

Cltizenship Self-Grade:

I would give myself a grade of 2.25. This is because I was always there to make my class environment better, and always had learning as my first priority. The main reason I do not give myself a 100% is because I always believe there is room for improvement.

Dessert (Final Reflection):

When reflecting on my work throughout this semester, many things come to mind. Not only has this class taught me how to find quality sources with quality authors, but it has taught me how to manage my time, and remain organized in a class atmosphere I am unfamiliar with. This class has challenged my high school ways and pushed me to the next level of finding sources, which is something that high school made too easy. One thing I would say to keep for future classes would be the Podcasting portion of the class. It was very exciting to script and record a video in the frame of a podcast. The biggest thing I learned this semester, was when you told me that in history we don't paraphrase things, we use direct quotes. This was something that I once again was not used to, and I was glad to fix that issue before it was done at a higher level or in my career. Overall this class was entertaining and taught me many things when it came to sourcing and answering tough questions. [I appreciate the thoughtfulness of this, your final dessert. I hope you find some academic and life tools to take away from our course, especially ones you can share with friends and family, such as checking sources for credibility. With hopes that you can use the tools you learned this semester about the past to build a better future. -Jack]

Second Plate (5/7):

[Final Project Second Plate](#)

Grading Criteria- Final Project	Assessment
Project contains 5 quality sources with at least one primary source. (1 point)	Demonstrated ▾
All sources pass a SIFT evaluation and included a named expert, and credible citations (2 points)	Demonstrated ▾
Final project engages a 2024 audience on why your item is worth considering and how it relates to modern life. (1 point)	Demonstrated ▾
Project moves beyond summary of facts to draw evidenced-based conclusions from quality historical sources for the importance of your object (historically or to contemporary discussions of water)(3 points)	Emerging evidence of competence ▾
Is written with standard professional English (no errors in spelling, capitalization, or punctuation (1 point)	Demonstrated ▾
Explicitly uses a digital humanities tool learned this semester. (1 point)	Demonstrated ▾

First Plate (5/1):

Done on D2L

Appetizer (4/29):

- 1.) Mayan well in great depression due North of Structure 7-B-3. Artstor, library-artstor-org.ndcproxy.mnpals.net/asset/AHARVARD_10311720920

- 2.) "LAKE SEDIMENTS PROVIDE NEW CLUES ON DROUGHT THAT DEVASTATED MAYANS." *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, vol. 99, no. 12, Dec. 2018, pp. 2438+. *Gale Academic OneFile*, link.gale.com/apps/doc/A571836903/AONE?u=mnanorman&sid=bookmark-AONE&id=e829b863. Accessed 29 Apr. 2024.
- 3.) Douglas, Peter M. J., et al. "Impacts of Climate Change on the Collapse of Lowland Maya Civilization." *Annual Review of Earth and Planetary Sciences*, vol. 44, no. 1, June 2016, pp. 613–45. *DOI.org (Crossref)*, <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-earth-060115-012512>.

Summary:

My topic will discuss the use of water in the Mayan empire, and how its limited access to fresh surface water limited its prosperity and eventually caused the empire to collapse. The Mayan Empire was one of the most powerful civilizations but collapsed in a matter of decades with no access to water. Not only does this show the importance of water, but it applies urgency to the preservation of fresh water for our survival.

Dessert (4/24):

When completing the numerical analysis assignments these past two weeks it was very interesting to see the affect quantitative numbers have on people perspectives on topics. This is something that I have personally fallen victim to many times, as I am more willing to believe a claim that is supported by numbers, without me checking the credibility of them. When comparing my learning to one of the students appetizers, it was very evident of my naive belief in numbers when Blake Franzen's article stated that "volume of trade that passed through the Suez Canal dropped by 50 percent year-over-year" (Kamali). Not only does this use of quantitative data make the statistic more extreme, but it makes the statistic unrealistically believable. Examples of this are cause for many people to misinterpret statistics and what they are saying. The first plate assignment showed me that there are many ways people can alter the in put of an equation to get whatever outcome they want for their message they are trying to convey. [Your paragraph(s) would benefit from additional editing for spelling or usage. - Jack] [Thoughtful reflection. Thank you. - Jack]

Kamali, Parisa, et al. "Red Sea Attacks Disrupt Global Trade." *IMF*, 7 Mar. 2024, www.imf.org/en/Blogs/Articles/2024/03/07/Red-Sea-Attacks-Disrupt-Global-Trade.

Second Plate (4/22):

While reading the article for this week, under the Scholasticism section, I was introduced to Water Clocks, a object I was unfamiliar with. After researching some further information on the topic, it was interesting to see how water was used for thousands of years to tell the time. The water clock, otherwise know as the Clepsydra, according to an article found on the Normandale Databases was invented in 1530 BC, and was the main way for farmers and urban residents to tell time. The article described the water clock, "with a graduated scale fixed on its inside wall, a clepsydra could keep track of the passing of the "hours" ... with an elegant simplicity, whatever

the weather or time of day” (Fleming). The model was originally invented in Egypt and spread to areas as far as Europe. Although it was the main way to tell time for many years, this was not the final form of the clock. Our reading this week discussed that, “in the years between 1271 and 1300, Western Europeans invented the mechanical clock” (World). This shows that the Egyptians used water to determine the time, a very impactful use of fresh water in the ancient civilizations. [Is your numerical category time, related to water? -Jack]

Fleming, Stuart. “SCIENCE SCOPE: Water Clocks: A Story of Archimedean Ingenuity.” *Archaeology*, vol. 39, no. 4, 1986, pp. 64–76. *JSTOR*, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/41731775>. Accessed 23 Apr. 2024.

“World History: Cultures, States, and Societies (Global Remix) | Chapter Ten: Emerging Spheres of Influence (1000-1300).” *OER Commons*, <https://oercommons.org/authoring/27225-world-history-cultures-states-and-societies-global/10/view#h68>. Accessed 22 Apr. 2024.

First Plate (4/17):

1. Average the following ages: 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 5, 6, 9, 18, 18, 35, 45, 58, 72, 73, 75, 78, 88, 92, 107, 110. (25 numbers).

- II. What is the mean age of death in this town? 35.92
 - III. What is the median (number in the middle of a string of numbers) age of death for this town? 18
 - IV. What is the mode (most commonly occurring number in string of numbers) age of death for this town? 1
 - V. If you are 34 years old, are you scared of dying next year? Why or why not? If you are 34 I would say you would not be nervous to die next year as large number of people dying at the age of one, bringing down the average age of death.
-
- What is the absolute change (b-a) of Japan’s per capita GDP growth between 730 CE and 1450 CE? 125
 - What is the relative percent change $[(b-a)/a] \times 100$ of Japan’s per capita GDP growth between 730 CE and 1450 CE? 31.09%
 - What is the absolute change (b-a) of Iraq’s per capita GDP growth between 730 CE and 1150 CE? -240

- What is the relative percent change $[(b-a)/a] \times 100$ of of Iraq's per capita GDP growth between 730 CE and 1150 CE? **-26.08%**
- What is the absolute change (b-a) of Egypt's per capita GDP growth between 730 CE and 1280 CE? **-60**
- What is the relative percent change $[(b-a)/a] \times 100$ of of Egypt's per capita GDP growth between 730 CE and 1280 CE? **-8.22%**
- What country had the greatest absolute change in per capita GDP during the period from 1 to 1500 CE? This change can be within the period 1-1500 CE, it does not need to be only the years 1 or 1500 CE. **Belgium had the greatest absolute change of 867.**
- What country had the greatest relative percentage change in per capita GDP during the period from 1 and 1500? This change can be within the period 1-1500 CE, it does not need to be only the years 1 or 1500 CE. **The largest relative change in GDP was in North Italy from 1 to 1400 CE, which was 54.3%.**
- Using one of the Library Databases (Gale Virtual Reference Library, Daily Life in History, etc), to explain why change may have occurred in Japan, Iraq, or Egypt in a short paragraph (3-5 sentences)

When looking at the GDP over the years in Iraq, a fairly steady drop is very evident. This can be due to many reasons but during this time, Iraq going through a large change in economics. This can be proved through an article on the JSTOR database, which states that this was a time of "economic dynamism but simultaneously increased inequality and furthered the rise of new, powerful elite groups, causing the decline of the same markets" (Bavel). This time was of a polarization of wealth and this lowered the GDP of the nation as many of the population fell into higher levels of poverty.

Bavel, Bas, et al. "Factor Markets in Early Islamic Iraq, c. 600-1100 AD." *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient*, vol. 57, no. 2, 2014, pp. 262–89. *JSTOR*, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/43303590>. Accessed 17 Apr. 2024.

- Find an article from a credible website (points only for credible websites) about history before 1400 that uses a percent change and include the

citation (URL or full citation) and whether you think the percent change is absolute or relative and why you draw this conclusion. Searching for "name of dynasty" or "XX century" or "medieval" and "country" with "%" will yield answers quickly.

