

Grade 3
Explorers of Louisiana—De Soto

Standard 2—Key Events, Ideas, and People: Students analyze how historical people and events have contributed to the diversity of Louisiana.

GLE 3.2.1 Explain how major explorers and leaders contributed to the early development of Louisiana

Item: Extended Response

Based on the sources and your knowledge of social studies, describe how de Soto’s exploration helped Europeans settle in Louisiana.

As you write, follow the directions below.

- Address all parts of the prompt.
- Include information and examples from what you already know.
- Use evidence from the sources to support your response.

Scoring

The response should be scored **holistically** on its content and claims. Each response should be given the score that corresponds to the set of bulleted descriptors that **best** describes the response.

Score	Description
4	The student's response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflects thorough knowledge of how de Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle in Louisiana, by incorporating ample focused factual information from prior knowledge and the sources • Develops a valid claim which expresses a solid understanding of the topic • Supports the claim with well-chosen evidence from the sources • Is organized in a logical manner that fully addresses all parts of the prompt with no errors significant enough to detract from the overall response
3	The student's response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflects general knowledge of how de Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle in Louisiana, by incorporating adequate factual information from prior knowledge and the sources • Develops a relevant claim which expresses a general understanding of the topic • Supports the claim with sufficient evidence from the sources • Is organized and addresses all parts of the prompt with minimal errors that do not substantially detract from the overall response
2	The student's response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflects limited knowledge of how de Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle in Louisiana, by incorporating some factual information from prior knowledge and the sources • Presents an inadequate claim which expresses a limited understanding of the topic • Includes insufficient support for the claim, but does use some evidence from the sources • Contains some accurate understandings with a few errors that detract from the overall response
1	The student's response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflects minimal knowledge of how de Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle in Louisiana, by incorporating little or no factual information from prior knowledge and the sources • Does not develop a claim but provides evidence that relates to the topic; OR Develops a substantially flawed claim with little or no evidence from the sources; • Contains few accurate understandings with several errors that detract from the response
0	The student's response is blank, too brief to evaluate, incorrect or does not address the prompt.

Scoring Notes

A response that develops a **valid** claim expresses a **solid** understanding of the social studies topic. The response is supported by **ample and well-chosen** evidence from the sources. The explanation is logical, organized, and cohesive, as demonstrated by connections, patterns, or trends among ideas, people, events, and contexts within or across time and place. A **valid** claim shows a deep understanding of the complexity of social studies themes that is supported by convincing evidence. The analysis may include the ability to discuss cause-and-effect relationships; analyze the importance of and connection between source documents; classify patterns of continuity and change; evaluate differing perspectives; provide in-depth interpretations of historical events, etc.

A response that develops a **relevant** claim expresses a **general** understanding of the social studies topic. The response is supported by **sufficient** evidence from the sources. The explanation is organized and includes connections, patterns, or trends among ideas, people, events, and contexts within or across time and place but fails to reach the valid level. A **relevant** claim shows an accurate understanding of social studies themes but is less complex and includes more generalized evidence. The explanation may identify cause-and-effect relationships; describe patterns of continuity or change; recognize perspectives on a single topic or theme; identify the importance of or connection between source documents; provide general interpretations of historical events, etc.

A response that includes an **inadequate** claim expresses a **limited** understanding of the social studies topic and uses insufficient evidence from the sources to develop the claim. The explanation includes weak connections, patterns, or trends among ideas, people, events, and contexts within or across time and place. An **inadequate** claim shows some understanding of social studies themes but is limited in its analysis and evidence. The explanation may include insufficient understanding of cause and effect relationships; little recognition of patterns of continuity or change; limited knowledge of perspectives on a single topic or theme; misconceptions regarding the importance of or connections between source documents; limited interpretation of historical events, etc.

A response that develops a **substantially** flawed claim expresses **little** understanding of the social studies topic. The explanation, if present, may include vague or illogical connections, patterns, or trends among ideas, people, events, and contexts within or across time and place. It fails to reach the inadequate level for a variety of reasons. For example, the response may provide some evidence that relates to the topic, but is ineffective in supporting a claim, if one is made.

