

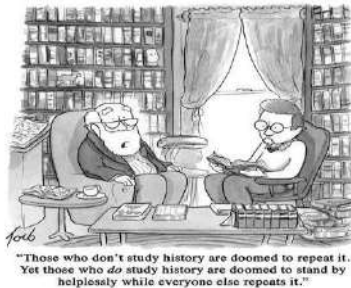
AP World History

An Introduction.....

Due: Friday, August 6th, 2021

Instructions: All responses should be typed on a separate document with the question appearing before the response. 12pt Times New Roman font, double-spaced.

TASK 1: Why Study History?



Read "Why Study History?" by Peter Stearns. This article discusses why the study of history is essential to our society, and how it can benefit you as a person making your way into your adult life. It may be accessed at: [https://www.historians.org/about-aha-and-membership/aha-history-and-archives/historical-archives/why-study-history-\(1998\)](https://www.historians.org/about-aha-and-membership/aha-history-and-archives/historical-archives/why-study-history-(1998)) If, for any reason, you are unable to access the link, you may simply perform a Google search for the article. Type in "Why Study History by Peter Stearns", and multiple formats will appear. Be sure to choose one that includes the whole article, and not a review of the article by a third party. Before you read any scholarly article with questions to follow, start by reading the questions FIRST! It's always helpful to know what you should be looking for as you read.

- 1. What arguments does Mr. Stearns make to support the idea that it is beneficial for a society when its members study history? Please site specific evidence from the text.**

Your Reply:

- 2. In what ways does Mr. Stearns show the study of history to be beneficial to the individual, both on a personal level and in whichever career path he or she may choose? Please site specific evidence from the text.**

Your Reply

Read slowly. Make sure you understand each paragraph before moving on to the next. After you finish reading, respond to the two questions above.

Task 2: The Worst Mistake in the History of the Human Race

The Neolithic Revolution is also called the Agricultural Revolution. It is considered one of the pivotal events in the history of the human species. In a period of several thousand years, humans went from a largely migratory species to an increasingly sedentary and agricultural

society. Historians have often noted the fundamental and positive significance of the change from hunting and gathering to farming. However, some do not agree. In AP World History, you will develop your ability to question mainstream interpretations of history. Read “The Worst Mistake in the History of the Human Race,” by Jared Diamond. Mr. Diamond is one historian who disagrees with the positive view many have about the Neolithic Revolution. He argues that not only was the shift to agriculture NOT a positive change, but that it led to many of society’s troubles that exist in the world even today. Jared Diamond’s article may be accessed at: <http://www.ditext.com/diamond/mistake.html>. But, once again...if the link does not work, you can always perform a Google search to find the article in any number of online locations. After reading the article, write a response addressing the following prompt. This is an opportunity for me to see your writing skills, so be sure to form your thoughts well on paper. Use good conventions. Please keep your response to 250 words or less. **Response Prompt: What is Jared Diamond’s thesis in this article? Which evils of modern society does Mr. Diamond cite as evidence that the Neolithic Revolution was a negative event in the history of mankind? Please cite specific evidence from the text.**

Your Reply