An article that I found that used a percent change was posted from Stanford University, by Walter Scheidel. This article used many percentages to show the military mobilization in Italy. The author states, "the implied mobilization rates are 7.5 per cent in late 215 BCE, 9.4 per cent in 214 BCE, and 11.9 per cent in 212 BCE" (Scheidel). This directly uses relative percent change as this requires you to find the percent of who is in active military. In order to find this percent, you must use the total population of Italy and then who is in the military multiplied by 100. Absolute percent change would be the difference between these years percentages, whereas these are all separately calculated.

Scheidel, Walter. *Roman Population Size: The Logic of the Debate*, Stanford University, July 2007, homepages.uc.edu/~martinj/Latin/Roman_Population/Scheidel - Roman population Size.pdf. [All the requirements for this assignment have been met. -Jack]

Appetizer (4/15):

After looking at the sources from the crash course, it was evident that the Silk Road had a great influence on the economy for a large period. This trade of silk materials allowed many people to become very wealthy and then that wealth ended up influencing the government. While most likely not to the degree that it used to influence policies, wealth in the modern world is still very impactful on decisions the government makes. The Crash Course for this week also included that the Bubonic Plague played a large role in the Silk Road, and impacted trade routes across the entire globe. This can be compared to the way the COVID-19 pandemic affected the world economy. While not as severe, it still played a large role in the world economy and made life a lot more expensive for many. In an article posted on the OCED, the author shows us the dramatic effect that COVID-19 has on the exports of the world. They state that, "Overall, the value of exports of services in OECD countries declined in 2020 by -16.7%, twice as much as the value of goods exports, which dropped by -8.2%" (International). This directly shows the amount of transportation of goods and services during a pandemic and can be compared to the way the Bubonic Plague affected the silk trade in Europe.

Green, John. "The Silk Road and Ancient Trade: Crash Course World History #9." *YouTube*, YouTube, 22 Mar. 2012, www.youtube.com/watch?v=vfe-eNq-Qyg.

International Trade during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Big Shifts and Uncertainty, 10 Mar. 2022, www.oecd.org/coronavirus/policy-responses/international-trade-during-the-covid-19-pandemic-big-shifts-and-uncertainty-d1131663/.

Dessert (4/10):

While completing the podcast, it was very evident that first drafts are a first draft for a reason. It was clear after going through the notes and reflection on my first script, I had a long way to go before I got a reasonable and practical message across. Podcasting is a very important thing, and using it to your advantage can be difficult. This weeks learning allowed me to learn more about one of the greatest kings of the past, but I was able to do so, while attempting to connect his success to our everyday lives. It was also interesting to read through some of the other students appetizers, and one stuck out to me. In ALEXander Roberts appetizer, I was able to read through an article that focussed on the Qin Dynasty. According to that article, the Qin dynasty lasted from "221-206 BCE" (). It was interesting to see the difference in this empire that was around 100 years before Alexander the Greats empire, the leader I focused on this week. It was insightful, and showed that all of the worlds powers eventually fall, and this can be applied to our modern world now. The United States used to lead the world in many things, but over the years, many other countries have offered the same opportunities. This weeks assignments were also very intriguing to me, as many people have told me I have an announcer voice, so recording a podcast seemed new and exciting.

"Qin Dynasty (221–206 BCE)." *Smithsonian's National Museum of Asian Art*,

<https://asia-archive.si.edu/learn/for-educators/teaching-china-with-the-smithsonian/expl>
ore-by-dynasty/qin-dynasty/. Accessed 8 Apr. 2024.

[I'm glad you found the ~~appetizer~~ podcast assignment engaging and useful, and learned some history as you learned multimedia production. 2024-04-15, -Jack]

Second Plate (4/08):

Revised Script:

Link: [World History Podcast](#)

Good Afternoon, this is Devin Courts with Ancient Mediterranean News Company!

Today, many of our leaders might be considered powerful, or motivations, or inspiring.

Many times these leaders are politicians, and many of them can get quite the fan base.

But what many of us forget, is that no matter how powerful our leaders of today may seem...

They are nothing compared to some of the past...

Now you may be familiar with the former president Donald Trump.

He was able to gather a large fan base and group of supporters, but how popular was he really.

The United States is around 4% of the world's population, and he wasn't approved by millions.

Seems pretty small when compared to some of the past great leaders, don't you think?

Well, let me put it into perspective.

When we look back at leaders who had great influence of their empire, one sticks out most...

Alexander the Great!

While Alexander the Great is a catchy name, he was actually Alexander III of Macedon.

Now you may ask, why was Alexander so Great?

Well, to answer your question, it's estimated that he ruled almost half of the world's population.

Now that's a lot more than the 4% that the United States was isn't it.

Alexander the Great became the youngest king of his times at the very young age of 20...

Much younger than our former president, Donald Trump.

According to the Metropolitan Museum his reign lasted from, "336 B.C.E. to 323 B.C.E"

(Hemingway).

...a time full of rising and falling empires.

Now during his reign, Alexander brought his army to many large battles, but one of his most

Influential was The Battle of Guagamela.

According to an professor at the Univeristy of Chicago, this battle, after many casualties, “gave him control of Babylonia and opened the way for his conquest of the eastern territories of the Persian Empire as far as western India” (Stolper).

Now you may be asking why is this relevant?

That question can be answered differently by everyone, although its important to reflect on History when looking at the present and the future.

It is very evident that the United States is a very powerful country, but maybe its not as powerful as we like to think.

Before devoting ourselves to certain politicians, you and me should use Alexander the Greats success to realize maybe our modern leaders possibly aren’t as amazing as they may seem.

While its very easy to get sucked into the political pull, I challege you to take a step back.

Gather your informations, check your sources, and understand that more powerful people have existed.

Once again, this is Devin Courts, pushing you, whoever you may be, to broaden your input, face your opinions head on, and dont let them take you over. [Your paragraph(s) would benefit from additional editing for spelling or usage. - Jack]

Bibliography:

(Secondary) Allen, Brooke. “Alexander the Great: Or the Terrible?” *The Hudson Review*, vol. 58, no. 2, 2005, pp. 220–30. *JSTOR*, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/30044758>.

(Primary) Artstor. *Artstor*.

https://library.artstor.org/#/asset/LESSING_ART_1039490327;prevRouteTS=1712095622483. Accessed 2 Apr. 2024.

(Secondary) Hemingway, Authors: Seán Hemingway, Colette. “The Rise of Macedon and the Conquests of Alexander the Great | Essay | The Metropolitan Museum of Art | Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History.” *The Met’s Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History*, https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/alex/hd_alex.htm. Accessed 2 Apr. 2024

(Primary+secondary) *The Middle East as Seen Through Foreign Eyes: Antiquity to the Nineteenth Century*, Matthew W. Stolper.
<http://teachmiddleeast.lib.uchicago.edu/historical-perspectives/middle-east-seen-through-foreign-eyes/antiquity-modern/image-resource-bank/image-02.html>. Accessed 8 Apr. 2024.

Learning Goal and Grading Criteria- Student-	Assessment
revised their script based on the professor and their own suggestions. (1 point)	Developing
published a podcast as both a script and audio file. (2 points)	Mastered
demonstrated an understanding of credible, quality primary and secondary sources. (2 points)	Mastered
explained a historical significance of a person, place, event, idea, or object that lies within the course dates (4 points)	Mastered

First Plate (4/03):

Podcast Script:

Good Afternoon, this is Devin Courts with Ancient Mediterranean News Company!

Today, I will be introducing you to a ancient world leader that you may have heard of...

Alexander the Great!

While Alexander the Great is a catchy name, he was actually Alexander III of Macedon.

Now you may ask, why was Alexander so Great?

And that question has many answers that we'll discuss here shortly, but let's start with his age.

Alexander the Great became the youngest king of his times at the very young age of 20.

Now unfortunately, his reign only lasted for around 13 years, with him dying at the age of 32.

But even though he was only king for 13 years, an article posted on National Geographic explains just how much he accomplished.

The author states, "Alexander created one of the largest empires of the ancient world, stretching from Greece to northwestern India" (Alexander).

Now I don't know about you, but in my opinion, creating an empire from Europe to Southeast Asia couldn't have been easy.

According to the Metropolitan Museum his reign lasted from, "336 B.C.E. to 323 B.C.E" (Hemingway).

...a time full of rising and falling empires.

To this day Alexander the Great has been one of the most influential and strong kings to rule an empire, let alone the Macedonian Empire.

As stated by the Metropolitan Museum, the king's reign "would change the face of Europe and Asia forever" (Hemingway).

Today, I have only introduced you to why Alexander III was so Great, but his empire's vastness and strength is something that cannot be described with words.

Once again this is Devin Courts from the Ancient Mediterranean News Company, and I'm challenging you to create your 'Alexander the Great' empire for yourself.

[Please consider revising your podcast to both shrink the subject and in doing so focus on a more engaging subtopic. Find a primary source that allows you to tell a very small part of your topic, say an object at the Metropolitan or British Museums. -Jack]

[Consider how to relate your topic to an everyday listener's interest, both in your intro section and the ending. Ease your listener in and out. Why should they care about your subject? -Jack]

[Wikipedia and Britannica are credible but not quality sources. You have access to the highest quality historical research available through our Normandale library. Consider using the Research Guide created just for this class to find stronger source.-Jack]

Alexander the Great. <https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/alexander-great>.

