

Book Analysis for AP US History

Summer reading is being assigned with the goal of better preparing students for the amount of reading and analysis required in the course. The book was selected for its readability and its treatment of the interactions of societies around the world over time. I am confident that most students of history will enjoy the reading. To allow the students the opportunity to present their ideas about the book and to ensure that the reading was completed, there is a format for the Book Analysis. This is not a “book report.” While it is necessary for the student to demonstrate familiarity with the book, it is more important that the students communicate the ideas and themes that the author is trying to present. Seminars where ideas are exchanged and knowledge is gained in a forum are a component of the course.

Please use the following format for the typed book analysis:

1. Name of Book and Author with a one paragraph biography of the author
2. Thesis: In one sentence, explain the major point of the book. What does the author want you to learn from his book?
3. Summary: In 2-3 paragraphs summarize the major points of the book.
4. Critique: In 3-5 paragraphs you are to analyze and critique the book. Some of the questions you might answer are: ☐ Was the book well written? ☐ What were the sources of information in the book? Are the sources believable? ☐ What was the author’s point of view? How do you react to him? ☐ What of significance did you learn from the book? ☐ Would you recommend the book to others? Why? You may add your own thoughts and ideas to your analysis of the book. The critique will be worth a major grade. This will be your first grade in AP US History. The TYPED critiques are due on the first day of class in August.

The assigned book is: **Seven Events That Made America America: And Proved That the Founding Fathers Were Right All Along By Larry Schweikart**