

# A.P. World History

## Summer Assignments

1. Book Review on the following: Standage, Tom, *A History of the World in Six Glasses*, Walker and Company, NY, 2005. See below for guidelines and expectations for the book review. Due: 9/5/17
2. Read and complete notes for Chapters 1 and 2 in the textbook (pages 2-95b): Strayer, Robert. *Ways of the World: A Brief Global History with Sources*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., Bedford/St. Martin's, Boston, MA, 2016. Due: 9/11/17

### Guidelines for AP World History Book Reviews

All book reviews must be typed! Each book review **must be double-spaced** with **one inch margins**. No title page or cover is necessary. The **font size is to be set at 12**. The book review must be a **minimum of 3 ½ pages**. Please read all introductions/prefaces to the assigned books.

Your book review must address the following:

1. A **brief**, historical background **of the era** covered by the book (this will be difficult with the summer book since it covers so many drinks and eras of history, so you will just give a quick overview of what drink covered what era – the key is to **KEEP IT BRIEF**).
2. Major theme relevant throughout the book. **Please note: I want to discourage students from going on the internet to search for themes. Themes should be original** (I don't care what themes Sparknotes has come up with, I want to know **your** interpretation of the book). **Therefore, any themes found online that are used in the book review will account for a zero.**
3. Utilize and **cite** multiple, clear examples from the book that support your statements regarding the major points conveyed by the author and the themes you dissected from the book. You **must use in-text citations** for all book references (search internet for MLA in-text citation).

Example: Lina noted, "That sounded like something Mother would say, throwing color onto a black-and-white picture." (Sepetys 90)

4. Explain how the book affected you **and** your detailed opinion of the book.
5. Explain some interesting/significant **historical and cultural** awareness you learned from the book. What historical questions were raised for you? Were there any questions left unanswered?
6. Make a connection between the book (plot, themes, characters, etc.) and a development in a different historical period, situation, era, or geographical area.

Example: Thomas Friedman's book, *The World is Flat*, details how globalization (increase in trade and communication) during the late 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> century has caused the world to be so interconnected that finding unique elements of culture is becoming difficult. Another historical period that "flattened" out the world would be following the Industrial Revolution in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. After Europe and America experienced growth in industry and factories, there was a new, greater demand for raw materials, which could only be satisfied by a new era of colonization. As Europe and America carved up areas around the world, including Asia, Africa, and Central America, they brought their culture with them, imposing assimilation and cultural diffusion. This interconnectedness following the Industrial Revolution brought many cultures together and blended so many elements of culture, that some societies would find it difficult to maintain a native identity, such as Australians, South Africans, and Hawaiians.

## Helpful tips for Book Reviews:

1. Please check with me if there is a book you would like to read that is not on the list. Most of the books are available through the local library (including the Calvert High School media center). If you can afford to buy them, by all means do so. Some of these books are worth keeping for your personal library. **PLEASE NOTE: The Fourth Quarter book, *Outcasts United* will be provided to you, and we will try to have a weekly book club while reading this book.**
2. Write the review yourself. Do not collaborate (talk, skype, email, Facebook, Google, etc.) about your assignment. To do this assignment well, you only need to use your head (and have read the book or seen the movie in its entirety). Other information is not necessary, and **highly discouraged**, to complete this assignment. Please do not research or copy other themes about the book or movie online. As stated before, I don't care what themes Sparknotes has come up with, I want to know your interpretation of the book and movie.
3. I do not appreciate poorly written work and will return to you, for resubmission, any work I deem to be poorly executed. Therefore, I suggest you form coherent and well thought-out paragraphs, and proofread them for grammatical and spelling errors. The summer book assignment will be my first impression of you and it should be a good one! Please note – just using a word processor's spelling and grammar check is not sufficient. I advise having someone else check your review for spelling, suitable vocabulary, grammar and coherence. Also try reading your paper out loud – if it sounds weird saying it, there is something wrong.
4. Discuss the storyline, but only minimally. Remember, I've read the book, so don't retell it to me. I want your analysis of the book.
5. I reserve the right to ask you for an electronic copy of your paper to submit to turnitin.com.

## Book Review Rubric

Historical Background-	/10
Analyze Major Points/Themes-	/20
Cite Examples (MUST be in-text citations)-	/15
How it Affected You and Overall Opinion-	/10
Historical and Cultural Awareness-	/15
Synthesis Point-	/20
Grammar/Mechanics-	/10
<b>TOTAL-</b>	<b>/100 Point Product Grade</b>

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Comments: