

SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS

Summer assignments are required and are due on the first day of class of the Fall Semester.

ASSIGNMENT #1: Chapter Notes (*The American Pageant*)

Read and prepare notes for **Chapters One and Two** in the A.P.U.S. History textbook, *The American Pageant*. Digital copies of both chapters are **available online** at the University High website or under Summer Assignments at Dr. Robbins's AP US History website (www.uniapush.weebly.com). Or if needed, **xeroxed copies** of the chapters are available from Dr. Robbins (Room 220) and should be returned unmarked at the beginning of the fall semester.

Instructions: The notes for each chapter should be in either **Cornell Notes or Outline format**, and should show a clear sense of organization. Remember the goals of notetaking:

- to identify, condense, and restate the main ideas and themes in the text
- to record significant facts and details that explain or support the main ideas and themes
- to enhance understanding and retention of content in a text
 - for maximum understanding, it is important to restate the content in your own words and not just copy abbreviated sentences from the text
- to have a more concise version of the chapter content to review before tests & the A.P. exam

You should produce **three to five pages of notes for each chapter** (one side=one page). Less and you are probably not being thorough enough; much more and you are not effectively identifying and condensing main ideas and facts. Paraphrase and use your own words as much as possible; do not just copy selections from the text!

Purpose: The purpose of the assignment is to get a head start on the course content (we have 42 chapters to cover!), as well as to display your notetaking skills. This will also help your teacher decide how to teach/review notetaking techniques in class.

ASSIGNMENT #2: United States Geography

Familiarize yourself with the name and location of all fifty states and several major geographic features of the United States. There will be a U.S. Geography test during the first week of school.

Instructions: Use an atlas or the online resources listed below to study and memorize the names and locations of

- all fifty states
- the following geographic features:
 - mountain ranges: Appalachian, Allegheny, Rocky, Sierra Nevada, Cascade
 - rivers: Potomac, Hudson, St. Lawrence, Ohio, Mississippi, Missouri, Colorado, Rio Grande, Columbia, Sacramento
 - lakes: Ontario, Erie, Huron, Michigan, Superior, Great Salt
 - other features: Chesapeake Bay, Cape Cod

Suggested online resources: <http://www.yourchildlearns.com/us-geography.htm>
http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/web_games.htm
<http://www.infoplease.com/atlas/unitedstates.html>

Purpose: It is very important to understand the geographic conditions of the history we will be studying. A thorough review of U.S. political and physical geography will prepare you and give you a greater understanding of the context of historical developments.

If you have questions, you may contact Dr. Robbins over the summer, send an e-mail to: dkr5349@lausd.net