[This source is for children. -Jack] Accessed 2 Apr. 2024.

<http://teachmiddleeast.lib.uchicago.edu/historical-perspectives/middle-east-seen-through-foreign-eyes/antiquity-modern/image-resource-bank/image-02.html>

https://www-jstor-org.ndcproxy.mnpals.net/stable/30044758?searchText=alexander+the+great&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3Dalexander%2Bthe%2Bgreat%26so%3Drel&ab_segments=0%2Fbasic_search_gsv2%2Fcontrol&refreqid=fastly-default%3Ad389250c06ecf08c46a8355a85821254&seq=1

Artstor. *Artstor*.

https://library.artstor.org/#/asset/LESSING_ART_1039490327;prevRouteTS=1712095622483. Accessed 2 Apr. 2024.

Hemingway, Authors: Seán Hemingway, Colette. "The Rise of Macedon and the Conquests of Alexander the Great | Essay | The Metropolitan Museum of Art | Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History." *The Met's Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History*, https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/alex/hd_alex.htm. Accessed 2 Apr. 2024.

Appetizer (4/01):

1. What country or region do you find most interesting?
 - I find the Balkans Peninsula to be one of the most beautiful and interesting locations on earth. This area, more known as Greece, is full of culture, amazing food, a stable and warm climate, beautiful scenery, and an interesting history.

2. What pre-1400 CE food do you find interesting?
 - One food from this region would be the Pita bread. While pita bread was first made in the Middle East around 4000 years ago, it has become a large part and tradition in modern Greek culture.
3. What pre-1400 CE person have you found interesting?
 - A commonly known person, that I find interesting from the Balkans Peninsula would be Alexander the Great. Not only did he become a king at the age of 20, but he also controlled areas from Greece all the way to India.
4. What pre-1400 freshwater topic have you found interesting?
 - Greece for years only used natural springs and rainwater to water crops and support their needs. To me, that is interesting as that approach would support little people with clean water today as rain is on occasion and most rivers are not safe to drink.
5. If you had to live in the pre-1400 CE world, what job outside the elite (no princesses/princes) would you want and why?
 - I view myself as a very practical and creative person. That being said I would say I would want to be an engineer of some sort, and would attempt to fix the many issues that plagued the ancient civilizations. Problems were much larger and apparent, and I would have loved to help fix them.
6. What question have you asked in your Reflections that might make a good podcast?
 - One question that may pose a valuable podcast conversation that I have reflected on could be regarding the transition from letting water decide where humans settle to now humans deciding where water is supposed to be (dams, rivers, pipes, etc.)

Sources:

Artstor. *Artstor*.

https://library.artstor.org/#/asset/LESSING_ART_10311440931;prevRouteTS=1712007104660. Accessed 1 Apr. 2024.

Fang, Yu, and James W. Jawitz. "The Evolution of Human Population Distance to Water in the USA from 1790 to 2010." *Nature Communications*, vol. 10, Jan. 2019, p. 430.

PubMed Central, <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-08366-z>.

Papyrus | British Museum. https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/Y_EA10735-7. Accessed 5 Feb. 2024.

Dessert (3/25):

While working through the First plate assignment this week, it was interesting to see all the different times we use an algorithm without even realizing it. Algorithms run all of the technology around us and allow them to run smoothly based on user requests. While we were only required to take note of a few types of algorithms, in the time I was completing the assignment, there were many algorithms that I did not note. Reading through the sources found on the World

History website was also interesting as it showed how technology and the way algorithms are made to give you what you want and reinforce racism and discrimination. After reading that the algorithm only gives you what you want to see, I reflected on the state of politics in the United States. I believe algorithms are deepening the separation between the political parties as members of each party are only exposed to the viewpoints they want to see. The only way to break this is to look at news and articles on both sides of the story and allow yourself to be open to new ideas. This week has shown me that understanding how algorithms work is vital and that generative AI is something that most people do not understand. This is something that will be reflected on, as I use AI in the future. [Good summary of learning and reflection. Thanks. 2024-04-03 - Jack]

Second Plate (3/27):

Link #1: [Religion & Philosophy](#).

a. What are the most important words in the text(s) you are analyzing?

- The most important and common words in this article included “god, “Qur’an”, “man”, and “created”. To me, these all serve some purpose in the meaning of the article. From what I can tell, before I read the article, was that it had something to do with the differences in religion, and focussed on Muslims' use of the Quran.

b. What three historical questions do you have about the most important words?

- My first question would be in terms of why and how the different religions of the world diverted? I would also ask how the different religions wrote the different Holy books and how they differ so much from one another? Finally, I wonder if religion as a whole is something that should be more unified, as religion conflict is evident all across the world.

c. What new information did you learn from Wikipedia that helps you understand your word counts?

- After adding Wikipedia to the URL, it was very interesting to see what the Internet History Sourcebooks Project from Fordham University was. It is a sourcebook from secondary sources that have originated from the Medieval times. It specializes in information regarding events that took place before the 19th century. [What about the authors? -Jack]

d. If you had to offer a hypothesis on the most important two ideas in your document(s), what would you argue? Put another way, what were the major ideas that appear in your documents *based solely on the word counts*.

- Hypothesis #1: I would argue that this document is about the differences between the major world religions as it seems to focus on religious terminology, especially words relating to the Islamic religion.
- Hypothesis #2: I would argue that this article is about how the world and modern civilizations were created, including how different religions view the topic and how they differ from each other. [Could you give an example? -Jack]

Link #2: [The Guide of the Perplexed](#)

a. What are the most important words in the text(s) you are analyzing?

- In this article was very difficult to find meaningful words, as a large portion of the top words were generic. After adding stop words, some common words were “perplexed”, “existence”, “exalted”, and “law”.

b. What three historical questions do you have about the most important words?

- Some questions I would ask purely off the common words above would be, what that there are many events in the past that I would consider to be perplexing, but were those events considered that at the time? I also wonder about the word existence, and that word is very daunting, I would ask about my existence, and if it had a greater impact on the earth than my ancestors? Lastly, in regards to law, has the modern idea of law been around as long as modern civilizations, or did laws come after them?

c. What new information did you learn from Wikipedia that helps you understand your word counts?

- After adding Wikipedia to the search bar, it pulled up the Internet Archive. This was valuable information as the article in itself seemed unreliable, but the internet archive is very popular and known to have credible sources. It also explains the fact that a lot of the words are generic, as the book includes over 300,000 words. [What about the author? -Jack]

d. If you had to offer a hypothesis on the most important two ideas in your document(s), what would you argue? Put another way, what were the major ideas that appear in your documents *based solely on the word counts*.

- Hypothesis #1: I would argue that this book is talking about the perplexion [What word are you trying to use? Jack] in past events and that it's trying to bring clarity to some of the events that have left civilization confused.
- Hypothesis #2: Some of the language in the word report suggests it may have also included some discussion of religion, and I would argue that it may be using religion to justify some events that have left civilization with no other explanation.

First Plate (3/20):

1. Today, I used Siri to call my mom when I was cooking my breakfast. I was unable to use my hands to make the phone call. The resulting action was instant and efficient and the phone call had no hesitation. My question would be, how does voice recognition work, and how does it tell my voice different from others?
2. While writing my Video Response for my Visual Arts class, I used Grammarly to make sure I had no spelling errors. The system takes the paragraph and then shows you all the mistakes and tells you what you should do to fix them. I wonder how this system works on larger programs, as it gets glitchy in my experience.
3. I use Google on an everyday basis, although this morning I was using it to find the best ankle specialist. It showed me results from the local area that other people had good experiences with. My question would be, how does Google know where I am looking for an expert as I have not allowed it to use my location while using the app?
4. Yesterday night I was way in the future and was looking at homes that are for sale in the area. The application I used is called Zillow and after putting in some filters, it shows you all the results for the area. My question for Zillow would entail how they get all the random information about the homes for sale, details that seem so specific and irrelevant.
5. Another system that I use daily is Apple Carplay. While it may not be an algorithm like Safari or Google, the system still takes input from the phone, displays it on the Car screen, and then takes input from the screen to change what the phone is doing. I make phone calls, change the song, and find directions using it. My question would be, why isn't there a way for it to be through Bluetooth, as my carplay only works with a cord?
6. Netflix is another application that I use on a fairly common basis. I use it to watch movies and then based on the movies I watch it recommends others that are like them. My only question for Netflix would be, who decides what's on Netflix and what's not?
7. When looking for roommates for next year, I had to use Minnesota's online roommate search. This system required me to answer some questions and based on my answers gave me results of people who answered similarly to me. My only question for the creator would be, why can I only see the people that answer just like me, sometimes

being too similar is not good either. [Devin. Great questions. Keep asking questions of your algorithms, finding answers, and considering how algorithm literacy shapes your access to knowledge, historical and otherwise. 2024-03-23 -Jack]

8. Good luck with the roommate search.

9.

