

AP United States History (APUSH) Summer Reading 2017

Read *The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair

1.) Take notes as you read so that you can work with this book as we progress through the year. We refer to this book often and use it to help us understand the various social, economical, and political aspects of the US.

2.) Review the setup for the Short Answer Question (SAQ) style of writing that we do in APUSH. I have attached an SAQ Guide for you to study. The internet is also a good place for assistance with this. Below I have included a few links to videos on the SAQ to assist you. **We will be diving into the SAQ from day one so be prepared!** And we will use *The Jungle* to answer SAQ style questions in the first quarter of the year.

Daniel Jocz, Jocz Productions video on the SAQ:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KMXgrNn9QN4&index=5&list=PL-69ThEyf7-Cnd-C-pSOIEgoUjH6lyjFR>

Adam Norris, APUSHReview video on the SAQ:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NflzHkNOW18>

If you have any questions, please email me at eakins@lcmrschools.com.

Enjoy your summer!

S. Eakin

Short Answer Question (SAQ) Guide

APUSH

This is the first of the three styles of writing found on the APUSH exam

For the exam in May:

- * 4 questions, 3 parts each
- * 50 minutes (about 12 minutes per question)
- * 20% of your exam score
- * each question must fit "in the box"

What the SAQ is NOT:

* **This is NOT an essay!** It is simply a series of formulaic tasks that can each be completed by writing 2 to 3 complete sentences.

* **This is NOT about right vs. wrong answers, but about valid vs. invalid answers.** In APUSH writing there are only two types of answers: those that are backed by sound argument and evidence and those that are not. When you are given options none of the options will be any more valid or invalid than the others. Make sure that you understand what the question is asking, and answer the question directly providing valid evidence and analysis to support your answer.

The Format of the SAQ Section:

* Each of the four questions will be divided into 3 separate tasks labeled a, b, and c.

* Each of these lettered items will be graded separately, so approach each lettered task individually as a separate, but related task.

* Before completing any tasks, look at all of the tasks so that you have a feel for the big picture.

Prewriting:

It is critical that you make notes and plan your response. Brainstorming is helpful in bringing life to your answer.

Advice:

* Label each part, A, B, C

* Answer the question **DIRECTLY**, don't beat around the bush or try to fancy it up.

* Each task is graded separately. If you can do a but not b or c, then **GO FOR IT!** Answer all parts, you may get the point.

* This is not about what you believe as much as your ability to make an argument. Make the argument that is easiest to support with evidence regardless of whether you personally agree or not.

Answer Using this formula: A.C.E.

A Answer the given prompt

C Cite evidence to support the argument. The more specific, the better!

E Explain how your evidence supports your answer.