

Beacon Summer Reading: History 2009: 9th Grade Genghis Khan and the Making of the Modern World

Please read Genghis Khan and the Making of the Modern World, Crown Press: New York, by Jack Weatherford. ISBN: 978-0609610626

The summer reading will prepare you for themes in ninth grade global history next year. There will be a writing assignment on the reading at the beginning of the school year.

Questions to focus on: How does Genghis Khan build and sustain an empire? How were cultural practices and economic ideas spread within the Mongol empire?

Assignment: The purpose of taking notes on your summer reading is two-fold. First, it is to help you to pay attention to main points and arguments in the text and, second, to prepare you to write about the text in September when school starts.

Get a pad of sticky-notes.

One quote per chapter: For each chapter in the book, identify one key quote that captures the big idea or a great example of a big idea. On the sticky-note, write the first three words of the quote. Place a sticky-note next to the quote.

One idea per chapter: Also, for each chapter in the book, write down the main idea or argument of that chapter in a sentence or two. The sticky-note for chapter one should be labeled "chapter one." Put the sticky-note in the chapter.

Bring the book with the sticky-notes to class on the first day of classes.

If you are borrowing a copy of the book from library, instead of purchasing the text, please write the whole quote for each chapter on the sticky-note and write down the page number that the quote comes from.

Bring your collection of sticky-notes to class on the first day of classes.