

AP US History Summer Reading

This summer we will be reading two books, one everyone must read and the second can be a selection of your choice from the list below.

DUE DATE: Both book assignments are due on the first day of school.

Book Selections:

Mandatory Book 1:

1. Lies My Teacher Told Me by James Loewen

Choice Book 2 (Choose one to the following):

1. Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave
2. Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin
3. Up From Slavery by Booker T. Washington
4. Lincoln by David Herbert Donald

Assignments:

Mandatory Book 1 (Lies My Teacher Told Me):

1. As you read the book take notes on the themes and ideas that you encounter. Especially take note of the author's argument and specific evidence used to support that argument.
2. After you have read the book and taken notes, you must complete the following:
 - Write an analytical, thesis-based essay of approximately three double-spaced pages in length (12 pt, Times New Roman font, 1 inch margins), addressing all of the following:
 - i. What is the author's main argument? This may not be obvious at first. There may be multiple arguments. Choose one and write about it.
 - ii. What evidence or examples does the author provide to support that argument?
 - iii. Is the argument convincing? What counter arguments or holes in the argument can you find?
 - iv. How could have the author more effectively presented his argument? Cite specific examples.

Choice Book 2:

1. As you read the book highlight and annotate your own copy. Read the work closely and analyze the importance and contributions of each person discussed that played an essential role in the founding of our country. You should keep a journal of the main ideas and issues presented in each chapter. (This may be a bulleted list)
2. Create a mock interview between a journalist and the subject of your biography. You must write the interview questions and the responses you would imagine the historical figure would give. The interview should be 2-3 pages long (preferably typed, double spaced). Your grade will be based on your use of accurate, specific content from the book including your ability to accurately reflect the ideas of the biographical subject.

Should you have any questions? Or have issues that arise over the summer? You can email Ms. Sanchez at instructorsanchez@gmail.com or Mr. Temple @ keenan.temple@gmail.com