Determining Depth of Knowledge Levels

Review the following tasks and activities, and decide whether they are at DOK level 1, 2, 3, or 4. After you have assigned levels for each item, compare your answers with the answer key, and review any items that differ from the answer provided.

English Language Arts

1. Choose two different authors we have studied this semester. Analyze and compare the two authors' crafts, including style, bias, literary techniques, point of view, purpose and intended audience. Explain the impact of each author's style in accomplishing his or her purpose.
2. What word best describes Juliette in this passage?
   a. brave

   b. sad

   c. tired

   d. trusting

3. Edit and revise your writing to include powerful word choices, and use textual evidence to support your claims.
4. Correctly punctuate a sentence missing all punctuation.

Mathematics

1. Define a Cartesian coordinate plane, listing all significant parts.
2. A jacket that you really want is now on sale. The original cost was $48.75. The sale price is $37.99. What is the percent of decrease from the original price? You still do not have enough money saved up to purchase the jacket, so you wait just a little longer, and the store's ad now states that all items currently on sale have been reduced by one third of the sale price. What is the new sale price? What is the overall percent of decrease from the original price?
3. Use pictures or models to explain multiplication facts.
4. Design a survey to determine students' favorite lunches at school. Analyze the results of your survey and represent the data in at least three different ways. Write a letter to the school board recommending lunch selections based on your data. Be sure the letter presents your findings in a way that the board members, who do not truly understand statistics, will understand your conclusions.

Social Studies

1. In the United States, our government is based on a checks-and-balances system.
   a. Define the meaning of *checks and balances*.

   b. Give two examples of how checks and balances work in the federal government.

2. People in the United States have the right to bear arms. This right is protected by the:
   a. Declaration of Independence

   b. Bill of Rights

   c. Emancipation Proclamation

   d. Articles of Confederation

3. We live in a society that was shaped by many different people groups.
   a. Identify one contribution to American life made by each of the three groups listed.

      i. Native Americans

      ii. African Americans

      iii. European Americans (Spanish, English, German, Irish, and so on.)

   b. Explain why these contributions are still important in American life today. Use specific examples to support your answer.

4. Interview a first-generation American. Compare his or her childhood experiences to his or her parents' childhoods and to a "typical" American childhood. What impact did cultures have on perspectives, experiences, and future generations? Present your findings in an autobiographical format.

Science

1. What impact does light have on the growth of a plant? Design and conduct an experiment that shows the effect of light on growing plants. Compare bright direct light, shade, blue light, and another form of light of your choosing.

2. Many predators catch and eat their prey. Predators have different skills and physical features to help them do this.
   a. Name *one* predator, other than a human, that catches and kills its prey.

   a. Describe *three* skills and physical features the predator you chose uses.

2. What causes tectonic plates to shift?

3. *Survival of the fittest* is a concept that explains how species adapt or become extinct in the world. Identify an environmental change that might cause a species to become extinct. Explain how other species could adapt to the change. How will the change affect the ecosystem?

Answers

English Language Arts
1. Level 4
2. Level 2
3. Level 3
4. Level 1

Mathematics
1. Level 1
2. Level 3
3. Level 2
4. Level 4

Social Studies
1. Level 4
2. Level 2
3. Level 1
4. Level 3

Science
1. Level 2
2. Level 1
3. Level 3
4. Level 4