

## Summer Assignment-Part I

AP World History has very ambitious objectives: To focus on several specific themes in history and to help students improve their "habits of mind" (intellectual skills). The scope of the task is enormous in that it includes over 1000 years of all areas of history in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the America's.

Below is a list of terms, events, and people that will provide you with some background knowledge on which to build. You should identify and describe (briefly, no more than one or two sentences) the importance of each. The completed work will be the foundation for our initial discussions and collected for credit on the first day of class.

I look forward to the new school year and hope you have a restful and relaxing summer.

Identify, Define, or Explain each of the following...	Europe	East Asia	South Asia	Africa and the Middle East	Americas
Foundations	1.Greek democracy 2.Roman Empire	1.Confucianism 2.Han Dynasty	1.Hinduism 2.Buddhism 3.caste	1.Zinjanthropus 2.Judaism 3.Christianity 4.Bantu 5.Ghana	1.Olmec 2.Maya
600-1450	3.Crusades 4.feudalism 5.manorialism	3.spice trade 4.Mongols 5.junk (ship)	4.Delhi Sultans 5.Tamerlane	6.Islam 7.Great Zimbabwe 8.Mali 9.Yoruba	3.Toltec 4.Inca 5.Aztec
1450-1750	6.Renaissance 7.printing press 8.Reformation 9.astrolabe 10.Prince Henry of Port	6.Ming 7.Ch'ing 8.Tokugawa	6.Babur 7.Akbar 8.Shah Jahan	10.Swahili 11.Songhai 12.slave trade 13.Ottoman	6.Cortez 7.encomienda 8.Las Casas
1750-1914	11.The Enlightenment 12.Industrial Revolution 13.Napoleon 14.Bismarck 15.Karl Marx	9.Opium War 10.Meiji Restoration 11.Boxer Rebellion 12.Kuomintang	9.Imperialism 10.Sepoy Rebellion 11.French Indochina	14.Suez Canal 15.Scramble for Africa 16.Boer War	9.Toussaint L'Ouverture 10.Bolivar 11.Hidalgo 12.creole 13. mestizo
1914-Present	16.Lenin 17.Treaty of Versailles 18.Battle of Stalingrad 19.Marshall Plan 20.containment 21.Maastricht Treaty	13.Sun Yat Sen 14.Chiang Kai Shek 15.Mao Zedong 16.Tienemen Square	12.Amritsar massacre 13.Gandhi 14.1947 India / Pakistan 15.Corazon Aquino	17.Balfour Declaration 18.apartheid 19.Nasser 20.Idi Amin 21.Six Day War 22.Mandela	14.Panama Canal 15.Good Neighbor Policy 16.Castro 17.Peron 18.NAFTA

## Summer Assignment: Part II

### Reading assignment for "Guns, Germs & Steel"

Prologue: Yali's Question

1. What is Yali's question?
2. What are some possible objections to even posing this question?
3. How does Diamond, reversing the conventional wisdom, argue that New Guineans ("stone age" people) might be more generously endowed with intelligence than more technically advanced people?
4. How does Diamond stand Yali's question "on its head?"
5. If homo sapiens evolved in Africa and lived there tens of thousands of years before migrating to any other part of the world, why don't sub-Saharan Africans have more wealth, power, and technical sophistication than peoples in other parts of the world? (Diamond raises the question here but explores it later in the book.)

Chapter 1: Up to the Starting Line

6. What does Diamond mean by the "Great Leap Forward" in human development? [Note: This view of a "Great Leap Forward" has come under increasing scrutiny and is no longer holding up as well as it did for many years. The reason is the discovery of artifacts, especially in central and southern Africa, that suggest human use of representational symbols, as well as more sophisticated tools, dating back to 90,000-100,000 years ago. There is some suggestion that as early as 40,000-60,000 years ago humans in Australia used ochre to decorate their bodies, an early sign of symbolic thought. So Cro-Magnons in Europe (who are NOT a species but just Homo sapiens who lived in Europe) may be less important as "leapers" than Diamond says.
7. Why did humans bother to leave Africa at all and go to such far away places as Australia and the Americas? Did they decide it was time to colonize the whole world? Were they driven by curiosity about the unknown? Did they simply stumble and drift mindlessly from place to place? None of the above? [Note: consider the idea of short-time purpose in human migration: population growth and/or changing environmental conditions may have obliged hunter-forager groups to break off from one another and deliberately seek new territory to inhabit. But the emphasis here is on short-term, not long-term or long-distance objectives?looking over the next hill for the possibilities but not planning to cross oceans!]
8. After humans migrated to the Americas, how did they move all the way to the southern end of South America so "quickly," probably in just a few thousand years?
9. Who were the Clovis people?
10. How does Diamond address the question, "What significance, if any, do the continent's differing dates of settlement have for subsequent history?"

Chapter 2: A Natural Experiment of History

11. What is this "natural experiment"? Why is Oceania a good place to undertake this experiment?
12. What is the main point that Diamond is trying to make in this chapter? Why does he put this chapter near the beginning of the book?
13. How did Tom Hanks adapt to his Pacific island environment in "Castaway?"

Chapter 4: Farmer Power

14. What is the difference between "food production" and "food collection?"
15. Why was food production a "prerequisite for the development of guns, germs, and steel?"

16. What was the link between food production and the acceleration (gradual) of world population growth?

17. List the various things that domestic animals are good for.

18. Interpret the meaning of Figure 4.1 on p. 87.

#### Chapter 5: History's Haves and Have-Nots

19. What are the central questions the chapter poses?

20. What are some of the problems with dating of archaeological evidence of early farming?

21. Where is the Fertile Crescent? Why is it called that?

22. Looking at the chart, consider the places of early domestication of some of the foods we eat every day.

23. What are "founder crops?"

#### Chapter 6: To Farm or Not to Farm

24. He says, "... food production evolved as a by-product of decisions made without awareness of their consequences." What does he mean by this statement?

25. What does Diamond mean when he says that food production and hunting-gathering are "alternative strategies competing with each other?"

27. What in Diamond's view were the five main factors contributing to the rise of food production? Which one was in your view the most important? Which the least important?

#### Chapter 8: Apples or Indians

28. Why did agriculture never arise independently in some places where it could have? Why in places where it did arise did people turn to farming much earlier in some places than in others?

29. What does he mean when he asks, "Did the problem really lie with the Indians or with the apples?"

30. Why was food production so limited and late in coming in the eastern United States compared to the Fertile Crescent?

#### Chapter 17: Speedboat to Polynesia

31. Diamond states: The Austronesian expansion "was among the biggest population movements in the last 6,000 years." How would you briefly explain this statement to a friend?

32. What does Diamond mean when he says, "Before the recent overseas expansion of Europeans speaking Indo-European languages, Austronesian was the most wide-spread language family in the world."

33. Where is Taiwan, and what is its importance in the history of the spread of Austronesian-speaking peoples?

34. What is a double-outrigger sailing canoe?

35. How can we use modern languages to reconstruct some of the features of societies that existed 3,000 or 4,000 years ago?