

AP US HISTORY I SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

DUE: Orientation Day

PAGE LENGTH: 2-3 pages DOUBLE SPACED (12pt font)

WORTH: 1 Test Grade

When does American history begin? What date or event marks the beginning of American history? Below is a list of dates and events that some historians identify as the start of American history.

YOUR TASK:

1. Pick a date and event from list below and argue why this is the beginning of American history. If there is another date/event not listed that you believe marks the beginning of American history, you may write about it.
2. Go to UC website (www.unioncatholic.org), go to ACADEMICS tab, and click on ONLINE LIBRARY. Using the Gale Reference Library, you must find and read 2 articles that pertain to your event. Use must incorporate and cite these articles in your essay. Please see supplemental page on how to integrate a quote, cite a source and create a "Works Cited" page.

If you cannot find 2 articles, you may search for one on the internet. However, you must email me (esagendorf@unioncatholic.org) the link so I can approve it.

3. Pick a date and even from the list below and argue why it CAN'T be the beginning of American history.

DATE	EVENT
Approx. 20,000 BC	People first migrate from Asia across the Bering land bridge.
985-1000AD	Vikings from Scandinavia explore the western North Atlantic.
1492	The first voyage of Christopher Columbus.
1565	Spanish settlement is established at St. Augustine in Florida.
1607	The first permanent British settlement at Jamestown, Virginia.
1619	The first enslaved Africans are brought to Jamestown.
1620	Pilgrims arrive in what will become Massachusetts.
1776-1783	Declaration of Independence followed by a successful war for separation.
1787-1789	The Constitution is written and a new government is formed.
1812 – 1815	War of 1812
1861-1865	The U.S. Civil War
???????	Another date/event not on the list

HERE IS HOW YOUR ESSAY SHOULD LOOK:

- PARAGRAPH 1: Introduction** (3 sentences total. 2 introductory sentences followed by your thesis statement.)

Your thesis statement can be the following sentence:

Although historians argue that (Insert event name for Question #3) marks the start of American history, (insert even name for Question #1) more accurately reflects the beginning because (insert brief explanation.)

EXAMPLE: Although historians argue that the voyage of Christopher Columbus marks the start of American History, the War of 1812 more accurately reflects the beginning because this was the first time when American was a truly independent nation.

- PARAGRAPH 2 & 3: Body Paragraphs** answering question #1.
- PARAGRAPH 4: Body Paragraph** answering question #3.
- PARAGRAPH 5: Conclusion**

ESSAY MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING SUPPLEMENTAL PAGES

- **COVER PAGE:** Include the title of your paper, your name, AP US History I, my name, and the date. Your name should not appear on any other pages.
- **WORKS CITED PAGE**

WHEN WRITING YOUR ESSAY:

- Avoid using any form of the 1st person. No "I", "we", "me", "our", or "us". Points will be deducted.
- Avoid speaking to the reader by using the word "you". Points will be deducted.
- Avoid ending your conclusion with the phrase "In conclusion". Points will be deducted.

HOW TO INTEGRATE & CITE A QUOTE:

Let's say you're reading an article entitled, "War of 1812: The Beginning of American History" by Dermot Quinn. In that article, there's a line or paragraph that would be perfect for your essay. You can either (1) cite the sentence directly or (2) summarize the line in your own words. Either way, you need to cite that sentence.

Here is the sentence from the article by Dermot Quinn:

By staving off a British invasion, the American government successfully gained its independence and worldwide respect.

Here's one way to integrate the WHOLE quote and cite it.

The War of 1812 marked the beginning of American history. According to Dermot Quinn, "By staving off a British invasion, the American government successfully gained its independence and worldwide respect" (Quinn).

Here's one way to PARAPHRASE the quote and cite it.

The War of 1812 marked the beginning of American history. Unlike popular opinion, the United States did not truly gain its independence until it help off the British invasion during the War of 1812 (Quinn).

HOW TO CREATE A WORKS CITED PAGE

- If you are using a source from GALE Reference Library, scroll down to the bottom and copy the citation.

Here's an example:

"The Forgotten War." *War of 1812*. Detroit: UXL, 2002. 3-8. *Gale Virtual Reference Library*. Web. 3 June 2015

- If you are using a source outside of GALE Reference Library, do the following:

- 1) Google the following phrase: NoodleToolsExpress and click on the first link.
- 2) This is the website you should be on: <http://www.noodletools.com/noodlebib/express.php>
- 3) Click on MLA and follow the steps to create a citation.

- On your works cited page, the citations should be in alphabetical order.