Year 6 standard elaborations — Australian Curriculum: Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)

Purpose

The standard elaborations (SEs) provide additional clarity when using the Australian Curriculum achievement standard to make judgments on a five-point scale. These can be used as a tool for:

- making consistent and comparable judgments about the evidence of learning in a folio of student work
- developing task-specific standards for individual assessment tasks.

Structure

The SEs are developed using the **Australian Curriculum achievement standard**. The HASS achievement standard describes the learning expected of students at each year level. Teachers use the achievement standard during and at the end of a period of teaching to make on-balance judgments about the quality of learning students demonstrate.

In Queensland the achievement standard represents the **C standard** — a sound level of knowledge and understanding of the content, and application of skills. The SEs are presented in a **matrix**. The <u>discernible differences</u> or degrees of quality associated with the five-point scale are highlighted to identify the characteristics of student work on which teacher judgments are made. Terms are described in the Notes section following the matrix.

Year 6 Australian Curriculum: HASS achievement standard

By the end of Year 6, students explain the significance of an event/development, an individual and/or group. They identify and describe continuities and changes for different groups in the past and present. They describe the causes and effects of change on society. They compare the experiences of different people in the past. Students describe, compare and explain the diverse characteristics of different places in different locations from local to global scales. They describe how people, places, communities and environments are diverse and globally interconnected and identify the effects of these interconnections over time. Students explain the importance of people, institutions and processes to Australia's democracy and legal system. They describe the rights and responsibilities of Australian citizens and the obligations they may have as global citizens. Students recognise why choices about the allocation of resources involve trade-offs. They explain why it is important to be informed when making consumer and financial decisions. They identify the purpose of business and recognise the different ways that businesses choose to provide goods and services. They explain different views on how to respond to an issue or challenge.

Students develop appropriate questions to frame an investigation. They locate and collect useful data and information from primary and secondary sources. They examine sources to determine their origin and purpose and to identify different perspectives in the past and present. They interpret data to identify, describe and compare distributions, patterns and trends, and to infer relationships, and evaluate evidence to draw conclusions. Students sequence information about events, the lives of individuals and selected phenomena in chronological order and represent time by creating timelines. They organise and represent data in a range of formats, including large- and small-scale maps, using appropriate conventions. They collaboratively generate alternative responses to an issue, use criteria to make decisions and identify the advantages and disadvantages of preferring one decision over others. They reflect on their learning to propose action in response to an issue or challenge and describe the probable effects of their proposal. They present ideas, findings, viewpoints and conclusions in a range of communication forms that incorporate source materials, mapping, graphing, communication conventions and discipline-specific terms.

Source

Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), *Australian Curriculum Version 8 Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)*, www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/humanities-and-social-sciences/hass



Year 6 HASS standard elaborations

	A	В	С	D	E
The folio of a student's work has the following characteristics:					
	thorough explanation of the significance an event/development, an individual and/or group	informed explanation of the significance an event/development, an individual and/or group	explanation of the significance an event/development, an individual and/or group	identification of aspects of the significance an event/development, an individual and/or group	statements about aspects of the significance an event/development, an individual and/or group
understanding	identification and thorough description of continuities and changes for different groups in the past and present	identification and detailed description of continuities and changes for different groups in the past and present	identification and description of continuities and changes for different groups in the past and present	identification of aspects and partial description of continuities and changes for different groups in the past and present	statements about aspects of continuities and changes for different groups in the past and present
Knowledge and und	thorough description of the causes and effects of change on society	detailed description of the causes and effects of change on society	description of the causes and effects of change on society	partial description of the causes and effects of change on society	statements about aspects of the causes and effects of change on society
	reasoned comparison of the experiences of different people in the past	informed comparison of the experiences of different people in the past	comparison of the experiences of different people in the past	identification of the experiences of different people in the past	statements about experiences of different people in the past
	reasoned description, comparison and explanation of the diverse characteristics of different places in different locations from local to global scales	informed description, comparison and explanation of the diverse characteristics of different places in different locations from local to global scales	description, comparison and explanation of the diverse characteristics of different places in different locations from local to global scales	partial description, comparison and explanation of the diverse characteristics of different places in different locations from local to global scales	statements about aspects of the diverse characteristics of different places in different locations from local to global scales

