

Dear NGHS World History AP Students:

Congratulations on choosing to take AP World History! I am beyond excited to show you the history of the globe in all of its horror and glory. Because this course is set on a college level, it will be a challenge, but perseverance (and a willingness to ask for help when it's needed) will carry you through.

AP World Summer assignments should give the class a full awareness and knowledge of the course as a whole, rather than focusing on a single period in time. To that end, you are expected to complete the following assignment over the summer. Although summer is certainly a time of relaxation and family fun, it is also critical that we get a head start on this course due to the complexity of the task before us and the vastness of the course content, which begins at around 1200<sub>CE</sub> and ends near the present. That's why I chose *A History of the World in 6 Glasses* as our summer reading. It encompasses the time frame we will cover (with a little bit from before the class officially starts), and it covers key themes of the course in an interesting way. The summer assignment serves two purposes: it is a test of the seriousness of your commitment to doing AP level coursework in World History and it helps you to gain a critical head start on your studies. In addition, the book is an easy, relatively quick read. If you tackle 1 drink (2 chapters) every week and a half, you'll finish about a week before the school year begins.

The following assignment is **MANDATORY** and must be completed before school starts. The attached course work will be graded based on correctness, depth, and quality of answers. Therefore, please read the book carefully, and complete the assignment with attention to detail as the book will be a component through all 6 units of AP World History, and I reserve the right to put excerpts from it on any and all tests and quizzes. Your book is the following:

Standage, Tom. *A History of the World in 6 Glasses*. 2006. ISBN-10: 0-8027-1552-4.

Please note that neither the text, the instructor, nor Guilford County Schools endorses the usage of alcohol or caffeine. However, beverages containing those substances have had a substantial impact upon global history, hence the assignment of this text as summer reading. Any persons uncomfortable with the content of *A History of the World in 6 Glasses* can receive an alternative assignment for the summer.

### Directions

1. **Read**, don't skim, the book. Due to the changes in the course, the early chapters provide necessary background information and foundational ideas which we no longer cover in the classroom.
2. Note that all of the segments end with the same question. No book is perfect, look for the flaws in Standage's argument! (TIP: Look for words & phrases like "perhaps," "some historians," "a few studies," etc. You should also use the Internet as a search tool—recent archaeological discoveries have proven one of Standage's theories to be completely false.)
3. Work independently: plagiarism will be punished with a 0 on the assignment. If you deem this harsh, I will remind you that most colleges punish plagiarism with expulsion. **Copy/pasting Google answers verbatim is also plagiarism. And it is incredibly easy to track.**
4. **This assignment is due on Monday, August 26.** Regular progress/pacing updates will be sent out via Remind—you should not wait until the end of the summer to complete this assignment.
5. This assignment will be available on my website throughout the summer. Should you need assistance with the assignment, you may contact me at any time via Remind.

### **A History of the World in 6 Glasses Reading Questions:**

As you read, answer the following reading questions for each topic. Your answers need to be thorough, but not lengthy—3-4 sentences should suffice for most. Cite the page numbers in your version on which you found the answers. Answer in complete sentences:

#### **Beer:**

1. How are civilization, farming, and alcohol interconnected?
2. How did the climate of Mesopotamia impact Mesopotamian religion?
3. According to Standage, how did beer civilize man?
4. How did the Egyptian attitude toward beer differ from that of Mesopotamia? In what ways are their stances similar?
5. Who built the ancient pyramids of Egypt and how were they paid? What benefit did the pyramids and their construction bring to Egyptian society?
6. What flaws/specious conclusions are found in Standage's arguments in this section? (NOTE: A quick googling regarding the earliest breweries will help you answer this one!)

#### **Wine:**

1. What was the difference in perception amongst ancient civilizations between beer and wine?
2. How did the development of large empires impact the consumption and production of wine?
3. How was wine used by Greeks and how did it develop into a symbol of status?
4. What was Plato's view of democracy?
5. Compare the acceptance of wine in Christianity to the Islamic view of alcohol/spirits (please note that this item extends to the next chapter as well!)
6. What flaws/specious conclusions are found in Standage's arguments in this section?

#### **Spirits:**

1. What is the origin of distilled spirits? Why is the group which discovered them an unlikely one?
2. Explain the connection between spirits, slaves, and sugar.
3. Why did spirits become an important staple in colonial America?
4. What role did rum play in the American Revolution?
5. Why did whiskey supplant rum in the western colonial regions of America?
6. What were the causes and effects of the Whiskey Rebellion?
7. What flaws/specious conclusions are found in Standage's arguments in this section?

**Coffee:**

1. How and why did Arabs come to dominate the coffee industry?
2. What legal proceeding took place within the Islamic World as a result of coffee's popularity? What was the result of this event? Why is that important?
3. What advantages did coffee have as a drink for workers and thinkers as opposed to alcohol?
4. How did coffee play a pivotal role in the Scientific Revolution?
5. How did coffee play a pivotal role in the financial revolution?
6. How did coffee play a pivotal role in the Enlightenment and the French Revolution?
7. What flaws/specious conclusions are found in Standage's arguments in this section?

**Tea:**

1. How did tea transform Chinese society?
2. What were China's major exports during the Tang dynasty?
3. What two factors made tea a popular drink in England?
4. What was the connection between tea and politics?
5. What role did the British East India Company play in world history? (Be detailed here, they did a lot.)
6. How was tea connected to the opium trade and the Opium War of 1839-1842?
7. What flaws/specious conclusions are found in Standage's arguments in this section?

**Coca-Cola**

1. Give a brief history of soda water before it became an additive in Coca-Cola.
2. How does Coca-Cola's actual origin story differ from the company's official version?
3. For what reason did Harvey Washington Wiley put Coca-Cola on trial? What was the outcome of the trial?
4. How did Coca-Cola's popularity impact the Second World War? How did the Second World War impact Coca-Cola's popularity?
5. Explain the relationship between Coca-Cola, communism, and the Cold War
6. In what ways did the Arab-Israeli conflict impacted Pepsi & Coke's rivalry?
7. How does Coca-Cola represent the globalized economy of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?
8. What flaws/specious conclusions are found in Standage's arguments in this section?