

**Benchmark: Geography 3**



**Brief Constructed Response Prompt:** How did the Appalachian Mountains affect the movement of early settlers of the United States?

**Desired Response(s):**

The Appalachians were a barrier to movement west until explorers found passes through the mountains. Early roads carried covered wagons through these passes. (Later, canals and railroads were built to carry goods and people through the mountains.)

**Rubric**

- 2** = This response gives a valid response with an accurate and relevant explanation.
- 1** = This response gives a valid response with an inaccurate, irrelevant, or no explanation.
- 0** = inaccurate or no response