

NCHS Process for Developing Common Unit Assessments

1. **At a minimum four common unit assessments must be administered per school year per subject area.**
2. **Identify no more than eight standards from your designated course pacing guide for the common unit assessment.** Refer to the table. Social Studies and Science must include literacy standards.

Math	English	Science	Social Studies
District Pacing Guide	District Pacing Guide	CCSS Science Literacy EPAS Science Standards Core Content 4.1 Science Quality Core Science	CCSS History Literacy EPAS Reading Standards Core Content 4.1 Social Studies Quality Core U.S. History

3. **Develop the Assessment Plan** - Write two to three multiple choice assessment items for each of the identified standards. Create one extended constructed response (ERQ) and scoring rubric.
4. Input assessment items into NCHS Common Assessment template. (You will receive this via email; save it to your desktop.)
5. ***Optional*** - **Create a study guide** for the unit listing all standards with a bulleted list of your daily learning targets.
6. **Identify the formative assessments and work through which student learning will be monitored.** The opportunities to see how the *students* are progressing towards mastering the standard may include the following:
 - using a graphic organizer
 - writing authentically - [District Writing Plan](#)
 - writing to learn (quick writes, Ink/Think/Pair/Share, concept maps, anticipation guides)
 - writing to demonstrate learning (ERQ, MEAL essays, On Demand Writing)
 - writing for publication
 - narrative (personal essays, short stories, memoirs, poetry)
 - argumentative (evidence based claims, research paper, speech, analysis)
 - informative/explanatory (lab report, proposal, editorial, article)
 - questioning
 - completing an exit slip
 - completing an entry slip (do now/bellringer)
 - giving an oral presentation

- note-taking interactively
- completing a performance task
- using manipulatives
- others

7. **Develop Summative Assessment** – Develop student copy of the common unit assessment. The student copy of the assessment does NOT list the targets verbiage, but should include the numerical indicator.

8. **Beginning with the End in Mind** - Prior to the instruction of the unit, submit the common unit assessment to your evaluating administrator (ELA - Hendricks, Social Studies - Hendricks, Math - Jagers, Science - Webb). Please allow at least three days for review and feedback. Give yourself ample time to make revisions of the assessment if necessary. A [common assessment template](#) is available on the NCHS website on the Staff tab.

Example Question:

1.		Question/Stem	Standard
	A.	Distractor	
	B.	Answer	
	C.	Distractor	
	D.	Distractor	

1.		A researcher seeking primary source material on the massacre at Wounded Knee would likely consider which of the following to be the most authentic evidence on the topic?	A.1.b
	A.	The highest-ranked results of an online search.	
	B.	A letter describing an eyewitness account of the event.	
	C.	A public radio interview of a notable historian.	
	D.	The textbook for a high school U.S. History course.	