

AP U.S. History Summer Assignment 2023-2024

Focus Qs Period 1 - 1491-1607 American Pageant (*chapter 1*)

This assignment consists of 3 parts: content questions, an article to be read, and a written response to the article.

It may be hand-written or typed.

It is DUE THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.

- ***Assignments turned in late will receive a maximum of ½ credit.***
- *The score will be the equivalent of a test score = 100 points.*
- *For comparison, typical assignments will be worth 10-25 points.*

The exam for this unit will be as soon as Thursday/Friday, Sept. 7 & 8.

Any questions, please email me at jthometz@spartan.org

DO NOT message me through Schoology – I will not see the message notification in a timely way.

Key Concepts of Period 1 (1491-1607)

- 1. As native populations migrated and settled across the vast expanse of North America over time, they developed distinct and increasingly complex societies by adapting to and transforming their diverse environments.*
- 2. Contact among Europeans, Native Americans, and Africans resulted in the Columbian Exchange and significant social, cultural and political changes on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean.*

Part 1: Answer the Following Questions:

- *Your answers must be thorough, as this is your main source of content for the Period (APUSH word for unit) 1 exam.*
- *You do not need to employ full sentences – bullet points will suffice.*
- *The questions are grouped according to Content Topics, and will follow in order in the textbook. This material is in chapter 1. You do not have enough space in this document to answer the questions.*

Discovery

- 1. To what extent can Columbus be considered the discoverer of the New World?**

Native American Peoples

2. Give the 4-5 or more basic *identifying* characteristics of Native Americans who lived in each of the following groups/regions. Identifying characteristics are those which are specific to that group and not other groups. Generalizations like “they were hunter-gatherers” are not identifying. Specific hunting or gathering methods, or prey, unique to that group, would be. In your answers, consider all of the aspects that make up human culture.
 - a. Mexico & American Southwest
 - b. American Great Plains
 - c. Mississippi Valley / Mound Builders
 - d. Atlantic Coast / Eastern Woodland
 - e. Pacific Northwest
3. Explain why it is very difficult to place Native American nations onto a map of North America.

Columbian Exchange

4. List several impactful plants and animals that European explorers brought with them that were new to the New World:
5. List several impactful plants and animals new to Europe that European explorers brought back from the New World:
6. Describe 3 positive effects of the Columbian Exchange on native peoples.
7. Describe 3 positive effects of the Columbian Exchange on Europeans.
8. Describe 3 negative effects of the Columbian Exchange on native peoples.
9. Describe 3 negative effects of the Columbian Exchange on Europeans.

European Exploration

10. Briefly describe each of the basic factors (technology, government, economy, etc.) necessary for a country have before they could begin exploration:
11. In 1400s Europe, a voyage across the Atlantic was not physically possible. Describe tech technological innovations that needed to be made for European explorers to be able to make such a trip:

12. Colonization of the New World was primarily carried out by 5 European nations, and each had its own reasons for sending explorers. Give the primary reason(s) for exploring the New World for each of the following countries:

England

France

Spain

Holland

Portugal

13. Describe the impacts of disease brought by European explorers on the Native peoples they encountered:

Spanish colonies

14. Describe the Spanish *encomienda* system that arose in Mexico:

15. Describe the caste system that arose in Spanish Mexico (in the next Period you'll need to be able to compare & contrast the relationship between the Spaniards and Native Americans with very different the relationships of the French and the English each had with their respective Native populations.

16. Describe the origins of slavery in the New World:

Contrasting Outlooks – Europeans & Native Americans

17. Describe the Native American view of land use and ownership, and contrast it with that of Europeans.

Part 2: Read and annotate the article: "*Colonial America without the Indians*" by James Axtell.

To find the article: It will be placed in the Period 1 folder of the course folders in Schoology as soon as Student Services is able to roll to the new school year.

To help you understand the reading:

Usually in US History at some point you're given the list of all the "things we got from the Native Americans": birch bark canoes, various uses of buffalo, the three sisters corn, beans & squash, etc. Axtell comes at the contributions of Native Americans to "America" from the other direction, asking the question "How would our development have been different had the explorers arrived on a new

continent with no human inhabitants?” In so doing he finds a much deeper contribution.

The first 2 pages or so are a bit of a slog. Please do read them but bear with them. By the middle of page three it will get better.

Assignment: As you read, either annotate a printed copy of the article, or note in a notebook the major ways the author feels American history would have played out differently had there been no Native Americans. You should find somewhere between 8 and 10 ways.

Part 3: Writing Assignment

Assignment: write a one-page response or reflection on the article. Since your annotation or notes takes care of “summary”, please tell me about something that struck you, something new or crazy or weird, or with which you agree or disagree. What do you think of the author’s arguments?

- May be handwritten or typed.
- if typed, you may print it or share it with me / email it to me

*****If you have any questions or a valid reason you will not be able to complete this work on time, PLEASE contact me via school email.***