

“PROJECT ONE” – IB History of the Americas due Thursday, September 26

Please read the following historical novel before Thursday, September 26, and complete the note-taking and response tasks listed below and on the next page.

- *Rise to Rebellion*, by Jeff Shaara
[--a novel that takes place during the years of struggle for American independence; follows the events from the “Boston Massacre” to the beginning of the Revolutionary War, and told in the voices of actual historical participants, including George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, General Gage, etc.]

ALTHOUGH THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THIS READING IS TO RE-INTRODUCE YOU TO A PART OF U.S. HISTORY IN AN ENTERTAINING WAY, YOU ARE EXPECTED TO DO SOME NOTE-TAKING.

PLEASE BE SURE TO FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW and ON THE NEXT PAGE CAREFULLY!

Instructions

→ GOALS: You are not expected to memorize minute historical or factual details. However, when you have finished reading the novel, you should have

- ◆ an overall sense of the order of major events in the novel.
- ◆ familiarity with the characters’ roles in the story. You should be able to explain the principal viewpoints they hold, the principal dilemmas and challenges that they face, and the ways in which they contribute to the developments of the story.

APPROXIMATELY EVERY 5 CHAPTERS, OR EVERY 50 PAGES, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST, PLEASE DO THE FOLLOWING:

1. List the main characters that have played roles in the story up to this point (you do not need to re-list characters that you already listed before), and, to the extent possible, whether the character is an actual historical figure or an invention of the author.
2. In a couple of paragraphs, summarize the story up to this point so that someone who has not read the book could get an idea of what’s going on.
3. Create a timeline of the major events in the story up to this point.
4. Choose one scene or event in one of the chapters that you would like to research further (i.e., did it really happen this way?). You don’t need to do any additional research; just be able to find it (by page number) quickly.

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5. Either (depending on which seems more relevant)

- Choose a character from this part of the novel and explain a challenge or dilemma he/she faces, and how/whether it is resolved. OR
- Choose a character from this part of the novel and explain the relationship between the author's perspective and the character's perspective (i.e., is the author sympathetic to this character? Is the character acting as the author's narrator or is there distance between the author and his character).

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE READING, SELECT ONE CHARACTER and explain, in a paragraph, why you'd like to sit down to dinner with this character. Give reasons that show your familiarity with the novel.

→ There will be a test, or several quizzes, on the novel on or shortly after 9/26/2019. You may be "invited" to a group interview during a 'T-period' to discuss your book. For some of the questions, you will be allowed to have your notes in front of you when you take the test (you should not assume that you will be able to consult the book directly). Other questions will be "closed-book". In addition to the instructions provided here, further guidance will be provided during the first weeks of the course. Waiting to begin the book after the school year begins, however, is strongly not recommended.

As is customary in the course, your notes themselves will not be graded. The test (i.e., what you do with your notes) is what will be graded.

WHERE TO FIND THE BOOK

- The book is available new or used (at very low cost) from on-line booksellers such as amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, and Powell's Books. There are also multiple copies in Westchester's public libraries.

IF YOU NEED ANY ASSISTANCE OR HAVE ANY QUESTIONS,

PLEASE e-mail MR. HOFFMAN at hoffmanr@dfsd.org.

This e-mail will be checked periodically (i.e., not daily) over the summer. Please do not use it for questions requiring immediate attention.

Additional Recommended Summer Reading

(not required; you will not be tested or held responsible for reading these, but they are strongly recommended)

- Berkin, Carol: *Revolutionary Mothers* (stories of women active in the American Revolution--we will read chapters from this back after school begins)
- Bruni, Frank: *Where You Go Is Not Who You'll Be: An Antidote to the College Admissions Mania* (a must read for anyone about to apply to college)
- Finney, Jack: *Time and Again* (a fantasy time-travel novel that takes you back to New York City in the 19th Century)
- Doctorow, E.L.: *Ragtime* (a novel set in Westchester in the early 1900s, explores issues of race relations, immigration, and the "American Dream.")