

Advanced Placement United States History
Chapter 1 Study Guide (pp. 2-24)
The American Pageant

Before reading the chapter, be sure to preview your reading. Look at the headings, pictures, graphs, charts, maps, and cartoons. Read captions carefully. Take care to address “Key Terms” and “People to Know”. This strategy will aid you in your reading comprehension.

1. What evidence is there to prove that the continents of the earth were once connected?
2. What is the Canadian Shield?
3. Explain how the Native Americans came to inhabit North and South America.
4. What were the three major civilizations of Central America? What was their major crop?
5. What are Native American nation-states?
6. Why is the settlement at Cahokia significant? Where was this settlement geographically located?
7. What is three-sister farming? Which peoples were produced as a result?
8. Describe the Iroquois Confederacy.
9. Why do many of the Northern Native American tribes have matrilineal cultures?
10. How did the Native American view of life contrast with that of the Europeans?
11. How many Native Americans lived in North America in 1492?
12. Who were the first Europeans to arrive in America? When?
13. How did the Crusades contribute to the discovery of America?
14. What is the caravel? How did it impact sea travel and exploration?
15. How did the European slave trade begin?
16. Who was Columbus? Discuss his discovery and the Columbian exchange.
17. How did Europe and America benefit from each other?
18. What diseases did the two continents trade? What kind of effects did these have?
19. What did the Treaty of Tordesillas accomplish?
20. What was the encomienda institution?
21. Explain how the first “global economy” worked.
22. Who was Bartolome de Las Casas?
23. How was Cortés able to defeat the Aztecs? Who were Malinche, Montezuma, and Quetzalcoatl?
24. How did Cortés influence the history of Mexico?
25. What is capitalism? How was it influenced by conquests in the Americas?
26. What did Balboa, Magellan, Ponce de Leon, Coronado, de Soto, and Pizarro accomplish?
27. What was the background of most Spanish conquistadores? What were their motives?
28. When did the Spanish establish St. Augustine? Why? What is its significance?
29. What happened in the Battle of Acoma?
30. What role did the Spaniards play in New Mexico? How did the Natives react?
31. What is the Black Legend?
32. How was the treatment of Natives by the Spaniards different than that of the English?