

## **Summer Reading Assignment 2025**

Welcome to Honors U.S. History 1! Our main textbook for at-home reading assignments will be The American Pageant, a thorough secondary source geared to the AP-US History Exam. While we will spend much time in class analyzing *primary* sources, we will also consider alternative *secondary* sources from time to time. Please read the following two secondary sources<sup>1</sup>:

- Chapter 1 of Howard Zinn's A People's History of the United States.  
<https://www.historyisaweapon.com/defcon1/zinncol1.html>
- "Indian Slavery in the Americas", an essay by Professor Alan Gallyay  
<https://www.gilderlehrman.org/history-resources/essays/indian-slavery-americas>

Respond to the following prompts in a Google Doc. **DO NOT EMAIL IT OR PRINT IT YET!** On the first or second day of school, you will receive instructions for either uploading the document to Canvas, using the document to complete an in-class, open-notes assessment, or both.

For each prompt, write a **brief paragraph of 3-5 complete sentences IN YOUR OWN WORDS<sup>2</sup>**. Evidence in support of your response should be paraphrased rather than quoted, and citations are **not** necessary. Be sure to restate the prompt, and pay close attention to grammar and spelling.

### **Prompts from Zinn reading:**

1. **Contrast** Zinn's and Morison's views of Columbus.
2. Describe four (4) **examples of Spanish mistreatment of enslaved native on *encomiendas*** in the Caribbean islands, as chronicled by Bartolome de las Casas.
3. **Is Zinn convincing** in his claim that North American native civilizations were **not inferior** to European civilizations? **Provide examples** in support of your answer.
4. **How does Zinn respond** to Kissinger's claim that, "**History is the memory of states**"?

### **Prompts relating to the Gallyay reading:**

5. What **evidence** does Gallyay use to **refute the racist claim that Indians loved freedom while Africans were used to slavery**?
6. According to Gallyay, **how did the way Natives became enslaved differ** between a) **North America** and b) **South America and the West Indies**? In his view, how should this **change the way we look at enslavement** throughout history?

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<sup>1</sup> Each year, by mid-October, several students realize that the Honors class is more challenging than they expected, and go through the process of changing their schedule. **If the reading levels for this assignment are very difficult** for you, please consider emailing your Guidance Counselor about ensuring proper US History 1 placement **before** the school year starts.

<sup>2</sup> Be aware that ChatGPT provided excellent responses to these prompts! I saved those for comparison with student responses, so **be sure your work is original**.