**AP World History Summer Reading Assignment**

**AP World History is for the high school student who wishes to earn college credit in high school through a rigorous academic program. This class approaches history in a way that looks at the common threads of humanity over time— society, politics, religion, ideology, technology and trade —and it investigates how these things have changed and continued over time in different places. This course provides students with frequent practice in writing analytical and interpretive essays such as document-based questions (DBQ) and thematic essays addressing issues of change, continuity, and comparison.**

**To help us prepare for next year we must begin in the summer! Please purchase, read, and complete the guided questions for** *Guns, Germs, and Steel* by Jared Diamond. **This is a required reading and assignment for the Course and will be used throughout the class to prepare for the AP Exam. There will also be a test over the reading the first week of class next year. The book is available at Barnes and Noble in Boardman, used online at Amazon.com, and the local library.**

**Helpful Hints:**

1. The book is a challenge. I know and understand this! You must work at actively reading and interpreting what you have read. This will be a skill you utilize in college!
2. Use a dictionary! If you do not understand a word. Look it up!
3. When answering the questions you may use bullet points.
4. You may want to spend a little time becoming better acquainted with our world – these two sites are fun ways to quiz yourself:

 http://www.lizardpoint.com/fun/geoquiz/ and http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/Geography.htm

1. Concerns or Questions??? Email me at smpitts@canfieldschools.net



***Guns, Germs, and Steel –* Guided Reading Questions!**

**Prologue: Yali’s Question**

1. What is Yali’s Question?

2. What are three considerations Diamond discusses as he ponders Yali’s question?

**I. Part One: From Eden to Cajamarca**

**Chapter One: Up to the Starting Line**

3. What was the “Great Leap Forward”? Which peoples did it impact, and what probably catalyzed this change?

**Chapter Two: A Natural Experiment of History**

 4. What message is Diamond trying to convey with his focus on the conflict of the Moriori people?

 5. What were the six environmental factors that contribute to the differences among Polynesian societies? Of the six, which do you think plays the greatest role in differentiation and why?

**Chapter Three: Collision at Cajamarca**

 6. What happened at Cajamarca?

 7. How did Atahuallpa come to be at Cajamarca?

 8. How did Pizarro come to be at Cajamarca? Why didn’t Atahualpa instead try to conquer Spain?

 9. Why did Atahuallpa walk into the trap?

**II. Part Two: The Rise and Spread of Food Production**

**Chapter Four**: Farmer Power

 10. According to Figure 4.1 what is a prerequisite to the development of technology?

 11. In one paragraph or less please summarize how domestication of livestock and farming changed societies.

**Chapter Five: History’s Haves and Have-nots**

 12. Examine Figure 5.1 and Table 5.1; apply your knowledge of environmental and geographic factors to identify what these regions have in common. What environmental factors probably contributed to the success of these crops in their respective regions?

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

 13. What five factors contributed to the transition from hunter gatherer to farming?

**Chapter Seven: How to Make an Almond**

 14. Describe three of the many factors that contribute to whether or not a plant becomes a crop that humans choose to domesticate.

**Chapter 8: Apples or Indians**

 15. Indentify at least four of the Fertile Crescent’s advantages in terms of food production.

 16. Identify New Guinea’s 3 severe limitations.

 17. When comparing Eastern United States, New Guinea, and the Fertile Crescent, what caused such a great difference in production?

 18. What happened when more productive crops arrived from elsewhere (p. 153)

 19. What two conclusions does Diamond want to exaggerate?

**Chapter 9: Zebras, Unhappy Marriages, and the Anna Karenina Principle**

 20. What is the Anna Karenina Principle (when applied to the domestication of animals)?

21. List the five major domestic mammals. List the minor nine.

 22. What are six reasons that 134 of the 148 “big wild terrestrial herbivorous mammals” cannot be domesticated?

**Chapter 10: Spacious Skies and Tilted Axes**

 23. How did the rate of spread in Eurasia’s East-West axes compare to the spread along the Americas North-South axes? (p. 178)

 24. In paragraph from, why was the spread of crops from the Fertile Crescent so rapid?

25. Why was the rate of diffusion in the Americas so slow?

**III. Part 3: From Food to Guns, Germs, and Steel**

**Chapter 11: Lethal Gift of Livestock**

 26. What are two historically famous epidemics?

 27. What are the four common characteristics shared by lethal epidemics?

 28. Why did the rise of agriculture launch the evolution of infectious diseases? (In complete sentences) (page 205)

 29. List four diseases that are contracted from an animal.

**Chapter 12: Blueprints and Borrowed Letters**

 30. What are the three basic types of writing systems and what is an example of each?

31. What civilization was first to develop a writing system and what was it called?

32. Why did writing arise and spread to some societies, but not to others?

**Chapter 13: Necessity’s Mother**

33. Look up technology in a dictionary. Define.

34. Bullet out the 14 factors historians have identified as catalysts for the creation of technology.

35. Of the 14, discuss two in complete sentences that you think have the most influential impact on the creation of new technologies.

**Chapter 14: From Egalitarianism to Kleptocracy**

36. Briefly summarize the four solutions Kleptocrats have resorted to maintain their control and elite lifestyle.

 37. Summarize the three theories Diamond discusses to answer the question “How did small, noncentralized, kin-based societies evolve into large centralized ones in which most members are not closely related to each other?

 38. How does food production in make features of complex societies possible? (Bullet four reasons)

**IV. Part Four: Around the World in Five Chapters**

**Chapter 15: Yali’s People**

 39. Why did Australia not develop metal tools, writing, and politically complex societies?

 40. Why didn’t more advanced technology reach Australia from its neighbors, Indonesia and New Guinea?

**Chapter 16: How China Became Chinese**

 41. What is Sinification? (look it up online if necessary)

 42. How do the Chinese achieve and maintain Sinification?

 43. What are some characteristics or accomplishments of the Chinese civilization?

**Chapter 17: Speedboat to Polynesia**

 44. What languages are parts of the “Austronesian” family? (Fig. 17.1)

 45. Study Fig. 17.2 and write a sentence summarizing the illustration.

 46. What was the outcome of Austronesian expansion? (page 350!)

**Chapter 18: Hemispheres Colliding**

 47. Using pages 354-357, make a chart that compares and contrasts Eurasian and Native American society prior to 1492.

 48. Describe the five areas of technology that were contributing factors to Europe’s conquest of the Americas.

 49. Referencing Table 18.1; Which is the earliest developing society? Second earliest? Third? Which societies never developed writing systems? Which never developed iron tools?

 50. What has the Native American population reduced by (%) since 1492?

**Chapter 19: How Africa Became Black**

 50. List the five major human groups in Africa around 1000 CE (AD).

51. How many different language groups exist in the African continent?

 52. Describe the characteristics and growth of the Bantus.

 53. What does Diamond project actually happened to the vanished Khoisan populations?

**Epilogue: The Future of Human History as a Science**

 54. Describe Diamonds explanation for why Europe rose to be a global leader instead of China or the Fertile Crescent. (In paragraph form)