

## *2010 A.P. U.S. History Summer Assignment Instructions*

AP U.S. History students need to complete the following assignment (Part I – III). All parts of the assignment are due either before the first day of school or on the first day of school. Each assignment gives directions as to how to complete them and when they are due. If you have any questions please email Mr. Douglas or view Mr. Douglas’s Wiki at <http://douglas-ushistory.wikispaces.com> for updates on the reading answers to commonly asked questions.

### **Part I – Chapters 1-5**

While reading, you will be required to keep notes for **every chapter** of the book. For each chapter, you should use the Cornell Method of notes. I have created an example to direct your note taking. For this assignment you will take notes on chapter 1-5 and is due on the first day of school.

*Ultimately notes should look like this: CORNELL METHOD*

<b>Title of Lecture or Lesson</b>	
<b>Date</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Cue Column</u></b></p> <p><b>2.</b> Formulate questions based on notes in note taking column.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Note Taking Column</u></b></p> <p><b>1.</b> Use this column to take notes in full Sentences.</p> <p><b>3.</b> Cover this column with a sheet of paper and try to answer question you formulated in Cue Column.</p> <p><b>4.</b> Reflect on notes by asking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How do these ideas fit in with what I already know?</li> <li>- What are the significance of the notes.</li> </ul> <p><b>5.</b> Review these notes for 10 minutes every week</p>
<b><u>Summary</u></b>	
<p><b>4.</b> After Class, use this space to summarize the notes</p>	

**PART II – 1776 by David McCullough**

**Directions: You are to read David McCullough’s 1776. This book may be found at the public libraries or bookstores (you do not need to buy it). Answer these questions as you read the book or when you finish. The answers need to be in paragraph form. Your paper should be no longer than five pages hand written, including the title page.**

**Be ready to be turned in on the first day of class.**

What is the author’s overriding thesis?

How does s/he prove his thesis?

Does s/he explain why detractors from his/her thesis are incorrect or weak arguments?

NOTE: The thesis may not be a sentence clearly established in the opening of the book. You may have to think about this.

Discuss the author’s use of evidence to prove his/her thesis.

Does the author have a bias? If so, explain.

Write two thoughtful questions you would ask the author about his/her work.  
Why these questions?

Write one thoughtful question per person you would ask five major characters in the Book.  
Why this question?

What other observations/insights do you have that strikes you as interesting?

I am particularly interested in the characters background in America, their education, their social standings influence their decisions during the revolutionary/federal times period? Why?

You may group people by region, class, and occupation if it works for you

**PART III - PERSONAL LETTER**

**Directions:** The answers need to be in paragraph form. Your paper should be no longer than 2-4 paragraphs typed, double-spaced (12 pt. Arial font and standard margins). Any and all writing assignments need to be emailed as an attachment. Only Word, RTF, or PDF attachments will be accepted. This assignment needs to be sent to me any time BEFORE the first day of school.

Assignments should be sent to [zadouglas@interact.ccsd.net](mailto:zadouglas@interact.ccsd.net)

History happens daily and we all have a personal history. I'd like to know a little about you as we embark on the year together.

**Paragraph 1 - 2:** Your name; your family, a brief statement of who you are. Include a sentence or two about why you are taking US History Honors and what you hope to get out of the class.

**Paragraph 2 - 4:** A quote that appeals to you. Then describe why you like it so much.