interpersonal relationships and institutions, including family and community; and concepts related to social structure, including occupation, socio-economic class, ethnicity and gender. Candidates explain major concepts of philosophy (including concepts of religion and other belief systems) and their impact on history and society. They explain basic concepts of

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demography including factors associated with human migration. They discuss basic concepts of anthropology including the nature and content of culture, and they understand the historical and cultural development of human society, including hunting and gathering, nomadic pastoralism, domestication of plants and animals, and the creation and evolution of human settlements and cities.