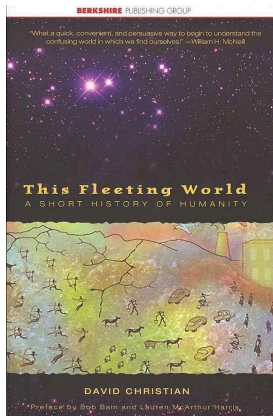


WHS History Department
AP World History
Summer Reading Book and Study Guide - 2025



This Fleeting World by David Christian

We recommend that you purchase the book from Amazon.com or Barnes & Noble so you can most fully engage in Part I of the assignment:

<https://www.amazon.com/This-Fleeting-World-History-Humanity/dp/1933782048>

OR

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/this-fleeting-world-david-christian/1007821314?ean=9781933782041>

Also, please watch this TED talk by the author of the summer reading book. This will by no means replace the content of the book, but it sets up the context for the reading and the broader understanding of world history:

https://www.ted.com/talks/david_christian_big_history?language=en

Part I:

Actively read this short, amazing book. (If you are using a library copy or an online version where highlighting is impossible, just take notes as you read.) Use the margins and highlight key points you feel you would like to easily find when looking back. ***We will have an in-class assignment the first day of school*** and this reading will help you be successful for that activity.

Part II:

Asking good questions is a skill that will be developed this year in AP World. It is difficult to formulate questions that ask how or why and not simply who or what. When students ask good questions, the goal is that other questions will evolve. We, as a collective group, will not

always have the answers. As historians, we will investigate good questions in order to formulate hypotheses and more questions. This is what makes history alive and exciting!

Pose 9 questions that you have about history after reading the book. *What do you have questions about? What are you challenged by after reading each section? Your job is to create 3 questions for each main section of the book (Beginnings, Acceleration, and Our World). Under each question, write a 4-5 sentence rationale of why you are intrigued about this section. Include page numbers and direct quotes (with parenthetical citations).*

We want to see your curiosity here! Please type out this assignment and be prepared to share on the first day of class.

DUE: Submit your questions to Google Classroom after our first meeting. We will talk about this during our first class and give you further directions.