

AP Human Geography Summer Reading List 2019

Hamden High School

Mr. O'Brien

Greetings, I hope that you have an enjoyable summer. Below is a summer reading book list for AP Human Geography. I would like you to choose one book to read this summer for AP Human Geography and to write a book review for that book. You must also complete a textbook assignment. **The book review and the summer textbook assignment will be due on the first day of school.** Please see the **book review format** and **textbook assignment** included herewith.

General Geography

Bryson, Bill. *A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail*. Broadway Books. 1998.

Diamond, Jared. *Guns, Germs and Steel*. W.W. Norton & Company. 1999.

Philbrick, Nathaniel. *In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Warship Essex*. Penguin. 2000.

Political Geography

Kaplan, Robert D. *Monsoon: The Indian Ocean and the Future of American Power*. Random House. 2011.

Cultural Geography

Benanav, Michael. *Men of Salt: Crossing the Sahara on the Caravan of White Gold*. Lyons Press. 2008.

Stewart, Rory. *The Places in Between*. Harcourt Books. 2004.

Population Geography

Kotkin, Joel. *The Next Hundred Million, America in 2050*. The Penguin Press. 2010.

Urban Geography

Glaeser, Edward. *Triumph of the City: How Our Greatest Invention Makes Us Richer, Smarter, Greener, Healthier and Happier*. Penguin Press. 2011.

Speck, Jeff. *Walkable City: How Downtown Can Save America, One Step at a Time*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. 2012.

I have chosen these books because they relate to important topics covered in the AP Human Geography curriculum. We will refer to these books in class discussions throughout the year. These books may be found in many local libraries, book stores and online at amazon.com. Research each book and decide which one you would like to read.

Take notes on what you read. The book review format is attached below.

Book Review Format

Once you have read one book from the AP Human Geography summer reading list, please use the following format to write a book review. Book reviews should be word processed, double spaced, 12 font, times new roman, with one inch margins and 4 to 6 pages in length. **This book review is due on the first day of school.**

- I. Description/Summary
 - a. Identify title, author, publisher, place published, date published. 5pts.
 - b. Summarize the important points and highlights of the book. 20 pts.

- II. Analysis
 - a. Author's main idea – What main point would the author like to get across the reader? 10 pts.
 - b. Evidence - What evidence does the author use to get across his or her main idea? 10 pts.
 - c. Example – Provide a passage from the book as evidence of the author's main idea and explain why it reflects the author's main idea. 10 pts.

- III. Themes of Geography 20 pts.

What examples of the 5 themes of geography (location, place, human/environmental interaction, movement and region) are present in the book? If you are not sure of the meaning of these themes, you find descriptions of these themes by doing a web inquiry related to the Five Themes of Geography.

- IV. Appraisal
 - Did you like or dislike the book? Why? 10 pts.
 - How might the book have been better written or more informative? 5 pts.

- V. Ten points reserved for overall paper. 10 pts.

Format, spelling, grammar, punctuation, verb tense, and length will all be taken into account.

Total 100 pts.

APHG - Unit 1 – Summer Textbook Questions 2018 – 40 pts. Please pick up a textbook from Mr. O'Brien and answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper. Unless otherwise noted, each question is worth two points. **These questions will be due on the first day of school.**

1. What is the literal Greek translation of the word geography?
2. What 2 main branches can the science of geography be broken into?
3. List six subfields that human geography can be broken into.
4. What two factors are pulling people in opposite directions in today's world? What problems does this tension cause?
5. How can McDonald's be seen as an example of globalization? Why do some people get so upset by its spread? How has McDonald's fought this?
6. Describe the site and situation characteristics of Manhattan.
7. What aspects of culture do toponyms reflect?
8. How do cancer rates vary across different scales in the United States? What are some reasons for these variations?
9. How might the word 'culture' mean different things to different people? How do geographers look at the word?
10. How do differences in the cultural landscape help us define regions?
11. Are you an environmental determinist or a possibilist? Explain your answer.
12. What is a hearth? How does a hearth emerge?
13. Please define the process of diffusion. Please define and give an example of the following types of diffusion: relocation diffusion, hierarchical diffusion and stimulus diffusion. (12 points)
14. Define arithmetic density. Is arithmetic density related to poverty?
15. What is a transnational corporation? How do transnational corporations remain competitive in a global economy?