



## SECTION 3

### TEST I SAMPLE CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ASSIGNMENTS

This section of the Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators® (GACE™) Preparation Guide is designed to assist you in responding to the constructed-response assignments on the test. Included in this section are:

- ▶ Constructed-response assignment directions
- ▶ Sample constructed-response assignments
- ▶ Assignment response sheets
- ▶ An example of a strong response to each sample assignment
- ▶ Scoring criteria that will be used in evaluating your response to each assignment

For each sample assignment, you may want to take the following steps to prepare for the test:

- Review the constructed-response assignment directions.
- Print the assignment and the assignment response sheet.
- Use scrap paper to make notes, write an outline, or otherwise prepare your response.
- Use the assignment response sheet to record your response. The assignment response sheet reflects the amount of space available on an actual test.
- After you complete the assignment, review the sample strong response, your response, and the scoring criteria.

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## CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT DIRECTIONS

A sample of the directions for the constructed-response assignments is shown in the box below.

### CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT DIRECTIONS

For each constructed-response assignment in this section, you are to prepare a written response of up to one page and record it in the area provided on the appropriate Assignment Response Sheet in your answer document.

Read each assignment carefully before you begin to write. Think about how you will organize what you plan to write. You may use any blank space provided in this test booklet following each assignment to make notes, write an outline, or otherwise prepare your response. *However, each of your final responses must be written on the appropriate Assignment Response Sheet in your answer document.*

Your responses will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- **Purpose:** The extent to which the response fulfills the purpose of the assignment in relation to relevant GACE framework objectives
- **Application of Content Knowledge and Skills:** The extent to which the response accurately and effectively applies content knowledge and skills in relation to relevant GACE framework objectives
- **Supporting Evidence:** The extent to which the response includes appropriate, specific supporting evidence of content knowledge and skills in relation to relevant GACE framework objectives

Evaluation of each response will be based on the criteria above, not on your writing ability. However, your response must be communicated clearly enough to permit a valid judgment of your knowledge and skills. Your responses should be written for an audience of educators in the field.

Your responses should be your original work, written in your own words, and not copied or paraphrased from some other work. Please write legibly. You may not use any reference materials during the test. Remember to review your work and make any changes you think will improve your responses.

The selected-response section of the answer document containing your name will be removed from your written responses to maintain your anonymity during the scoring process. Do not write your name on any other portion of the answer document, and do not separate any of the sheets from the document.

Please turn the page and begin the constructed-response assignment section of the test.

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## CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT ONE

### ■ Sample Constructed-Response Assignment One

Use the information below to complete the assignment that follows.

The concepts associated with the Six Essential Elements of Geography provide critical perspectives for the analysis of geographic phenomena. One of those concepts is spatial interaction.

- Define the geographic concept of spatial interaction; and
- describe one significant spatial interaction within Sub-Saharan Africa or North Africa/Southwest Asia, and one significant spatial interaction between the two regions.



■ Strong Response to Sample Constructed-Response Assignment One

Spatial interaction is the process by which people, goods, and ideas relate to and influence one another across space. The activities of the African Union provide a good example of spatial interaction within a region. Originally known as the Organization of African Unity, the African Union is a multinational organization that attempts to promote interaction among nations across Sub-Saharan Africa. It does so by resolving boundary disputes and other conflicts among countries of the region and by seeking to coordinate the political, economic, and defense policies of member nations.

The nations of Sub-Saharan Africa also interact with countries outside the region. These interregional interactions often take the form of well-established trading partnerships. A good example is the country of South Africa's economic ties with nations of the Middle East. In exchange for oil, South Africa exports diamonds, manufactured goods, and other products to countries of the Middle East.

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## CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT TWO

### ■ Sample Constructed-Response Assignment Two

Use the information below to complete the assignment that follows.

During the last half of the twentieth century, countries in Southeast Asia such as Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos experienced a different degree of economic development than the countries of East Asia, including Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea.

- Identify two factors that help account for the different rates of economic development between Southeast and East Asia; and
- explain how each of these factors has contributed to differences in economic development between the two regions of Asia.



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#### ■ Strong Response to Sample Constructed-Response Assignment Two

Two factors that help account for the different rates of economic development between Southeast Asia and East Asia are political conflict and the support provided by the United States to its Cold War allies. During the second half of the twentieth century in Southeast Asia, political conflict and civil war seriously obstructed economic development in the countries of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. After struggling to win their independence from France, all three nations experienced major internal conflicts between communist groups with ties to China and the Soviet Union and groups allied to the United States.

Where these three countries suffered from conflicts related to the Cold War, some nations in East Asia benefited from Cold War rivalries. Good examples are Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea, each of which received substantial amounts of U.S. foreign aid throughout the second half of the twentieth century. The economic effects of this assistance are particularly clear in Japan, where U.S. spending during the Korean War played a significant role in Japanese recovery from the devastation of World War II.

## CRITERIA FOR SCORING YOUR RESPONSE

Each response will be evaluated based on the following criteria.

<b>PURPOSE</b>	The extent to which the response fulfills the purpose of the assignment in relation to relevant GACE framework objectives
<b>APPLICATION OF CONTENT KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS</b>	The extent to which the response accurately and effectively applies content knowledge and skills in relation to relevant GACE framework objectives
<b>SUPPORTING EVIDENCE</b>	The extent to which the response includes appropriate, specific supporting evidence of content knowledge and skills in relation to relevant GACE framework objectives

Each response is rated on a three-point scale. The three score points of the score scale correspond to varying degrees of performance that are related to the above criteria.

<b>Score</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>3</b>	<p>The "3" response reflects thorough understanding of relevant content knowledge and skills as defined in relevant GACE framework objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The response fully achieves the purpose of the assignment.</li> <li>• The response demonstrates an accurate and effective application of relevant content knowledge and skills.</li> <li>• The response provides appropriate, specific supporting evidence of relevant content knowledge and skills.</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<p>The "2" response reflects general understanding of relevant content knowledge and skills as defined in relevant GACE framework objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The response largely achieves the purpose of the assignment.</li> <li>• The response demonstrates a generally accurate, generally effective application of relevant content knowledge and skills.</li> <li>• The response provides some appropriate and general supporting evidence of relevant content knowledge and skills.</li> </ul>
<b>1</b>	<p>The "1" response reflects limited or no understanding of relevant content knowledge and skills as defined in relevant GACE framework objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The response partially achieves or fails to achieve the purpose of the assignment.</li> <li>• The response demonstrates limited, inaccurate, and/or ineffective application of relevant content knowledge and skills.</li> <li>• The response provides limited or no appropriate, specific supporting evidence of relevant content knowledge and skills.</li> </ul>

Please note: A response that is unrelated to the assigned topic, illegible, not primarily in the target language, or lacking a sufficient amount of original work to score will be considered **unscorable**. If there is no response to the assignment, then the response will be considered **blank**.