

Course Introduction

Welcome to New Readers Press Online Learning!

Your new pre-HSE course comes loaded with great features to make studying easy and fun. Before you begin, you'll learn how to use every feature in this course.

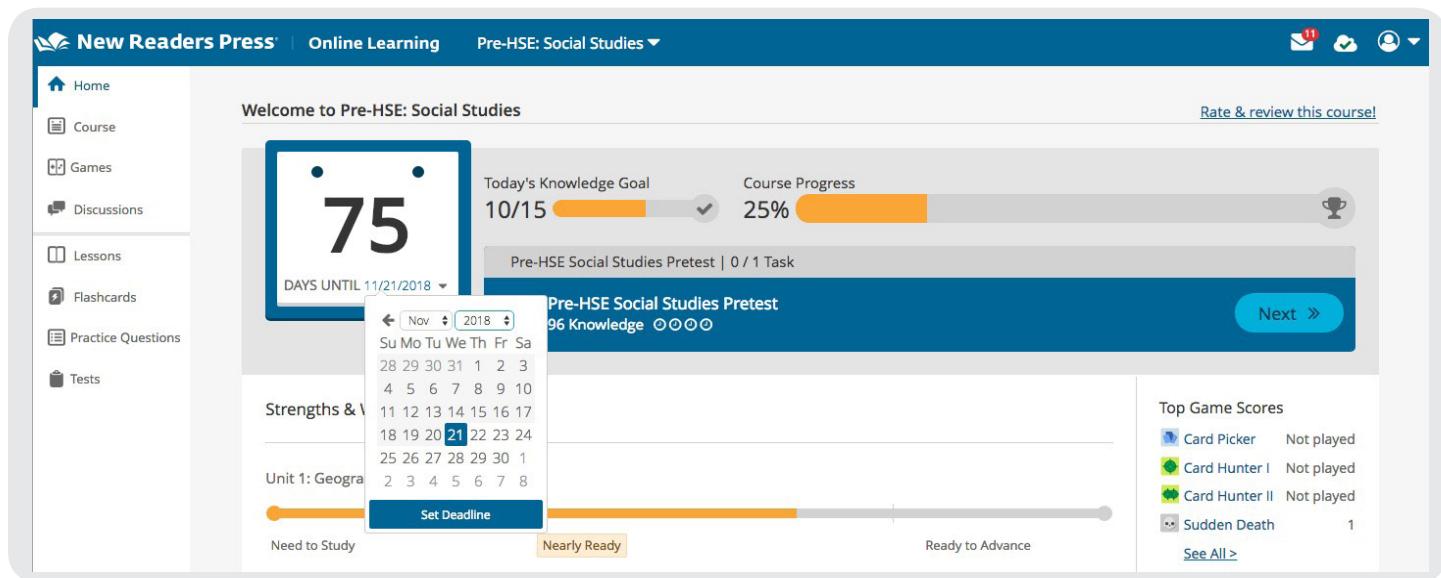


Powered by  BenchPrep

The Home Page

When you first log in, you will be taken to the **Home** page. There are a number of features on this page to become familiar with.

First is the **Course Calendar**. This shows your target date to complete the course and will be set for 90 days. The course calculates Knowledge Goals based on that date and tells you how many Knowledge Points you need to complete each time you log in. However, if you know you will be studying for a longer or shorter period of time, you can click on the **Study Plan Target Date** on the calendar to change it. The number of days and daily Knowledge Goals will be recalculated. Don't worry if you aren't in the course every day. Knowledge Goals are always based on the number of days left and automatically update each time you log in.



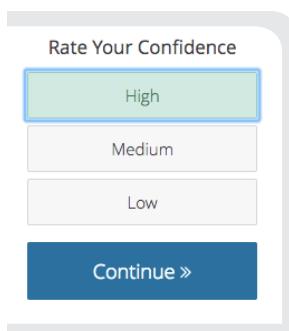
On the Home page, you will also see Top Game Scores and Achievements and your Strengths and Weaknesses, which you will learn more about a little later.

To access your account at any time, click on the **person icon** at the top right of the blue navigation bar. Use the drop-down menu to get Help, or to log out. The **cloud icon** shows you that your course is fully updated, and the **envelope icon** will alert you to any messages you have.