Appetizer (3/18):

1. What is an example of what Professor Noble calls "technological redlining" that you have observed in your experience with the internet?
 - One specific example of the term "technological redlining" that I have noticed and directly experienced would be my cell phone service and how it differs from location to location. When driving through lower-income communities and rural areas while the service is still there it can be considerably slower. While internet companies may not be intentionally racist, this worsened access to high-speed internet typically affects certain groups and races more than others.
2. What term do the Normandale librarians use for a type of citation that tells your faculty what type and how you are using an Artificial Intelligence website (if you are allowed to use them in the class?)
 - The Normandale Libraries use a term called "AI Use Disclosure Statement". This is a short description of what AI system you used and how it aided your assignment.
3. What AIs have you talked about with friends?
 - In terms of AI that I have talked to people around me about, the only one that comes to mind would be ChatGPT. I have never used any type of AI to complete an assignment but find the power of them intriguing.
4. What is Adina Langer's biggest concern, expressed in her article "Generative AI and historical authority?"
 - Right away in the article, the author expresses that the general population does not comprehend how artificial intelligence systems work. This is cause for major concern as people aren't checking the credibility of results given by AI, and this has caused a large portion of the general public to believe whatever they see.
5. Why does Paul Sturtevant find the term "racist" complicated when applied to the Middle Ages?
 - The author of this article, Paul Sturtevant, is trying to express to the readers that the idea that people were racist in the Middle ages is a conflicting claim. This is because the term "race" wasn't even termed until the 16th century, strengthening the fact that the term "racism" is relatively modern. While acts of racism may have been present in the middle ages, the idea of modern racism was a culturally misconception created by modern-day ideology.

Dessert (3/13):

After reflecting on my learning this past week, Metadata is something that we humans use on a daily base without even realizing it. It was valuable to realize the importance of Metadata when it comes to searching for articles and finding the quality information that you need. The readings from this week, specifically the readings I was finding on JSTOR on the access of freshwater were something that can be traced back to ancient times. It's very clear that civilizations need quality access to water, and through reading sources from the Middle East but also Europe that point was proved even more. The issue of limited access to fresh water was further proved by Elena H's article posted on the Global Citizen titled "The Facts on Why So Many People Struggle to Access Clean Water"(Cunningham). This article brought light to the issue of why access to fresh water is extremely important and how people are struggling to get quality water. In regard to the evaluation of my work this week, some aspects of metadata still confuse me. The difference between descriptive and structural metadata is something that in reality isn't that difficult but for me was hard to get down. [You've done a nice job both reflecting on your learning and folding another student's sources into your Dessert. 2024-03-15 -Jack]

Cunningham, Marnie. "The Facts on Why so Many People Struggle to Access Clean Water." *Global Citizen*, www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/why-do-so-many-people-still-struggle-to-access-cle/. Accessed 12 Mar. 2024.

Second Plate (3/11):

The article that I found was talking about the creation of the Aquaducts. The aqueducts are a Roman invention that was created around 200 BC and then implemented in many countries across the globe around 300 CE. To show the influence that Aquaducts have had on the world, a website found on the JSTOR databases, explains that the ICAA of the country of Costa Rica, "has been able to diagnose the condition of 1,384 of these rural aqueducts, which provide water for a population of 1,211,678"(Espeleta). Not only does this show the large impact an ancient invention had on modern-day countries but it shows that many people today can live with access to water thanks to Roman Inventions. The article also touched on how the country of Costa Rica has seen many different types of water distribution but focuses on how Aquaducts have aided in spreading fresh water for over a million Costa Ricans.

My five examples of metadata that I would use include water, aqueducts, distribution, health, and irrigation. After reading the article, and reviewing the previously set metadata, these options seemed to be found in the article many times. It was important to acknowledge that the article was not necessarily centered on the time frame of 01-500ce but rather focused on how an invention from that time is still affecting society today.

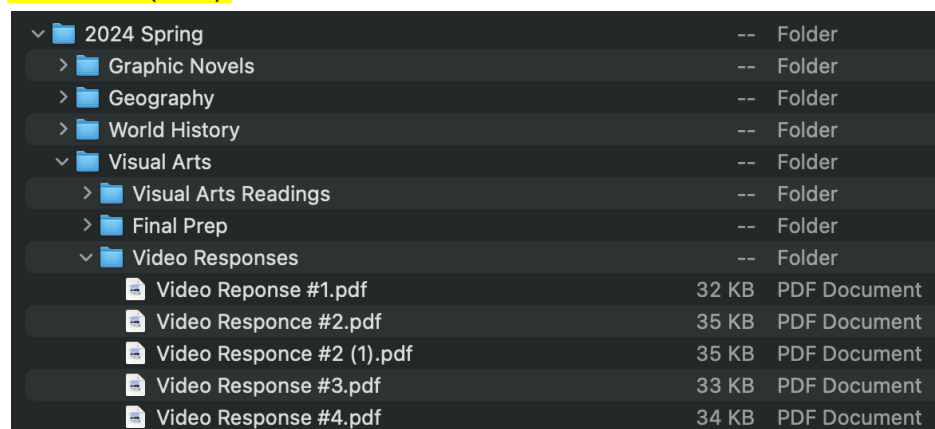
[-Jack]

Espeleta, Yamileth Astorga. "The State of Water Resources in Costa Rica." *Waterlines*, vol. 20, no. 1, 2001, pp. 15–17. *JSTOR*, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/24681759>. Accessed 11 Mar. 2024.

Grading Criteria- 2nd Plate metadata	
Demonstrated how to choose a credible and class relevant article from Jstor or Project Muse in the period 1 to 500 CE. 20%	Needs additional evidence
Summarized the article in three sentences. 20%	Needs additional evidence
Generated a list of 5 unique metadata. 10%	Demonstrated
Explained why they chose the five metadata.30%	Needs additional evidence
Wrote in standard English usage with capitalization, punctuation, and academic integrity. 20%	Demonstrated

[I think your article choice hurt your ability to do analysis. It's almost impossible to credibly tie aqueducts of Rome to Costa Rica. Other civilizations, such as the Inca and Maya, also moved water and are more proximate. -Jack]

First Plate (2/28):



2024 Spring	--	Folder
> Graphic Novels	--	Folder
> Geography	--	Folder
> World History	--	Folder
> Visual Arts	--	Folder
> Visual Arts Readings	--	Folder
> Final Prep	--	Folder
> Video Responses	--	Folder
Video Reponse #1.pdf	32 KB	PDF Document
Video Responce #2.pdf	35 KB	PDF Document
Video Responce #2 (1).pdf	35 KB	PDF Document
Video Response #3.pdf	33 KB	PDF Document
Video Response #4.pdf	34 KB	PDF Document

C.) This use of metadata found in the finder application on my computer has many different ways to organize your work. For me, I find it most helpful to separate my school work by semester, and then from there, each class gets its folder. In each class folder, all of my school work is found in organized folders that all have labels and names on them. I find this extremely

helpful because when searching for an assignment to submit or reference, it is much easier when you aren't sorting through hundreds of files. One change I would make to this use of metadata would be the fact that when uploading a file to these very deep and specific folders, it can take a while to find the desired folder. Other than that this type of metadata is very efficient, not over the top, and organizes all of my work extremely well.

D.) When looking at descriptive and structural types of metadata used in the finder application, it is important to look at what the differences are between them. Descriptive metadata can include a description of who created the file, what is in the file, or when it was created. [Descriptive metadata tells us about something in the data, in the file. I'd need to read more to agree that "date added" describes something in the file. -Jack] Using that definition, looking at the screenshot from my computer, we can see that some examples of descriptive metadata that was used include when it was created, as described through the folder "2024 Spring". Another example of descriptive metadata could include the folders under the visual arts folder that describe the different types of assignments. For structural metadata, we can describe it as information regarding how it is organized, and how it's sorted. For my screenshot, an example of structural metadata can include the different folders for the different classes. This describes how it is sorted and then has a more detailed folder in it that would be considered descriptive. This sorting of folders on my computer uses more descriptive metadata, but that doesn't mean structural metadata is less important. [Most of your folders can be both descriptive and structural, but you are using them structurally. -Jack]

Appetizer (2/26):

After reading an article that discussed the recent concerns over water quality in the United States, posted on the National Resources Defense Council(NRDC), a nonprofit organization, it was shocking how even though water filtration has been around for years, it still has many flaws. In regards to the starting years for water filtration, we can look back to the ways of Ancient Egypt. In an article posted on the University of Wisconsin, Madison, the author describes some of the early ways of filtration, "include Boiling, heating under the sun, or dipping heated iron into the water. The text also reveals the filtration process according to which water can be purified filtering it through sand and coarse gravel and then allowed to cool"(Chen). Now as far as humans have come at filtering our water, the article on the NRDC describes that it still has its many flaws. The author describes, "Chronic underinvestment has left water infrastructure outdated and on the verge of collapse in many places across the country"(Greenfield). It was interesting to see that even though technology has dramatically improved, the issue of water quality and filtration has still become a large issue. The main difference is that the issue of water filtration has shifted from a lack of technology to a lack of funding. Water is very important, and we have learned over the past few weeks that water importance is not a new concept, but without clean water, it's almost more dangerous than helpful.

