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Dear Student,

Looking forward to working with you next fall, I applaud your decision to undertake AP World History, a rigorous, college-level history course. For the majority of you, this is the first AP you have ever taken so the challenge is large but, it can be overcome with persistent study and hard work. For you that will begin this summer.

The summer assignment serves two purposes: (1) it is a test of the seriousness of your commitment to doing AP level coursework in World History and (2) it helps you gain a critical head start on your studies as there are only 75 class meetings until the AP World History exam on 11 May 2012.

I will assist you along the way so please ask questions at anytime, including this spring and summer. During the summer, I will check my email at least once every 2-3 days. Also refer to my website for further information.

Please share the parent letter and summer assignment instructions with your parent. If they or you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

*Good Luck,
Mr. Greer*

Directions: As you complete each of the steps, check the blank to help you keep track in managing your work.

- ___ 1. Send Mr. Greer an email from an email address that you will be using over the summer and next year. (If you change your email address let Mr. Greer know)
- ___ 2. Visit ACS's website www.acsamman.edu.jo to download each Chapters 1-4 of the summer reading assignment. Click on "High School" under the Curriculum menu and then click on '11-'12 AP Summer Reading Assignments. Then click on AP World History. These files are in PDF format so you will need Adobe Reader to view them. Contact Mr. Greer if you are having trouble doing this.
- ___ 3. Visit the detailed description of the AP World History course at the following link:
www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/sub_worldhist.html?worldhist

To Do Before 6 September 2011

- ___ 4. Read ***A History of the World in 6 Glasses*** by Tom Standage. This 274 page book is interesting and fun to read. Answer the reading questions contained on the separate reading assignment and submit **before** 6 September 2011. You should also take notes on the book in SPRITE format and these will need to be titled and included in your notes section of your binder.
- ___ 5. Read ***This Fleeting World*** by David Christian. In 103 pages, Professor Christian surveys the big picture of World History up through the present by organizing periods of history and supports his thematic interpretations of history with detailed examples. It is a good overview of world history for AP World students which will compliment what you learn from *Six Glasses*. Take reading notes in SPRITE format.

- ___ 6. Read chapters 1-4 from your textbook. Download the pdf files from the school website. Take notes following the **SPRITE** format as you read the chapter - can be handwritten or typed. Consult the AP World Overview outlines before you take notes to ensure that you have taken relevant, concise notes. These notes are to be contained in your World History binder in the "Notes" section. They will be checked the first week of school. A copy of the SPRITE note-taking format is contained on Mr. Greer's website.
- ___ 7. A copy of the book *The World That Trade Created* by Kenneth Pomeranz has been already ordered for you. You will pay for and pick up this book in September. It will be assigned as supplementary reading in AP World throughout the year.
- ___ 8. Acquire the following materials for class:
- ✓ A **3 inch** 3 ring binder to contain handouts, notes, course materials, and outside readings
 - ✓ loose leaf paper
 - ✓ section dividers (5)

If you would like to begin the year with some extra credit, read one of these books over the summer to help you gain background information/ additional knowledge for themes that will be studied in class:

- A. *Guns, Germs, and Steel* by Jared Diamond
- B. *Ishamel* by Daniel Quinn
- C. *Salt or Cod* by Mark Kurlansky

The get the "book report" instructions from Mr. Greer's website for how to complete a report on the book you have read for AP. If the report is done well, you will be able to exchange the score for a reading quiz result in the 1st quarter. This report is due before 15 September 2011.

*AP World History Prep Books – a brief listing of preparation guides that you might like to have to help you study this coming year (in no particular order):

1. McGraw Hill *AP Achiever in World History* by Dixie Grupe and Sigrid Reynolds (it's patterned on the Bentley textbook) ; go to the McGraw Hill website to purchase it.
2. *5 Steps to a 5 in AP World History*.
3. Princeton Review or Barrons AP World History.