You will also notice a list of links on the left side of the screen. Click on:

- **Home** to return you to the Home page.
- **Course** to see an outline of the tasks in every unit in the course. Items with a green check mark have been completed. Use the Course link to navigate through the course and complete tasks in your Structured Plan.
- **Games** to play four games for extra vocabulary and skills practice.
- **Discussions** to see messages from your teacher.
- **Lessons** to see a table of contents of the entire course. Click a lesson to review any topic.
- **Flashcards** to review each vocabulary word with its definition. You can also print the flashcards to study offline.
- **Practice Questions** to see your progress on lesson questions. Click a lesson to review questions.
- **Tests** to see the Unit Reviews, Pretest, and Posttest. Click on a test to review questions and answer explanations.

Rate Your Confidence



The interface shows a title 'Rate Your Confidence' at the top. Below it is a vertical list of three buttons: 'High' (highlighted in green), 'Medium', and 'Low'. At the bottom is a blue 'Continue »' button.

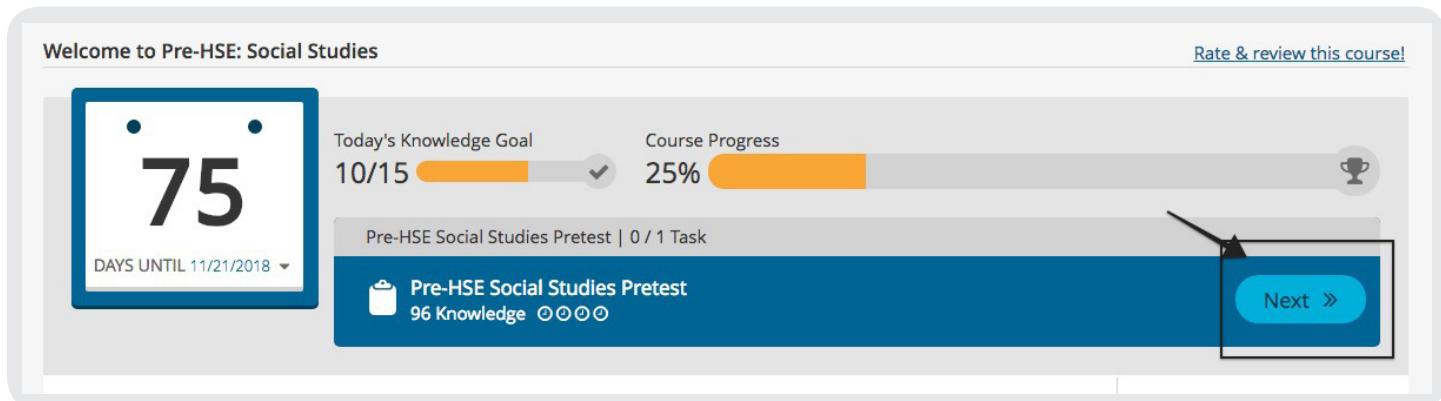
Before you can move to the next page in any lesson, you will need to "Rate Your Confidence." You will find this feature on the right side of the screen. How confident do you feel about the information you learned on the page?

- ◀ Click **High** if you think you have learned the information very well.
- ◀ Click **Medium** if you think you did OK, but might need more review.
- ◀ Click **Low** if you think you did not learn the information well.

On the last page of a lesson, click **Finish Task** after you rate your confidence. This will move you on to the next task.

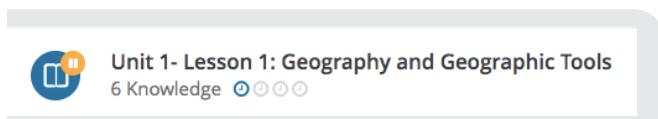
Getting Started

Each time you log in, the blue **Next** button on the Home page will direct you to the next task you need to complete. Use the **Next** button to move through the course in order. If at any time you leave the course, the **Next** button will take you to where you left off. If you finish a task, **Next** will take you to the next new task.



The interface shows a 'Welcome to Pre-HSE: Social Studies' message at the top. On the right is a 'Rate & review this course!' link. In the center, there's a large '75' with a progress bar below it. To the right, 'Today's Knowledge Goal' is shown as 10/15 with a 25% completion bar. Below that is 'Course Progress' with a 25% completion bar. A 'Pre-HSE Social Studies Pretest' section is shown with 0/1 Task completed. A blue 'Pre-HSE Social Studies Pretest' button is highlighted with a black box and an arrow pointing to its 'Next »' button.

