## Assessment Schedule - 2021

# Social Studies: Demonstrate understanding of how ideologies shape society (91598)

### **Assessment Criteria**

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence	
Demonstrate understanding involves using social studies concepts and giving specific evidence to describe:	Demonstrate in-depth understanding involves:  • explaining how and / or why these ideologies have shaped the society.	<ul><li>Demonstrate comprehensive understanding involves:</li><li>evaluating the extent to which the ideologies have shaped society.</li></ul>	
<ul> <li>ideologies within a specific society</li> <li>change(s) shaped by these ideologies and through social</li> </ul>		, and a great and	
<ul> <li>processes</li> <li>the points of view, values, and perspectives of different individuals and / or groups in relation to the change(s).</li> </ul>			

#### **Evidence**

А3	A4	M5	М6	E7	E8
Gives a limited, imbalanced, or partial description of TWO credible ideologies that have influenced freedom of speech in society, by including:  • change(s) influenced by these ideologies and social processes  • points of view, with associated values and perspectives of the individuals / groups involved.	Describes TWO credible ideologies that have influenced freedom of speech in society, as well as:  • changes influenced by these ideologies and social processes  • at least TWO differing points of view, with associated values and perspectives of the individuals / groups involved, in relation to the changes.	Gives a partial or limited explanation of how and / or why the ideologies involved have influenced freedom of speech in society, by including the differing points of view, values, and perspectives of the individuals / groups involved.	Explains how and / or why the ideologies have influenced freedom of speech in society, by including the differing points of view, values, and perspectives of the individuals / groups involved.	Gives a partial or limited evaluation of which ideology has influenced freedom of speech in society the most and why.	Evaluates comprehensively which ideology has influenced freedom of speech in society the most and why.
Includes some specific evidence from the resources and uses social studies concepts.	Includes specific evidence from the resources and uses social studies concepts.	Includes some specific and relevant evidence from the resources and uses social studies concepts.	Includes specific and relevant evidence from the resources and uses social studies concepts.	Includes some specific and relevant evidence from the resources consistently and uses social studies concepts.	Includes specific and relevant evidence from the resources consistently and uses social studies concepts.
See Appendix for sample evidence.					

**N0** = No response; no relevant evidence.

 ${\bf N1}$  = Attempts a relevant response for an aspect(s) of the task (may be a sentence or two).

**N2** = Attempts to describe how an ideology has influenced technology in society.

## **Cut Scores**

Not Achieved	Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
0 – 2	3 – 4	5 – 6	7 – 8

#### Appendix - Sample Evidence

#### Task

Explains how and/or why TWO ideologies have influenced freedom of speech in society.

Outlines which ideology has had the greatest influence on freedom of speech and why.

Includes the points of view, values and perspectives of the different individuals/groups involved.

## **Expected Coverage (not limited to these examples)**

#### **Achievement**

# In January of 2021, the social media company Twitter decided to permanently suspend Donald Trump's personal account, citing "his repeated violations of the company's rules and risks, including the 'further incitement of violence."

This action was a consequence of pro-Trump supporters rioting in Washington and taking over government buildings, specifically the Capitol, as a means of reinstating Trump as US President. Via his Twitter handle, Trump had argued both the process and the result of the 2020 US election were fraudulent.

In this situation, it can be argued that by banning Trump, Twitter demonstrated a social responsibility ideology. Such a world view involved the company acting in a manner that benefits society, not just their shareholders. This was a good indicator that Twitter was prepared to shift their business practice, not just to collect profit, but to take an active role in maintaining democratic norms.

As US Senator Richard Blumenthal tweeted, "no private company is obligated to provide a megaphone for malicious campaigns to incite violence." He believed tech companies should act on their democratic values and stop Trump's tweets that were not backed up by credible sources.

However, acting on social responsibility ideology can also be problematic, as argued by journalist Mathew Ingram. In his opinion, how "hands-off" social media companies need to be is like "predicting the weather". Ingram believes before cautioning against social media companies taking a hands-off approach, a middle ground has to be found and exactly where that

#### **Achievement with Merit**

Greg Bensinger, a member of the editorial board of the *New York Times*, argued that Twitter's actions in banning Trump show a social responsibility ideology. He stated: "There is a greater calling than profits, and Mr Zuckerberg and Twitter's CEO, Jack Dorsey, must play a fundamental role in restoring truth and decency to our democracy and democracies around the world."

Bensinger argued that tech companies can show social responsibility in the form of "more direct human involvement in the moderation of high-profile accounts; more prominent warning labels; software that can delay posts so that they can be reviewed before going out to the masses, especially during moments of high tension; and a far greater willingness to suspend or even completely block dangerous accounts like Mr Trump's."

#### **Achievement with Excellence**

It is important to put Twitter's actions into the context of current US society. As *The Conversation* argued, Trump "wanted free rein to lie to the American people regarding vital matters of public concern without any restraints whatsoever, including fact checking." In this context then, Trump behaved like an authoritarian, and Twitter banning his personal account showed social responsibility to be an effective form of opposition (within a capitalist society).

As Trump has had difficulty resuming his online presence since leaving office, it can be argued that social responsibility – as an ideology – has had a greater effect on shaping free speech.

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lies is debatable. Ingram's point of	
view raises questions about the	
consistency of the social	
responsibility world view – if it	
results in ongoing debate about	
what that world view looks like in	
practice.	