Characteristics of a Strong Response

A strong response is logically organized into several paragraphs. Any errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar, or capitalization do not interfere with the ability of the reader to understand the ideas presented.

A strong response may develop one or more lines of reasoning to support the claim. Here are some examples.

- Hernando de Soto’s exploration helped Europeans settle in Louisiana by being the first Europeans to explore the area. This led to future permanent settlement in North America. Europeans became aware of the potentials of establishing colonies and settlements in the region and exploiting the resources of the region, as a result of de Soto’s exploration of the region.
- Hernando de Soto’s exploration helped Europeans settle in Louisiana by coming into contact with Native Americans and learning basic information about tribes in the region. The Native Americans showed the European settlers important physical features about the land, how to use the natural resources, and what could be planted in the region.
- Hernando DeSoto’s exploration for gold and riches allowed for the charting and description of the geography of the southeastern region of the continent to be shared with future explorers. Hernando de Soto’s exploration helped Europeans settle in Louisiana by being the first to document the Mississippi River which became an important aspect in future settlement and trade for Europeans.

A strong response addresses the sources appropriately, by citing such evidence as:

- Hernando de Soto’s explorations paved the way for trade between Europeans and Native Americans. (Source 1)
- The expedition discovered the Mississippi River, which provided a way to access new lands, including the interior of Louisiana. (Source 1 and Source 2)
- The expedition was the first time that Europeans had traveled to the land that became Louisiana. (Source 2)
- The expedition contributed to Europeans’ knowledge about the people of the New World. (Source 1 and Source 3)

A strong response also includes relevant information beyond what is presented in the sources, such as:

- Hernando de Soto was from Spain.
- Hernando de Soto help defeat the Inca Empire in Peru before exploring North America.
- Hernando de Soto was looking for gold, riches and fame in his explorations.
- Hernando de Soto traveled through the present-day states of Florida, Alabama, and Arkansas.

Response 1

→ De Soto's exploration helped Europeans a lot
I will tell you how it helped.
→ First way it helped Europeans settle
is they got new resources and
got to examine new species of animals like
alligator and other types of fish and mammals.
The resources they might of collected
would of been new trees new plants
and mineral and even gold. They might
of got new resources for armor
or crossbow to make them stronger and they'd
learned how to build huts like
in Source B.

25. (continued)

→ Second way it helped the Europeans is
they got new land for livestock, home and
fields for crops then they would get more
food each year and would have space for
more people because if they ran out of
space they wouldn't know where to
put people if they didn't have
any more homes. → that's two ways De Soto's
exploration help the Europeans.

Score point: 4

The student's response reflects thorough knowledge of how de Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle in Louisiana, by incorporating ample focused factual information from prior knowledge and the sources ("...they got new resources and got to examine new species of animals like alligator and other type of fish and mammals"; "The resources they might of collected would have been new trees new plants and mineral and even gold"; "...new land for livestock, home and fields for crops"). Student develops a valid claim ("De Soto's exploration helped Europeans a lot") which expresses a solid understanding of the topic, supporting the claim with well-chosen evidence ("They may have got new resources for armor or crossbow to make them stronger and they'd learned how to build huts. . ."). Response is logically organized and fully addresses all parts of the prompt with no significant errors.

Response 2

Hernando de Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle in Florida in many ways. One example is that he discovered what resources Florida had. This is important because you don't want to run out of resources. Soto also found out that local Native American tribes were friendly. This was important because they knew the tribes wouldn't attack the Europeans. Hernando de Soto also learned the local Native American tribes were willing to trade. This was good news because Europe had supplies Florida didn't. Soto's expedition found the Mississippi River. This introduced a new route to the Europeans. Hernando de Soto also found out there were large swamps. This was good because they

could come prepared with boats. Soto also discovered a new culture. Hernando de Soto's exploration helped Europeans in many ways.