Knowledge Points

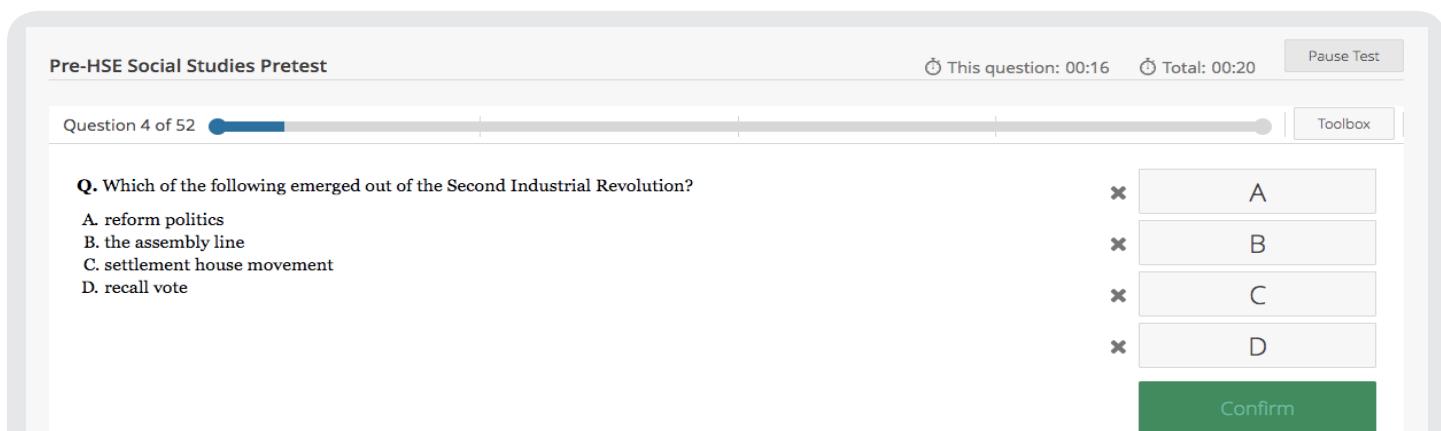


The interface shows a 'Unit 1- Lesson 1: Geography and Geographic Tools' section with a '6 Knowledge' icon. To the right, a 'Pretest' section is shown with a 'Pretest' button and a 'Next »' button.

Every task is assigned a certain number of Knowledge Points. When you complete a task, you earn Knowledge Points toward your Knowledge Goal for the day. Reaching your daily goals will keep you on track to finish the course by your Target Date.

Pretest

Before you begin making your way through the lessons, you will be directed to complete a Pretest. This test will tell you what you know and what you might need to study. Don't worry if you don't know every answer in the Pretest. By the end of the course, you will have covered all of the topics.



The interface shows a 'Pre-HSE Social Studies Pretest' title at the top. It displays 'Question 4 of 52' with a progress bar. On the right, there are buttons for 'This question: 00:16', 'Total: 00:20', 'Pause Test', 'Toolbox', and 'Confirm'. The question is: 'Q. Which of the following emerged out of the Second Industrial Revolution?' with options A, B, C, and D. Each option has a crossed-out 'x' icon.

Question Types

You will see a variety of question types in each course:

- **Multiple Choice**—Most questions are multiple choice. Choose the best answer from four options: A, B, C, or D. You can either click the answer below the question, or click the letter in the list on the right. After you make your choice, click **Confirm** to see the correct answer or to move to the next question.

Question 1 of 3

Toolbox | Review Answer (OFF)

Q. Ancient Indian scholars developed

A. gunpowder.
B. numerals.
C. paper.
D. silk.

A
 B
 C
 D

Confirm

- **Drop-Down**—Choose the correct option from a drop-down menu that shows two or three choices. Often the word or phrase you choose will complete a sentence. Click **Select One** to see the drop-down choices. Choose the best answer, then click **Confirm**.

Lesson 9: Spelling

This question: 01:20 | Total: 01:20 | Done practicing

Question 1 of 12

Review Answer (ON)

If the underlined word is spelled incorrectly, choose the correct spelling. If the word is spelled correctly, choose Correct.