	A	В	С	D	E
	The folio of a student's work	has the following characteris	tics:		
	reasoned description of how people, places, communities and environments are diverse and globally interconnected identification and thorough description of the effects of these interconnections over time	 informed description of how people, places, communities and environments are diverse and globally interconnected identification and detailed description of the effects of these interconnections over time 	 description of how people, places, communities and environments are diverse and globally interconnected identification of the effects of these interconnections over time 	partial description of how people, places, communities and environments are diverse and globally interconnected identification of aspects of the effects of these interconnections over time	statements about aspects of how people, places, communities and environments are diverse and globally interconnected statements about aspects of the effects of these interconnections over time
d understanding	thorough explanation of the importance of people, institutions and processes to Australia's democracy and legal system	informed explanation of the importance of people, institutions and processes to Australia's democracy and legal system	explanation of the importance of people, institutions and processes to Australia's democracy and legal system	explanation of aspects of the importance of people, institutions and processes to Australia's democracy and legal system	statements about aspects of the importance of people, institutions and processes to Australia's democracy and legal system
Knowledge and	reasoned description of the rights and responsibilities of Australian citizens and the obligations they may have as global citizens	informed description of the rights and responsibilities of Australian citizens and the obligations they may have as global citizens	description of the rights and responsibilities of Australian citizens and the obligations they may have as global citizens	partial description of the rights and responsibilities of Australian citizens and the obligations they may have as global citizens	statements about aspects of the rights and responsibilities of Australian citizens and the obligations they may have as global citizens
_	recognition and detailed description of why choices about the allocation of resources involve trade-offs	recognition and description of why choices about the allocation of resources involve trade-offs	recognition of why choices about the allocation of resources involve trade-offs	partial recognition of why choices about the allocation of resources involve tradeoffs	fragmented recognition of why choices about the allocation of resources involve trade-offs
	thorough explanation of why it is important to be informed when making consumer and financial decisions	informed explanation of why it is important to be informed when making consumer and financial decisions	explanation of why it is important to be informed when making consumer and financial decisions	explanation of aspects of why it is important to be informed when making consumer and financial decisions	statements about aspects of why it is important to be informed when making consumer and financial decisions

	A	В	С	D	E
	The folio of a student's work	has the following characteris	tics:		
Knowledge and understanding	 identification and detailed description of the purpose of business recognition and detailed description of the different ways that businesses choose to provide goods and services 	 identification and description of the purpose of business recognition and description of the different ways that businesses choose to provide goods and services 	identification of the purpose of business recognition of the different ways that businesses choose to provide goods and services	identification of aspects of the purpose of business partial recognition of the different ways that businesses choose to provide goods and services	statements about aspects of the purpose of business statements about aspects of the different ways that businesses choose to provide goods and services
	thorough explanation of different views on how to respond to an issue or challenge	informed explanation of different views on how to respond to an issue or challenge	explanation of different views on how to respond to an issue or challenge	explanation of aspects of different views on how to respond to an issue or challenge	statements about aspects of different views on how to respond to an issue or challenge
	development of clear and informed questions to frame an investigation	development of informed questions to frame an investigation	development of appropriate questions to frame an investigation	guided development of questions to frame an investigation	directed use of questions to frame an investigation
Inquiry and skills	location and considered collection of useful data and information from primary and secondary sources	location and informed collection of useful data and information from primary and secondary sources	location and collection of useful data and information from primary and secondary sources	location and partial collection of useful data and information from primary and secondary sources	location and fragmented collection of useful data and information from primary and secondary sources
	 thorough examination of sources to: determine their origin and purpose identify different perspectives in the past and present 	 informed examination of sources to: determine their origin and purpose identify different perspectives in the past and present 	 examination of sources to: determine their origin and purpose identify different perspectives in the past and present 	 partial examination of sources to: determine their origin and purpose identify different perspectives in the past and present 	 fragmented examination of sources to: determine their origin and purpose identify different perspectives in the past and present

