

Incoming freshmen Huskies,



You are receiving this letter because you have selected Advanced Modern World History. This is a class with great emphasis on independent reading. This emphasis starts this summer, during which I expect you to read one of the following non-fiction books. The selected list includes a wide variety of historical topics ranging from the ancient to contemporary. After finishing your selected book you will be responsible for a book report, due the first day of school. **There will be no late assignments accepted.** Any work from another source not cited will be considered plagiarism. This will be a formative grade, worth 50 points. All grammar and formatting rules need to be followed.

The book report should be done in 12 point font, Times New Roman, and double-spaced. As always in my class, the required length=answer all questions completely and thoroughly. You need to include the following in your book report:

- 1) Introduction: Why did you choose this book? What about the topic was intriguing? (10 points)
- 2) Summary: What was the thesis of the book? What topics or events were discussed? (10 points)
- 3) Historical Message: Did this present new evidence or a new point of view on a topic? What was historically occurring before and after this topic? **How did this event or topic alter the course of world history?** What are the best quotes from the book? What was the most poignant part of the book? (20 points) \*Use in-text citations to reinforce your thesis!
- 4) Personal Reflection: Did you enjoy this book? How did it alter or change your perception of the event or topic? Would you recommend this book to a classmate or another person? (10 points)

Books: (Some have been selected from previous AP World History Reading Lists, some chosen by Mr. Martin). All can be found through the Wayne County Public Library and Clevnet.

Guns, Germs, and Steel- Jared Diamond

A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Child Soldier- Ishmael Baeh

The World is Flat- Thomas Friedman

E=MC<sup>2</sup>- David Bodanis

A Short History of Nearly Everything- Bill Bryson

Genghis Khan and the Making of the Modern World- Jack Weatherford

King Leopold's Ghost- Adam Hochschild

Cod: A Biography of the Fish That Changed the World- Mark Kurlansky

The Little Ice Age- Brian Fagan

In the Garden of Beasts- Erik Larson

Black Potatoes: The Great Irish Famine- Susan Bartoletti

The Bonesetter's Daughter- Amy Tan

Gulag: A History- Anne Applebaum

The Good Earth- Pearl Buck

Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow- Susan Campbell Bartoletti

Nectar in a Sieve – Kamala Markandaya

The Middle East- Bernard Lewis

The Guns of August – Barbara Tuchman

Dead Wake- Erik Larson

How the Irish Saved Civilization – T. Cahill

Hero of the Empire- Candice Millard

Isaac Newton – James Gleick

A History of the World in 100 Objects- Neil MacGregor

The War to End All Wars- Russell Freedman

First They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers – Loung Ung

Longitude- Dava Sobel

Nathaniel's Nutmeg- Giles Milton

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Please sign and detach, return to Mr. Woodring before the end of the school year.

I have read the requirements for my son/daughter to complete to be eligible for the Advanced World History class.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_