

## Chapter 1 – READING COMPREHENSION

# STUDYING MINNESOTA

After completing this chapter, students will be able to:

- Define Minnesota in several ways, emphasizing a different feature each time
- Conceive of history as made up of many individual stories
- Identify themselves as part of Minnesota's history
- Name the four (4) social studies disciplines they will study throughout the book.

**GETTING STARTED**

➤ Before you read Chapter 1, think about the following:

- How would you answer the question, "What is Minnesota?"
- What makes someone a Minnesotan?
- Can you find Minnesota on a map of the U.S.? A world map?
- How much of the state have you seen?
- How is Minnesota similar to or different from other places you have lived in or visited?
- What do you think of when you hear the term *social studies*?

**DIRECTIONS**

Read Chapter 1 (pages 1 – 5) in your *Northern Lights* textbook. As you read, answer the following questions.

1. Do you think Minnesotans have qualities that set them apart from other people? Why or why not?
2. What do you enjoy the most about living in Minnesota? What do you enjoy least?
3. In the first three (3) paragraphs on page 2, your book describes many different ways in which Minnesota can be described. List two (2) of them.
4. In what forms does your book claim that the stories of Minnesota come in?
5. What does **shared history** mean?
6. What are **social studies**?
7. What are the four (4) social studies subjects that this book focuses on?
8. What is history concerned with?
9. What does geography focus on?

10. Describe at least three (3) of Minnesota's geographic features that you know about. (Ex: different landscapes, natural resources, etc.)

11. What does civics discuss?

12. What is economics?

**STEP 1:** Go to p. 5 of the Student Edition. Find three types of sidebars you'll find in the chapters of this book. Now, draw the symbol for each subject in its box below.

**STEP 2:** The word bank below contains words connected to each of these three subjects. For each subject box, find two words that relate to it. Write these two words in each box below the symbol you drew.

**Word Bank**

money              spend              government  
places              rule              navigate

Civics	Economics	Geography