Quad Text Set Format

Quad Text Sets are composed of 4 types of texts (Target Texts, Informational Texts, Visual Texts, and Hook Texts) to support discipline-specific learning objectives or content standards. These texts can utilize multimodal features of visual, audio, or written words to communicate ideas to the reader.

The framework helps support student learning by building background knowledge of a topic, increasing motivation, and providing reading to learn experiences from a variety of texts. By building Quad Text Sets, teachers can strategically set target goals to enhance student achievement of complex content while also supporting literacy development.

The **TARGET TEXT** should be selected first in developing a Quad Text Set. The other texts in the Quad Text Set should build background knowledge, vocabulary, and skills as foundation for successful understanding of the Target Text.
The Target Text Should:

- Support the most complex aspect of the content learning standards
- Challenge Students
  - May include unfamiliar or abstract vocabulary and ideas
  - Not be so hard that students cannot learn from the material - instead help students utilize headings/definitions of challenging words, etc…
- Include Primary Sources, Literature, or other challenging text material

The **INFORMATIONAL TEXTS** should be less challenging than the Target Text and build relevant topic knowledge. The Informational Texts introduce students to complex topics that will be important for understanding the more challenging Target Text. The Informational Texts should:

- Focus on the topics, knowledge, vocabulary, and skills students need to successfully understand the target text.
- Be thoughtfully chosen for the Quad Text Set by keeping the discipline-specific learning objectives in mind.

The **VISUAL TEXTS** support background knowledge and are similar in function to the Informational texts, but provide visual support for the key vocabulary and context needed for understanding the Target Text.
The Visual Texts:

- Include photos, pictures, graphics, maps, or video clips
- Could possibly include a political cartoon if its complexity does not hinder student acquisition of knowledge.

The **HOOK TEXT** is either a fictional or nonfictional piece that demonstrates the relevance of the Target Text's concepts and spark student interest. The Hook Text may link the historical concept to a more modern situation.
The Hook Texts:

- Could include an excerpt from a fictional novel, present-day news article, picture, graph, chart, or video.
- Should have some written text elements to support literacy development
- Could be challenging but should be easier to read and comprehend than the Target Text.

All resources should be fully reviewed prior to student use to verify their appropriateness for the individual teacher's classroom and school setting. If you are unsure if something is appropriate for your school or district, check your district guidelines and/or consult with your grade level/department chair, teacher mentor, or administrator before using the resource.

GCSS
Georgia Council for the Social Studies

Sample Quad Text Set Collections

US History (High School)

Unit 10, Modern U.S. History

Aligned to Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) I Based on the work of Sarah Lupo et al. (2022)

SSUSH22: Analyze U.S. international and domestic policies including their influences on technological advancements and social changes during the Nixon, Ford, and Carter administrations.

b. Connect major domestic issues to their social effects including the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency, the emergence of the National Organization for Women, ***Nixon's resignation due to the Watergate scandal, and his pardon from Ford.***

Target Text	Hook Text	Visual Text	Informational Text
• Pardon of Richard Nixon, President Gerald Ford, 1974 (UC Santa Barbara - American Presidency Project) https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/documents/proclamation-4311-granting-pardon-richard-nixon	• The "Smoking Gun" Tape Transcript -Compilation- (Richard Nixon Presidential Library) **Note some language in the tape is improper https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ehKRQ0N-dIg&t=5s • "Watergate: Inside the Scandal that Took Down a Presidency" Video (ABC News) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OZSGMMUC7FQ • Watergate Scandal Explained Simply (London City Girl) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CNd7k2f3xAg#:~:text=when%20transcripts%20of%20one%20of%20these%20tapes.,from%20office%20Richard%20Nixon%20announced%20his%20resignation.	 • Herblock's 1974 cartoon on the White House tapes. Source: The Library of Congress https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/herblocks-history/crook.html  • Nixon leaving the White House, 1974 (White House Historical Assoc.) https://www.whitehousehistory.org/photos/fotoware?id=1463CEAE232641E1%20BD6B945D7D8357E0	• "Resignation Letter" by Richard Nixon, 1974 https://www.archives.gov/exhibits/american_originals/nixon2.html • "Overview of the Pardon Power" (Library of Congress: Constitution Annotated) https://constitution.congress.gov/browse/essay/artII-S2-C1-3-1/ALDE_00013316/ • "Nixon Pardon" (Ford Presidential Library) https://www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov/digital-research-room/library-collections/topic-guides/nixon-pardon • "Watergate: The Aftermath" Essay (UVA Miller Center for Presidential History) https://millercenter.org/the-presidency/educational-resources/watergate/watergate-aftermath

All resources should be fully reviewed prior to student use to verify their appropriateness for the individual teacher's classroom and school setting. If you are unsure if something is appropriate for your school or district, check your district guidelines and/or consult with your grade level/department chair, teacher mentor, or administrator before using the resource.

7/2/2026

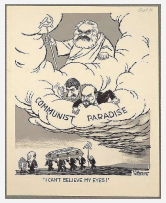
GCSS
Georgia Council for the Social Studies

Sample Quad Text Set Collections
US History (High School)
Unit 10, Modern U.S. History

Aligned to Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) I Based on the work of Sarah Lupo et al. (2022)

SSUSH23: Assess the political, economic, and technological changes during the Reagan, George H.W. Bush, Clinton, George W. Bush, and Obama administrations.

*a. Analyze challenges faced by recent presidents including **the collapse of the Soviet Union**, Clinton's impeachment, the attacks of September 11, 2001, and the war against terrorism*

Target Text	Hook Text	Visual Text	Informational Text
• First Inaugural Address, President Reagan, 1981 (Ronald Reagan Library) https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/speech/inaugural-address-1981	• "Brandenburg Speech: Tear Down This Wall") President Reagan, 1987 (C-SPAN) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WX00QkvK-mQ • "The Best of President Reagan's Humor" Video Compilation (Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pgs-LaWyUJI	 • President Reagan at the Brandenburg Gate, 1987 (Reagan Library) https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/sites/default/files/2026-01/40-whpo-c41244-09.jpg  • "I Can't Believe My Eyes" Cartoon by Edmund Valtman, 1991 end of communism (Library of Congress) https://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2016687306/	• "Berlin Wall:The Rise and Collapse of a Cold War Symbol" (PBS Learning Media) https://gpb.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/berlin-wall-rise-collapse-cold-war-symbol-video/retro-report/ • "Fall of Communism in Eastern Europe" (US State Department Office of the Historian" https://history.state.gov/milestones/1989-1992/fall-of-communism • "1989 Malta Summit Ends Cold War" (BBC On This Day Article) http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/december/3/newsid_4119000/4119950.stm

All resources should be fully reviewed prior to student use to verify their appropriateness for the individual teacher's classroom and school setting. If you are unsure if something is appropriate for your school or district, check your district guidelines and/or consult with your grade level/department chair, teacher mentor, or administrator before using the resource.