Score point: 4

The response shows a thorough knowledge of how de Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle, supported with evidence from prior knowledge and the sources. The student's claim ("Hernando de Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle in Florida in many ways") notes Florida instead of Louisiana as asked in the prompt, but the supporting evidence and reasoning is strong enough to make this an error that does not detract from the overall response. Evidence is used to support how this allowed settlements ("you don't want to run out of resources . . . Native American tribes were friendly.") Use of prior knowledge is applied to connections being made ("Mississippi River . . . introduced a new route to the Europeans"). New resources and the Mississippi River focus on how the exploration affected future settlement. The overall paper connects to these two points and is organized in a logical manner which fully addresses the prompt.

Response 3

Follow the steps on the Checklist as you write your response.

In this writing prompt, I will describe how De Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle in Louisiana. First, De Soto discovered the Mississippi River, which helped the Europeans have a way of transporting. Second, he found a village that probably the Europeans could inhabit and use it as shelter even though it was covered with very large swamps. Third, they also found Indian huts, so if the Europeans couldn't inhabit any villages, they could

25. (continued)
use the huts as homes. Fourth, they also had crossbows, which could protect the Europeans if they get in trouble. Finally, De Soto got a beautiful string of pearls, which Europeans could use as a currency. In conclusion, De Soto helped the Europeans in many ways by exploring Louisiana.

Score point: 3 (strong)

The response reflects a general knowledge of how de Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle in Louisiana by incorporating adequate factual information from prior knowledge and the sources ("...which helped the Europeans have a way of transporting," "they could use the huts as homes," and "Europeans could use as a currency"). The student develops a relevant claim ("De Soto helped the Europeans in many ways by exploring Louisiana") which expresses a general understanding of the topic. The claim is supported with sufficient source evidence ("First, De Soto discovered the Mississippi River," "he found a village" and "De Soto got a beautiful string of pearls"). The response is organized and addresses all parts of the prompt with minimal errors.

Response 4

De Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle by discovering rivers and forms of land. He also made the Indians give his men food and shelter, so the men could survive and start a civilization. It made it so the Europeans knew the land so they could get youst to it and adapt to it. It also gave the Europeans Indian slaves that would work for them and help them start a civilization. He made them boats to help them cross rivers. De Soto's exploration helped the Europeans settle in Louisiana.

Score point: 3

This student's response reflects general knowledge of how de Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle in Louisiana by incorporating adequate factual information from prior knowledge and the sources ("It made it so the Europeans knew the land so they could get youst to it and adapt to it" and "He made them boats to help them cross rivers"). Student develops a relevant claim ("De Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle by discovering rivers and forms of land.") which expresses a general understanding of the topic and supports the claim with sufficient source evidence ("He also made the Indians give his men food and shelter" and "It also gave the Europeans Indian slaves"). The response is organized and addresses all parts of the prompt with minimal errors.

Response 5

This is how de Soto's expedition helped Europeans settle in Louisiana. In the expedition, de Soto and his crew discovered many places. They found out new ways to grow better crops. The expedition helped de Soto and his crew to understand Native American ways. The expedition help get other Europeans get ready for an expedition. For example there might have been lots of hippas. The other Europeans might have arrows.

25. (continued)

If they did not bring arrows, the Europeans would have no defense against hippas. The Europeans could be used to Native Americans if they already had an expedition. They could be comfortable with the Native Americans. That is how de Soto's expedition helped Europeans.

Score point: 2 (high)

The student's response reflects limited knowledge of how de Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle in Louisiana by incorporating some factual information from prior knowledge and the sources ("They found out new ways to grow better crops" and "The expedition help get other Europeans get ready for an expedition"). The student presents an inadequate claim ("In the expedition, de Soto and his crew discovered many places") which expresses a limited understanding of the topic. Supporting evidence is limited ("The expedition helped de Soto and his crew to understand Native American ways" and "The Europeans could be used to Native Americans if they already had an expedition"). This response contains some accurate understandings with few errors that detract from the overall response.

