Using Your Textbook Correctly: Text Features

In order for you to be successful in both social studies and any other class you are involved in as a student, you need to know how to correctly read your textbook. While each textbook is different, they all have common text features. What exactly is a text feature? Text features are typographical and visual elements – how the text looks on the page and any accompanying pictures, maps, charts, etc. Examples of text features are: 1.) headings and boldfaced words, 2.) graphic aids such as maps, charts, graphs, diagrams, timelines, keys, and other “tools”, 3.) glossary, index, table of contents, 4.) sub-headings, italics, underlined words, captions, footnotes, chapters numbers and titles. Your job is to answer the following questions about your social studies textbook:

1.) What pages of the textbook contain the table of contents? ___________________

2.) What is the table of contents used for? ________________________________

3.) What pages of the textbook contain the index? _________________________

4.) What is the index used for? ________________________________

5.) Where is the “Reference Section”, and what are the various parts of the “Reference Section”? ___________________________________________________________

6.) What pages of the textbook contain the following:
   
   Atlas: _________________________________

   Gazetteer: _________________________________

   Facts About the World: __________________

   Biographical Dictionary: ___________________
Use pages 506 – 511 to answer the following questions:

7.) What is the title of this lesson? ________________________________________

8.) What time period does this lesson represent? (hint: look on page 492)________

9.) What is the section number of this lesson? ________________________________

10.) What are the Reading Check Questions on pages:

507: ________________________________________________________________

508: ________________________________________________________________

510: ________________________________________________________________

11.) What are the Key Terms for this lesson?

506: ________________________________________________________________

507: ________________________________________________________________

508: ________________________________________________________________

509: ________________________________________________________________

510: ________________________________________________________________

12.) What pictures are on the following pages:

-507: ________________________________________________________________

-508-509: ____________________________________________________________

-510: ______________________________________________________________

-511: ________________________________________________________________
13.) What do the captions tell us about each picture?

-507: _______________________________________________________

-508-509: ___________________________________________________

-510: _______________________________________________________

-511: _______________________________________________________

14.) What are the headings of this lesson? (hint: they are written in blue) _________

_____________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________

15.) What are the sub-headings of this lesson? (hint they are written in red) _________

_____________________________________________________________

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