

## AP World History—Summer Assignment (2017-2018)

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### Welcome to AP World History!

One of the primary goals of this class is to pass the AP exam, which will be given in May. The College Board has established the AP curriculum, and there are approximately 165 school days to cover 10,000 years of history and teach the skills necessary to be successful on the test. Needless to say, it will be a very busy year!

Because of this, it is important for you to know at the outset how much work will be required for this class. There is simply no way that we can cover every topic in class. This is part of the reason why you are receiving this summer work packet, so that you can get a jump on the work. During the year, there will be homework nearly every day in this class, primarily in the form of reading (and re-reading), note-taking, vocabulary work, and essay writing. All homework is designed to prepare you for the AP exam and build essential skills for not only this class but for other classes as well; homework will not be busy work. You will be required to read and analyze the text and supplemental materials over the course of the year. For the writing, it is imperative that you know how to write coherent and relevant essays and this only comes through practice, practice, and more practice. This is not strictly a memorization class (although you must remember and memorize specific historical information and vocabulary terms) but a class where you will use information you've learned to examine the whole picture of history and begin to think like an historian. As sophomores, the learning curve is very steep for some of you, but the pay-off is incredible. When you finish with the class you will be better prepared for college and/or university work.

One of the keys to success in an AP class, especially in this course, will be your ability to **plan ahead** and **stay organized**. Each week, I will provide you with a chapter summary, a chapter Fill-in/True False worksheet, a sheet for text notes, and the weekly vocabulary list, so you can begin work on that week's chapter. (Additionally, some weeks you will also have reading guides and lecture notes, as needed). If you fall behind, it will be very difficult to get caught up, so keeping organized is essential. Students who procrastinate have an extremely tough time in AP classes and will find that the homework load will increase substantially the more they procrastinate.

I will be asking most of you to reach two overall goals this year:

- 1) Learn the AP World History content and understand their current world better
- 2) Pass the AP exam in May.\*

*\*Taking the exam is optional and not required to pass the AP World History course, but it is mandatory for those students seeking college credit.*

Please understand that some of you will experience "AP stress" during the course of the year, as you try to juggle an academic workload that is often more demanding than you have ever experienced. While this will be a new experience for you, I feel very confident that you can be successful this year. I am here to support you in your endeavors and challenges during the year in this class. Once again, welcome to AP World History; I am looking forward to meeting you in the fall.

**Your Summer Assignment includes the following two parts:**

1. **Fill out a "PERSIAN" chart for each of the five early civilizations we study. (Complete these charts *in a way that makes sense to you*. Bullets are fine. Include as much information as you can find on each civilization).**
2. **Practice geography quizzes on the Lizard Point website.**

## **AP World History Summer Assignments. These summer assignments should be completed/are due on the first day of school.**

These assignments will assist in building your fundamental knowledge of World History and are intended to lay the foundation for the first unit and subsequent material covered during the course of the year.

For most of you, this is your first AP class. To be successful, you will need to stay focused and work hard. You should be prepared to spend ***four to six hours a week outside of class*** on AP World History. If this does not seem realistic for your schedule, then you may want to reconsider taking this course. During the school year we will explore 10,000 years of human history; this is an exciting class that will allow us to look at the big picture of history, trace cultures over time, and examine human interactions.

The purpose of these summer assignments is to get a jumpstart on the curriculum. Our textbook has 36 chapters which we need to cover in about 30 weeks in order for us to have time to review before the AP test. The summer assignment will provide us with an opportunity to go into more depth on certain topics throughout the year.

Throughout this course you will be asked to break down cultures and civilizations to a basic level that will allow you to recognize the MOST important characteristics and easily compare one civilization with another. We will use this information to show similarities and differences between multiple civilizations/cultures. For the summer, use the internet or other resources, and analyze each of the following civilizations. (You may not be able to find material on every subject for every civilization. Just record as much relevant information as you can find.)

### **PART I--Civilizations Charts**

**Complete a PERSIAN chart for each of the following five (5) early civilizations listed below:**

1. **Mesopotamia**--Tigris and Euphrates River Valleys
2. **Ancient Egypt**--Old and New Kingdoms (Nile River Valley)
3. **Indus River Valley**--Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro
4. **Huang He River Valley**—Shang and Zhou Dynasties
5. **Mesoamerica and South America**--Olmecs and Chavin

### **Part II—Geography Practice**

This is the fun part. ***Take a little bit of time each day*** to hit this website and take the geography practice quizzes!

1. **Go to this website:** <http://lizardpoint.com/geography/index.php>
2. **Click** on any of the “Top 10 Quizzes” on the right-hand side in the gray box or choose from the regions in the green-tabbed section across the top (you’ll see options like: World, Africa, Asia, The Americas, Australia/Oceania, Europe, etc.)
3. **Take a practice quiz.** There are three quiz-taking modes: *\*Choose your favorite mode and quiz yourself.*
  - a. Practice Mode- you get three chances to answer, and the computer gives you tips and hints.
  - b. Test Mode-you get three chances to answer with no tips and hints.
  - c. Strict Test Mode-you get one chance to answer with no tips and hints.
4. **Repeat.** Take as many quizzes as you can, as often as you can. These quizzes cover:
  - a. Countries of Africa (55 countries)
  - b. Countries of Asia (32 countries)
  - c. Countries of the Middle East (26 countries)
  - d. The Caribbean Islands (26 islands)
  - e. Central America (7 countries)
  - f. South America (13 countries)
  - g. Australia/Oceania (14 countries/islands)
  - h. Europe (47 countries)

# PERSIAN Chart

Culture/Civilization: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

<p><b><i>Political</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Leaders, Elites</li><li>• State Structure</li><li>• War</li><li>• Diplomacy, Treaties</li><li>• Courts, Laws</li></ul>	
<p><b><i>Economic</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Type of System</li><li>• Technology, Industry</li><li>• Trade, Commerce</li><li>• Capital/Money</li><li>• Types of Businesses</li></ul>	
<p><b><i>Religious</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Holy Books</li><li>• Beliefs, Teachings</li><li>• Conversion</li><li>• Sin/Salvation</li><li>• Deities</li></ul>	
<p><b><i>Social</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Family</li><li>• Gender Relations</li><li>• Social Classes</li><li>• Inequalities</li><li>• Lifestyles</li></ul>	
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