

Summer Reading for 10th grade World History

A History of the World in Six Glasses by Tom Standage ISBN-13: 978-0-8027-1552-4

A History of the World in Six Glasses is a book, which takes an innovative approach to world history. The author looks at the development of world civilizations through the prism of the beverages that people drank in various time periods. These are (in chronological order): beer, wine, spirits, coffee, tea, and Coca-Cola. The use of this book as a summer reading assignment merely offers an innovative and interesting perspective to initiate our year-long discussion of world history.

The purpose of reading this book is to get a sense of how civilizations and cultures develop and how numerous forces (political, technological, economic, social, religious, cultural, ecological) affect even the most mundane seeming aspects of people's daily lives. This will count as your first quarter project (15% of your quarterly grade).

Part One: Timeline (50 %)

Create a timeline of history including each "glass/beverage". Your timeline should include at least two regions of the world affected by your "glass/beverage" and five dates with facts for each "glass/beverage" for a total of thirty dates and facts on the timeline. This should be typed and bulleted in order of occurrence. Here are the questions for "A History of the World in Six Glasses"

Part Two: Answer the following questions as you read in complete sentences. (50%)

1. According to Standage, how did the Fertile Crescent get its name?
2. How is beer production an example of plant domestication?
3. What effect did storing grain have on hunter-gatherer societies?
4. How was beet used by the Sumerian and Egyptian civilizations?
5. How did farming pave the way for the emergence of civilization?
6. What did drinking wine symbolize in ancient Greece?
7. What role did wine play at the symposium?
8. What did drinking wine symbolize in ancient Rome?
9. What was a convivium and how did it reflect social status?
10. Why do Christians drink wine and Muslims do not?
11. From which advance civilization did Europeans get the "science" of making spirits?
12. In what ways was the "discovery" and use of distillation important to the rebirth of science in Europe?
13. How did spirits advance/accelerate colonialism?
14. In the 18th century, how did spirits help Britain become a more superior navy than France did?
15. How did spirits help build America? (From getting the colonies off the ground to establishing our independence to the consolidation of power by the Federal government?)
16. What was the negative effects/use of spirits?
17. Who did Europeans get coffee from and how did it spread to Europe?
18. What was the significance of people switching from alcohol to coffee?

19. Describe coffee's effect on the global balance of power (in terms of commerce).
20. How did coffee play a pivotal role in the scientific revolution?
21. How did coffee play a role in the "financial revolution"?
22. How did coffee play a role in the French Revolution?
23. "If the sun never set on the British Empire, then it was always _____ somewhere."
24. What were the health benefits of tea?
25. Which conquering people established the largest contiguous land empire in history?
26. Compare and contrast Europe with China in terms of balance of trade, civilizations, etc.
27. How did the relationship between the government of Britain and the British East India Company change over time?
28. What was America's unique contribution to manufacturing? 29. Why is the 20th century referred to as "the America century"?

**PLEASE HAVE THE ASSIGNMENT READY TO BE
TURNED IN ON THE FIRST FULL DAY OF CLASS.**

NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED!