AP Human Geography Summer Assignment

This assignment is meant to provide you with an idea of what human geography is, why it is important, and how it is applied to the world. It will prepare you and provide an introduction to the topics we will discuss this year. All parts of this assignment must be completed over the summer, typed and printed, and turned in the first week of school in September. Please email me with any questions you have at ksteiert@gmahs.org.

AP Human Geography Textbook Information

Author- James M. Rubenstein
Texts will be provided for you in class when you arrive in September. If you would prefer to own your book (to write in, take notes, highlight, etc.), they are available new or used on Amazon.com, or from a classmate who previously took the class.

Part I: Independent Reading & Review
Read ONE book from the list below. After you read, write a review of the book describing the author’s purpose for writing it and the lessons you took from the book.

Book Choices (select ONE):
   This book addresses a variety of topics pertaining to the study of geography and human systems. Topics span from the rise of China, to the troubles within the European Union, to the revolutionary Arab Spring movement.
   This book is a fictionalized account based on true stories of the poor in India. It gives a clear picture of agricultural life, life in slums, and the impact of religion on day-to-day life in India, all packaged within an engaging story.
   If you choose this option, you do not have to read the entire book. You can pick any six chapters to analyze; Make sure in selecting your chapters you pick at least one chapter from each of the four parts of the book.
   This is an interesting book related to the "fast food" culture of America. It tells the story of how America and much of the "globalized" world has become a repository for eating "fast food" and embracing the "fast culture" of America. The book also takes an in-depth look at fast food's associated impact on agricultural and economic practice.

Review: Your 4-5-paragraph review must be typed in 12 point font and include the following parts.
- Introduction/description – Title, Author, brief summary
- Analysis of the author’s objectives – What did the author intend for the reader in writing this book? Why did the author write this book? What did he/she hope the audience would learn?
- Your takeaway –What did you learn? How do the themes in this book apply to the five themes of geography?
- Appraisal – Did you like the book? Why or why not?

Part II: TED Talks
This class is designed to introduce you to the study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the Earth’s surface (College Board). To accomplish this, we will focus on seven topics,
including the nature of geography; population and migration; cultural patterns and processes; political organization of space; agriculture and rural land use; industrialization and economic development; and cities and urban land use. The TED talks below address a variety of issues within these topics, and will help you understand what human geography includes and how it is used in the world.

Watch the THREE of the following TED talks. For each talk you select, please answer the following questions in one developed paragraph.

1. What point is the speaker trying to make? What does s/he want you to think/believe/do?
2. Do you agree with the speaker? Why or why not?
3. What have you learned or taken away from this talk?

Talk Choices (Select THREE):
2. Sheikha Al Mayassa: Globalizing the local, localizing the global http://www.ted.com/talks/sheikha_al_mayassa_globalizing_the_local_localizing_the_global

Part III: Current Events

An understanding of global events and an awareness of the social, political, economic, and cultural world around you is imperative in any successful study of human geography. Please pay attention to the news and stay up to date on world events this summer. You are expected to read and respond to at least 10 current events articles; this is equivalent to about one current event per week. Use reliable news sources to find 10 current articles throughout the summer. Create a chart like the one below and complete the columns for each article.

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<th>Author, Title, Date, &amp; Source</th>
<th>Main Idea(s)</th>
<th>Your Response</th>
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<td>List the title of the article, the author, the date the article was written, and the news source you obtained it from. Do not wait until the very end of the summer to do this; you want current events that span the course of your summer break.</td>
<td>A brief (2-3 sentence) summary of the main ideas.</td>
<td>A brief (2-3 sentence) reaction or response to the article.</td>
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