



AP US HISTORY II SUMMER ASSIGNMENT 2026

Happy Summer Break :) As we prepare to finish out the second half of APUSH curriculum this school year, I am going to ask that you do a few things over break so we can hit the ground running once school begins.

1. **Vocabulary Prep.** I have attached a list of Vocabulary terms from Period 6 – 1865-1898, which we will begin upon return. Please define these terms on your own & study them. Once we return to school, we will have a quiz on these terms at the end of the first full week. You will be asked to define one of the terms and provide its historical context. I have provided an example on the next page.
2. **Essays.** You will read five essays from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. The link below will take you to the website, and I have listed the specific essays you are to read. Please read & annotate these essays. Your annotations will serve as your own notes on the reading. We will be having class discussions about these essays once we return to school. You may refer to your annotations/notes during our class discussions.
 - a. <https://www.gilderlehrman.org/ap-us-history/period-6>
 - i. **The Development of the West** by *Ned Blackhawk*
 - ii. **Citizenship in Reconstruction South** by *Susanna Lee*
 - iii. **The Gilded Age** by *T. Jackson Lears*
 - iv. **Immigration & Migration** by *Hasia Diner*
 - v. **Labor Day; From Protests to Picnics** by *Joshua B. Freeman*

If you have any questions over break, I will occasionally check in with my school email. Though, please keep in mind that my responses will not be frequent. My email address is tmurphy@shsd.org – have a wonderful summer! I look forward to working with you this fall :)

- Ms. Murphy

PERIOD 6 VOCABULARY LIST

*Define the following terms & describe their historical significance for yourself and practice with them over your break. When defining these terms, please remember **CONTEXT!** These definitions should be based on Period 6 (1865-1898).*

Trust	Holding Company	Laissez-faire capitalism	Social Darwinism
Robber Baron	Captain of Industry	Union Pacific	Central Pacific
Interstate Commerce Act	Sherman Antitrust Act	Knights of Labor	American Federation of Labor
National Grange Movement	Homestead Act	Reservation System	Dawes Severity Act 1887
Santa Fe Trail	Tenant Farmers	George Washington Carver	Plessy v. Ferguson
Jim Crow laws	Literacy Test	Poll taxes	Ida B. Wells
Booker T. Washington	W.E.B. Du Bois	Bessemer Process	Andrew Carnegie
John D. Rockefeller	Monopoly	Pullman Strike	Push Factors
Pull Factors	Tenements	Chinese Exclusion Act	Political Machine
Tammany Hall	Settlement House	Pendleton Act 1881	Omaha Platform
"Cross of Gold"	Populists	Eugene V. Debs	Muckracker

EX:

INTERSTATE COMMERCE ACT: *Definition*: This was a federal law that regulated railroad rates and practices through the federal body known as the Interstate Commerce Commission. *Historical context*: first time the federal government regulated big business.

You can use the internet to search and define these terms (there are endless quizlets, websites, etc. all based on APUSH content) When we return to school, if you have questions on terms, we can address them in class together.