	Α	В	С	D	E
	The folio of a student's work	has the following characteris	tics:		
Inquiry and skills	 interpretation of data to: identify and thoroughly describe and compare distributions, patterns and trends infer reasoned relationships evaluate evidence to draw reasoned conclusions 	 interpretation of data to: identify, describe and compare, with detail, distributions, patterns and trends infer plausible relationships evaluate evidence to draw informed conclusions 	 interpretation of data to: identify, describe and compare distributions, patterns and trends infer relationships evaluate evidence to draw conclusions 	interpretation of data to: • identify aspects of, and partially describe and compare distributions, patterns and trends • infer aspects of relationships • evaluate evidence to draw partial conclusions	 interpretation of data to: make statements about distributions, patterns and trends make statements about relationships evaluate evidence to draw fragmented conclusions
	 purposeful sequencing of information about events, the lives of individuals and selected phenomena in chronological order representing time by creating clear and detailed timelines 	effective sequencing of information about events, the lives of individuals and selected phenomena in chronological order representing time by creating detailed timelines	 sequencing of information about events, the lives of individuals and selected phenomena in chronological order representing time by creating timelines 	 partial sequencing of information about events, the lives of individuals and selected phenomena in chronological order representing time by creating partial timelines 	fragmented sequencing of information about events, the lives of individuals and selected phenomena in chronological order representing time by creating fragmented timelines
	clear and detailed organisation and representation of data in a range of formats, including large- and small-scale maps, using appropriate conventions	detailed organisation and representation of data in a range of formats, including large- and small-scale maps, using appropriate conventions	organisation and representation of data in a range of formats, including large- and small-scale maps, using appropriate conventions	partial organisation and representation of data in a range of formats, including large- and small-scale maps, using appropriate conventions	fragmented organisation and representation of data in a range of formats, including large- and small-scale maps, using appropriate conventions

	Α	В	С	D	E
	The folio of a student's work	has the following characteris	tics:		
	 collaborative generation of reasoned alternative responses to an issue use of criteria to make reasoned decisions identification and detailed description of the advantages and disadvantages of preferring one decision over others 	 collaborative generation of plausible alternative responses to an issue use of criteria to make informed decisions identification and description of the advantages and disadvantages of preferring one decision over others 	 collaborative generation of alternative responses to an issue use of criteria to make decisions identification of the advantages and disadvantages of preferring one decision over others 	 collaborative generation of responses to an issue partial use of criteria to make decisions identification of aspects of the advantages and disadvantages of preferring one decision over others 	collaborative generation of statements about an issue fragmented use of criteria to make decisions fragmented identification of aspects of the advantages and disadvantages of preferring one decision over others
v	 reflection on learning to propose reasoned action in response to an issue or challenge thorough description of the probable effects of the proposal 	 reflection on learning to propose plausible action in response to an issue or challenge detailed description of the probable effects of the proposal 	 reflection on learning to propose action in response to an issue or challenge description of the probable effects of the proposal 	 guided reflection of learning to propose action in response to an issue or challenge partial description of the probable effects of the proposal 	directed reflection of learning to propose action statements about the possible effects of the proposal
Inquiry and skills	purposeful presentation of ideas, findings, viewpoints and conclusions in a range of communication forms with considered incorporation of relevant: • source materials • mapping • graphing • communication conventions • discipline-specific terms	informed presentation of ideas, findings, viewpoints and conclusions in a range of communication forms that incorporate relevant: • source materials • mapping • graphing • communication conventions • discipline-specific terms	presentation of ideas, findings, viewpoints and conclusions in a range of communication forms that incorporate: • source materials • mapping • graphing • communication conventions • discipline-specific terms	partial presentation of ideas, findings, viewpoints and conclusions in a range of communication forms that incorporate aspects of: • source materials • mapping • graphing • communication conventions • discipline-specific terms	fragmented presentation of ideas, findings, viewpoints and conclusions in a range of communication forms that with fragmented use of: • source materials • mapping • graphing • communication conventions • discipline-specific terms

