

Social Science — Syllabus Guide for Parents

Classes 5 to 8 · What your child will be tested on, and how

What This Olympiad Tests

The iThinkers Social Science Olympiad checks whether your child can think like a **historian, geographer and citizen** — never just recall dates and definitions. History questions favour evidence-reasoning (“What can this coin/photo/document tell us — and what can’t it tell us?”) over memorised dates; the only dates ever tested are used to put events in order, never recited on their own. Every paper includes at least one map-based question and one source-reading question (a picture, document or timeline). Sensitive historical events are always handled age-appropriately, factually, and without graphic detail, and the paper stays strictly neutral on party politics.

Exam Format at a Glance

Format	30 to 45 Multiple Choice Questions, 1 mark each, depending on class
Duration	45 minutes
Negative marking	None — every attempt counts, so children can try every question with confidence
Answer sheet	OMR sheet, filled with a 2B pencil
Every paper includes	At least one map-based question, and (from Class 6) one source-reading question

The Skill Areas Your Child Will Build

Every question — from LKG to Class 10 — falls under one of these four skill areas. They stay the same every year, so you can watch your child’s growth along a single thread as they move up the classes.

Skill Area	Starts as (early years)	Grows into (by Class 10)
History & Heritage	Stories of our past, and how we know about them	The making of modern India, and reading historical sources critically
Geography & Environment	Maps, the globe, and my surroundings	Resources, agriculture and industry — understanding why things are located where they are
Civics & Society	Rules, community, and local government	The Constitution, Parliament, justice and equality, worked through real scenarios
Economics & Everyday Life	Work and markets around me	Livelihoods, public facilities, and how the everyday economy actually works

How We Ask Questions

iThinkers questions are not about memorising facts. Each question is designed to check one of these four thinking abilities:

How questions are asked	What it means for your child
Read the Source	Read a map, a timeline, a document or a picture and pull out what it actually shows.
Explain the Connection	Explain a cause-and-effect link — why cities grew near rivers, why a policy led to a certain outcome.
Judge the Evidence	Decide what a source can and cannot tell us, spot a biased account, or notice whose voice is missing.

Act as a Citizen

Work out which body or process is the right one to approach or apply in a given situation.



What Your Child Will Learn, Class by Class

Find your child's class below to see exactly which topics are covered. These are the same topics your child's school already teaches (NCERT/CBSE/state-board common core) — iThinkers simply asks about them in a more thoughtful, real-life way.

Class 5		age ~10–11
History & Heritage	How we know the past (old objects, buildings, stories, photos), freedom-struggle stories at an awareness level, monuments & crafts as living history	
Geography & Environment	The globe & maps (directions, symbols, simple scale), India's neighbours, major landforms & rivers, weather vs climate	
Civics & Society	Rules at home/school/society and why they exist, local government (panchayat/municipality) and what it fixes, diversity as everyday strength	
Economics & Everyday Life	Kinds of work around us, the journey of everyday goods (like a shirt or a chapati) from farm/factory to home, markets from the weekly haat to shops	
Class 6		age ~11–12
History & Heritage	Earliest cities (what Harappan ruins reveal about planning), Vedic-age life, the Mauryas and Ashoka's message (inscriptions as evidence), Gupta-age achievements, how historians actually use sources	
Geography & Environment	Earth in the solar system, latitudes/longitudes and time zones, the earth's motions & seasons, types of maps, major domains of the earth, India's location & climate	
Civics & Society	Diversity & unity, what government is and its levels, rural & urban local government in action	
Economics & Everyday Life	Livelihoods across India and how they depend on each other (farmer, weaver, vendor, IT worker)	
Class 7		age ~12–13
History & Heritage	Medieval India (new kings & kingdoms, the Delhi Sultanate to the Mughals), what a fort/mosque/temple's design tells us, regional cultures blooming, towns, traders & craftspeople	
Geography & Environment	Natural & human-made environment, inside our earth and changing surfaces, natural vegetation & wildlife, why human settlements form where they do	
Civics & Society	Equality in democracy through scenarios, how state government works, how media & advertising shape our views, the market chain around us, fairness around gender & work	
Economics & Everyday Life	The producer-wholesaler-retailer chain and who earns what, how advertising pushes our choices	

Class 8		age ~13–14
History & Heritage	How British power grew from trade to territory, colonial policies and their effects on farmers/weavers/tribal communities, the events of 1857, education/women's reform movements, the national movement up to 1947, and whose voices sources sometimes miss	
Geography & Environment	Types of resources & conservation, land/soil/water/vegetation use and misuse, agriculture types & distribution, why industries locate where they do, population as a resource	
Civics & Society	The Constitution — why it exists and its key values, how Parliament makes laws, how the justice system works, standing against marginalisation, public facilities and government's role, child rights	
Economics & Everyday Life	Public vs private provision of services, why some services must reach everyone, who pays for and who benefits from a public facility	

A Sample Question

Class 6 example: Harappan cities had covered drains running along carefully planned streets. What does this **most strongly** suggest about the people who built them?

- (a) They loved swimming (b) **They organised city life and cared about cleanliness ✓** (c) They had no houses (d) Drains grew naturally

This checks whether a child can reason from physical evidence to a conclusion about how people lived — “how we know” rather than simply “what happened,” the signature of this subject.

What Makes iThinkers Different

- The signature skill: source-reasoning — asking what a piece of evidence can and cannot tell us, at every class.
- Every paper includes real map-reading, not just map-related facts to recall.
- History is handled on settled scholarship, strictly neutral on party politics, and age-appropriate on sensitive events.
- A free practice portal for every registered child — no extra books to buy, instant feedback, works on any device.
- Children are benchmarked, not ranked against each other — the focus stays on each child's own growth.

This guide is a parent-friendly summary. It does not change or add to what your child's school teaches — every topic here sits inside your child's regular curriculum.