* *Ensure that the prep book you do eventually buy is one that is for the new AP World exam format which will be done this year (2011-2012). There have been some text redesigns made which will occur in the May 2012 exam so older test prep books, while still valuable for their conceptual summaries, feature somewhat outdated test advice.*

A History of the World in 6 Glasses

Summer Reading Assignment

Overview

As part of your orientation to the rigor and scope of AP World History, all students are required to read *A History of the World in 6 Glasses*. It is a fun read of 265 pages to start your exploration of the themes and patterns in World History.

Process

As you read the book you will need to take notes to be able to answer the following questions. These answers should be typed and emailed to Mr. Greer (lgreer@acsamman.edu.jo) by no later than 5 Sept 2011.

Keep the notes to include in your notes section of your course binder. Take notes following the SPRITE format. These will be checked for on the first day the class meets.

Assignment

Write a response for each of the following questions:

1. How and where does the book illustrate **interaction among major societies** as theme in world history? Identify 2 examples from the book (include page(s) numbers for each example) and explain how each shows this AP World theme.
2. How and where does the book illustrate **the relationship of change and continuity** in world history? Identify 2 examples from the book (include page(s) numbers for each example) and explain how each show this AP World theme.
3. How and where does the book illustrate **systems of social and or gender structure** in world history? Identify 2 examples from the book (include page(s) numbers for each example) and explain how each show this AP World theme.
4. Which beverage best illustrates the theme of **trading systems** in world history? Select only one beverage and explain at least 2 reasons why supported by at least 2 examples taken from the book.
5. What is your overall opinion of *A History of the World in 6 Glasses*? Why? Would you recommend this others to read? Why?

Assessment

The assignment is considered a project which constitutes 30% of your overall grade each quarter in AP World. If it is late (submitted after 5 Sept 2011 but before 15 Sept 2011), 50% of the final mark earned will be deducted. Email Mr. Greer if you have any questions.

AP World History

SPRITE Note Taking Procedure

Note Taking in AP World History

Students in AP World History are required to take notes for each chapter they are assigned to read in the textbook. The purpose is to distill a 25-30 page chapter into 2-3 pages so that, when you begin to review for the AP exam, will not have to re-read all 1000 + pages of your textbook.

Taking effective notes is critical to doing well in any subject, especially in AP World History. Since AP World History is a thematic-based course, you will need to take notes in a thematic structure. This will be checked whenever there is a binder check once a quarter.

When taking notes for each chapter you want to organize the information you read into the thematic categories below. This will help you better organize and study information in a thematic way so that when writing thematic essays, for example, you will be better prepared than a student that has not done this.

For each chapter of notes you take the following will be required:

1. The title of the chapter (Chapter 5 Notes) will be written at the top of the paper.
2. Then you will write a 1-2 sentence main idea statement for that chapter. All the SPRITE notes you take will generally be to support that chapter thesis. If you find you have notes which do not fit the thesis then either they are not necessary or else you might need to reconsider your chapter's main idea.
3. Take notes in outline format based on the themes below for the entire chapter.
4. At the conclusion of your notes for that chapter, write two (2) comparative statements – one similarity and one difference - in which you compare information within that chapter or else with previously learned information from another chapter. Then write a statement where you identify a change over time and another statement where you identify a continuity. This means 4 statements in total should conclude your chapter notes section. If you type your notes these statements can be listed after your main idea statement but occur before your thematic notes.
5. You are welcome to type or handwrite your notes. Do not begin a new chapter of notes in the middle of page of notes from another chapter. These notes will be checked periodically.

SPRITE Note Format

S – Social

- Gender roles and relations
- Family and kinship
- Racial and ethnic constructions
- Social and economic classes

P – Political

- Political structures and forms of governance
- Empires
- Nations and nationalism
- Revolts and revolutions
- Regional, transregional, and global structures and organizations

R – Religion

- Religions and belief systems

I – Intellectual

- The arts and architecture
- Philosophies and ideologies

T – Technology

- Science and technology

E – Economic

- Agricultural and pastoral production
- Trade and commerce
- Labor systems
- Industrialization and globalization
- Capitalism and socialism

**the bullet points under each general theme will help you to organize the information you read.*