

Alpha School

World History

Homework Assignment

Aligned with Lessons 1-12. Essays: one paragraph, 5-8 sentences, with a clear claim and evidence.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Grade: _____

Score: _____ / _____

1. ONE-PARAGRAPH ESSAY. Did exploration benefit or harm the world? Write one paragraph (5-8 sentences) with a clear claim and TWO specific examples from TWO different regions.

2. COMPARE. Compare the French Revolution and the Haitian Revolution. Who led each? Who benefited most? How were the outcomes different?

3. PRIMARY SOURCE. A traveler writes: "In the markets of Constantinople I saw silk from China, spices from India, and glass from Venice -- all in one street. Traders spoke a dozen languages and paid in gold coins." (a) What does this show about the Silk Road? (b) What does it NOT show? (c) What other source would help you check it?

4. CAUSATION CHAIN. Explain how World War I LED TO World War II. Give a chain of at least FOUR steps (cause -> effect -> effect -> effect).

5. MAP. Describe in words how Islam spread from Arabia across North Africa and into Spain and India, and how Buddhism spread from India into China and Southeast Asia. Name ONE route each religion traveled.

6. Explain in your own words: what is the difference between IMPERIALISM and COLONIALISM? Give one example of each.

7. CASE STUDY. India: describe how India gained independence in 1947. Name TWO methods the independence movement used, and TWO challenges India faced right after independence.

8. GLOBALIZATION. Argue FOR or AGAINST this statement: "Globalization has done more good than harm." Write a paragraph with a claim, TWO pieces of evidence, and a response to the strongest counter-argument.

9. **TIMELINE.** Place these **EIGHT** events on a timeline: printing press (1440s), American Revolution (1776), French Revolution (1789), Industrial Revolution (c. 1800), World War I (1914), World War II (1939), Moon landing (1969), fall of the Berlin Wall (1989). Then name the event you think was the biggest turning point and defend your choice in 3 sentences.

10. **PROJECT.** Design a museum exhibit **OR** a podcast episode outline about **ONE** era in world history. Include: a title, the era and dates, **THREE** topics/artifacts/episodes to cover, and one sentence for each explaining why it matters.

ANSWER KEY -- For Teacher/Parent Use

1. Rubric: clear claim; two specific examples from two different regions (e.g. Columbian Exchange brought crops to Europe/Africa but disease devastated the Americas; trade enriched Europe but enslaved millions); reasoning; 5-8 sentences.
2. Rubric: French Revolution led by the Third Estate/bourgeoisie, later radicals; Haitian Revolution led by enslaved people under Toussaint Louverture and Jean-Jacques Dessalines. France: middle classes gained power but slavery continued abroad; Haiti: enslaved people won freedom and founded the first Black republic -- but faced isolation and a crippling French debt.
3. (a) It shows Constantinople as a hub of long-distance trade with goods from three continents, many languages, and money-based exchange. (b) It does not show prices, volumes, who profited, or conditions for workers/slaves; one traveler's view may exaggerate. (c) Any checking source: tax/customs records, another traveler's account, archaeological finds of coins/goods.
4. Model chain: WWI ends with the Treaty of Versailles -> Germany humiliated, blamed, and burdened with reparations -> economic collapse and resentment in the 1920s-30s -> Hitler and the Nazis rise promising to undo Versailles -> Germany rearms and invades Poland in 1939. Accept any valid 4+ step chain.
5. Rubric: Islam spread by trade, conquest, and missionaries along land and sea routes (e.g. across North Africa to Spain by 711; into India by traders and rulers). Buddhism spread from India along the Silk Road and by sea to China and Southeast Asia. One named route for each required.
6. Rubric: colonialism = one country takes direct control and settles/rules a territory (e.g. Britain ruling India). Imperialism = the broader system of domination, which can be direct (colonies) or indirect (economic/military pressure without formal rule, e.g. spheres of influence in China). One example of each.
7. Methods (any two): nonviolent resistance/satyagraha, boycotts of British goods, mass civil disobedience, negotiations by the Congress Party. Challenges (any two): Partition into India and Pakistan with mass migration and violence, poverty, religious tensions, building a new government.
8. Rubric: clear position; two pieces of evidence (e.g. for: vaccines, cheaper goods, global communication; against: inequality, sweatshops, climate damage); a fair response to the strongest counter-argument; organized paragraph.
9. Timeline order as listed. Turning point: any choice with a 3-sentence defense tied to consequences (e.g. printing press -- spread knowledge that made all later revolutions possible; WWII -- remade the world order; Berlin Wall -- ended the Cold War).
10. Rubric: title; era and dates; three topics/artifacts/episodes with one sentence each on why each matters; coherence -- the three items fit the chosen era and theme.