

8th Grade Benchmark Study Guide

Chapters 1 & 2

Describe Georgia and its Geography

- a) What are five main geographic regions and what is each region known for?
- b) On what continent is Georgia located?
- c) Georgia is located in what region of the United States?
- d) In what two hemispheres is Georgia located?
- e) What 5 states border Georgia?
- f) What is Georgia's climate like?
- g) What are Georgia's major transportation systems?
- h) How do the transportation systems work together to provide goods and services to Georgians and people around the world?
- i) How do the transportation systems impact Georgia's economy?
- j) Where are Georgia's deepwater ports?
- k) What are Georgia's major agricultural products and in what region are they primarily grown?
- l) Where is the Fall Line located? (Between what two regions?)
- m) What is the Fall Line?
- n) Why did people settle along the Fall Line?
- o) Where are the Appalachian mountains located? (In what three regions?)
- q) Why is the Okefenokee Swamp unique?
- r) What river flows along Georgia's western border?
- s) What river flows along Georgia's eastern border?

Chapter 3

Describe Georgia's Pre-Historic Native Americans

- a) Who were Georgia's earliest inhabitants and how is it believed they came to Georgia?
- b) Identify and describe each of the four pre-historic Native American groups?
- c) What were the four earliest groups and what is known about each group?
- d) Which pre-historic Native American group came in contact with the Europeans?
- e) Describe what each of the pre-historic Native Americans used or had in terms of: tools/weapons, clothing, food, housing, families, religion, etc.

Chapter 4

Identify the Major European Explorers, Reasons Why they Explored

- a) Who is credited with discovering the New World?
- b) Why did he call the people in the New World Indians?
- c) Why did Europeans start exploring the New World?
 - i. What were explorers, such as Christopher Columbus, looking for?
 - ii. What were explorers, such as Hernando de Soto, looking for?
- d) Who was the first European explorer to explore Georgia?
- e) Why was Hernando de Soto considered a failure?
- f) How did Europeans impact the Native Americans?

Understand the Colonization of Georgia and the Explain Persons Responsible for the Start of the Georgia Colony

- a) Who was responsible for establishing the Georgia colony and what were his reasons?
- b) Who were Tomochichi and Mary Musgrove?
- c) Who was the English monarch that gave James Oglethorpe permission to start the Georgia colony?
- d) What document provided the rules for how the colony should be set and for how the colonists should behave?
- e) Who could not become colonists in Georgia under the terms of the Charter of 1732?
- f) Who were the Salzburgers and why did they come to Georgia?
- g) Why were the colonists discontent (upset) with James Oglethorpe?
- h) How did the colonies benefit Great Britain economically?
- i) What does mercantilism mean?
- j) What present day city is where Georgia was first settled?

Chapter 5

Understand Georgia as a Royal Colony

- a) When did Georgia become a royal colony?
- b) Why did Georgia become a royal colony?
- c) Who controlled the colony when it became a royal colony?
- d) Who were Georgia's three royal governors?