

Summer Reading for AP World History

This is to be completed and turned in on the **first day of school**

1. Ben Finney's "The Other One-Third of the Globe," Journal of World History, Vol.5, No. 2, 1994. This is available on the school website under "documents"
 - Read the article and take **your own notes** using the themes of WHAP (themes are on the last page of this packet).
 - There will be a quiz during the second week of class on the article. You may use your notes, so make sure they are concise.
3. Watch Jared Diamond's *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, Episode 1 "Out of Eden". Answer the questions while you watch.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QwZ4s8Fsv94>

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Guns, Germs & Steel Episode One: Out of Eden

1. What does the video's title (Guns, Germs & Steel) refer to?
2. What questions will the documentary attempt to answer?
3. What is Jared Diamond's academic background?
4. What was Yali's question to Jared?
5. Why does Diamond discount race when explaining global inequality?
6. What do all advanced societies have in common?
7. In what area were humans thriving following the last ice age? How did people live there?
8. What was the fundamental problem with hunting?
9. What two cereal grasses were growing in the Middle East? How were they different from other crops?
10. What new way of life would come into existence in the Middle East that would change the face of the earth?

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11. What is “domestication”?
12. Why was the turn to farming a decisive turning point in human history?
13. What parts of the ancient world independently developed farming?
14. Why did farming not bring the same benefits to the people of New Guinea?
15. According to Jared, why do Americans have an advantage over New Guineans?
16. What was a second stable source of food for farming communities?
17. Before the Industrial Revolution, what were the most powerful “machines” on the planet?
18. What are the best animals to farm (i.e. domesticate)?
19. How many animals throughout history have been successfully domesticated? Where did these species originate?
20. What are the “Big 4” of livestock animals? What area were they native to?
21. What happened as peoples began to produce farm surpluses?

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22. What technology that began with the understanding of how to work with fire, would “transform the world”?

23. Why did New Guinea not develop metal technology?

24. How did the Fertile Crescent lose its early advantage?

25. Why were crops and domesticated animals in the Fertile Crescent able to thrive once people began to migrate along the same lines of latitude?

26. Where were these crops and animals taken to in the 16th century?

27. List some criticisms of Diamond’s argument? How does he answer these criticisms?

28. How would Diamond answer Yali’s question today?

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WHAP Themes

The course requires students to analyze the causes and processes of **continuity and change** across historical periods through the following themes:

1. Interaction between humans and the environment

Demography and disease
Migration
Patterns of settlement
Technology

2. Development and interaction of cultures

Religions
Belief systems, philosophies & ideologies
Science & technology
The arts and architecture

3. State-building, expansion and conflict

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

4. Creation, expansion and interaction of economic systems

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

5. Development and transformation of social structures

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