

**9<sup>th</sup> grade Pre-IB United States Honors History Course – Summer Assignment**  
**The Text: Howard Zinn, A People’s History of the United States 1492-Present**

<https://mvlindsey.files.wordpress.com/2015/08/peoples-history-zinn-1980.pdf> there is a copy at this site.

Professor Howard Zinn reports the events of history from the point of view of the poor and the powerless. There is an old saying that “History is written by the winners” This book helped start an attempt by Historians to tell a more complete story of important historical events that impacted the development of our Nation.

You are being asked to read the first 9 chapters of this book, and to answer the corresponding questions. You will be reading historical information from the voyages of Columbus up through events during the Civil War years. Our Regular school year curriculum begins during the Civil War years in U.S. History, and will continue to 9/11/2001 and the new century’s first decade.

\* When answering these specific 10 questions make sure you have a quote from the book as part of your answer – the quote will be evidence to support your answer. Identify the chapter and page number the quote is taken from at the end of the question.(only quote a sentence, or less) The entire answer for each question should be at least 100 words. (the quote can be part of the 100)

- 1 – chapter 1 – Why did Zinn choose to write this book and take the perspective he has?
- 2 - chapter 1 – According to Zinn, what is the sacrifice of Human progress?
- 3-ch,2 – How did slavery develop? How did racism develop along with it?
- 4 – ch.2 – Why was it feared that whites would join slave revolts? How was this prevented?
- 5 – ch.3 – Analyze the statement “It seems quite clear that class lines hardened through the colonial period; the distinction between the rich and poor became sharper”(think about the role of the elite, middle and lower and how control maintained by the upper classes).
- 6 – ch.4 – Explain the phrase “Tyranny is tyranny let it come from whom it may”
- 7 – ch.5 – How did the various groups in colonial society respond to the movement for revolution and how did the war add to the conflict between the rich and poor.
- 8 – ch.6 – How were the lives of early American women different from the lives of women who came to the Americas from Europe?
- 9 – ch.7 – In your opinion, was removal of Native Americans necessary for the progress of American civilization? In other words, did the end justify the means?
- 10 – using chapter 8 and 9 - How does Zinn argue that the Civil War was not really fought over the moral issue of slavery, but rather the economic issue of slavery?

Due printed out on a hard copy your first day of class.

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