

## **AP® U.S. History Required Summer Work**

The purpose of this assignment is to reflect on American history, and the role history can play in our lives. A further objective is to help you develop your time management skills, which will be important during the year.

This assignment should be completed prior to the start of the course; you will be guided to submit your work during the first week of class. This assignment is worth 50 points.

### **Overview:**

In this assignment you will read the entire speech “Knowing History and Knowing Who We Are” by historian David McCullough. After reading McCullough’s speech, you must choose three major points/ideas from the speech and support each point/idea by selecting and analyzing, in your own words, a specific historical example from American history that you believe illustrates each point/idea.

To help you do this, you are encouraged to think thematically, a skill that will be practiced throughout the course. The content of AP U.S. History is organized under seven themes:

**THEME 1: AMERICAN AND NATIONAL IDENTITY (NAT)** This theme focuses on how and why definitions of American and national identity and values have developed among the diverse and changing population of North America as well as on related topics, such as citizenship, constitutionalism, foreign policy, assimilation, and American exceptionalism.

**THEME 2: WORK, EXCHANGE, AND TECHNOLOGY (WXT)** This theme focuses on the factors behind the development of systems of economic exchange, particularly the role of technology, economic markets, and government.

**THEME 3: GEOGRAPHY AND THE ENVIRONMENT (GEO)** This theme focuses on the role of geography and both the natural and human-made environments in the social and political developments in what would become the United States.

**THEME 4: MIGRATION AND SETTLEMENT (MIG)** This theme focuses on why and how the various people who moved to and within the United States both adapted to and transformed their new social and physical environments.

**THEME 5: POLITICS AND POWER (PCE)** This theme focuses on how different social and political groups have influenced society and government in the United States as well as how political beliefs and institutions have changed over time.

**THEME 6: AMERICA IN THE WORLD (WOR)** This theme focuses on the interactions between nations that affected North American history in the colonial period and on the influence of the United States on world affairs.

**THEME 7: AMERICAN AND REGIONAL CULTURE (ARC)** This theme focuses on the how and why national, regional, and group cultures developed and changed as well as how culture has shaped government policy and the economy.

**THEME 8: SOCIAL STRUCTURES (SOC)** This theme focuses on how and why systems of social organization develop and change as well as the impact that these systems have on the broader society

### **Assignment:**

1. Read the “*Knowing History and Knowing Who We Are*” by historian David McCullough.
2. Identify 3 ideas/main points from the speech.
3. Write a paragraph for each idea or main point you identified. In each paragraph:
  - Explain and describe McCullough’s idea in your own words.

- Select a specific historical example that relates to the idea. This can be anything from United States history. Use your background knowledge, or you are welcome to do a bit of your own research.
- Briefly describe the historical example and explain how it relates to McCullough's speech.
- Identify and explain which of the AP US History themes this example relates to best. Make sure to fully explain how and why the event/idea relates to the AP US History theme.

4. Write a fourth paragraph that reflects on the speech. This is your personal reaction to the speech and the ideas McCullough presents. You may write about what you agreed or disagreed with, something that surprised you, and/or something else that the speech reminds you of.

- Your paragraph should include at least two specific examples from the speech.

To be prepared:

Please complete this by the first week of School. August 2023.

These are the concepts and vocabulary from period 1 that most commonly appear on the exam. Create a Quizlet to make sure you are familiar with these terms!

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Algonquin              | • Hernan Cortes          | • Pueblo                |
| • Aztecs                 | • Incas                  | • Roanoke               |
| • Bartolome de las Casas | • Iroquois               | • Samuel de Champlain   |
| • chattel slavery        | • Iroquois Confederation | • sextant               |
| • Chinook                | • Jacques Cartier        | • Smallpox              |
| • Christopher Columbus   | • John Cabot             | • Spanish Mission       |
| • Columbian Exchange     | • joint-stock companies  | • St. Augustine         |
| • Conquistadors          | • Juan de Onate          | • Treaty of Tordesillas |
| • encomienda             | • Juan de Sepulveda      | • Vodun                 |
| • Francisco Pizarro      | • Juan Ponce de Leon     | • Walter Raleigh        |
| • Henry Hudson           | • maroons                | • Zambo                 |

**STUDY TIP:** Use the following essential questions to guide your review of this entire unit. Keep in mind, these are not meant to be practice essay questions. Each question was written to help you summarize the key concept.

1. In what ways were Native American societies similar and different?
2. What historical forces caused Europeans to conquer territories in the Americas?

How did the Columbian Exchange lead to demographic shifts on both sides of the Atlantic?