Chen, L. (n.d.). *Ancient egypt water engineering*. Ancient Engineering Technologies.
<https://ancientengrtech.wisc.edu/ancient-egypt-water-engineering/>

Greenfield, N. (2023, October 5). *America's failing drinking water system*. Be a Force for the Future.

<https://www.nrdc.org/stories/americas-failing-drinking-water-system#lead-pipes>

(REMINDER, I have redone the assignment and have placed the new link in this file at the beginning of page 5 -Devin) [I've assessed your GIS assignment. Overall, you effectively put map, text, and images together. Going forward, recognize that Britannica is credible, but not a high quality source. Stronger sources (such as the Credo database) are available at our library. Also, please don't delete or edit notes you or I leave to each other in this document. It helps have a record of what was written. Editing your own work is great, but if I write to you (or you write back) in direct communication, let's preserve that. -Jack]

Dessert (2/21):

In my appetizer for this week, I discussed the importance of water, but also how destructive it can be at the same time. This story of the great flood reminded me of when I was at Yellowstone National Park last summer, and the entire park had to close because of excessive flooding. Not only were the pretty streams and rivers overflowing, but they also destroyed roads and trapped people in its borders. I also liked looking at artwork from thousands of years ago as it showed how much art has changed over the years. Back when many of the pieces we looked at were made, water was the key to life, and that idea was reflected in many pieces of art that are discovered. I have never been good at finding the meaning behind artwork, although being exposed to some of the most complicated and unknown art from the past, I have been able to find the meaning of more current pieces of art much easier. I also had the opportunity to learn more about the difference in quoting when comparing English and history. I have realized that it is always better to just quote something than attempt to "paraphrase" something from a source and will be using that ideology the rest of the semester. This week was interesting to me, not only because I got to analyze many different forms of art, but it forced me to find meaning in something that is challenging to me. [Unpacking art is always a challenge, but I hope you've

more skills now. -Jack]

Second Plate (2/20):

Object #1: Cuneiform Tablet

Object #2: Travelling boat being rowed

Description of Artwork:

- In order to discuss the importance of water in these specific civilizations, these artists would create a piece of art that merely demonstrates the gift that water has posed to early civilizations. In order to do that, these artists will use both aspects of their respective ways of art. To show the impactfulness and importance of water, the

centerpiece of this art will be a large wooden tree that towers over the rest of the art piece. Secondly, they will have clay that has been molded and hardened, and then painted blue to symbolize that water is the key to life. The blue clay will lead to the base of the tree and symbolize that with the aid of water, anything can thrive. To add a touch of their own civilizations, cuneiform, and time-specific carvings will be carved on the base of the tree.

Paragraph Art Analysis:

- Both of these artists are from areas with limited access to water. The Cuneiform Tablet artist is from the area in nowadays Turkey and the Rowed Boat artist is from Northern Egypt. Both of these areas experience a lack of water and because of this both artists most likely viewed water as a key to survival and farming. Because of that, I chose to have the artwork reflect the towering importance that water held to both of their specific civilizations. In regards to the historical differences between the two artists and their civilizations, both are around 2000 BCE and due to that similarity, both had about the same technological advancements in regards to irrigation and water distribution. From the background readings, I was able to learn that both artists were documenting something that meant a great deal to them. The Cuneiform tablet was created to document a debt that was owed to Enlil-bani. The Rowing Boat was a part of a collection of many artifacts describing life under King Nebhepetre Mentuhotep II's rule. Because of these documentations, I believe these artists would want to continue to make art that holds realistic and large meanings. [What are those "large meanings?" Show rather than tell your ideas. -Jack]

Grading Criteria	Assessment
Compared and contrasted the ways in which two historical societies viewed art with attention to fresh water.	Completed the learning goal with evidence.
Analyze the importance of accessing, using, and making meaning with water to different historical societies.	Partially completed the learning goal with evidence.
Demonstrate through an artistic production or description.	Completed the learning goal with evidence.
Assignment demonstrates standard college-level language usage, punctuation, and capitalization.	Completed the learning goal with evidence.

1. What is it?
 - Made of clay, it was a container that had a tablet inside of it that documented the debt owed to Enlil-bani
2. What is it called?
 - It is called and titled the Cuneiform tablet case impressed with three cylinder seals. It is the cuneiform tablet 66.246.18a: quittance for a loan in copper.
3. What is or was it used for?
 - This envelope was created to document the discharge of a debt that was owed to Enlil-bani.
4. Does it have more than one function?
 - Although it holds only one function, the hold of the tablet, it has two different interpretations. The front is a hero grasping a snake and from the back, a goddess leading a bearded male to a king.
5. How has its use changed over time?
 - I assume because it's made out of clay, it has weakened, possibly crumbling slightly, and a crack is noticed going down the front of the artifact.
6. What does it look and feel like?
 - The artifact is dark-colored and seems to have a smooth texture, with bumps and crevasses where the cuneiform is carved into the clay
7. How big is it?
 - This artifact is very small, with it being about 2 inches by 2 inches.
8. What's its shape, smell, and sound?
 - It is in the shape of a square, almost a cube, and from what I can tell it most likely holds a rock-like smell.
9. What color is it?
 - The color of this artifact is a dark, orange-ish brown. This color may have been different thousands of years ago, although I am unable to tell from the one picture on the Met's website.
10. Is it complete?
 - Yes, the artifact is in its complete form, with its cuneiform writing and carvings telling many different stories.
11. Has it been altered, adapted, or mended?
 - Based on the markings in the clay, the material was mended and carved to hold the message on the front and the back.
12. Is it worn?
 - This artifact is not worn, rather is something that seals the documents put inside.
13. What's the surface like?
 - The surface seems to have a smooth surface, that has rocky texture, with indents and carvings from the cuneiform
14. Does it have identifying numbers?
 - This artifact has an accession number, which provides information on which type of cuneiform it is.
15. Are there markings or writing on it?

- The entire clay artifact has cuneiform and has carvings telling many different stories.
16. What's it made of?
- This artifact is made of clay, a material that can be formed and then hardened.
17. How many kinds of materials is it made of?
- The clay seal is made of just one material, but the tablet inside is not discussed.
18. How was it made?
- The Met museum website did not directly discuss how it was created, although it touched on the fact that cuneiform writing and cylinder seals were a common practice in Mesopotamia.
19. Who made it?
- Similar to the last question it did not directly credit a creator, although it says many merchants in the Mesopotamian area used this type of writing.
20. Is it hand or machine-made?
- This was a hand-made artifact, and was most likely carved, and then hardened.
21. Does it have parts?
- The main seal is all one part, although the tablet that was sealed inside is from what I can tell a separate material.
22. What does it tell you about the maker's technical skill?
- The fact that this artifact is smaller than most people's palms, shows that the artist who created this had great carving skills and the ability to see small objects.
23. How does your background reading (Chapters 5 and 6) help you understand this object (two to three sentences)?
- Not only do the readings of chapters 5 and 6 discuss the effects of water today, but they also discuss its effect thousands of years ago, a time similar to when this artifact was created. The reading skills required to read about a time that seems so distant from the reality we are living in now can be similar to how it feels to try and learn about an ancient artifact similar to the Cuneiform seal which has been discussed today. The two chapters discuss water's importance since ancient times, similar to how writing has been an important aspect of civilizations for years. . [Devin , you've effectively answered all the questions. I have no additions or corrections, and I appreciate your attention to detail. 2024-02-18 -Jack]

Appetizer (2/12):

After reading through the 5th and 6th chapters of the Three Ages of Water, it was interesting to me that even though water has been something that has allowed human civilizations it is also something that can uproot families, and destroy communities. On the first page of chapter five, the author makes it very clear about the dangers that water can pose to civilizations. In the text, it explains early humans and how "their survival was still vulnerable to the vicissitudes of nature" (Gleick). To prove his point, he then discusses the stories of the Great Flood that are held in many Western religious organizations. I also connect this to what was discussed in chapter six, where the author describes the process of damming a river for energy and to reduce

downstream flooding. I connected these chapters, because even though water has its dangers, it can also provide many things for humans, and not all of those benefits are related to agriculture. When reading the news, I came across an article that discussed the devastating effects of dams when they collapse and fail. This made me think about what was discussed in the Three Ages of Water because it even further proved that all the positives water can offer, it can also take away in an instant. The article then discusses how dams are not permanent structures. As described in the article, “dams—like all human-made structures—have a limited life span, degrade over time and require upkeep”(Leffer). This made me think about the unreliability of dam structures, and how they can cause water to become the devastating forces that were discussed in chapter five of The Three Ages of Water.