Response 6

De Soto's exploration helped the Europeans settle in Louisiana because of all the water and food. De Soto's exploration helped the Europeans because of all the things they have in Louisiana and they have many places for them to explore and they can get to the Mississippi River and get water from it. They can also get food and trade with people like the Native American tribes.

Score point: 2

The student's response reflects limited knowledge of how de Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle in Louisiana by incorporating some factual information from prior knowledge and the sources ("They can get also get food" and "...they can get to the Mississippi River and get water from it"). This student presents an inadequate claim ("De Soto's exploration helped the Europeans settle in Louisiana because of all the water, and food") which expresses a limited understanding of the topic, supporting the claim with some source evidence ("...trade with people line the Native American tribes"). The response contains some accurate understandings with few errors that detract from the overall response.

Response 7

- Follow the steps on the Checklist as you write your response.

Hernando de Soto's exploration helped other Europeans settle in Louisiana because he discovered Louisiana is rich in crops such as beans and corn. He also discovered the Mississippi river. So now knowing the Europeans would be rich in crops and water. Hernando de Soto helped Europeans settle in Louisiana by letting them know they'd be rich in crops and water. Lastly de Soto helped Europeans

25. (continued)

move to Louisiana because He had changed the way of native American culture and way of life during his exploration.

Score point: 2 (low)

The student's response reflects limited knowledge of how de Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle in Louisiana by incorporating some factual information from prior knowledge and the sources ("...he discovered Louisiana is rich in crops such as beans and corn" and "He also discovered the Mississippi River"). Student presents an inadequate claim ("Hernando de Soto helped Europeans settle in Louisiana by letting them know they'd be rich in crops and water") which expresses a limited understanding of the topic. Evidence used to support the claim is the claim restated ("by letting them know they'd be rich in crops and water"). Other evidence is noted, which could be applicable, but without a clear connection to the claim ("He had changed the way of native American culture and way of life during his exploration"). The response contains some accurate understandings with few errors that detract from the overall response.

Response 8

• Follow the steps on the Checklist as you write your response.

De Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle in Louisiana. For example, He makes sure that the land, water, and everthing els is safe for the Europeans like in source 2 it says he explord the land and discovered the land and found the Mississippi river. That is their only port from place to place. And there only access to food and water. That is how de Soto's exploration helped the Europeans settle in Louisiana.

Score point: 1 (strong)

The student's response reflects minimal knowledge of how de Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle in Louisiana by incorporating little or no factual information from prior knowledge and the sources ("That is ther only port from place to place. And there only access to food and water"). The student does not develop the claim ("For example, He makes sure that the land, water, and everthing els is safe for the Europeans") but provides some evidence from the sources ("he explord the land and discovered the land and found the Mississippi river").

Response 9

Follow the steps on the Checklist as you write your response.

De Soto's exploration helped the
European's settle by discovering
the mississippi river.

Score point: 1

The student's response reflects minimal knowledge of how de Soto's exploration helped Europeans settle in Louisiana by incorporating little factual information from the sources. No supporting evidence is provided to develop the claim ("De Soto's exploration helped the Europeans settle by discovering the Mississippi river").

Response 10

Accesed to the story we read
he sold help Louisiana by finding
gold, and coins. Also he help
by finding treger. Also he saw
the Missisp river. Also he
sean the North river.
He fand rocks.

Score point: 0

This response (“saw the Mississippi river”) is too vague and incomplete to fulfill requirements. There is no connection to how this helped Europeans settle in Louisiana. Other claims and evidence are illogical to the question (“by finding gold and coins” and “He fand rocks”) and detract from the overall response.

Response 11

It help them settle in the europeans place
and It help them to explore every
river.

Score point: 0

The student's response is too vague ("Europeans place" and "every river") to earn credit. More specific details and a clear claim would be needed to earn a score point of 1.