

APUSH

PERIOD 1: 1491-1607

**READING NOTES
PACKET**

NAME_____

Welcome to APUSH and Junior year.

In preparation for August, you will need to complete the reading and notes for the first two chapters in American Yawp. This will allow us to hit the ground running when we return to school. The reading notes are meant to be a guide as you read. You will be the most successful if you read the chapter and don't just hunt for answers. Outside reading and reading notes are a big portion of your homework in APUSH and we average one chapter a week. It is imperative that you stay on top of your reading and notes in APUSH as we build on that knowledge in class. If you haven't done the work outside of class, you will not be able to participate fully in class.

DIRECTIONS:

- All reading notes should be AP level work. Bullet points are fine, but should be thorough.
- We will not discuss all of this information in class, but YOU are responsible for knowing ALL of the information.
- Your reading notes must be handwritten. If you did not receive a hard copy of this assignment before the school year ended, you will need to print the packet and hand write your responses.
- Underline/highlight/color-code important information within your responses. Figure out a system that works for you and implement that system for the year.
- Your completed notes should be a study guide for each period.

APUSH TEXTBOOK LINK:

- We will be using [AMERICAN YAWP](#) as our primary textbook for APUSH.
- Click on the link and then click on the chapter title to access the reading.

DUE DATE:

- Chapters 1 and 2 are due **Monday/Tuesday August 18-19** at the beginning of your APUSH hour.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Sullivan or Mr. Mowry. We are happy that you have taken on the challenge of APUSH and we look forward to working with you during the 2025-2026 school year.

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CHAPTER 1: INDIGENOUS AMERICA

I: INTRODUCTION

Discuss the ways Native Americans were dynamic and diverse prior to the arrival of Europeans.

II: THE FIRST AMERICANS

What “big picture” impact did the arrival of Europeans have on Native Americans?

Describe how scholars have determined that the Americas were once a “new world” for Native Americans. (Bering Strait Land Bridge)

Explain how agriculture contributed to massive population growth across the continent.

Indigenous Group	Modern Day Location	Specific Crops	Impact of Crop and Additional Info
Mesoamericans			
Eastern Woodlands			

Discuss ways in which indigenous people shared these broad traits.

Spiritual	Kinship	Women and Marriage	Property Rights

Describe 3 ways specific Native American tribes communicated.

Discuss the unique characteristics of these specific culture groups in North America.

Indigenous Tribe	Successes (be specific)	Challenges (be specific)
Pueblo Location: Chaco Canyon northern New Mexico		
Cahokia Location: East of modern-day St. Louis along the Mississippi		

How can archaeologists prove that Native American communities were connected by long-distance trading routes?

Discuss the unique characteristics of these Native American societies.

Region Where is this region located?	Community Organization and Connections	Resources	Successes
Eastern Woodlands			
Pacific Northwest			

III: EUROPEAN EXPANSION

How did each piece of technology contribute to European exploration?

Astrolabe	Caravel

Analyze the impact of the Portuguese on European colonization and exploration.

Discuss how sugar contributed to the first Atlantic plantations.

“They are very gentle and without knowledge of what is evil; not the signs of murder or theft....Your highness may believe that in all the world there can be no better people...”
Christopher Columbus

What does this quote say about the indigenous population of the Caribbean islands?	In what ways does this quote contradict the actions of Columbus?

How did Bartolome de Las Casas describe the actions of the Spanish in the New World?

Explain how biology magnified the cruelties of the Europeans.

IV: SPANISH EXPLORATION AND CONQUEST

Explain how the encomienda system worked.

Discuss how Spanish conquistadors led by Hernan Cortes were able to conquer the Aztec empire.

The Spaniards incorporated Native Americans into colonial life, but this incorporation did not mean equality. Create a diagram that explains the strict racial hierarchy system that existed for the Spanish conquistadors in the New World.

CHAPTER 2: COLLIDING CULTURES

II. SPANISH AMERICA

Describe how Spain extended its reach in the Americas eventually extending into the modern-day United States.

Spanish Explorer	Where?	Impact on Indigenous Populations (be specific)
Juan Ponce de Leon		
Juan de Onate		

Discuss how Spanish Missions became the “engine of colonization” in North America.

III. SPAIN’S RIVALS EMERGE

Analyze the development of the “Black Legend” and discuss how this contributed to Spain’s rivals arriving in the New World.

Explain how the French developed a more “cooperative and mutually beneficial relationship” with Native Americans different from the Spanish and English.

Explain the “middle-ground” that developed between the Algonquian speaking people and the French.

	Explain how each impacted Dutch colonization.
Financial Resources	

Hugo Grotius Ideals	
Manhattan Island and Peter Minuit	
Trade	
Patron System	
Slavery	

Discuss the importance of the Treaty of Tordesillas and what the treaty said regarding Native Americans.

Explain how Portuguese Colonization contributed to an increased reliance on slavery and the impact on the Atlantic slave trade.

IV. ENGLISH COLONIZATION

Discuss the social and economic changes that occurred in England in mid-late 1500's.

Analyze England's justification for colonization in the New World.

Richard Hakluyt's defense of English Colonization in "Discourse on Western Planting," 1584.

Religious Benefits	Moral Benefits	Economic Benefits

How did joint-stock companies work for the benefit of English merchants?

Explain the state-sponsored form of piracy known as privateering.

Describe how England was able to defeat the Spanish Armada allowing England to exert its dominance in North America.

What is believed to have happened to the English colony at Roanoke?

V. JAMESTOWN

Jamestown April 1607	Use specific details to analyze what happened with the settlement at Jamestown.
Why Jamestown?	
“He that will not work, shall not eat.” John Smith	
Early Relations with the Powhatans	
“Starving Time”	

Explain how tobacco saved Jamestown.

What was the headright policy and how did it help the growth of Virginia?

What was the House of Burgesses?

How did the Powhatan Wars impact the settlement of Virginia?

Analyze what contributed to English feelings of entitlement to indigenous lands and resources.

Describe the early years of American slavery and ideas about race.

VI. NEW ENGLAND

Discuss the basic beliefs and ideals of the Puritans.

Explain the meaning/purpose of John Winthrop's "City Upon a Hill" as it relates to the settlement of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

The population of New England grew from 21,000 in the early 1600's to 91,000 by 1700. Explain the contributing factors to this growth in population.

Using specific examples, explain how the Puritans were successful in building their utopia in the New World.	Using specific examples, explain how the Puritans failed to build their utopia in the New World.