

Social Studies Performance Task 10-7

Standard(s):

- **SS9a - Science, Technology, and Society** - Analyze how core values, beliefs, and attitudes of society shape scientific and technological change.

The Task

Advances in technology relating to the electronic media have made changes in policies and practices dealing with the freedom of the press. Focus on one technological development in a chosen period and demonstrate its impact in one of the following ways:

- In a group of three, participate in an American Bar Association conference hearing. Your group should include a mediator and two students, each with opposing views focusing on the topic, “Advances in mass media technology will eventually force us to limit freedom of the press.” Role-play this conference hearing.
- A bill has been proposed to Congress to create software that will screen all Internet transmissions and communications. Write a letter to your Congressmen for or against the establishment of this software program.
- The Attorney General has asked the President for emergency powers to screen all Internet transmissions and communications. As the President’s legal advisor, create an executive report that briefs the president on the Constitutionality of these actions.
- You are a member of your school’s Student Government. You have been asked to contribute to your school’s Internet policy. Create a brochure, “Internet Laws for the Classroom and Home Use.”

Circumstances of Performance:

The student work is produced under the following conditions:

alone

in a group

in class

as homework

with teacher feedback

with peer feedback

timed

extended project

no opportunity for revision

opportunity for revision

Criteria for Success:

- Uses and evaluates appropriate primary sources that present concrete examples and details to show different points of view.
- Includes background information.
- Uses correct conventions and grammar.
- Demonstrates clarity of ideas and expression, uses information from a variety of sources, and integrates various media forms.

Related Standard(s):

- **SS2d-Culture:** Relate the effects that industrial development has had on world cultures.
- **SS3b - Time, Continuity, and Change:** Describe how the perception of time affects culture and society.
- **SS9b – Science, Technology, and Society:** Show the relationship between stable government and technological and scientific advances.
- **SS9c - Science, Technology, and Society:** Explain the effects of scientific and technological discoveries for a specific historical period.