Leffer, Lauren. “Dams Worldwide Are at Risk of Catastrophic Failure.” *Scientific American*, 15 Sept. 2023,
www.scientificamerican.com/article/dams-worldwide-are-at-risk-of-catastrophic-failure/.

Gleick, Peter. *The Three Ages of Water*, 2023,
jacknorton.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/3ages_Chapter5.pdf.

Dessert (2/07):

After reflecting on my appetizer about the domestication of animals, it was very similar to all that was discussed in the sources for this week. Not only did many of the articles focus on the importance of rivers and access to water, but many of the sources implied it wasn't only important to the survival of civilizations, but rather a vital necessity. I like the skills I learned in week one because they have allowed me to get more out of the readings and take meaningful notes to get the most information out of them. I also liked the GIS assignment where we created the story on ArcGIS StoryMaps because not only did it challenge us to use a new software but it allowed us to dive deeper into one art piece that held meaning in the past. Once I read the requirements for the assignment I knew that I wanted to discuss something regarding the invention and early stages of writing. A lot of the sources and information taught to us in this course so far, especially in week one, has been on accessing and receiving online sources (written language). Due to that, I wanted to look deeper into the beginning stages of written language as it is now something that the world revolves around. In regards to things I felt I did well this week, I think that the GIS assignment sticks out to me. I have always been good at using online resources that I am not completely confident in and had to use those skills when completing this assignment. [You might enjoy *The Horse, the Wheel, and Language: How Bronze-Age Riders from the Eurasian Steppes Shaped the Modern World* by David Anthony. I didn't read the whole thing, but it was mind-blowing the sections on how language has shaped our world. -Jack]

Project GIS (2/05):

NEW LINK- <https://arcg.is/1CLuW8>

First Plate (1/29):

After reading the three sources on the historical influence of water found on the World History Website, it was extremely clear how significant access to water was in the beginning days of farming. In the “First River-Valley Civilization” article, it was stressed right away the importance and effect that a river can have on a developing city. As described in the article, “River valleys offered the advantage of water to nourish crops and relatively easy transportation by boat” (Burns). Not only do rivers provide the necessary water for growing crops, but they also allow for a civilization to transport their goods to other cities for trade. This ability to grow crops and transport them allowed for the growth of many different civilizations including, Mesopotamia, Egypt and its old kingdom, and many other examples. This point is further proven through “The Eloquent Peasant” article which shows the dangerous effects of the Nile River's natural cycles. The article explains the effects of a major drought that “prevented the annual flooding of the Nile and thus disrupted agricultural production, making it extremely difficult to survive as a farmer” (Simpson). This shows the devastating effects on farming and the entire process of agriculture when access to water is taken away, and in this example, one year's drought crippled generations of farms. The final article, “The First Farmers in Africa”, touches on the beginning challenges that farming faced in Africa. It describes the challenges that certain areas of Africa experienced based on their limited access to water. Deserts, as many know, have very little water, and the Saharan Desert in Northern Africa is a prime example of this. The article describes that it had “cut off networks of communication with earlier farming societies” (Baker). This directly shows the disadvantage that farmers in the Saharan desert experience due to lack of waterways. All of these sources point back to the truth, that without an adequate source of water for crops and transportation, growth in a civilization becomes substantially more challenging. [Strong use of sources and well-organized paragraph. 2024-02-04, -Jack]

Baker, D. (n.d.). *The first farmers in Africa, the Cradle of Humanity*. The First Farmers in Africa, the Cradle of Humanity.
<https://jacknorton.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/WHP-2-3-3-Read-The-First-Farmers-in-Africa-the-Cradle-of-Humanity-1110L.pdf>

Burns, W. (n.d.). *First River-Valley Civilizations*. Ancient and Medieval History.
<https://online-infobase-com.ndcproxy.mnpals.net/HRC/LearningCenter/Details/7?articleId=594347>

Simpson, W. (n.d.). The eloquent peasant .
https://jacknorton.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/WHP_2-4-6-The_Eloquent_Peasant-Extended_Bio.pdf

Appetizer #3:

After reading through the article “First Farmers in Africa”, it was interesting to learn about the domestication of animals and how it had a large impact on the overall quality and outcome of farming. The article discussed the subject of domestication as “one of the first crucial steps for farming” (Baker). The process of domesticating animals for farming has allowed humans to get more out of smaller land with less manual labor. This is also why there are still many large mammals residing in Africa. When reading local news regarding agriculture in modern-day America, I stumbled upon an article titled “Humans caught more diseases after we domesticated animals”. This article brought light to the reality that “animal diseases were much more likely to jump to humans after the advent of farming” (Le Page). This brings light to the fact that even though animals have allowed us to exploit the land at a much greater rate, the domestication of mammals has exposed humans to many diseases that have animal origins. While this domestication has boosted farming and supported a significantly larger human population, it also may be a reason behind many deaths every year.

First Farmers article:

<https://jacknorton.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/WHP-2-3-3-Read-The-First-Farmers-in-Africa-the-Cradle-of-Humanity-1110L.pdf>

Diseases from animals:

<https://www.newscientist.com/article/2398708-humans-caught-more-diseases-after-we-domesticated-animals/>

Appetizer #2: [Interesting comparison of our readings to a modern source. I like your use of a quotation to give evidence to your analysis. 2024-01-23, -Jack]

I find myself browsing news on climate change often, as I find it valuable and important information. I was reading a news source on the VOA News detailing the current state of the Ganges River, explaining that the river “is so polluted that its water appears pitch black, except during the monsoon months, and emits a foul stench throughout the year” (Reuters). This directly contradicts the statements made in the “Scared Flows” reading from this week that stated that “the flow of rivers has nurtured life and spread fertility to countless societies” (Middleton). I found this quite interesting as it shows us humans how our touch and influence can alter Earth's more life-giving thing, the river. I found this article insightful and also inspiring as it makes readers realize the dangers of not being responsible and makes the idea of climate change seem much more real. Now the Ganges River is a very extreme example of the effects of pollution, but left unchecked, pollution will turn every river into that similar to the Ganges.

Reuters. (2023a, April 20). *Once the lifeline of Dhaka, “old ganges” is now a dead river.*

Voice of America.

<https://www.voanews.com/a/once-the-lifeline-of-dhaka-old-ganges-is-now-a-dead-river-/7058314.html>

Middleton, N. (n.d.). *Sacred Flows*. Academic.oup.com.

<https://academic.oup.com/book/717/chapter/135385245>

First Plate(1/24):

1. Primary news sources are sources that were recorded at the time of the event. That being said one specific example of a primary source may be a first-hand account of what the Las Vegas Shooting was like in 2017. This was recorded at the time of the event, or from someone who experienced it first-hand, making it a primary source.
2. Secondary news sources are sources that have been created after a historical event. This can be textbooks, reports, and other things from someone who didn't experience it firsthand. An example may include the information behind the Las Vegas shooter and provide details on his mental illnesses and other reasons why he may have done what he did.
3. In regards to the National Council on Public History, they believe that history is always changing, and they believe that it always changing due to many different factors. The reason history changes can be explained through the discussion of different contexts and interpretations. Professional historians use all available information to gather their opinion on how events in history happened which can lead to different interpretations. It is also important to realize that representation in history can be limited depending on race, gender, and many other factors, leading to misinformed history.

4.

- 1.) What claims does the author make?

Overall the source includes a lot of information, although the main claims for the article revolve around rivers. He states that even though rivers bring lots of life and security, they also have been known to bring dangerous and dealt things like floods.

- 2.) Who wrote this?

This book was written by Nick Middleton, a UK geographer who has been all over the world. He is very informed on topics regarding the earth and its characteristics and is a credible source of information.

- 3.) When was it written?

After looking at the book information as a whole rather than just the link on the World History Website, it was easy to find the published date, which happened to be April 26, 2012 [Well answered. I appreciate your attention to both answering the questions fully and with careful editing. 2024-01-28 -Jack]

Evaluating Sources:

Lesson #1:

1. Do you think media literacy could help some people avoid processes of radicalization? Or are the social drivers too strong?

The idea of media literacy would reduce and limit the radicalization of individuals simply because they could identify when stories are completely one-sided. Social media has created an environment where people only see what they agree with, radicalizing their opinions, no matter the pressure they feel from social drivers.

2. Are all conspiracy theories bad? Are all wrong? What do you think makes a conspiracy theory harmful? Do you hold beliefs that others would dismiss as conspiracy theory? Not all are bad, and not all are wrong, but making conspiracy theories something that is very important and influences your life can be wrong and bad. In my opinion, devoting your life to a conspiracy theory can be harmful and unhealthy to you and others around you, but believing in the existence of them, in my opinion, is important in society. I do not personally believe in any theories off the top of my head.

3. Do you know anyone that has gone down the conspiracy rabbit hole on an issue? What have you learned from that experience about what drives conspiracy thinking? I cannot think of a specific example from someone in my life, but large numbers of people over the years have believed conspiracy theories regarding our food in America. For example, many years ago, when butter was considered unhealthy, margarine became the popular option, becoming an even more unhealthy alternative. Or when skim milk overtook regular milk to reduce fat, but then lost other nutrients only found in 2% and whole milk.

