Advanced Placement U.S. History
2018 Summer Reading Assignment

The summer assignment in AP U.S. History is designed to help you understand some of the pivotal days that transformed our nation, and assist you in developing engaging accessible background knowledge for your college-level AP U.S. History course, and help you meet your goals for success on the AP exam. The book has been a top-seller, and I hope you find it to be an engaging read “about the great democratic ideals upon which our country was built.”

Selection: 10 Days That Unexpectedly Changed America by Steven M. Gillon

Reading Assignment:
Read the following from 10 Days that Unexpectedly Changed America:
1. Introduction
2. 2 of the first 4 chapters
3. 3 of the last 6 chapters
4. (Total of 5 chapters required, but I encourage you to read more if your time permits.)
5. Epilogue.
(The total required reading for the entire book is only about 130 pages.)

Writing Assignment
1. Write one to two paragraphs summarizing the key ideas of the introduction. Gillon introduces major themes for the book in this section. Please be sure to include these themes in the summary.
2. Write one to two paragraphs summarizing the key ideas of the epilogue.
3. For each of your selected 5 (per above) chapters summarize the key events of the day (1-2 paragraphs) and explain why that day was so significant in our nation’s history (2-3 paragraphs). Look for the event/events it triggered or the pattern of future behavior it set in place as discussed by the author, Gillon. Be sure to read the entire chapter as often the cause and effect with significance is discussed in the last part of the chapter.
Specific Instructions for written assignment:

- Typed (double spaced, 12 font)
- MLA formatting
- Formal and academic voice

Assessment: Written summaries of the events and written analysis of the significance of the events.

As in all individual assignments for Tiverton High School, you must do your own work, and you should do your best quality work. You do not want to just quote sections of the book. Use your own skills and understanding to do the assignment

A range (90-100%) – Written summaries of the events and written analysis of the significance of the events indicate critical and close reading, thoughtful engagement and analysis. Very few if any grammatical or formatting errors are present. Academic voice. All directions are followed.

B range (80-89%) – Written summaries of the events and written analysis of the significance of the events indicate predominantly critical and close reading, and mostly thoughtful engagement and analysis. Some, although few, grammatical or formatting errors may be present. Academic voice. All directions are followed.

C range (70-79%) – Written summaries of the events and written analysis of the significance of the events answers indicate some critical and close reading and analysis, although understanding of the text may be superficial. Very few if any grammatical or formatting errors are present. Academic voice. All directions are followed.

D or F – (0-69%) These responses are not acceptable for AP-level work. It is unclear whether the book was read, or understood. Multiple errors in grammar, voice and formatting may be present.

Due Dates:
On or before Friday, August 17, 2018 at 2:00pm in the THS Main Office.
This assignment is worth 10% of your first term grade.

Note:
You are responsible for procuring a copy of the book. Don’t wait until the last minute! You may want to take advantage of used books available through on-line sources at very reasonable prices. I recommend you buy a copy if possible, as annotating is a helpful reading tool. You might also use small post-it notes for annotating.

I hope you enjoy your reading. I know you will learn important information that will help you in the class. I am looking forward to a great year with you in APUSH next year.