

## **AP World History 2019 Summer Assignment**

In order to prepare incoming sophomores for Advanced Placement World History, all students who will be taking the class next year are required to read selected chapters from *An Edible History of Humanity* by Tom Standage over the summer. ISBN-10: 0802719910 ISBN-13: 978-0802719911 This book examines how food has shaped settlement, social classes, economics, technology, and even politics from the time of nomadic hunter-gatherers up to events of today.

The ability to analyze global events in order to find connections and to interpret both changes and continuities throughout time are skills sophomores in AP World History need to know how to develop and use. This book provides an overview of what students will learn in the class, while focusing on specific historical scenarios that illustrate the author's theories.

### **Writing Assignment**

For each assigned chapter, you have a list of topics (listed below) to investigate. For each topic, you need to write a short paragraph of 2-5 sentences, explaining the topic and its importance. You may quote directly from the book, or you may put the information in your own words. (If you quote the author's exact words, be sure to place Mr. Standage's words in quotation marks and write the page number in parentheses at the end of the quotation.) Use correct grammar and be specific in your answers. Although you can use quotations from the book, these answers must be your work, not copied from someone else. As all of your essays in the class and on the AP Exam will be hand-written, this assignment must be hand-written, as well.

As an example, here is what you could write for the "Two overlapping triangles" topic from Chapter 7:

*In the 1600s and 1700s, trade developed between Europe, Africa, and the Americas in two ways. "In the first, commodities from the Americas, chief among them sugar, were shipped to Europe; finished goods, chiefly textiles, were shipped to Africa and used to purchase slaves; and those slaves were then shipped to the sugar plantations in the New World" (115). The other trade pattern was slightly different. "Molasses, the thick syrup left over from sugar production, was taken from the sugar islands to England's North American colonies, where it was distilled into rum. This rum was then shipped to Africa where, along with textiles, it was used as currency to buy*

*slaves” (115).*

And yes, you can use this, but it is the only answer you should copy from another person.

## **Topics for the assigned chapters**

### **Chapter 1: The Invention of Farming**

1. Where and when farming emerged
2. Characteristics of wheat and rice
3. Characteristics of domesticated animals

### **Chapter 2 The Roots of Modernity**

4. Why farming was “the worst mistake in the history of the human race”
5. Why sedentism happened
6. Why sedentism led to population growth

### **Chapter 3 Food, Wealth, and Power**

7. How intensification of agriculture led to social classes
8. What hunter-gatherers shared
9. How “big men” gained power
10. Results of coordinating agricultural activity
11. Results of communal storage of agricultural surpluses
12. How monumental architecture is a result of a complex civilization

### **Chapter 4 Follow the Food**

13. Agriculture and warfare in the Incan world

14. Taxes paid in labor
15. Reasons for sacrifices to the gods
16. Farmers and wealth

### **Chapter 5 Splinters of Paradise**

17. Characteristics of spices
18. Opposition to the spice trade in Rome
19. Connections between trade and Islam
20. Spices and the Black Death

### **Chapter 6 Seeds of the Empire**

21. Columbus's important find
22. Why trade in the Indian Ocean was peaceful before the Portuguese took control
23. Results of Magellan's voyage

### **Chapter 7 New World, New Foods**

24. Two overlapping triangles
25. Effects of maize and sweet potatoes in China
26. Effects of potato in Ireland

### **Chapter 8 The Steam Engine and the Potato**

27. Results of the potato famine
28. Corn Laws arguments

### **Chapter 9 The Fuel of War**

29. Advantages of Alexander's army
30. Taking food in enemy territory

31. Reasons for Napoleon's failure in Russia
32. Advantages of canned food

### **Chapter 10 Food Fight**

33. Problems with collectivization
34. Why millions died of starvation under Stalin
35. Problems with Chinese collectivization
36. Problems with the Great Leap Forward
37. Why millions died of starvation under Mao
38. How Robert Mugabe used food in Zimbabwe

### **Chapter 11 Feeding the World**

39. Green Revolution
40. Criticisms of the Green Revolution

*Feel free to read the rest of the book if you'd like, but you are not required to write about those other chapters.*

**You will turn your hand-written work in on the first day of school. Answers written on these sheets will not be accepted. There may be a test over the assigned chapters during the first week of school.**

If you have questions about this assignment over the summer, please send an email to Coach Marmon at [travis.marmon@krumisd.net](mailto:travis.marmon@krumisd.net)

