Dear Rising Junior or Senior,
Welcome to Advanced Placement World History. Laying the foundation for the course begins now, in the summer before. The scope of our course is broad—the history of the entire world from 8000 B.C.E. to the present—roughly 10,000 years of history! Yet our in-depth study will focus on the years 600 C.E. to the present. To help set the stage for the more modern era, we must do a relatively quick overview of the ancient world and the study of human societies in general. To facilitate this study, you will read the first two chapters of A History of the World in Six Glasses and watch some entertaining (hopefully) videos of the Agricultural Revolution and the first river valley civilizations.

The following is information about A History of the World in Six Glasses

**Author:** Standage, Tom.

**Title:** A History of the World in Six Glasses.

**Publisher:** Walker Publishing Company (May 16, 2006)

**ISBN-10:** 0802715524

There are varieties of prices on Amazon whether you get the book used, new, or electronically. It is not a requirement that you buy the book, although it is a great resource and will be referenced throughout the year, so it will be helpful to own a copy. If you choose not to buy the book, it is available in most local libraries (in limited supply and there are around 80 AP World History students next year).

During the first week of school you will engage in a seminar type discussion of the material read over summer. In addition, you will have a written assessment of the reading and the seminar discussion. All parts of this assignment, i.e. the summer questions and the seminar will count towards your first quarter grade.

If you have any questions about any of the summer assignments please email me. I look forward to seeing you in August!

Mr. Western
Robert_S_Western@mcpsmd.org

**SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS 2015 for AP World History**

There will be two assignments to prepare for AP World History.

1. Read chapters one and two and answer questions from A History of the World in Six Glasses (due date: August 15 - sent to me via e-mail) You will be evaluated on the following three criteria: completeness of response; use of cited material; writing organization. This will be worth 20 practice and prep points.

2. Watch four crash course videos (from the internet) by John Greene that will give students the necessary background information on the Agricultural Revolution and the first river valley civilizations. Due Date - the first day of school) 20 Point practice and prep points

A History of the World in Six Glasses (20 Points practice and prep)
This should be completed by Monday, August 15th and sent to my email

2. Read the introduction and chapters one and two on the importance of beer to early farming societies. Answer the questions below in paragraph format (typed) - a response should not be longer than ½ page. Please Cite passages from the book when you directly use information for your response. Once completed, please send your responses to my email at Robert_S_Western@mcpsmd.org. You will only receive a feedback form me on the first day of class - not your completed questions.
**Questions for Six Glasses**

1. Explain how the ingredients needed for beer is related to humans changing from a hunter gather lifestyle to settled communities.

1. A major concept for the first unit is that the agricultural revolution led to the developments of new and more complex economic and social systems. How did beer play a part in the development of a more complex economic system? Be sure to include info on taxes; payment for services; and role of government.

3. How did the introduction of beer lead to advancements in agricultural technology?

4. How did beer help to organize society? Your response should include information on accounting and writing.

5. What were the cultural impacts of beer? Your response should include religious rituals; nourishment and social interaction

6. Create a graphic organizer to identify how civilization changed and stayed the same during the Agricultural Revolution. Please include at least 3 changes and 3 characteristics that would have been evident previous to Middle East society before the Agricultural Revolution.

**Crash Course Videos**

**Student will watch and answer questions to four crash course videos: The Agricultural Revolution; Indus Valley; Mesopotamia, and Egypt.**

Objective: SWBAT understand the differences between the three different river valley civilizations: Indus valley; Mesopotamia; and Egypt. Student will answer the questions from the handouts. The capture sheets for the videos can be found on the Einstein web site under summer assignments. The videos can be easily found on the internet: google crash course Agricultural Revolution; Indus Valley; Mesopotamia, and Egypt.

Enjoy the reading and videos and I look forward to seeing you in August - Mr. Western
Crash Course #1: Agricultural Revolution

1. How do we have evidence of Hunter-Gatherers (H-G) and their lifeways? (New word that means “ways of life”, do not use “lifestyle”).

2. What do most early civilizations have in common?

3. What advantages did H-G have over early agriculturalists?

4. Where did agriculture emerge? Which food crops are associated with which areas?

5. What are the advantages and disadvantages of agriculture?

6. What other lifeway emerged besides being a H-G or a farmer (agriculturalist)?

7. What were the advantages and disadvantages to Pastoralism (being a herder)?

8. What advantages do you think that Eurasia had with its zoological set of animals compared to the Americas?

9. Evaluate John Green’s thesis that “the greatest evolutionary advantage an animal species can have is being useful to humans.” Agree/disagree, why?

10. If H-G had a “better and healthier” lifeway, why did people become agriculturalists?

11. What point do you think John Green is making about the use of the word “savage”? How might this also apply to concepts of being “civilized” or “uncivilized”?

12. What do historians say are the drawbacks to complex civilizations and agriculture?

13. What other impacts do complex civilizations have on the environment?

14. What does John Green say about “revolutions”?
Mesopotamia Crash Course

Name

1. What is the date of the Mesopotamian Kingdoms?

2. Geographically, where is Mesopotamia?

3. What were two characteristics of Mesopotamian socialism?

4. What were Ziggurats’ and what power did priests possess?

5. What two rivers bordered Mesopotamia?

6. Why was slavery necessary in Mesopotamia?

7. What started to rival temples in Uruk and other cities of Mesopotamia? Why is this a shift in societal structure?

Thinking Question: The Tigris and Euphrates were unpredictable – how did this unpredictability affect the thinking of Mesopotamians about the role of the Gods?

8. Why was cuneiform important to managing government in Mesopotamia?

9. What are examples of social inequality in Mesopotamia?

10. How were taxes paid in Mesopotamia and explain the importance of how taxes were utilized.

11. Why was the Code of Hammurabi an important milestone in ancient history?

12. What was an inherent weakness of kingdoms in Mesopotamia?

13. What were some of the strategies the Assyrians used to control, their expanding empire?

14. What are the characteristics of an empire?

15. What led to the demise of the Assyrians?
Egypt Crash Course

Name: 

1. How long did ancient Egypt last?

2. Geographically explain where Egypt is located.

3. How did the Nile shape the world view of the Egyptians?

4. How was the Nile used by Egyptians?

5. Explain how did the Nile affect the Egyptian view of the afterlife?

6. What was the purpose of the pyramids and why were they built?

7. What’s the deal with cats?

8. What would happened to pharaohs upon their death?

9. How was the Middle Kingdom different than the Old Kingdom

10. What new military technology made the Middle Kingdom formidable?

11. What mistake do the pharaohs of the New Kingdom make?

12. Give two fascinating details about King Tut?

13. What is unique about the longevity of Egypt?
Indus River Valley Crash Course

1. What are four characteristic of Civilization according to Greene?

2. Why were rivers necessary for early civilizations?

3. What were four interesting characteristic about the Indus River Valley Civilization?

4. What were two rather unique innovations of the Indus River civilization?

5. How do we know that trade existed between the Indus valley and Mesopotamia?

6. What are the three theories that explain the demise of the Indus River valley civilization?

What are reasons for clinginess among boyfriends?