

FOR SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHERS (HISTORY · GEOGRAPHY · CIVICS · RELIGION)

40 chat prompts

Prompts for Social Studies Teachers (General).

Ready-to-use prompts for planning, teaching and reflection.

*The right tool at the right time.
Part of the WISE Framework for Education at
choosewise.education.*

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Glossary

A few terms that recur throughout this guide. If you already know them, skip ahead to the framework on the next page.

AI — Artificial Intelligence

An attempt to make machines mimic brain functions — to "think" and learn roughly the way humans do. We don't fully understand how the brain works, but we can try to replicate the parts we do understand.

Prompt

An instruction given to a chatbot to get a desired response or task performed.

Iterate

After receiving a response from a chatbot, you refine and clarify the parts you're not satisfied with — sharpening the answer until it's what you want. The better your starting prompt, the fewer iterations you'll need.

Chatbot

A chatbot has been trained to find patterns in large amounts of text. It uses those patterns to generate a response to your prompt. The answer is produced in real time.

GPT

The underlying model (Generative Pre-trained Transformer) that a chatbot uses. The same GPT can power different chatbots — for example, Copilot and ChatGPT have both used OpenAI's GPT.

Generative AI

AI that creates (generates) text, images, video, or sound in real time when prompted to do so.

Bias

AI responses can be skewed or partial, depending on the data the AI was trained on and the biases present in that data. These biases are harder to spot in chatbots than in image-generating AI.

Hallucination

The text you receive from a chatbot is based on patterns in its training data, but word generation also involves randomness — meaning generated words can sometimes create a meaning that simply isn't true.

A framework for writing your own prompts

Role: Act as an experienced physics teacher.

Task: Create a lesson plan that introduces year 8 students to optics.

Context: I teach at a middle school, have 25 students in my class, and the lesson is 60 minutes long.

Format: Link content and activities to the physics curriculum and give me a plan that describes each part of the lesson and the materials required.

Tone: Use a formal but friendly tone.

A few chatbots to know

AI can also generate images and more, but we focus here on chat capabilities.

ChatGPT — OpenAI's chatbot

Gemini — Google's chatbot

NotebookLM — Google's tool that can, among other things, generate a two-voice podcast

Copilot — Microsoft's chatbot

Claude — Anthropic's chatbot

Perplexity — From San Francisco, was early to include source links

Duck AI — DuckDuckGo's chatbot, lets you pick among several GPTs

Mistral AI — A chatbot from France

Most chatbots have age restrictions.

How to use the prompts

All the prompts are starting points — examples to get you going. Adapt them to fit your context.

After using a chatbot for a while, you'll learn what kinds of prompts work better or worse. Try the same prompt twice — first as-is, then with the prefix "Act as an experienced expert teacher in [subject]" — and see whether the quality of the response improves. A good response means a good prompt. A poor response means the prompt needs more context or adjustment. Some chatbots are better than others at certain tasks, so if you're not satisfied despite multiple tries, consider switching chatbot.

Brackets and privacy

You paste the prompt text into the chatbot's input field. Wherever brackets *[like this]* appear, replace the text inside with whatever fits your context.

Always double-check the responses — chatbot output is not guaranteed to be accurate.

Note: Think carefully before uploading texts or documents. Never upload personal data or sensitive information. Mind GDPR.

Social Studies Teachers

- 01 Create a lesson plan for a grade *[X]* class in *[Social Studies subject, e.g. Civics]* that meets the curriculum goals on *[specific focus, e.g. democratic processes]*, with an introduction and three activities.
- 02 Write a short guide for teaching a grade *[X]* class to analyse a *[specific source, e.g. historical text]* in *[Social Studies subject]*. Also provide a concrete example that students can understand and use as a template.
- 03 Suggest three ways to integrate *[specific theme, e.g. sustainable development]* into a Social Studies lesson in *[Social Studies subject]* for a grade *[X]* class, with a discussion for each.
- 04 Create a list of five short, encouraging phrases to build a grade *[X]* student's confidence during a Social Studies discussion or task.
- 05 Give me an example of a routine for starting a Social Studies lesson in *[Social Studies subject]* within *[area]* with a short paired conversation exercise for students.
- 06 Suggest three ways to use everyday examples (e.g. *[specific example, e.g. news stories]*) in a Social Studies lesson in *[Social Studies subject]* for a grade *[X]* class, with one activity for each.
- 07 Write a short template for a 10-minute closing routine for a Social Studies lesson in *[Social Studies subject]* for a grade *[X]* class, covering three elements (e.g. reflection, summary).
- 08 Give me five ideas for making a Social Studies lesson in *[Social Studies subject]* more memorable for a grade *[X]* class, focusing on *[specific goal, e.g. historical events]*, with one activity for each idea.
- 09 Create a list of three short reflection questions for a grade *[X]* class after a Social Studies lesson in *[Social Studies subject]* on *[specific theme, e.g. human rights]*, to capture their thoughts.

10 Suggest three ways to collaborate with English teachers at a *[primary/lower secondary school]* to connect *[Social Studies subject]* to *[specific theme, e.g. global perspectives]*, with one idea for each approach.

11 Give me an example of a simple assessment of a grade *[X]* class's understanding of *[subject area, e.g. European map geography]*, with three criteria.

