

# Ms. Peth's Summer Reading

Hello! I am Ms. Peth, and I am so excited to have you in my class this upcoming fall! Over the course of this summer, you will be looking at one of the greatest documents in all of human history, The United States Constitution! You will also be reading the first ten chapters of our “textbook” and answering questions as you read. Please complete the following assignments using your books, *No Fear the Constitution*, and, *A Young People's History of the United States*. Please also use the links provided.

## Chapter Breakdown: A Young People's History of the United States

**Directions:** Please use, *A Young People's History of the United States*, to answer these questions please write or type your answers in complete sentences.

### Chapter 1: Columbus and the Indians

1. How does Columbus refer to Arawak Indians he encountered when he first arrived in Bahama Islands?
2. How were the Arawak Indians different from Europeans.
3. What happened to the Arawak Indians as a result of not being able to provide the Spanish with enough gold?
4. Who spoke out against Columbus's treatment of the Indians?
5. What caused the Powhatans to finally rebel against the colonists?

### Chapter 2: Black and White

1. What prevented the colonists from enslaving Native Americans?
2. When were the first Africans brought to the United States?
3. What was the difference between slavery in Africa and slavery in the United States?
4. How did enslaved Africans show their resistance to slavery?
5. What measures were taken by people in power to keep blacks and whites from joining as equals?

### Chapter 3: Who were the Colonists?

1. Who were the colonists rebelling against in Bacon's Rebellion?
2. How the gap between rich and poor grow wider during the colonial years?
3. What were the three big fears of the people who ruled the colonies?
4. How did authorities divide whites, black slaves, and Indians?
5. How did ruling authorities gain the support of middle class whites?

### Chapter 4: Tyranny is Tyranny

1. What was the “Regulator Movement”?
2. Who were the Loyal Nine?
3. What political and social leaders in Boston form as a reaction to British oppression and the Boston Massacre?
4. What did Thomas Paine write? Why was it so effective?
5. Who did the Declaration not include?
6. How did Jefferson originally include slavery in the Declaration of Independence?

### Chapter 5: Revolutions

1. What group of people did most of the fighting and suffering during the revolution?
2. Were the colonies united in the fight against Britain? Why or why not?
3. What roles did Indians and Blacks play in the Revolution?
4. How did the state of Massachusetts restrict people's ability to vote?
5. Why did farmers revolt during the Revolution?
6. What groups were not included in the writing of the Constitution?
7. What groups were not allowed a vote?
8. How did the Sedition Act of 1798 contradict the Constitution?

## **Chapter 6: The Women of Early America**

1. How were women treated in the colonies?
2. How did the law see women compared to men?
3. Who was Anne Hutchinson and why is she significant?
4. Where did women experience more equality?
5. How did women advocate for the rights textile mill workers?
6. How did education further women's activism and push for legal rights?
7. What role did race play in the women's right movement?
8. Why do you think women were largely invisible from history for so long?

## **Chapter 7: As Long as Grass Grows or Water Runs**

1. Why was Andrew Jackson famous? How did he treat Native Americans?
2. How did the government remove Indians from Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, other places?
3. How were Native American communities affected by the Trail of Tears?
4. What was the importance of the creation of the Cherokee syllabic alphabet?
5. Why did the government forcefully remove Indians off of their own land?

## **Chapter 8: War with Mexico?**

1. How did the war with Mexico begin?
2. What is Civil Disobedience?
3. How did writers speak out against the government?
4. How did Mexicans push back against invading forces in west?
5. What did the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo say?

## **Chapter 9: Slavery and Emancipation**

1. How did John Little describe slavery? Why did he say slaves danced and sang?
2. What were the group of people called who sought to end slavery?
3. Why is Walker's Appeal significant?
4. What is the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 and why was it created?
5. Who did Fredrick Douglas blame for slavery?
6. Why is the Dredd Scott case so significant?
7. How were the poor and rich affected differently by the draft in the Civil War?
8. How did the Emancipation Proclamation and the Thirteenth Amendment fail to grant African Americans full equality and freedom?
9. After the Civil War how did blacks gain more political power?
10. In the 1870's how was the political power gained by blacks stripped away and why?
11. What were W.E.B. DuBois criticisms of capitalism?

## **Chapter 10: The Other Civil War**

1. What is the "Myth of Jacksonian Democracy"?
2. What was life like for most Americans?
3. How did companies control competition?
4. How did laborers work together against big business in 1835?
5. How did religion play a role in the labor movement?
6. What was the Morrill Tariff?
7. How did economic crisis impact Labor Movements?

## **Section 2: Our Founding Documents**

**Directions:** Please type or write your answer to the following questions in complete sentences.

### **Part 1: Philosophy Behind the Constitution**

Use the following link to answer these questions.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6SZsoY-L7MY&t=40s>

1. What are three things the United States Constitution guarantees?
2. When did the Enlightenment occur and where did the Enlightenment begin?
3. How are ideals of the Enlightenment found in the Declaration of Independence?
4. What cause did the colonists give for breaking away from Britain?
5. Where did most early American immigrants come from?

### **Part 2: The Articles of Confederation**

Use the following link to answer these questions

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k-YOiGwPsy8&t=4s>

1. When were the Articles of Confederation created?
2. What did the Articles of Confederation reflect?
3. What powers did the Articles of Confederation?
4. What were the drawbacks of the Articles of Confederation?
5. How did the central government raise money?
6. What event highlighted the weakness of the Articles of Confederation? Why?
7. Who were supporters of a strong central government?

### **Part 3: The Constitution**

Use the following link to answer these questions.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jgRWoKKFrd8&t=2s>

1. When was the Constitutional Convention held? What was the primary question of the convention?
2. What did large states support? What did small states support?
3. What is a bicameral legislature?
4. What role did slavery play in the Constitution?
5. What is federalism? What does it do?
6. What is the supremacy clause?
7. What is the Bill of Rights and why was it created?
8. When was the Constitution ratified?