

May 21, 2019



Dear Pre-AP World Area Studies Students:

We are very excited to have the opportunity to teach you in the fall semester. Reading about the world around you is an important step toward success in college level social studies classes. Over the summer, you are required to **choose one** of the books from the list at the end of this letter. Create a dialectical journal page for each chapter. If you don't know what a dialectical notebook (journal) looks like, we have provided a visual guide below. **We will pick up this assignment the second week of school.** If you are a student that moves in over the summer, you will be allotted reasonable time to finish. You can drop an e-mail when you receive this so that we know when you moved in and became aware of the assignment. **The value of this assignment will be your first summative.** It will be graded based on how well you follow the directions given below; the quality of the information listed in each section (A, B, C) and, of course, that the definitions and textual information is accurate.

A photograph of the cover page of a notebook. It has a white background with horizontal lines. At the top, it says "Full Name of Student". Below that, there is a large blank space. Further down, it says "Title of Book", "Author of Book", and "(Cover Page)".A photograph of a content page from a notebook. At the top left, it says "Name of Book" and "Chapter Title or Number". At the top right, it says "5". Below that, there is a table with two columns: "TEXT" and "My Response". The "TEXT" column contains a quote: "This is where you will write the lines from the text that caught your eye, made you stop to think or you felt was the best example of the theme you were working with." Below the quote, there is a section labeled "A". The "My Response" column contains the text: "This is where you will write your response, ask your questions, and discuss your thoughts on the theme you have chosen." Below that, there is a section labeled "B". At the bottom of the page, there is a section labeled "C" with the text: "If there are words you don't know in the section you are reading, write them here and define them. If you do not come across any words of that nature, continue to use this space for your response."

The criteria are simple, on the cover page you put your full name, title of the book and author of the book. Each chapter should have at least one content page designed and filled as you see above. For each page make sure to include:

- ✚ Name of Book (top left corner)
- ✚ Chapter Name or Number (top left)
- ✚ I chart labeled as follows
 - Column A- text- things that caught your eye. Include page #
 - Column B – Response – this is where you write your reaction, thoughts, questions.
 - C) Bottom of page – list and define new words or phrases that are new to you

Book List

Classical Primary Source Books:

- ✚ The Art of War; Sun Tzu. Translated by Lionel Giles. You may use a different translation; watch to see that it is written on your readability level.
- ✚ The Ramayana. Translated by R. K. Narayan is recommended. Again, you may a different translation at your own readability level is fine.
- ✚ The Epic of Gilgamesh. Penguin Classic. Translation by Andrew George

Novel Style Books:

- ✚ In the Devil's Garden; A Sinful History of Forbidden Food by Stewart Lee Allen
LEVEL - Adult interest; high school readability
- ✚ The History of the World in 6 Glasses by Tom Standage
LEVEL - Adult interest; high school readability
- ✚ The Name of the Rose by Umberto Eco
LEVEL – Adult interest; college level readability
- ✚ I, Claudius by Robert Graves
LEVEL – Adult interest and content; college readability
- ✚ The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver
LEVEL – High school interest and reading level
- ✚ Empire of the Summer Moon by S.C. Gwynne
LEVEL – Adult interest; college readability; biography of Comanche War Chief Quanah Parker

Analytical Books:

- ✚ Guns, Germs, and Steel by Jared Diamond
LEVEL – Top tier reading challenge
- ✚ Collapse; How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed by Jared Diamond
LEVEL – Top tier reading challenge
- ✚ From Sumer To Rome by Richard Gabriel and Karen Metz
LEVEL – Adult interest; college readability; focus on ancient military
- ✚ 1491 by Charles Mann
LEVEL – Top tier reading challenge; focus on American Indian Agriculture Pre-Colonial
- ✚ 1493 by Charles Mann
LEVEL – Top tier reading challenge; focus on American Indian Agriculture Columbian Exchange

Sincerely,

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