



AP World History Summer Assignment 2017

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Part I: Please read Guns, Germs and Steel: The fates of Human Societies, by Jared Diamond.

You are encouraged to read the entire book but you **are required to** read the following chapters:

Prologue: Yali's Question

Ch. 1: Up to the Starting Line

Ch. 2: A Natural Experiment of History

Ch.3: Collision at Cajamarca

Ch. 4: Farmer Power

Ch.5: History's Haves and Have-Nots

Ch. 6: To Farm or Not to Farm

Ch. 9: Zebras, Unhappy Marriages, and the Anna Karenina Principle

Ch. 10: Spacious Skies and Titled Axes

Ch. 11: Lethal Gift of Livestock

Ch. 12: Blueprints and Borrowed Letters

Ch. 13: Necessity's Mother

Ch. 14: From Egalitarianism to Kleptocracy

After reading the book, please write a two page double-spaced response in which you discuss how guns, germs and steel changed human history. In your opinion, which of these three (guns, germs and steel) had the greatest influence on the course of human history? Please make sure to support your answer with details from the book.

Part II: The textbook we will be using this year is the 3rd edition for the AP course of Robert Strayer's "Ways of the World with Sources for AP* 3rd edition & LaunchPad for HS Ways of the World (One Year Access) 3rd edition" published by Bedford/St.Martin's Press. The ISBN for 1Year LaunchPad Access + Print Text is 9781319077709.

You may find the reading here:

World History:

<https://macmillan.app.box.com/s/7p1pibtffsm050qhhg3cvh8bru8q3oxv>

password: WaysWrld3eSmr17

Please read the Prologue and Chapter 1, pp.3-47 and write a two page double-spaced essay (minimum) that answers the following question:

1. The Agricultural Revolution marked a decisive and progressive turning point in human history. What evidence might you offer to support this claim, and how might you argue against it?

Please read Chapter 2, First Civilizations: Cities, States and Unequal Societies, 3500 B.C.E.-600 B.C.E. pp.59-95 and complete THREE essays (each two pages in length minimum, double-spaced) that answer the following questions:

1. To what extent did civilizations represent “progress” in comparison with earlier Paleolithic and Neolithic societies? And in what ways did they constitute a setback for humankind?
2. Using specific examples, compare and contrast the political systems in agricultural chiefdoms and First Civilizations, analyzing reasons for similarities and differences.
3. “Civilizations were held together largely by force”. Do you agree with this assessment or were there other mechanisms of integration as well?

NOTE: *Each essay must feature an introduction with a strong thesis statement followed by at least four paragraphs that contain numerous facts and details that support your thesis statement. You may also refer to the “Advice for Responding to an LEQ” on the inside back of the cover.*