Key shading emphasises the qualities that discriminate between the A-E descriptors

Notes

Australian Curriculum common dimensions

The SEs describe the qualities of achievement in the two dimensions common to all Australian Curriculum learning area achievement standards — understanding and skills.

Dimension	Description
understanding	the concepts underpinning and connecting knowledge in a learning area, related to a student's ability to appropriately select and apply knowledge to solve problems in that learning area
skills	the specific techniques, strategies and processes in a learning area

Terms used in Year 6 HASS SEs

These terms clarify the descriptors in the Year 6 HASS SEs. Definitions are drawn from the ACARA Australian Curriculum HASS glossary (www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/humanities-and-social-sciences/hass/glossary) and from other sources to ensure consistent understanding.

Term	Description
analysing; analyse	consider in detail for the purpose of finding meaning or relationships, and identifying patterns, similarities and differences; in a HASS context, when students <i>analyse</i> , they: • explore information, evidence and data to identify and interpret features, distributions, patterns, trends and relationships, key points, fact and opinion, points of view, perceptions and interpretations • identify the purpose and intent of sources and determine their accuracy and reliability
aspects	particular parts or features
business	an organisation, enterprise or business engaged in the production and trade of goods or services, usually for profit
clear	easy to perceive, understand or interpret; without ambiguity
communicating; communication; communicate	 in a HASS context, when students communicate, they: present ideas and findings in appropriate digital and non-digital forms for different audiences and purposes, using discipline-specific terminology sequence familiar events in order and represent familiar features of place and their location on pictorial maps and models
comparison;	estimate, measure or note how things are similar or dissimilar
considered	thought about deliberately with a purpose
consumer	a person or a group that is the final user of goods and services produced within an economy
conventions	in a HASS (Civics and Citizenship) context, <i>conventions</i> means unwritten rules of political procedure based on traditional, established practices that are widely accepted; Australia's political system has adopted many of the unwritten conventions of the British Westminster system; conventions may defy the Constitution — for example, the procedure for the appointment of Australia's Governor-General
data	information that is directly recorded, which can be quantitative or qualitative

Term	Description			
democracy	a system of government where power is vested in the people, who may exercise it directly or through elected representatives, and who may remove and replace their political leaders and government in free and fair regular elections			
description; describe	give an account of characteristics or features			
detail; detailed	meticulous; including many of the parts			
development; develop	economic, social and political changes that improve the wellbeing of people			
directed	following the instructions of the facilitator; in a HASS context, <i>directed</i> means a student follows visual or verbal directions to support the individual actions related to the assessment			
draw	to compose or create			
effectively; effective	capably meets the described requirements			
evaluate	examine and judge the merit or significance of something			
evaluating and reflecting	 in a HASS context, when students evaluate and reflect, they: propose explanations for events, developments, issues and/or phenomena draw evidence-based conclusions and use criteria and democratic processes to make informed decisions and judgments work with others with respect and reflect on learning to suggest courses of action in response to an issue or problem and predict possible and preferred effects of actions 			
evidence	what can be learnt from a historical source to help construct a historical narrative			
examination; examine	determine the nature of conditions of			
explanation; explain	provide additional information that demonstrates understanding of reasoning and/or application			
fragmented	disjointed, incomplete or isolated			
goods	tangible items that satisfy needs and wants, and that can be seen and touched			
guided	visual and/or verbal prompts to facilitate or support independent action			
identification; identify	establish or indicate who or what someone or something is			
informed	having relevant knowledge; being conversant with the topic; in a HASS context, <i>informed</i> means referring to background knowledge and inquiry and skills			
interpretation; interpret	in a HASS (History) context, <i>interpretation</i> means an explanation of the past, for example, about a specific person, event or development; there may be more than one interpretation of a particular aspect of the past because historians may have used different sources, asked different questions and held different points of view about the topic			
investigations; investigate	plan, collect and interpret data/information and draw conclusions about; in a HASS context, to <i>investigate</i> means to make inquiry or examination			
	in a those context, to investigate means to make inquiry of examination			
location; locate	to identify where something is found			

