

Briarcliff High School AP World History Summer Assignment

SUMMER ASSIGNMENT 2019-20

AP WORLD HISTORY

Mr. Fiorillo

Dear Students –

Welcome to AP World History for the 2019-20 school year! Advanced Placement World History is a thematic, college-level course designed to familiarize you with the broad patterns of the human experience. You will concentrate on change and continuity over time, the unique aspects of social, economic and political institutions, and the common characteristics that tie them together. You are now charged with the role of a historian and will engage in activities that encourage critical thinking and hone your ability to debate established historical interpretations and express your educated views using primary source documents. Throughout the year, you will actively compare cultures and look for historical patterns that stretch across time periods and tie all human populations together through history.

The primary purpose of this summer assignment is to help you acquire the base knowledge necessary for instant immersion in AP World History once the 2019-20 academic year begins. There will be **three** items you are turning in:

THIS SUMMER ASSIGNMENT IS DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

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Part 1: From Human Prehistory to the Early Civilizations

Chapter 1 will take you through the early recorded years of human existence. It will examine the Paleolithic Age and the transition to settled communities of the Neolithic Age.

Instructions:

Read and annotate Chapter 1. Annotating any reading means that you will highlight important ideas, look for the BIG concepts, and jot down questions that you may have that stems from the reading. Answer each question in complete sentence(s). One word responses are NOT allowed.

Part 2: Annotated Reading & Questions

Instructions:

- a. Read and carefully annotate the following secondary sources:
 - "Women and the Agricultural Revolution" by Elise Boulding
 - Excerpt from "Cities and Civilizations" by Kevin Reilly
- b. **Type** one paragraph (5-8 sentences) long responses to each of the following questions, which are based on these sources:
 1. In "Women and the Agricultural Revolution", Boulding draws a distinction between the early horticultural stage of agriculture and the later agriculture that depended on animal-drawn plows. How did this later stage of agriculture change the roles of men and women?
 2. Based on the excerpt from "Cities and Civilization", what are the chief differences between Mesopotamian and Egyptian civilizations?

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Part 3: Short Answer Question (SAQ)

Short-answer questions are open-ended **questions** that require students to create an **answer**. This will be part of your testing on your AP exam to assess your basic knowledge and understanding of a topic. Make your answers short and concise...lengthy response won't score you more points!!

Short Answer Questions.

Questions 1 & 2 refer to the passage below.

"For most of our history, we supported ourselves by hunting and gathering... It's a life that philosophers have traditionally regarded as nasty, brutish and short... How do you show that the lives of people 10,000 years ago got better when they abandoned hunting and gathering for farming? Are twentieth century hunter gatherers really worse off than farmers? Scattered throughout the world, several dozen groups of so-called primitive people, like the Kalahari Bushmen, continue to support themselves in that way. It turns out that these people have plenty of leisure time, sleep a good deal, and work less hard than their farming neighbors. For instance, the average time devoted to each week to obtaining food is only 12 to 19 hours for one group of Bushmen, 14 hours or less from the Hadza nomads of Tanzania... Skeletons from Greece and Turkey show that average height of hunter gatherers toward the end of the Ice Age was a generous 5'9" for men, 5'5" for women. With the adoption of agriculture, height crashed, and by 3000 BCE had reached a low of only 5'3" for men and 5' for women."

- Jared Diamond, evolutionary biologist, "The Worst Mistake in the History of the Human Race," 1999

1. Answer parts A, B, and C.

- A. Identify the main argument the author is making in the passage.
- B. Identify and explain ONE piece of evidence not given in the passage that supports the author's argument.
- C. Identify and explain ONE piece of evidence not given in the passage that refutes the author's argument.

2. Answer parts A, B, and C.

- A. Identify and explain ONE common geographic feature of the Neolithic Revolution as it occurred in East Asia, Central Asia, and the Middle East.
- B. Identify and explain ONE feature that distinguished the Neolithic Age from the Paleolithic Age.
- C. Identify and explain ONE significant technological development that occurred during the Neolithic Age.

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