

Summer, 2017

Dear Parents:

Background knowledge in the various cultures, political and economic vocabulary and geography has traditionally been among the biggest obstacles to success for our students. It is difficult to teach new content when students do not have a base to build from. In the effort to try to address this concern, students entering 9th grade Western Civilization or Honors World I will complete this assignment.

Students will need to purchase the book, *Sugar Changed The World: A Story of Magic, Spice, Slavery, Freedom and Science* by Marc Aronson and Marina Budhos.

The book can be purchased online from MBS or Amazon.com or in a bookstore.

Sugar Changed the World chronicles the history of the sugar trade, spanning the entire ninth and tenth grade curriculum from ancient times to the Age of Exploration to the modern day. The demand for this raw resource affected cultures around the globe, shaping our modern world. The content of this book will serve a valuable reference point for our students as they progress through the world history curriculum and prepare for future historical studies.

Students will be assessed through answering of the questions that follow as well as with a reading quiz.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Rob Sarmiento

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Name: _____ Class: _____

Summer Reading Questions Western Civilization or Honors World History I

How Sugar Changed the World (Summer Reading Questions)

Directions: Answer the following questions while reading on a separate paper, typed responses are preferred. Be brief, yet complete, in your responses. These should be ready to turn in upon the first day of classes, although your teacher will give you a specific due date for your class.

Prologue: Age of Honey:

1. How did early man acquire honey?
2. Why was honey “a way of living” for early man?

Part One: From Magic to Spice

3. Describe Sugarcane

Gods and Rituals:

4. Look at the map on page 11. How did sugar cane spread?

The World’s First True University:

5. What is Jandi Shapur? What are examples of cultural diffusion that took place there?

Fortress Europe:

6. Describe the “intellectual” state of Europe following the fall of Rome?
7. Why did Europeans desire spices?

The Champagne Fairs:

8. Describe how the fairs operated.
9. What negative affect did a physician note about sugar?
10. Why was sugar so expensive and hard to get for many Europeans?

Out of War Comes Sweetness:

11. How were the crusades more than battle?

The Problems with Sugar Cane:

12. What labor was required to make a lot of sugar cane?
13. Why were plantations so different than traditional farms?
14. Who were the first slaves used on plantations?
15. What did Columbus describe sugar as?

Part Two: Hell

16. What other European countries began to produce sugar in the New World?
17. How many slaves were brought from Africa to Brazil? What enabled that trade?
18. What happened to the price of sugar due to the sugar plantations in the New World?

A Cycle of Death and Sweetness:

19. Who is Olaudah Equiano and what did he write about?
20. Why is the idea of triangular trade incorrect?

The Pulse of Sugar Life:

21. How would owners make the price of flight or rebellion too high?

The Overseer:

22. What was the role of the overseer?
23. How were the lives of slave women particularly harsh?
24. What percentage of slaves went to North America? What percentage went to the Caribbean, Brazil and South America?
25. How did slave numbers increase in North America? How did they decrease on the sugar islands?

The Best Sort of Chaw?:

26. How did the British become exposed to tea? How did tea, coffee and hot chocolate increase the demand for sugar?
27. What radical economic change was taking place in England in the early 1800s?
28. How did sugar aid factory workers?

All Men are Equal: America

29. What kind of power did “sugar lords” have in England? What was the difference for North American planters?
30. What were the “terrible consequences” of the Molasses act?

“Is it lawful to make slaves of others against their will?:

31. What is an abolitionist? What tactics did they use to achieve their goal?
32. What was the effect of the sugar boycott?

All Men are Equal: France:

33. What happened in France in July of 1789? August 1789? What question was left unanswered by the Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen?

The Sound of Liberty:

34. What did the slave commanders vow to do in Haiti?
35. What revolutions influenced the Haitian Revolution? What three great principles motivated the Haitians?
36. Why were the British terrified about the events in Haiti? What did the British plan to do about it?
37. Why did the Haitians fight so well?
38. Why did Thomas Jefferson not recognize Haiti diplomatically?

The Sugar Purchase and the Death State:

39. Why did Napoleon sell the Louisiana Territory to the United States?
40. What effect did the introduction of machines have?

Sugar in Paradise: "I came seeking the dream":

41. What groups of people were brought to Hawaii to produce sugar?
42. What effect did sugar have on the population of Hawaii?

Part Four: Back to Our Stories: New Workers, New Sugar

A New System:

43. What was indenture?
44. What was the Emancipation Bill?

Crossing the Black Water:

45. What was the "special problem" for Indian Hindus going to work on sugar plantations?
46. Describe the experience of an indentured servant on the sugar plantation?
47. What did free Africans think about Indian Coolies?

48. Why did many Indians stay when their indenture was over?

Reform:

49. What signs pointed to the end of the Age of Sugar?

Sugar and Science:

50. What crop did Napoleon order to be planted in France? Why?

Serfs and Sweetness:

51. How was beet sugar foreshadowing for the economy of today?

52. What other inventions limited demand for sugar cane?

The Lawyer:

53. Who is Mohandas K. Gandhi?

Satyagraha:

54. What was the Black Act in South Africa?

55. Eventually, Gandhi's leadership led to India doing what in 1947?