

Honors World Geography

Summer Assignment

1. Reading Assignment

Select a book from the list below. You will need to write a 3-4 page typed assessment on the book when you are finished. You will also need to provide a hand written rough draft to ensure that the writing is in your own words.

“Kaffir Boy” Mark Mathabane

-True story about a boy growing up in South Africa during the apartheid

“Into Thin Air” Jon Krakauer

-The worst climbing season on Mount Everest was 1996, the author tells his account of his journey and struggle up the tallest peak in the world

“Alive: The Story of the Andes Survivors” Piers Paul Read

-An account of a rugby team that crashes into the Andes Mountains, true story about survival and cannibalism

“Congo” Michael Crichton

-Science-fiction book with great vivid details of the jungles of Africa.

Go to amazon.com for more information on the books or do a quick search on the internet.

2. Label a world political map with the following features

-Continents: Asia, Africa, South America, North America, Europe

-Regions: East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, Middle East, Europe, North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, North America, Central America, Caribbean, South America

-Major Bodies of Water: All oceans, South China Sea, Bay of Bengal, Persian Gulf, Gulf of Guinea, Mediterranean Sea, Caribbean Sea, North Sea, Baltic Sea; **Rivers:** Yellow, Ganges, Indus, Tigris, Euphrates, Nile, Mississippi

You can print out maps from www.worldatlas.com or www.nationalgeographic.com

Be prepared for a test on the first day of school.

Book Assignment Guidelines

After reading the book you will write a review (4-5 pages) of the book. You will be able to discuss some important geography elements such as cultural landscape, disease diffusion, assimilation, gender inequalities, religious differences, cultural aspects, popular culture vs traditional culture, ethnic composition, demographic trends, and ethnic conflict. Not every book will address these individually, but they will provide an interesting approach to the study of world geography. Format should be as follows:

I: Introduction and Thesis statement (one paragraph)

II: Background (0.5 pages)

- Author research
- What led to the writing of this novel

III: Role of Geography (2-3 pages)

- Describe how physical and cultural geography were included
- Provide specific examples

V: Overall Opinion (0.5-1 page)

- Evaluate book
- Mention dislikes and likes
- Did it inspire, scare, or motivate you in any way?

VI: Conclusion

Stay on the format and suggested guidelines for length. The majority of the book review should come from the role of geography section. Look up the different terms and information if you don't know understand what they mean. These terms and information will all be very valuable as our class begins.

Make sure that you bring your paper to class on the first day of school.