

AP European History Summer Assignment

Mr. Ziccardi

This summer assignment is designed to *enrich* your already *vast* knowledge and mastery of European history. It will also keep your intellectual abilities honed razor-sharp over the summer like *British Steel*.

1. Diligently read A World Lit Only by Fire: The Medieval Mind and the Renaissance by historian William Manchester.
2. Answer the following using MLA format:
 - a. How does the author view the medieval period? Provide at least 10 examples or quotes from the text supporting his viewpoint that the Middle Ages were indeed “a world lit only by fire”? (Cite page numbers)
 - b. Luther is credited with changing history and creating a new religion. But he certainly was not the first person to challenge the Catholic doctrine, practices, and behaviors. What other people in European history spoke out against the Church? Why was Luther successful challenging the Catholic Church, while others before him faltered?
 - c. Was Magellan the “mightiest explorer in history” as Manchester says he was? Give several examples to back your position. (Provide page numbers)
 - d. Who had the greatest impact on history—Luther or Magellan? Cite reasons in your response.
 - e. What were some interesting anecdotal facts you learned from the book? Provide at least 10 instances from the reading. Use page numbers. Consider that history can be filled with interesting stories that challenge our preconceived notions about what we have been previously taught (i.e. the Pied Piper of Hamelin).

f. As you read, create a list of historically-significant figures and using the text describe their impact on the narrative Manchester has presented.

3. Be prepared to hand in your review the first day we are back.

4. Have a **photograph** taken of you reading the book. Be creative with the setting of the photograph. Examples would be when and where you are on vacation “over the hills and far away” or simply in the woods behind your house.

5. A collage is made for Back to School Night (I learned how at art school in Vienna)

6. The book can be found at the town library, online (Amazon/B&N) or your home library.

7. If you have any questions, email me at rziccardi@mtlakes.org

8. Enjoy the summer I’ll dutifully await your return in September.