

Assessment Specifications

Level 2 Social Studies 2026

Published in October 2025

General information

Domain:	Social Studies
Standards:	91279, 91281
Assessment method:	Examination, end of year
Assessment medium:	Online digital examination

[Social Studies subject page](#)

[National secondary examinations timetable](#)

Information relating to all achievement standards

Candidates will be required to give an account of relevant Social Studies concepts for each standard.

Information in planning spaces will not be marked.

Further information about digital external assessment can be found on the NZQA website.

[Digital external assessment](#)

Special assessment conditions

Refer to the NZQA website for further information:

[Aromatawai special assessment conditions](#)

Specific information for individual achievement standards

Standard:	91279
Title:	Demonstrate understanding of conflict(s) arising from different cultural beliefs and ideas
Version:	2
Number of credits:	4

Candidates will be provided with a resource booklet and will be expected to analyse the resources, using skills learned during their Social Studies course, to respond to a task with multiple parts.

The context provided will be **conflict(s) arising in regard to housing insecurity**.

Standard:	91281
Title:	Describe how cultural conflict(s) can be addressed
Version:	2
Number of credits:	4

Candidates will be required to respond to a task, related to a cultural conflict they have studied.

Candidates will be expected to use knowledge, understanding, and skills learned during their Social Studies course and to have an understanding of the following types of intervention, in relation to their cultural conflict:

- political control
- social control.

The society used by candidates must be real.

Candidates are encouraged to write a concise response of no more than 750–800 words (4–5 pages). Assessment will be based on the quality of the response rather than its length.