

**U.S. HISTORY & AP U.S. HISTORY**  
**Assignment Sheet – Week 1**

**Lesson Given:** Sept. 13, 2011

**Lesson Due:** Sept. 20, 2011

**Assignment Goal:** Begin learning to ask questions about history, and how to answer those questions in a structured and focused essay.

**Reading:** “How to Write Essays” packet

Pre-read Ch 1/1<sup>st</sup> section of your textbook, following the practice done in class

**Research:** Develop 3 questions (AP - 5 questions) from your pre-reading; write them down on your note cards

Develop 3 questions to ask about your historical person; these must be deep questions that deal with motivations & impact more than simple facts

Begin research on historical person, trying to answer your questions and provide basic facts

**Essay:** Develop a thesis statement that takes a stand regarding your historical person. Write the 3 questions you want to explore about this person and note how they support your thesis statement.

**Weekly assignment schedule:**

Day one: Read the packet and review your notes on essays. Do the pre-reading for your textbook or handout. Write your 3(5) thoughtful questions for this section.

Day two: Read an encyclopedia or short information about your historical figure. Develop 3 thought-provoking questions to answer about this person.

Day three: Develop your thesis statement about your historical person. Make sure that this statement will be supported by the information that answers your 3 questions.

Day four: Begin in-depth research on your historical person. Take notes, especially looking for answers to your 3 questions.

**Things to bring to class on Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>:**

- questions from your pre-reading
- thesis statement and questions for your historical person
- textbook, notebook/paper, pen/pencil
- any handouts from class

HISTORICAL PERSON: Choose one from the list or another person from pre-1700.

William Bradford

Miles Standish

Squanto

Capt. John Smith

Pocahontas

Roger Sherman

William Penn

James Oglethorp

Cotton Mather

Peter Stuyvesant

Hernando Cortez

Jaques Cartier

Henry Hudson

Coronado (Spanish explorer)

Christopher Columbus

Your ancestor, if he/she came to America before 1700