Term	Description			
organisation; organise	to form as or into a whole consisting of a sequence or interdependent parts			
partial	attempted; incomplete evidence provided			
plausible	credible and possible			
prediction; predict	suggest what might happen in the future or as a consequence of something			
purposeful	intentional; done by design; focused and clearly linked to the goals of the task			
questioning; questions	in a HASS context, students develop <i>questions</i> about events, people, places, ideas, developments, issues and/or phenomena — before, during and after stages of inquiry — to guide their investigations, satisfy curiosity and revisit findings			
range	the scope of relevant situations or elements			
reasoned	logical and sound; presented with justification			
recognition; recognise	to be aware of or acknowledge			
relevant	having some logical connection with; applicable and pertinent			
representation; represent	in a HASS (Geography) context, <i>represent</i> means to demonstrate geographical information in a visual form, for example, a graph, map, image, field sketch or a multilayered map			
researching; research	 in a HASS context, when students <i>research</i>, they: identify and collect information, evidence and/or data from primary and secondary sources, including observations organise, sequence, sort and categorise them in a range of discipline-appropriate formats 			
resources	a means to produce goods and services that satisfy needs and wants; the four economic resources (factors of production) are land, labour, capital and enterprise; production usually requires a combination of resources			
respond	to react to a person or text			
rights and responsibilities	entitlements and obligations that are associated with living in Australia; <i>rights and responsibilities</i> are a cornerstone of modern democracies; while all people in Australia enjoy certain rights (for example, freedom of speech), there are also responsibilities (for example, paying taxes, jury service; citizens also have the right to vote and the responsibility of voting at elections			
scale	 in a HASS (Geography) context, there are two uses of the term 'scale': a way that geographical phenomena and problems can be examined at different spatial levels, such as local scale and global scale (spatial scale) a relationship between a distance on a ground and a corresponding distance on a map, with the scale coded on the map as a ratio, for example, '1 cm:100 km' (map scale) 			
secondary sources	in a HASS (History) context, <i>secondary sources</i> are accounts about the past that were created after the time being investigated, and which often use or refer to primary sources and present a particular interpretation; examples of secondary sources include writings of historians, encyclopaedia, documentaries, history textbooks and websites; in a HASS (Geography) context, <i>secondary sources</i> are sources of information that have been collected, processed, interpreted and published by others, for example, census data, newspaper articles, and images or information in a published report			

Term	Description
sequencing; sequence	to arrange in order
significance	pertaining to events, periods, developments, perspectives and ideas of the past, which are regarded as having important consequences, duration and relevance to the present, from the point of view of society or ordinary people when contextualised to larger events
source	any written or non-written material that can be used to investigate the past, for example, coins, photographs, letters, gravestones, buildings, transcript; source becomes evidence if it is of value to a particular inquiry
statement	a sentence or assertion
suggestions; suggest	put forward for consideration
synthesise	combine elements (information/ideas/components) into a coherent whole
system	a group of interacting objects, materials or processes that form an integrated whole; in a HASS (Geography) context, biophysical systems include humans and their activities and impacts
thorough	demonstrating depth and breadth, inclusive of relevant detail
use of	to operate or put into effect