Q. Did you receive the package that I mailed last week?

Select one
receive
✓ Correct

Confirm

Skip

Report Content Errors

- **Fill in the Blank**—Click on a box, then type a word or number to answer a question. Pay attention to your spelling. If the answer is a number, there may be more than one acceptable answer. For example, if the answer is 3,300, you may type 3,300 or 3300. If the correct answer is 0.05, you may type .05 or 0.05. Follow the directions carefully. For example, you might be instructed to round your answer to the nearest whole number. When you have typed your answer, click **Confirm**.

Pre-HSE Mathematics Pretest

0.0% Complete

This question: 00:14 Total: 00:14

Type the number in the box.

Q. Round 16.8 to the nearest whole number.

This question requires a numeric answer

Answer here

Confirm

Report Content Errors

- **Drag and Drop**—You may need to categorize information, place answers in the correct place in a table, or put items in the correct order. To do this, click on the item you want to move. While pressing the button on your mouse, move the mouse to drag the item to where you want to place it. Then release the button to drop the item in the correct place. When you have finished answering all parts of the question, click **Confirm**.
- **Hot Spot**—Some questions will ask you to identify a correct location on a graphic. This could include a coordinate plane, a graph, or a map. Click the location on the graphic and then click **Confirm**.

Lesson 2: Using a Coordinate Plane

Question 6 of 12

This question: 00:22 Total: 00:25

Done practicing

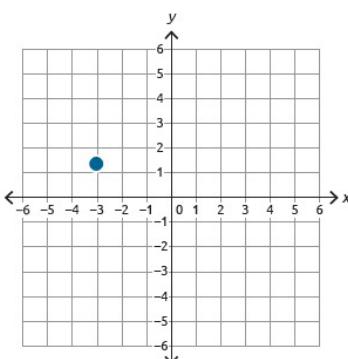
Click on the grid to plot the point on the coordinate plane.

Q. Point F at $(-4, 1)$

Confirm

Skip

Report Content Errors



Course Outline

Click **Course** on the left of the Home screen to see an outline called a Structured Plan. You will be able to see every task in the course and the Knowledge Points assigned to each task. Each Lesson in the course includes three tasks:

- **Lesson**—will cover the content of the lesson.
- **Flashcards**—give you a chance to study the meanings of key vocabulary terms.
- **Skills Practice**—will briefly assess your understanding of the lesson.

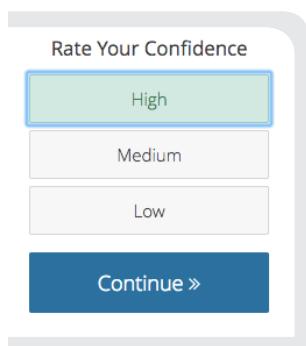
Use the **Next** button to quickly move through each task in order.

After you complete each study task, you will see a recap of your progress. You will also have the option to review the task. When you are ready, click **Next** to move to the next task in your Structured Plan.

You may skip around through the course and complete tasks in any order. You can do this from the Course view. Whether you follow through the course in order or skip around, any Knowledge Points you earn will be applied to your Knowledge Goal for the day.

Lessons

Each lesson covers an important concept. Lessons are broken into multiple pages so you can focus on one idea at a time.



Rate Your Confidence: You must rate your confidence to move to the next page. If you feel like you understand the information in the lesson, click **High**. If you are having trouble with the content, click **Low**. If you are not sure, you can click **Medium**. Later you can sort lessons by Confidence Level to review the lessons you rated Medium or Low.

Making Notes: In the top right corner of each lesson you will find tools to mark important text or take notes as you read. **Highlight** important text, make a **note** about something you read, or **bookmark** a page to return to. You will be able to revisit any of these notes later.

Videos: Some lessons include videos that further explain or demonstrate a topic. Click on the play arrow to watch the video.

Tips: Click **Show** in the tip boxes to open and read them. You will see a variety of tips in each course. You can click **Hide** to close a tip.

Skills Tip [Hide](#)

Persuasive texts often have loaded words. Loaded words produce strong emotional responses. Loaded words stir readers' emotions, either negatively or positively.

