AP US History Summer Assignment 2015

1. Choose one of the following two books:
   - *Founding Brothers* by Joseph J. Ellis (6 chapters; approximately 300 pages)
   - *The Johnstown Flood* by David G. McCullough (9 chapters; approximately 300 pages)
Both books can be found at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and the San Jose Public Library.

2. Keep a Reading Reflection Log (RRL) for your book. After reading each chapter or section, complete a Reading Reflection. Each Reading Reflection has two parts.
   1) 2-3 sentence summary in your own words.
   2) 3-5 sentence response to the chapter using ONE of the following options:
      a. **Comment** – share your reaction to the chapter (e.g., thoughts, feelings, etc.) and discuss why you had that reaction.
      b. **Connection** – find information that relates to something meaningful you know and discuss how it relates to what you know.
      c. **Contradiction** – find information that challenges something meaningful you know and discuss how it challenges what you know.
      d. **Question** – ask a meaningful question (i.e., answer is not directly stated in the text) and discuss possible answers.
      e. **Quotation** – cite an extremely meaningful section of the chapter and discuss why you think it is meaningful (note: the quotation does not count as part of the 3-5 sentences).

Therefore, each Reading Reflection needs to be a total of at least 5 sentences long. Students that use a variety of responses throughout their RRL can expect a higher grade. Your RRL must be typed, as they will be submitted to Turnitin.com during the week of school to help check for originality. Use the following format for your RRL:

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Book Title

Chapter # or Section Title

  • Summary
  • Response (label each response: e.g., “Comment” or “Contradiction”)
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3. Answer the response questions appropriate to your chosen book. Each book has a different set of questions. Please respond in complete sentences. There are many more questions for *Founding Brothers*, but the *Johnstown Flood* questions are more complex. Again, answers must be typed and will be submitted to Turnitin.com along with your RRL.

Students will be held accountable for their reading with a quiz or discussion (depending on your teacher) in the first week of school. Students who have not completed the entire summer assignment by the first day of school will be graded down for lateness. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. James or Mr. Holly. We hope you have a great summer and look forward to meeting you soon.

Best wishes,

Ms. James (Jamesa@esuhsd.org) & Mr. Holly (Hollyj@esuhsd.org)
(You can also tweet at Ms. James: @JamestownAPUSH)
Preface—Read this section.

“The Dinner”

1. What are the styles and personalities of Madison, Hamilton, and Jefferson?
2. How did they try to out-maneuver and out-politic their rivals?
3. What were their philosophies about how the nation should be shaped/developed?
4. The two major issues facing the nation in 1790 were “assumption” and “residence”.
   a. What was the Assumption Bill? The Residence Bill?
   b. What priorities did Madison, Hamilton, and Jefferson take on these?

“The Silence”

1. What was The Madisonian method of countering the opposition?
2. Explain the Significance of 1808.
3. Explain each point of view in The Debate: Jackson, Baldwin, and Smith (Georgia) vs. Laurence (New York), Scott (Pennsylvania).
4. What was Gerry’s (Massachusetts) proposal?
5. What concern did Madison have about the future expansion of slavery?
6. How did Madison view separation of the states?—slave/non-slave (North vs South) instead of Large vs. Small?
7. What were the two opposing viewpoints/objectives concerning slavery: New England/Mid-Atlantic States (Luther Martin—Maryland and Gouverneur Morris—New York) vs. Southern States (Charles Cotesworth Pinckney—South Carolina and Pierce Butler/John Rutledge—South Carolina)?
8. What was the Northwest Ordinance of 1787? Describe its effect on the expansion of slavery in the Northwest and Southwest Territories.
9. What was the Great Compromise? How did it impact slavery?
10. What were the key points made by Jackson as he debated for two hours on the floor?
11. What did the 1790 census reveal? (America’s first)
12. What assumptions were made about a gradual emancipation of slaves? What were the two major obstacles/impediments to gradual emancipation?

“The Farewell”

1. The two major influences on Washington’s Farewell Address were James Madison and Alexander Hamilton. How did each “brother” influence and affect the final draft/outcome? Give at least one specific example for Madison and one for Hamilton.
2. In his final farewell, what were Washington’s views on the following?
   a. the state of the union in terms of the effects the Jay Treaty was having on the nation and the relationship with the Indians, the overall economy, etc.
   b. expansion of governmental services and the military
   c. a national university
   d. his view of who were citizens and on what level were citizens considered
   e. slavery
   f. Native Americans

“The Collaborators”

