

Advanced Placement European History Summer Reading Assignment

Mrs. Newmark <http://www.raleighcharterhs.org/faculty/bnewmark/EURO.html>

There are three parts to this assignment. Be sure to do all three and be ready to hand in your answers for parts one and two on the first day of classes in August.

This assignment is also posted at my website, so you may wish to download it and use it answer the questions and follow the links. It always helps to have the question accompany your answers so it will be clear what you were writing about when you study it later.

1. *A World Lit Only by Fire: The Medieval Mind and the Renaissance – Portrait of an Age* by William Manchester, ISBN 0316545562.

This is a very entertaining, rather gossipy book that does an excellent job of evoking life in the late Middle Ages and the early modern period. In his discussion of the Renaissance and the early Reformation Manchester covers much of the material that will be the basis of the first two units of our class. I hope you will enjoy the book and will be primed for delving into this fascinating period when school starts.

For your writing assignment, which will be due on the first day of classes in August, answer the following questions. Your answers should be typed. For your answers you can choose to write one or two paragraphs for each question or you can write several sentences of explanation with a bullet-point list of evidence. The items in your bullet points should be written in complete sentences so it is clear why they belong in your list. You don't need to be so comprehensive in your list of evidence that your lists are pages long. Just choose several pieces of evidence to support your understanding of the quotes.

If you have any questions about the assignment or the class, please feel free to contact me by email. I am always happy to hear from students. betsynewmark@gmail.com

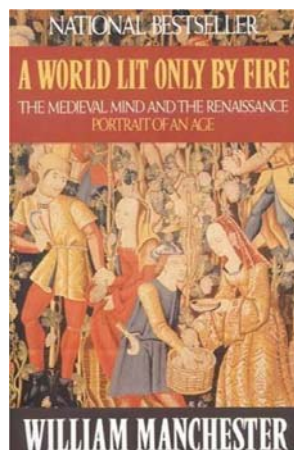
A. In Section One of the book: "The Medieval Mind," how does Manchester characterize this period? Summarize his discussion in terms of the following:

1. Daily life
2. Religious beliefs and practices
3. The role and status of the church
4. The economy
5. The forms of government and the strength of the monarchy
6. The developments in warfare

B. For Sections Two, "The Shattering," and Three, "One Man Alone," explain the following quotations from the book in your own words and then summarize the evidence that Manchester supplies to support his generalizations. That evidence may precede, surround, or follow the quotation so don't be myopic in your search for understanding. The page numbers correspond to the paperback edition.

1. p. 34 "In some ways the period seems to have been the worst of times – an age of treachery, abduction, fratricide, depravity, barbarism, and sadism."

2. p. 40 “Ironically, the purity of Christ’s vision had been contaminated by its very popularity.”
3. p. 56 “It was time when the social lubricants of civility, and the small but essential trivia of civilized life, were just beginning to reemerge, phoenixlike, from the medieval ashes.”
4. p. 73 “...as medieval shadows receded, European morals declined.”
5. p. 87 “The most powerful men knew artistic genius when they saw it, and their unstinting support of it, despite their deplorable private lives and abuse of authority, is unparalleled.”
6. p. 95 “Before the dense, overarching, suffocating medieval night could be broken, the darkness had to be pierced by the bright shaft of learning...”
7. p. 104 “The reawakening...was one of the great triumphs of the Renaissance.”
8. p. 112 “Humanism...led to the greatest threat the Church had ever faced.”
9. p. 128 “...loyal Catholics were most deeply distressed by the abuses of their own clergymen.”
And p. 133 “Alvara Pelayo of Spain, declared: ‘Wolves are in control of the Church and feed on [Christian] blood!’”
10. p. 143 “He [Luther] had broken the dam of medieval discipline.”
11. p. 159 “Luther was to be saved...because in his father land, as all over Europe, the political vacuum being left by the ebbing Holy Roman Empire was being filled by a new phenomenon: the rising nation-states.”
12. p. 176 “Thus Protestantism was divided at its birth.”
13. p. 199 “And the Church’s reflexive responses to dissent matched those of the schismatics.”
14. p. 206 “In the popular imagination, Henry VIII and Martin Luther have been yoked as leaders of the reformation...in fact they do not belong together.
15. p. 288. In the long lists of history it is difficult to find another figure whose heroism matches Magellan’s.”



2. Watch Parts One <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9FFDJK8jmms> and Two <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iB1GkTTol9E> of the PBS documentary, *The Medicis: Godfathers of the Renaissance*. Take notes as you watch and then answer this question. You will be turning in both your notes and your answer on the first day of classes

How does the rise and power of the Medici family mirror the Renaissance itself? Find evidence from both videos as evidence to substantiate your answer.

If you go to the Links Page <http://www.raleighcharterhs.org/faculty/bnewmark/EUROLinks.html> of my website, you will find lots and lots of links to videos on European history that some nice people have thoughtfully uploaded to youtube. If you have spare time over the summer and want to watch some of the videos and take notes on them, go right ahead. I will be giving extra credit for taking detailed notes on documentaries once school starts and you could have some extra credit banked away before school even starts. And you'd learn interesting material about selected topics in European history, also. What's not to like?

3. Study the map of modern Europe (Here is one you can print out http://www.eduplace.com/ss/maps/pdf/eur_country.pdf) and be prepared to take a quiz the first week of school identifying countries.

Here are some links to online quizzes that may help you study.

<http://www.lizardpoint.com/fun/geoquiz/euroquiz.html>

<http://www.ilike2learn.com/ilike2learn/europe.html>

<http://www.jetpunk.com/quizzes/map-quiz-europe.php>