

Opening Roadmaps

Organize readers with a clear preview.

L6-8WHST2.a “Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow; organize ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories as appropriate to achieving purpose; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables)…”

NAME _____

DATE _____

CLEAR PREVIEW

A READY opening names the topic and tells the main parts that will follow. It gives readers a roadmap for the writing.

The printing press spread ideas across Europe. This explanation will examine printed books, religious debates, and political pamphlets.

MISSING PREVIEW

A REVISE opening may name a topic, but it does not tell enough about the parts that will follow. Add details that preview the writing.

The printing press was important.

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Circle the category for each opening, then choose two items and explain how you knew.

- | | | | |
|----|--|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. | This essay explains the causes of the American Revolution and describes its results. | ☐ READY | ☐ REVISE |
| 2. | This report examines ancient Egyptian farming and explains how the Nile River helped crops grow. | ☐ READY | ☐ REVISE |
| 3. | Maya people built cities in Mesoamerica. | ☐ READY | ☐ REVISE |
| 4. | The Roman Republic influenced later governments through written laws, elected leaders, and civic duties. | ☐ READY | ☐ REVISE |
| 5. | Trade along the Silk Road connected distant places. | ☐ READY | ☐ REVISE |
| 6. | The Dust Bowl was difficult for farming families. | ☐ READY | ☐ REVISE |
| 7. | This paper investigates why immigrants arrived in the United States in the early 1900s and how they changed city life. | ☐ READY | ☐ REVISE |
| 8. | This section explains why the Civil War began and describes how it changed the nation. | ☐ READY | ☐ REVISE |

2**PROVE IT**

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3**MAKE YOUR OWN**

One of each

Write one READY opening and one REVISE opening about a social studies topic.

READY

REVISE

CHALLENGE

Write a READY opening about a new social studies topic. Then name its topic and the two parts it previews.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	This essay explains the causes of the American Revolution and describes its results.	READY	It names the topic and previews causes and results.
2	This report examines ancient Egyptian farming and explains how the Nile River helped crops grow.	READY	It names the topic and previews farming and the Nile River's role.
3	Maya people built cities in Mesoamerica.	REVISE	It names a topic but does not preview parts of the writing.
4	The Roman Republic influenced later governments through written laws, elected leaders, and civic duties.	READY	It names the topic and previews three ways it influenced later governments.
5	Trade along the Silk Road connected distant places.	REVISE	It gives one fact but does not preview what will be explained.
6	The Dust Bowl was difficult for farming families.	REVISE	It names a topic but does not preview main parts.
7	This paper investigates why immigrants arrived in the United States in the early 1900s and how they changed city life.	READY	It names the topic and previews two main ideas.
8	This section explains why the Civil War began and describes how it changed the nation.	READY	It names the topic and previews causes and effects.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **READY:** This report explains how the Bill of Rights protects freedoms and describes debates about those freedoms.
- **REVISE:** The Bill of Rights affects people today.

Challenge: Opening: This report explains how the Underground Railroad helped people escape slavery and describes the dangers faced by conductors and freedom seekers. Topic: the Underground Railroad. Parts: how it helped people escape slavery and the dangers people faced.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify whether the opening names a topic and previews what will follow. Part 3 and challenge responses may vary if they meet both requirements for a READY opening.