1. How was a candidate looked upon who went out and sought others to vote for him?
2. Who were the only candidates really eligible to run for office and to be seriously considered? In 1796, who were the only two serious candidates?
3. What two things did Adams do to ensure Virginia’s support for the war effort?
4. What did he write in 1779 upon returning from Paris?
5. How did Adams feel about being vice president?
6. What rule did the Senate pass regarding the vice president’s role, shortly after Adams became vice president?
7. Why did Washington leave Adams out of executive decision-making?
8. How did a printer’s mistake start the rift between Adams and Jefferson?
9. How did Adams and Jefferson’s styles differ? What ended their friendship?
10. How was the Adams/Jefferson alliance different from the Jefferson/Madison alliance?
11. What was Madison busy doing behind the scenes from 1792-96?
12. Why did Aaron Burr visit Monticello during this time?
13. What was Jefferson’s “denial mechanism”, and how did Madison feed that?
15. How did the selection of president and vice president change with the 12th Amendment?
16. What was Jefferson’s public response to Adams after Adams was proclaimed the winner?
17. Why it was difficult to follow in Washington’s footsteps?
18. What was Adams’ scheme or strategy for his presidency and the "Jefferson" issue?
19. What was Adams’ belief in the best hope of keeping the U.S. neutral and out of war?
20. What was the hidden reason Jefferson was happy to allow Adams to become the second president?
21. What was Adams’ biggest blunder as he took office?
22. What was Adams “double dilemma”?
23. Name the major factions that came together to damage the Adams Administration.
24. Why did Adams want John Quincy as Minister to Prussia?
25. What was Abigail’s influence over domestic policy and her anti-Jefferson feelings?
26. Why did Adams oppose a large standing army?
27. What were the three overlapping reasons Adams sent a second peace envoy to France?
28. What was The Callender Episode and Jefferson’s involvement?
29. How did Madison save Jefferson from going too far toward secessionism?
30. How did the Sedition Act backfire on Federalists?
31. How did Napoleon’s actions hurt Jefferson and his faith in the French Revolution?
32. How did Aaron Burr help in getting votes away from Adams?
33. Why did Jefferson call the Election of 1800 the “Revolution of 1800”?
34. What were Adams’ whereabouts as Jefferson prepares to take the oath as president?

“The Friendship”

1. Ironically, what happened on the day Adams returned to his farm, Braintree, that seemed to symbolize his life?
2. Whom did Adams consider the "shadow man"?
3. What seemed to hurt Adams the most in his relationship with Jefferson?
4. What event in 1804 resulted in Abigail Adams breaking down and writing a letter to Jefferson, in which she opened up and demonstrated how devastated she felt that the friendship between the Adams and the Jefferson's had deteriorated and that her heart was with Jefferson?
5. What does Jefferson realize in his analysis of his friendship with the Adams and tells Abigail in a return letter in 1804?
6. Admittedly, what did Jefferson say was the only thing Adams had done politically that Jefferson found insulting and still had some ill feelings about?
7. What was the other "code" that Jefferson violated?
8. Did John Adams know at the time that his wife and Jefferson had resumed correspondence (in 1804)?
9. What happened for eight years following this first series of letters?
10. As the years from the time of the signing of the Declaration of Independence passed and the number of signers of the Declaration began to dwindle, and as Jefferson grew in importance as an American icon, what bothered Adams the most?
11. When Adams attempted to write his memoirs and to set the record straight, what seemed to happen instead?
12. How did Jefferson’s retirement differ from that of Adams?
13. Which university did Jefferson found?
14. To which “modern-day” job would the “puffers” be compared?
15. In his letters to Rush, how did Adams interpret Jefferson’s sudden resignation as Secretary of State under Washington?
16. What prophetic dream did Rush have in 1809 and shared with Adams?
17. Somewhat conspiratorially, what was Rush doing at the same time he was revealing his dream to Adams?
18. What did Jefferson and Adams realize as they wrote each other?
19. When cornered, how did Jefferson shift the responsibility of having spitefully criticized Adams back in 1800?
20. Whom did Adams use as his "bellweather" or his guide in writing to Jefferson?
21. According to Jefferson, how should the aristocracies in America differ from those previously in world history?
22. According to Adams, how did he see the formation of aristocracies?
23. Regarding slavery, what did both men agree to?
24. After Abigail’s death in 1818 and the Compromise of 1820, what did both Jefferson and Adams realize?
25. How did both men see heaven?
26. What famous French leader made a final visit in 1824 and stopped at both Quincy and Monticello?
27. Who was the third surviving signer of the Declaration?
28. What metaphor does Ellis use to explain both Adams’ and Jefferson’s viewpoints about America’s purpose and future?
29. What major “breaker” was clearly in the path of the new nation, threatening to tear it apart?
30. In the history books, whose story of America prevailed, as the other knew it would?
31. What was significant about Jefferson’s final words?
32. What was prophetic about Adams’ last words?

**APUSH Summer Assignment: The Johnstown Flood**

*Instructions:* Answer each question, using complete sentences, in paragraph form.

1. What was Johnstown like before the flood—how does David McCullough describe its people and surroundings?

2. What does the book reveal about class and ethnic divisions.

3. McCullough insists that the Johnstown flood was not a natural disaster. Is he right? Where does McCullough lay the blame?

4. The dam was repaired after its purchase in 1879—why were those repairs not sufficient? Should individuals have been held accountable?

5. Could something of the magnitude of the Johnstown Flood happen today? Why...or why not? Or would you say that we have, in fact, experienced similar kinds of man-made disasters in recent years?

6. Is McCullough able—through his use of only language and imagery—to create a vivid picture of what the wall of water would have looked like? Overall, are McCullough’s descriptive powers as a writer up to the task?

7. How did the townspeople cope after the flood? Address the administrative, governmental measures they undertook the day after the deluge.

8. Were you impressed by or critical of their level-headedness or ingenuity? Explain.

9. McCullough presents us with a portrait of one of America’s most beloved heroines, Clara Barton. Talk about who Barton was and discuss her work in Johnstown.

10. According to McCullough, which individuals acted bravely? Who impressed you the most? Why?

11. According to McCullough, which individuals acted foolishly? Who impressed you the least? Why?

12. After reading *The Johnstown Flood*, what have you learned about the flood and/or the era? What surprised you...or struck you as particularly interesting...or made the greatest impression on you?

13. How would modern news coverage of the Johnstown Flood differ from that in 1889? How would it be the same? Give an explanation for these differences and similarities.

14. Overall, how would you describe *The Johnstown Flood*—in terms of clarity of writing, story-telling power, ability to sustain your interest, and exposition of historical events and people?