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| **AP World History: Modern 2025-2026 Overview & Summer Reading** | | | | | |
| **Welcome to AP World History: Modern!** In this course, you will explore the history of the world from 1200 CE to the present day. We will examine the interconnectedness of global societies and cultures, and how they have evolved over time. Throughout this class, you will learn how major historical events, including revolutions, wars, and economic changes, have impacted societies across the world. You will explore the social, political, and cultural developments that have shaped the modern world, including the emergence of new technologies and ideas.  As you study the history of different regions of the world, you will gain a deeper understanding of the diversity and complexity of human experiences. You will learn about the achievements and contributions of diverse cultures and societies, and the challenges they faced in navigating the changing world. By the end of this course, you will have a strong foundation in the key themes, concepts, and analytical skills of the discipline of history. You will be able to think critically, analyze historical evidence, and communicate your ideas effectively. This course is an excellent opportunity to broaden your understanding of the world, challenge your assumptions, and deepen your appreciation for the complex and interconnected history of human societies. | | | | | |
| **Required Supplies:**   * **A Large 2-2.5 inch 3 Ring Binder** * **10 Divider Tabs** * **Highlighters (yellow, orange, pink, blue, & green)** * **College-Ruled Notebook Paper** * **Pens with blue or black ink (required for written tests/quizzes)** | | | | | |
| **Required Summer Reading:** *The History of the World in Six Glasses* by Tom Standage  In this book, we will explore the fascinating connections between six beverages and the development of human history. From beer in Mesopotamia to Coca-Cola in America, each drink tells a unique story about the cultures, technologies, and ideas that shaped our world.  As you read through the chapters, you will learn about the evolution of human society and the role that drinks played in shaping it. You'll discover how beer helped to build the first cities, how wine transformed Greek and Roman culture, and how tea and coffee fueled the Industrial Revolution. You'll also explore the economic, political, and social impacts of global trade, colonization, and imperialism, as well as the role of advertising and marketing in shaping consumer culture. This book provides a unique lens through which to view world history and encourages us to think critically about the ways in which food and drink have shaped our past and continue to shape our present.  At last check, this book was available at the Largo Public Library, or can be purchased via one of the links below for around $11 on Amazon or $16 at Barnes and Noble. If you’re looking for a cheaper option, check out the used listings on Amazon or other online resale vendors like Thriftbooks. You can scan the QR codes or follow the links on the next page to purchase. | | | | | |
| [**From Amazon**](https://www.amazon.com/History-World-6-Glasses/dp/0802715524/ref=sr_1_1?keywords=a+history+of+the+world+in+6+glasses&qid=1683726970&sprefix=a+history+of+the%2Caps%2C156&sr=8-1)  **A qr code with dots  Description automatically generated with low confidence** | | | [**From Barnes and Noble**](https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/history-of-the-world-in-6-glasses-tom-standage/1007653113?ean=9780802715524)  **A qr code with black dots  Description automatically generated with low confidence** | | |
| **Summer Reading Directions:** **Hard copy due on First Day of Class**   1. As you read the book, think about the questions that follow. 2. Create a dialectical reading journal by choosing 5 *meaningful* quotes for each section/drink and the Epilogue. A meaningful quote will either help you answer one of the questions for that section, further your insight and understanding as a whole, or be something significant or otherwise important to remember. 3. Explain each quote, including its significance/meaning and why you chose it (if your quote is connected to a question, cite the question number after your response). 4. **Formatting:** Divide your paper into two columns. List your quote, with page number for reference on the left, and your explanation on the right. Both the quotes and explanations should each be around 2-4 sentences in length. Your response may be hand-written or typed, but all should be turned in on paper on the first day of class (see example below).   These questions will also guide a Socratic Seminar (an in-class discussion) at the start of the school year. You may reference your reading journal, any annotations you’ve made in your book, and any other notes you might take during the discussion. Again, these questions are a guide and it is not required that you answer all of them, just that you choose *meaningful* quotes that help better your understanding of the book as demonstrated by your explanations. Following the discussion, there will be a short written assessment. | | | | | |
| **Example Journal Entry (from the Introduction) Quote:**  “…these new beverages have taken on a variety of roles. Many of them have been used as currencies, in religious rites, as political symbols, or as sources of the philosophical or artistic inspiration. Some have served to highlight the power and status of the elite, and others to subjugate the downtrodden.” (P. 2) | | | **Explanation:**  The author claims that beverages represent larger trends in human history. The role that these drinks play varies across time, but they continue to hold significant cultural, political, and social significance no matter when their popularity peaks. I chose this quote because I believe it shows the overarching claim the author will make throughout this book. (Q. 0) | | |
