



Regions RAFT

Dear Social Studies teacher:

Here at *KIDZ News*, we have constantly heard praise about how hard your students work. We are asking for the assistance of your scholarly students to help explain to our *KIDZ News* audience about the different regions of our country.

Because we are busy covering political news for our “Kidz Quiz the President” special, we need the assistance of your students for an upcoming show on *KIDZ News*.

Your class has been selected to prepare presentations for our show, “Everything You’ve Wanted to Know about the Regions of the United States.” We thought it would interest our TV audience if your students selected a role, audience, format, and topic to create something educational and interesting. They may have heard of this **RAFT** concept. Be sure to ask your scholars to include illustrations along with accurate descriptions of the regions. We suggest that you allow your students to work on this during class time. A successful presentation will include information about

- climate,
- geography,
- traditions, and
- a minimum of two examples of the historical significance of the different regions.

Best regards,

The producers and writers of KIDZ News

Regions RAFT

RAFT is an acronym for **Role, Audience, Format, and Topic**. When writing a **RAFT** entry, you should take on a particular role and develop a product for a specified audience in a format and on a topic that gets right to the *heart* of our Civil War unit. From the list below, select a role and audience, format, and also a topic - and then create a dazzling **RAFT** from their **point of view**! Consider how their **point of view** is revealed through their thoughts, actions, appearance, and speech.

Role	Weatherman	Famous Sports Star	Famous Explorer	Movie screenplay writer	Musician
Audience	TV viewers	Sports fans	1st grade students	Movie director	Judges of tryouts for the school talent show
Format	Region map with informative script	Article based on an interview with <i>Sports Illustrated</i> magazine	Story book with information about the regions written in an entertaining way for kids	Movie location proposal with information about why each region was selected for the location	Music Sampler featuring songs from each region (with informative lyrics) about the regions based on the musical tastes found in that region
Topic	The geographic features of each region and how these features impact their weather; Why is weather different in the different regions? I know why!	My own personal playbook of my trip around the different regions in the U.S. including details about the geographical features and other outstanding traits of the area	<i>The Different Regions of our United States: an ABC Book in Rhyme</i> (or a storybook) describing and explaining the different regions of the U.S. to a 1st grader	We wanted the setting and locations of our new film to be enhanced by filming at the different regional settings of the U.S. Here's what we're thinking...	The different regions of our country give me something to sing about! Here's why!

Checklist for Success: Regions RAFT

<p>Format and Topic: Product</p> <p><i>Is your RAFT fully supported by numerous and specific details and examples?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Product was very organized and successfully contained clear and comprehensive information. <input type="checkbox"/> Product provided a thorough analysis of the task format and topic. <input type="checkbox"/> Product was a unique product with an original, creative, and innovative approach. <input type="checkbox"/> Student used a very efficient and sophisticated strategy in creating a high quality RAFT product that dealt directly with the format and the topic. <input type="checkbox"/> Included several supporting details and examples.
<p>Perspective: Role</p> <p><i>Do you stay in your role?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Product maintained clear, consistent point of view. <input type="checkbox"/> Ideas were relevant to the role presented. <input type="checkbox"/> Product ideas and information always tied to the role and audience. <input type="checkbox"/> Product captured the voice of your character/role.
<p>REGIONS Command of Language</p> <p><i>How is your sentence structure, grammar, usage, and mechanics? Do you incorporate a variety of word choices?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Ideas are presented in logical order. <input type="checkbox"/> Unique and interesting details supported the main idea, and a natural flow made writing easy to read. <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarly, topic-specific vocabulary. <input type="checkbox"/> Any spelling, grammar, capitalization, or punctuation errors were inconsequential. <input type="checkbox"/> Personal style and feeling. <input type="checkbox"/> Persuasive tone used very effectively. <input type="checkbox"/> Correctly written and varied sentences included. <input type="checkbox"/> Vivid and expressive word choices. <input type="checkbox"/> Few, if any, errors in grammar, usage, or mechanics.
<p>Knowledge of the REGIONS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge of the Regions of the U.S. was evident throughout the product - more information than required. <input type="checkbox"/> All the information presented was clear, appropriate, and correct. <input type="checkbox"/> A superb understanding of the importance of the different U.S. regions. <input type="checkbox"/> Good organization.