12 Give me five strategies for motivating a grade *[X]* student who finds Social Studies boring, with one engaging idea for each.

13 Write a list of five resources (e.g. websites, films) for a Social Studies lesson in *[Social Studies subject]* for a grade *[X]* class that support *[specific goal, e.g. source criticism]*.

14 Suggest three ways to adapt a Social Studies lesson in *[Social Studies subject]* for a grade *[X]* student with *[specific need, e.g. language difficulties]*, with one solution for each.

15 Create a template for a weekly plan for *[Social Studies subject]* for a grade *[X]* class, with three focus areas (e.g. facts, analysis, discussion).

16 Give me five ideas for using minimal resources in a Social Studies lesson in *[Social Studies subject]* for a grade *[X]* class to explore *[specific theme, e.g. migration]*, with one example for each.

17 Suggest three ways to introduce a grade *[X]* class to *[specific concept, e.g. democracy]* in *[Social Studies subject]*, with one discussion task for each.

18 Write a short guide for managing a lively discussion in a Social Studies lesson in *[Social Studies subject]* for a grade *[X]* class, with three steps and one de-escalation strategy.

19 Give me an example of a Social Studies lesson in *[Social Studies subject]* for a grade *[X]* class that combines the subject with *[specific theme, e.g. the impact of technology]*, with three concrete elements.

20 Create five short exit ticket questions I can use at the end of a lesson on *[subject area]* in *[Social Studies subject]* in grade *[X]* to capture what students have and have not understood.

- 21 Create a lesson for a grade [X] class in [Social Studies subject] where they analyse a [specific issue, e.g. climate policy], with three steps and a concrete learning goal.
- 22 Give me five ways to make a History lesson more engaging for a grade [X] class, with one creative idea for each.
- 23 Write a short guide for teaching a grade [X] class to compare [specific topic, e.g. religions] in [Social Studies subject], with three steps and one example.
- 24 Suggest three ways to connect a Social Studies lesson in [Social Studies subject] for a grade [X] class to [specific theme, e.g. globalisation], with one activity for each.
- 25 Create a full-year plan for a grade [X] class in [Social Studies subject] at a school in Sweden. Students have [Y] hours per week over [Z weeks] and each lesson is [XX minutes] long.
- 26 Give me an example of a routine for closing a Social Studies lesson in [Social Studies subject] for a grade [X] class with a short debate, with three steps.
- 27 Suggest ten ways to use digital tools (e.g. [specific tool, e.g. Google Earth]) in a Social Studies lesson in [Social Studies subject] for a grade [X] class, with one task for each.
- 28 Give me five ideas for integrating role play into a Social Studies lesson in [Social Studies subject] for a grade [X] class, focusing on [specific goal, e.g. historical perspectives], with one role play scenario for each.
- 29 Write a short template for a 5-minute reflection after a Social Studies lesson in [Social Studies subject] for a grade [X] class, with three questions about their learning.
- 30 Create a list of three short ways to support a grade [X] student who is struggling with [specific concept, e.g. power structures] in [Social Studies subject], with one example for each.
- 31 Suggest five ways to collaborate with Art teachers at a [lower secondary school] to connect [Social Studies subject] to [specific theme, e.g. visual historical storytelling], with one concrete idea for each.

- 32 Give me an example of a simple plan for teaching a grade *[X]* class to analyse a news article in *[Social Studies subject]* during one lesson. The plan should include three steps.
- 33 Write a list of five simple texts or films for a grade *[X]* class in *[Social Studies subject]* that reinforce *[specific goal, e.g. geographical understanding]*, with a rationale for each.
- 34 Suggest five ways to handle a grade *[X]* class that is reluctant to participate in discussion during a Social Studies lesson in *[Social Studies subject]*, with one concrete method for each.
- 35 Create a template for a term plan for *[Social Studies subject]* for a grade *[X]* class, with three focus areas (e.g. facts, analysis, social issues) and time frames.
- 36 Give me five ideas for creating a simple presentation of a Social Studies project in *[Social Studies subject]* with a grade *[X]* class, with minimal preparation, and one element for each.
- 37 Suggest three ways to introduce a grade *[X]* class to *[specific social concept, e.g. justice]* in *[Social Studies subject]*, with one activity for each.
- 38 Write a short guide for supporting a grade *[X]* student with *[specific need, e.g. concentration difficulties]* during a lesson in *[Social Studies subject]*, with three steps.
- 39 Give me an example of a lesson in *[Social Studies subject]* for a grade *[X]* class that combines Social Studies with *[specific theme, e.g. digitalisation]*, with three elements.
- 40 Create a list of three short ways to collaborate with the student council at a *[primary school]* to reinforce *[specific goal, e.g. understanding of democracy]* in *[Social Studies subject]*, with two examples for each approach.

CONTINUE ON THE WEB

The right tool at the right time.

This collection is part of a library of AI prompts for every role in the school — free to use, adapt, and share.

More prompt sets

Find prompts for principals, subject teachers, school leaders, support staff and more at choosewise.education/prompts

The WISE Framework for Education

Four questions that turn any "should we use this AI tool?" conversation into a structured decision — choosewise.education/wise

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