| **Questions to Guide Your Reading:**  **Section 1: "Beer in Mesopotamia and Egypt"**  In this chapter, Standage discusses the importance of beer in the early civilizations of Mesopotamia and Egypt. He explains how beer was a staple of daily life, and how it played a role in religious rituals and social gatherings. As you read, consider the following questions:   1. How is the discovery of Beer linked to the growth of the first Civilizations? 2. What role did beer play in the daily lives of people in these civilizations? What was it used for? 3. How did the invention of beer impact the development of civilization in Mesopotamia and Egypt? 4. What was the relationship between beer and writing, commerce, and health?   **Section 2: "Wine in Greece and Rome"**  In this chapter, Standage explores the significance of wine in ancient Greece and Rome. He discusses the social and cultural importance of wine, as well as its religious and medicinal uses. As you read, consider the following questions:   1. How did the use of wine differ from that of beer in ancient Greece and Rome? 2. What role did wine play in the social and cultural life of ancient Greece and Rome? How was wine consumed, and what does this tell us about these ancient cultures? 3. How did wine consumption differ between the upper and lower classes in these societies? 4. What religious and medicinal uses did wine have in ancient Greece and Rome?   **Chapter 3: "Spirits in the Colonial Period and the Birth of the Cocktail"**  In this chapter, Standage examines the emergence of distilled spirits such as rum and whiskey during the colonial period in America. He also discusses the rise of the cocktail as a popular drink in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. As you read, consider the following questions:   1. How did distilled spirits become popular in America during the colonial period? How did the cocktail become a symbol of sophistication and social status in the late 19th and early 20th centuries? 2. What was the significance of rum in the slave trade and the American Revolution? 3. How did spirits help the British have a superior navy over that of France? 4. What were the negative effects/uses of spirits?   **Section 4: "Coffee in the Age of Reason"**  In this chapter, Standage explores the rise of coffee as a popular drink during the Age of Reason in Europe. He discusses the role of coffeehouses in facilitating intellectual and political discourse, and the impact of coffee on the Industrial Revolution. As you read, consider the following questions:   1. How did coffeehouses become centers of intellectual and political activity in Europe? 2. Why was it important to the development of Europe that people’s drink of choice shifted from alcohol to coffee? 3. What impact did coffee have on the Industrial/Scientific Revolutions? 4. How did coffee become a symbol of modernity and progress during the Age of Reason/the Enlightenment? What role did it play in the French Revolution?   **Section 5: "Tea and the British Empire"**  In this chapter, Standage discusses the importance of tea in the British Empire, and its impact on global trade and culture. He also examines the role of tea in shaping British identity and social customs. As you read, consider the following questions:   1. How did tea become a popular drink in Britain, and what was its impact on British society? What connection did tea have with politics? 2. How did tea become a global commodity and a symbol of British imperialism? How did the British tea trade influence the economies and cultures of countries such as China and India? 3. How did the consumption of tea in Europe differ from how it was consumed in China or Japan? 4. How was tea connected to the opium trade and the Opium War of 1839-1842?   **Section 6: "Coca-Cola and the Rise of America"**  In this chapter, Standage examines the role of Coca-Cola in shaping American culture and identity in the 20th century. He discusses the marketing strategies and cultural symbolism associated with Coca-Cola, as well as its impact on global consumer culture. As you read, consider the following questions:   1. How did Coca-Cola become a symbol of American culture and values? 2. What marketing strategies did Coca-Cola use to become a global brand? 3. How has Coca-Cola influenced the development of consumer culture in the 20th century?   **Epilogue: “Water”**  In the epilogue, the author argues that the history of beverages is a lens through which to view the broader history of human civilization. Then he begins to suggest that the rise of bottled water represents a new phase in the history of beverages, bringing everything back full-circle. As you read, consider the following questions:   1. How does the history of bottled water illustrate larger trends in the global economy and society? 2. How has access to water affected international relations? 3. Why is access to clean water an important issue for humans across the globe?   **Big Picture Questions to Consider:**   1. The author contends that the proliferation of caffeinated beverages in the modern era reflects a cultural obsession with productivity and efficiency. How has this cultural trend impacted the way we live and work today? 2. The author discusses the emergence of craft beer as a response to the industrialization and standardization of the beverage industry. How does the craft beer movement represent a broader trend towards localism and artisanal production? 3. The author argues that the history of Coca-Cola reflects larger trends in American culture and society, including the rise of consumerism and the exportation of American values abroad. How has Coca-Cola influenced the way we view American culture and identity? 4. The author suggests that the history of spirits illustrates the complex relationship between alcohol and power. How has alcohol been used as a tool of oppression and control throughout history, and how has it been used to resist oppression and assert cultural identity? 5. The author concludes by arguing that the history of beverages is a reminder of the interconnectedness of human cultures and societies. How does the history of beverages illustrate the ways in which human societies are shaped by trade, migration, and cultural exchange? | | | | | |
| **Assignment Grading Rubric** | | | | | |
| **Task** | **A** | **B** | **C** | **D** | **F** |
| Identify Quotes | Student chose 5 meaningful quotes for every section of the book and cited page numbers for each of them | Student chose 4-5 meaningful quotes for every section and cited page numbers for more than 50% | Student chose 2-3 meaningful quotes for each section and cited page numbers for more than 50% of them | Student chose less than 2 meaningful quotes for each section and/or did not cover each section | Student did not submit the summer reading assignment. |
| Explanation | Student wrote a concise explanation of the meaning of 5 quotes for every section of the book, including its significance, and why it was chosen | Student wrote a concise explanation of the meaning of 4-5 quotes for each section, including its significance, and why it was chosen | Student wrote a concise explanation of the meaning of 3-4 quotes for each section, including its significance, and why it was chosen | Student wrote a concise explanation of the meaning of less than 2 quotes for each section, and/or did not cover each section | Student did not submit the summer reading assignment. |
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| If you have any questions about this assignment or the upcoming course, feel free to send Mrs. Whitlock an email: [whitlocke@pcsb.org](mailto:whitlocke@pcsb.org). Make sure to give yourself plenty of time, if you send your questions at 10pm the night before school starts, we will be fast asleep and unable to help 😊  I look forward to meeting you and to the year ahead!  Mrs. Whitlock | | | | | |