Example:

Neutral: *economical*
Loaded positive: *a bargain*
Loaded negative: *cheap*

- Skills Tips add to the instruction or give examples of concepts.
- Vocabulary Tips help you understand the meanings of key terms.
- Connect to Today tips help you understand social studies concepts by relating historical ideas to current topics.
- Real-World Connections relate a concept you are learning to everyday life.
- Helpful Hints provide a tip to help you remember or understand a science concept.
- Math Facts explain or demonstrate symbols or formulas you need to remember.

Guided Practice

Some lessons include Guided Practice to give you a chance to check your understanding and apply critical thinking skills. Guided Practice items offer Tips to help you make your way to the right answer.

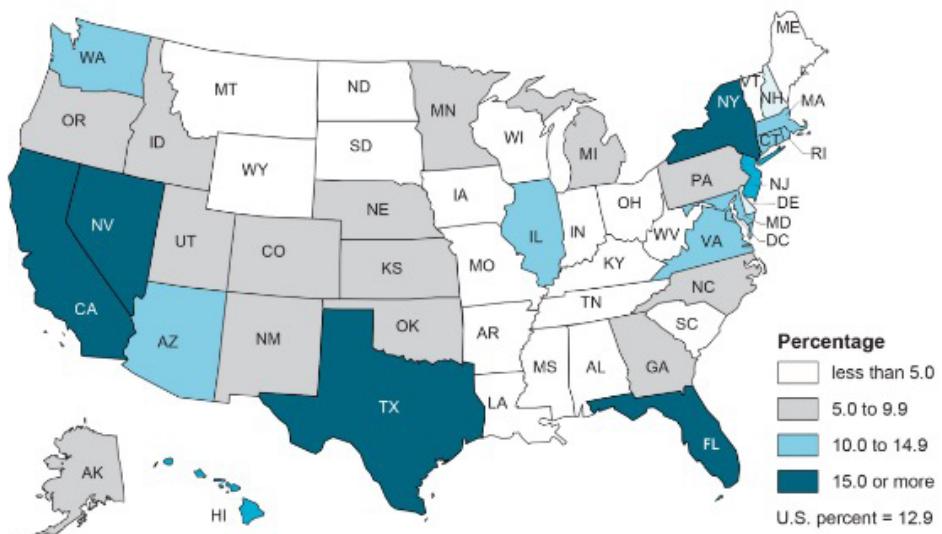
Try each answer on your own first, using the tip if needed, then check your answer by clicking **Show Answer**.

◀ ▶ Guided Practice: Reading a Population Map

Guided Practice: Reading a Population Map

A map is one way to show population data. A population map is an example of a descriptive map. Use this map to answer the questions.

Foreign-Born Population as Percent of State Population: 2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 American Community Survey.

1. Which area is shown on the map?

[Hide Answer](#)

- A. The United States
- B. South America
- C. Mexico
- D. Canada

TIP

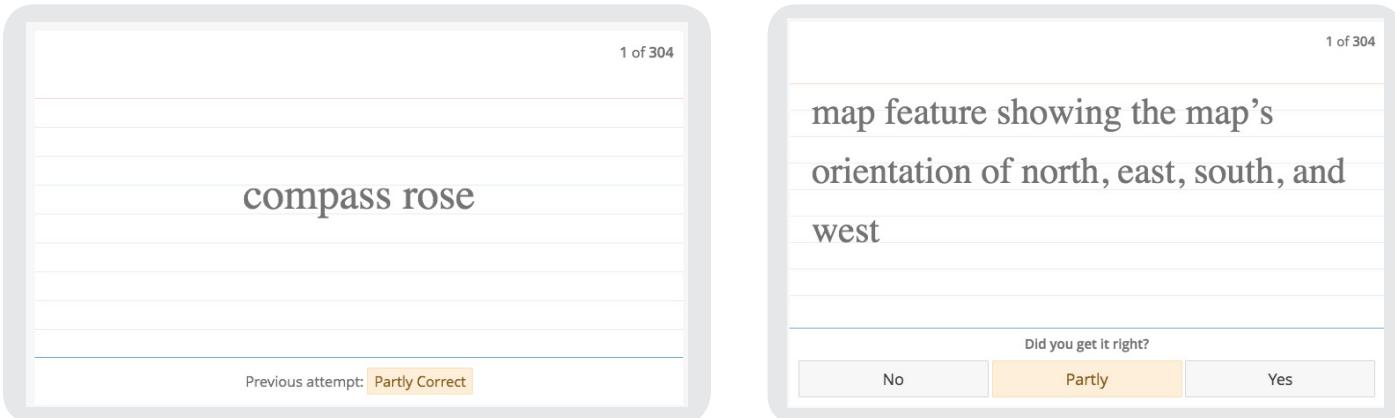
[Hide](#)

Identify the area by its shape.