Lesson #2:

Alexas Toilet:

- After doing the Wikipedia trick on the website I was able to find that Toms Guide is owned by Toms Hardware, which according to Wikipedia was founded in 1996 and has credibility.

Alligator:

1. Are these trustworthy news sources for this sort of story?
 - After using the Wikipedia trick on the first article, from ABC4 I determined that this source seemed to be a trustworthy organization to report true news. The second article, once again was from a credible news organization FOX31.
2. Is this story likely true?
 - Since both stories came from reliable and trusted organizations, I believe this story is likely true and is not fake news.

3. If you had to pick the best source of the two based just on what you found on Wikipedia, which one would you pick, and why?
 - I would pick the first article, the article on ABC4 News simply because the one from Fox is based in Denver Colorado, even though this event occurred in South Carolina, which is where ABC4 is based.

Alligator Reflection Questions:

1. For what sort of other stories might a local source be a particularly good authority?
 - The first thing that comes to mind for this example would be a tourist guide or a town review. This is because a local source may have or is experiencing all that the town has to offer and can give insightful information to possible tourists.
2. For what sort of other stories might a local source not be a good authority?
 - Similar to the first option, but different in the fact that the locals may need to be a better source for the example of ranking cities to raise a family in. A local source may have a bias for the town they live in and may give biased opinions that are not accurate.

Volcano Airplane:

1. What sort of source is this?
 - This is an unreliable source and according to Wikipedia, holds large amounts of fake news.
2. How do you know?
 - The Wikipedia website had other credible sources that proved the fact that the Wayback Machine only holds fake news and does not report true stories.

Lesson Two Reflections:

1. What are your feelings on fauxtire? Is it an ethical practice?
 - The website fauxtire is something that can be considered funny but with our society's lack of skill in ensuring sources are reliable, it poses a concerning question. In my opinion that concern should be directed more to those who are misinterpreting it, rather than towards the company itself.
2. Should companies like Facebook and Twitter downrank articles if they are being spread based on the impression they are "real" when they are not? What are the dangers of that?
 - I believe those companies should not limit the spreading of any article unless it holds hateful and other downgrading material. When you begin censoring articles, you open a can of worms that can become something bigger than it was intended to be, even when all you were doing was trying to ensure the spread of true news.

Lesson #3:

MH17:

1. Which of the following publishers is a better source on the downing of MH17 and why?
 - I cannot open the YouTube video, although the Reuters organization has been around for many years and holds lots of credibility. That being said, I believe it is the better source even though I cannot view the YouTube video :)

Question for Reflection:

1. What obligations do American companies have to prevent this sort of use of their platforms? What responsibilities belong with the reader instead?
 - American companies need to ensure that the information on their websites is true and not spread narratives and agendas of certain individuals. The second new companies start to hold opinions is when they start to lose credibility.

Warnings Article:

- After searching for the credibility of this author, I determined that he is an English Climate Scientist. He holds strong credibility and it would make sense that a climate scientist would be reporting this claim about climate change.

Warnings Reflection:

1. One of the understandings key to media literacy is "authority is constructed and contextual". Different communities (scientists, reporters, politicians, psychologists, car mechanics) have different criteria for authority (constructed) and the type and level of authority you need may depend on your context (contextual). What other types of expertise could this issue benefit from?
 - In my opinion, many other areas of expertise can benefit from the idea that your constructed authority and your contextual authority can differ. Different "communities" or occupations hold power in other areas but none in others, and one example of this could be a dentist, holding great knowledge of teeth, but little knowledge of flying an airplane.

Smoke-free Article:

- After some searching, I found that this article is a nonprofit organization that focuses on lowering the deaths caused by smoking worldwide. They are funded by one company and do not have support from the medical field.

Lesson #4:

1. Why did we search for Keanu Reeves instead of Keanu Reeves snowboard?
 - When researching topics about a celebrity, in this case, if they were to have passed away, there would be many new articles about it and there would be no reason to include "snowboard" in the search.

2. Why do you think so many otherwise smart people make errors when it comes to death hoaxes? What are the emotional drivers? What are the social incentives that push people not to check
 - When we view a celebrity's death in the news, and they hold meaning and influence over our life, we may get sad, and overwhelmed by this information. Because of this, people overreact and jump to conclusions rather than investigate.
3. The *Babylon Bee* has been criticized by many for repeatedly writing satire that is not notably satirical enough for people to recognize it as a joke. Critics say that this is reckless, as most people will develop false impressions from reading the headlines that float past on Facebook. What are your thoughts on this? Some links on this issue are included at the bottom of the page.
 - I believe that a news company that is designed to be satire, should be advertising that on all their posts and news articles. This way, even when you scrolling facebook, you will see the truth, and realize the information is most likely false.
4. If people are sharing a story as if it is true, it makes sense for Snopes to fact-check it. But is "False" the correct rating for satire or fauxtire? Look at the [ratings Snopes uses](#) and develop two arguments: one argument that Snopes should introduce a new category of "satire", and one argument that it should not.
 - I believe it should produce this new "satire" category. This is because satire articles indeed hold some truths, but the truths are twisted into things that aren't necessarily true.
 - I believe they should not produce a "satire" category and this is because when a reader is reading a news article, it is their responsibility to ensure the quality of information they are reading.
5. Even if you disagree with the rating of false, does the Snopes article give you enough information to make up your own mind?
 - The rating of false on the website indicates that the main claims in the article are not true, but does not specifically say ever aspect of the article is false, leaving you able to determine if you believe it's true or false with more research.

UN Dance:

1. Is the video unaltered (i.e., a "real" video)? Is this video really a reaction to U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley? What else can you tell us about this video, and how do you know it?
 - After fact-checking this post, I determined that this was not a real video. On top of that, I researched other fact-checkers and found that Snopes determined that this video clip was completely false.

ATM Rats:

- I found that many other news companies are reporting this story. This makes me believe that this story is true and that these claims in the initial post are not false.

John Lennons Muderer:

1. Is this photo real? Is this really a photo of John Lennon signing an album for his killer?
What else do you know about the photograph?
 - I found that this photo is real and that John Lennon did sign an album for his murderer. I cannot find if that is a picture of him signing it, but the rest of the story seems to be credible.

Lesson #5:

Beer tax:

1. What is the reputation of the organization or person producing the report? How credible are they on this claim? What's the 1,000 people dying about? How does an alcohol tax affect that?
 - I found that the original reporters of this story were from the Brookings Institution which is a highly credible and large organization that specializes in research and studies regarding economics and specifically taxes. The statistic regarding 1000 deaths, is about alcohol-related deaths and is not determined from an alcohol tax.

Biggie and Kurt:

1. Original photo of Kurt: [Link](#)
2. Original photo of Biggie: [Link](#)
3. I was able to find these pictures extremely easily by reverse image searching and searching the image with Google.

Guns in Schools:

- [Link](#) to the source
- I believe this approach to having zero guns in a school may leave a school helpless in the event of an emergency, although if anyone should have a gun, it should be highly trained and qualified people like a cop or hired security guard.

Essential Online Skills:

Lesson #1:

1. What is the error in the link? If Fatima doesn't know the error, what can she do to find the correct link?
 - Something in the link has inactivated the link and now it only sends you to the home page. Because of this, it may be a good idea for Fatima to make a normal Google search and see if there are other ways to get the information not from the given link

2. What should Joe do?
 - Being that he said he cannot get his mouse to work either, it makes me think the issue has more to do with the computer than the website. That being said, it would be a good idea to restart the computer and then if that doesn't work, check for updates or other things that may be causing the issue.
3. What advice would you give Sam so that they could successfully complete this assignment?
 - Because the assignment is due in two weeks there is no need for panic, rather leaves you plenty of time to learn more about online classes and how submitting things works. It may be smart to get a meeting with the professor to get the basics and go to computer help with any other questions.
4. Navigate to your college website: is it http or https? Is your favorite website for news http: or https?:
 - Normandale's online D2L site uses HTTPS, and this means its a secure connection. Almost all of the news sites also used HTTPS.
5. If you added paths back to the URL from Situation 1, does the website work with Path 1? With Path 2?
 - After using the paths, the link actually opened right away to a statistics page on the website. This was different from the first example which only brought me to a home page with a warning sign.
6. If you add ".html" to the end of the URL, what happens? Why?
 - After adding that to the end of the URL there was no change in the website, and this is because the website is already a standard web page.
7. What would you expect to find if reduced the URL to https://collections.artsmia.org/art/? What actually happens? Why?
 - I would assume that this would just bring me to the collections page rather than the specific art piece. After deleting the extra stuff, the page went 404 and was not found, I assume this is because the website does not have a collections page that uses a specific "/art/" path.
8. Have you seen a tracking URL? Between what two sources was the link? Did you find the tracking to be a legitimate practice or something you found invaded your privacy?
 - I cannot think of a specific time that I have come across a tracking URL, although I believe that this is a little bit an invasion of privacy simply because there is not a need for them to get that much information based on what I'm surfing on the internet.
9. Scenario #1: Grandmother with Diabetes...[Link](#)
10. Scenario #2: Covid Precations... [Link](#)

11. Scenario #3: Church Founders... only way to find this was to make the search specific to a religious organization.
12. What is wrong with the following URLs that might cause them to display incorrectly?
What could you do to fix them?
- For the first URL, there are extra punctuation and slashes after the .org causing the link to be inactive. For the second URL, once again there is an invalid tracking code after the .org, and deleting it makes the link work properly. The last URL just takes you to the Google page, to fix this, delete everything before the second HTTPS and the link works.
13. What happens to this page when you open it in Firefox and then hit the F9 (or click the  icon on the right side of the URL)?
- I do not have Firefox to open it on there, although when opening it on Google Chrome the page was 404 and was insecure.
14. What does the domain ending ".us" tell you about the credibility of that website?
- This means it is a credible and top domain for websites in the US and can most likely be trusted.