Solution: The correct answer is A.

Flashcards

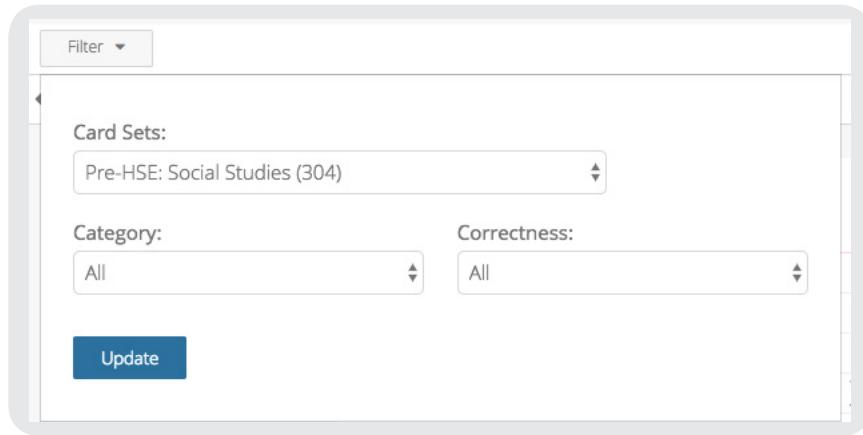
Flashcards include all the key vocabulary from the lesson. First you will see a vocabulary term on the front of a flashcard. Guess what it means. Click anywhere on the flashcard to flip the card over and see the definition. Did you get it right? If so, click **Yes**. If not, click **No**. If you got part of it right, click **Partly**. Repeat for each vocabulary term. The course will track which words you struggle with so that you can keep practicing them.



Sort Vocabulary Terms



When you click on **Flashcards** in the menu on the left of your screen, you can use the buttons at the top right to use the Adaptive Mode or to Shuffle the flashcards. Click on the Adaptive Mode icon to prioritize the flashcards that you previously got wrong. Click on the Shuffle icon to shuffle the cards in random order. You can also click on **Filter** to sort the ones you got wrong or only partly correct, by using Correctness. You can also filter by unit or lesson, by using Category.



Print Vocabulary Terms

If you click **View List**, you will see a list of all the vocabulary terms and their definitions. From this view, you can click **Print** to print a PDF list of the terms, or click **Study** to review all the terms.

Checking Your Progress

Skills Practice

Each lesson ends with a Skills Practice to check your understanding. Answer each question and click **Confirm**. You will get immediate feedback telling you if you got the answer correct. If you get a question wrong, read the answer and explanation so you'll understand why. Then click **Continue** to move to the next question.

Practice Dashboard

Click on Practice Questions to see your Practice Dashboard. Your Practice Dashboard shows:

- **Your percent of correct answers:** You will also see the number of questions correct out of the total number answered.
- **Your average answer time:** If this is very short, you might improve your score by taking more time to answer questions. Compare the Average Correct Answer Time to the Average Incorrect Answer Time.

The screenshot shows the Practice Dashboard with the following data:

Category	Value
Completion	93.2% Completion
Correct	90%
Questions Taken	219 of 235
Avg. Answer Time	00:00:55
Avg. Session Duration	00:03:48
Avg. Incorrect Answer Time	00:00:44
Avg. Correct Answer Time	00:00:56

Below the dashboard, the Question Categories section shows:

Category Name	Complete	% Correct
Unit 1: Reading Fiction and Prose	26 of 28	92%
Lesson 1: Setting	4 of 5	100%
Lesson 2: Point of View	2 of 3	100%

Unit Review

- At the end of each unit, take the Unit Review test. When you answer a question, click **Confirm** to record your answer and move to the next question. You will not see feedback on your answers until you finish the test. At any point you may click **Pause Test** to take a break and return later to finish. The next time you log in, click the **Next** button on the Home page to pick up where you left off. After you answer all of the questions, you will receive your score.
- Click on a lesson to review each question or click **Review All** to review all of the questions in a lesson. Click **Reports** to see your progress over time.

The screenshot shows the Unit Review section with the following data:

#	Preview (Click question preview to expand)	Time	Review
1	Q. Which of the following best describes why the United States is a representative democracy? Every citizen gets to vote on key issues. Each state...	0 min 11 sec	Review
2	Q. Which level of government is usually responsible for maintaining your local parks and school playgrounds? federal government state government ...	0 min 6 sec	Review
3	Q. Based on the statement, why does the Obama administration argue that Congress should pass the DREAM Act? It would be good for our economy, our s...	0 min 18 sec	Review
4	Q. Which statement best explains the purpose of this White House statement? The statement is trying to convince Republicans to support the DREAM Ac...	0 min 21 sec	Review

Posttest

After you have completed the course, you will take a Posttest that will assess whether you are ready to move on to high school equivalency-level work. The Posttest will indicate any areas where you could improve. Then you can return to the course to study those topics and raise your score.

Test Dashboard

When you click **Test**, you will see your Test Dashboard. Your Test Dashboard shows:

- **Your percent of correct answers:** You will also see the number of questions correct out of the total number answered.
- **Your average answer time:** If this is very short, you might improve your score by taking more time to answer questions. Compare the Average Correct Answer Time to the Average Incorrect Answer Time.
- **Your test scores over time:** Click **Reports** to see a graph that shows if your scores are improving as you work in the course.
- **Question categories:** Check these results to see which categories you are doing well in and which ones you should study more.

The screenshot shows the Test Dashboard with the following data:

- Completion:** 53.6% Completion
- Score:** 83% (Correct)
- Test Summary:** 8 of 8 Tests Taken, 00:01:16 Avg. Answer Time, 00:01:19 Avg. Correct Answer Time, 00:00:59 Avg. Incorrect Answer Time
- Test History Table:**

Test Name	Test Length	Test Time	% Correct	Status
Pre-HSE Reading and Writing Pretest	45 Questions	Unlimited	96% 43 / 45	Complete
Unit 1: Review	19 Questions	Unlimited	100% 19 / 19	Complete
Unit 2: Review	10 Questions	Unlimited	100% 10 / 10	Complete
Unit 3: Review	22 Questions	Unlimited	86% 19 / 22	Complete

Resetting Questions

You can reset the questions in the Skills Practices, Unit Reviews, and Posttest. If you study more and then retake a test, you have a chance to improve your score. Click on **Reset Category** for the Skills Practice questions and **Reset Test** in the Unit Reviews and Posttest to clear out your answers and take a test again. You can reset questions three times.

The screenshot shows the Test Dashboard with a reset dialog for Unit 3: Review:

Unit 3: Review Reset Test

100.0% Completion

65% (Correct)

14 of 14 Questions Taken | 00:00:16 Avg. Answer Time | 00:00:12 Avg. Correct Answer Time | 00:00:00 Avg. Incorrect Answer Time

Reset Dialog:

By clicking 'confirm reset', your Answers, Bookmarks, Notes and Confidence Levels associated with this test's questions will be erased and you will be able to re-take them.

This action can not be reversed.

3 resets left for this test.

Confirm Reset Cancel

Question Review Category Scores Reports Review All

✓ ✗ Preview (Click question preview to expand) Time ↴

Recapping Tasks

When you finish a study task, you will see a recap of your work. A pie chart shows your Confidence Levels in the Lessons, how many terms you got correct in the Flashcards, and how you did on the Skills Practice Questions. From this view, you have the option to review the questions or go back to the course again. Click on the blue **Next** button at the bottom of the page if you are ready to move on.

Unit 1- Lesson 1: Geography and Geographic Tools Flashcards ✓

Here's a quick recap of your task:

High Confidence
7 Flashcards
Medium Confidence
2 Flashcards
Low Confidence
0 Flashcards

[Review these flashcards >](#)

Next Study Task

Unit 1: Lesson 1 | 2 / 3 Tasks

Unit 1- Lesson 1: Geography and Geographic Tools Next >

6 Knowledge ○ ○ ○ ○

[Go back to Course >](#)

Reviewing a Lesson

Click **Lessons** to see a list of every lesson page in the course. You will also see your Confidence Level for each page. Use the Lesson view to review any lessons you had low confidence in or in which you scored low when answering Skills Practice or Unit Review questions. You can filter the lessons by Confidence Level, and you can sort by bookmarks, notes, or categories. When you find a lesson you want to review, simply click on it. If you feel more confident after the review, you can update your Confidence Level, and either click **Continue** or click **Lessons** again to go back to the list.