Lesson #2:

1. Scenario #1: I chose that she should email her professor with the proposal simply because just showing up at the professor's office may catch them at a bad time and leave them with less help.
2. Scenario #2:
 - Check emails regularly
 - Go into the grade book and look at the due dates
 - Set reminders when he has due dates
3. Scenario #3:
 - Schedule times for each brother
 - Make sure that if larger assignments are coming up time is shared
 - Take breaks, people are more productive when they aren't fatigued
4. What should Maria do? Write one or two sentences to give her advice.
 - The first thing she needs to do is to email the professor and just ask if the test will cover material from the textbook or his teaching. Some may disagree with me but teachers teach in many different ways and it's important to know how your teachers teach.
5. What should Than do? Write one or two sentences to give him advice.
 - This seems like the professor just made a simple mistake on the weekly overview and he should reach out in a quick email.

6. Second Lives of Zombie Monuments:
 - Due to colonial pressures, Maxwele performed a destructive protest
 - He threw feces at the statue
 - A statue ended up crumbling due to protests
 - Many different times it has been spray-painted
7. What type of calendar do you use? How do you ensure your calendar is up-to-date with your course assignments and your non-school events? Write down at least two sentences to share with your class.
 - I used Apple's calendar for many of the events I have to do in a week. This can include things my parents need to do or activities I have planned. For school work, I find lists more helpful, and then I can cross things out as I complete them.
8. Write a short email to your grandmother answering her questions.
 - Hey Grandma! Next time, if you want a faster response you can just text me :) But to answer your questions, my college classes are going very well. I'm looking forward to the freedom when I graduate so I can be fully independent. PS, I'm having mac and cheese for dinner ;)

Lesson #3:

1. What is the child poverty rate in your state? How would you take notes to find your way back to this information? Do not write down just a link, but how you got to the link. Share your web map with a classmate. Is your map the same as theirs? Why or why not?
 - The child poverty rate in the state of Minnesota is 12%. To find this information, I used the drop-down box and scrolled to Minnesota.
2. How many numbers do you see?
 - A, there are six numbers on the track
3. Add the following numbers: $94+76+77+82$. If there are 400 points available, what is this student's percentage grade?
 - Total points of $329/400= 82.3\%$

Lesson #4:

1. What hardware change would you suggest the siblings make to restore full speed to their connections? Write out which sibling and what that sibling should do.
 - In my opinion, the siblings who are video chatting with her friend are taking up more internet sources, so it would make sense for her to chat through texting or get a wired internet connection.
2. Do you know what operating system the device you are using right now is? Do you know its full name, including its version?*

- I know that I am using MacOS on my Macbook, and the latest update was Sanoma 14.2, I think that is the latest version but I'm not completely sure.
3. Scenario #1: What advice would you give Zora?
 - Research on a MacOS system can be done in two different places. From my experience using it, Chrome is what more colleges use, although Safari can give you access to Google as well.
 4. Scenario #2: What advice can you give Sam as it relates to software applications?
 - Like I said last time, it depends on what type of laptop he is using for most of the tasks he's going to need to do for the paper. That being said, a tech department will have all the answers he needs and will show him what to do.
 5. Scenario #3: What advice would you give her on how to organize her files for her assignments?
 - From my experience with working from two different schools, as a PSEO student, it's important to have everything separated. Having folders with explicit names to decipher everything is a good start.
 6. What word-processing program do you plan to use this year? Write one sentence in your program and save/export your paper as a pdf.
 - I plan on using Google Docs this year, it is what I've used all my life and what I'm most confident using.
 7. Based on the URL's alone, not clicking through to the websites, can you tell the subject of the following three websites? Why or why not?
 - The first URL is the only one where you can guess what the link will bring you to, that being something regarding cities and their roads.
 8. Citations:
 - *African American history*. Umbra Search African American History. (n.d.). <https://www.umbrasearch.org/>
 - Books, P., Network, H. N., Daily, J., Republic, T. N., Vulture, & Magazine, +972. (n.d.). Bunk. <https://www.bunkhistory.org/>
 - Draw all roads in a city at once - github pages. (n.d.). <https://anvaka.github.io/city-roads/>

Lesson #5:

1. Who were the authors of the piece? Was the piece "We're 20 Percent of America, and We're Still Invisible" a new article, an editorial from the New York Times, or an opinion article? What was the thesis of the article?
 - Judith Heumann and John Wodatch
 - This was an opinion article

- This article was about how the disabled Americans represent a large portion of the population but are overlooked and disregarded.
2. A text to your friend to pick you up at noon.
 - Hey, I need a ride at noon from school!
 3. One sentence to faculty telling them you will be leaving early from class.
 - Dear Faculty, I will be leaving my class early for a doctor's appointment, hopefully, this isn't too much of an inconvenience.
 4. An equation that subtracts your age from 220, which yields an estimate for your maximum heart rate. For example $220 - 50 \text{ (age)} = 170$ beats per minute maximum.
 - $220 - 17 = 203$ beats per minute
 5. Two sentences for your friend's mom arguing for why she should read the last book you read or movie you watched
 - This movie not only had scenes that created a very deep character but also had an ending that swept you away. The whole movie was deceiving you and there was a deeper agenda throughout the entire movie that comes out of nowhere.
 6. Does Yuri need to cite this picture? Why or why not?
 - Yes, even though it's an image, there was still someone else who took it and it still needs to be credited to them. Images can not be copyrighted although it's always safe to give credit to the original photographer.
 7. What is the maximum percentage of the US workforce are workers with disabilities? What numbers do you need to answer this question? What equation will yield an answer?
 - In order to complete this I will need the total workers in the US (139.2 million)
 - I will also need the number of disabled workers (19.8 million)
 - Therefore about 10% of the workforce is disabled.

2nd Plate Reflection:

- I found it very important that this course went through helpful skills when finding credible sources as that is something that I have found difficult in the past.
- The part discussing the ability to work through your HE-CMS is also very valuable as it is vital to your success in online courses.
- I also found it interesting how it talked about the importance of going about things with your professor in an appropriate manner. It's not necessary to write your professor an essay in an email for him to fix a typo on one of the assignments. [Glad you found some parts of the lesson useful. 2024-01-19, -Jack]

First Dessert:

Personal Introduction:

My name is Devin Courts, and I am a PSEO student from Shakopee. My parents are from Germany, and I have lived here in Minnesota all my life. I stay here in Shakopee during school and go to my cabin up in Brainerd for a lot of the summer. I work at a country club in Eden Prairie as a host in the restaurant and I am also a lead lifeguard at Valleyfair. I plan on transferring to Mankato State University next year to complete the rest of my education. I am going to college for Piloting and plan on traveling the world for my job. I love vacations and plan to live somewhere way warmer when I get older. This is my first time learning online, so bear with me as I get used to the dramatic change from in-person high school to online college. [Ask little questions often, it'll make online ed easier. -Jack]

Dessert:

After looking back at my notes from the past few lessons, there were many key takeaways that I feel will be valuable for my online course success. It was very valuable to go over evaluating if a source is credible. This is something that is touched on in high school, although they just tell you to look for credible organizations rather than help you determine if an organization is credible. It is something that I have always found difficult and using the tricks I learned in these lessons I will be able to find the credible sources I need. Using the Wikipedia trick and SIFT to find if it's credible will make the process super easy. When evaluating my work for this week, I would say I completed the assignments how I was supposed to and I hope if I ever don't, you will let me know. Like I said before, online courses are new to me and if I am ever doing something incorrect, please let me know ASAP so I can complete it how you want me to. I will use the information that I learned in these courses to not only help me find credible sources but also in the completion of this, and my other online courses. The skills and tools discussed are extremely helpful and vital to succeeding in online courses as it takes organization and time management to get everything submitted on time. The only challenge I faced this week was the amount of focus it took to just sit down and complete the lessons. I had trouble doing half of a lesson and coming back, so I had to make time to be able to sit down for a couple of hours and fully complete the lessons. I look forward to the future weeks and I am excited to continue to grow my online computer skills. [Thoughtful reflection. Thank you. - Jack]