Lessons Table of Contents Confidence Levels Notes Bookmarks Highlights

Contents Filter ▾

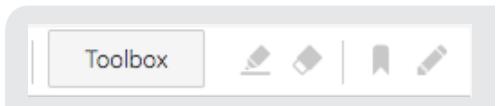
Course Introduction		+
Unit 1: Geography and the World		
Unit Opener	Unit 1 Introduction	High
Unit Objectives	Unit 1 Objectives	High
Lesson 1: Geography and Geographic Tools	What Is Geography?	Medium
	Using Geographic Tools i	Medium
	Map Keys	Low
	Physical Maps	Medium
	Parts of a Physical Map i	Medium
	Guided Practice: Reading a Physical Map	High
	Guided Practice: Reading Labels on a Physical Map	High
	Descriptive Maps	Low
Lesson 2: Global and U.S. Regions	What Is a Region?	High
	U.S. Regions	High
	Global Regions	Low

Tools

In the top right corner of each lesson, you will find a set of tools. You may choose to use any of these tools:

- **Toolbox:** Some courses include a Toolbox. Click on **Toolbox** to use these tools:

- Sketchpad
- Calculator
- Periodic Table
- Science and Math formula sheets



Lessons Table of Contents Confidence Levels Notes Bookmarks

Making Conclusions

Making Conclusions

Dr. Lewin has just completed an investigation in a forest ecosystem. She observed how the number of prey in the ecosystem affects the number of predators. She then comes to the conclusion that the fewer prey there are, the fewer predators there will be. She then predicts that if the number of prey continues to decrease, the number of predators will decrease as well.

By looking at the data in her table, she was able to see that as the number of prey decreases, the number of predators decreases. Therefore, she was able to form a **conclusion**: as the prey decreases, the number of predators decreases. She used **evidence** to support this conclusion. For example, the prey decreased from 1,914 to 1,815 from 269 to 258 in the same month.

Dr. Lewin put her data into a table:

←	CE	AC	¹/ x
√	+ / _	%	÷
7	8	9	×
4	5	6	-
1	2	3	+
0	.		=

Rate Your Confidence

High

Medium

Low

Continue »

Category: Lesson 4: Reasoning from Data

- **Highlight selection:** Click the **Highlight Selection** tool to highlight information that you want to study or return to later. Click on the **Highlights** tab at the top of the Lessons view to see all text selections that you have highlighted in the course.
- **Remove highlight:** Click the **Remove Highlight** tool if you want to erase your highlighting.
- **Bookmark this section:** Click on the **Bookmark** icon to mark pages you want to return to. To review your bookmarked pages, choose the **Bookmarks** tab at the top of the Lessons view.
- **Record a note on this section:** Click on the **pencil** icon if you want to write a note about a lesson. Click on the **Notes** tab at the top of the Lessons view to see all the notes you've taken.

Fun Stuff

Achievements

Achievements
35/53 left to unlock.

-  Party Time
-  I'm a true bookie
-  t3h H4X0|2
-  Long-term memory l...
-  Hot streak

[See All >](#)

Games

There are a few games you can play on your own to practice the course vocabulary. These games are just for you and only you can see your scores. Click on a game and you will be taken to a page with instructions. Choose which vocabulary words to focus on. When you are ready, click **Start** and begin playing. When you have gotten too many incorrect, your game will end and you will be given a score. You can play as many times as you'd like. You can switch games by using the tabs at the top.

Card Picker



Your highest score: 3651
Your rank: 2

[Start playing](#)

Card Hunter I

Card Hunter I



Your highest score: 1834
Your rank: 1

[Start playing](#)

Card Hunter II



Your highest score: 0
Your rank: Not yet determined

[Start playing](#)

Sudden Death



Your highest score: 3
Your rank: 2

[Start playing](#)