

Discussion: The Worst Mistake in the History of the Human Race

By Jared Diamond

Preparation:

A. Read the text as many times as necessary to understand it. Interact with it. Underline and highlight key phrases/words, write questions, draw connections and conclusions, use a thesaurus to replace words you don't understand and research ideas and phrases you don't yet grasp. Do what is necessary to understand the main ideas and the supporting details.

B. Do your best to come up with a working definition for the following terms:

Term

Your Definition

Agricultural Revolution-

Progressivist-

Revisionist-

Neo-Luddite-

Pick a word of your choice (_____) and write the meaning!

C Prepare answers to **ALL** of the following questions:

1. Find Diamond's thesis in this reading and write it below:

2. List 4 pieces of evidence that Diamond uses to support his thesis:

a.

b.

c.

d.

3. What piece of evidence used by Jared Diamond did you think was the most persuasive? Why?

4. What piece of evidence used by Jared Diamond did you think was the least persuasive? Why?

5. Another (better) title for this piece would be _____

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6. The most important sentence/passage in this article is

Why? _____

7. What is your favorite line/passage from the article?

Why?

8. What do you think of the article? Do you agree with the author? Justify your opinion.

9. What arguments can be made to counter Jared Diamond's opinion?

10. What did you learn by reading this text? How did the text reframe your thinking? (Change your perspective).

11. What connections did you make while reading this article? (Connections to your life experiences or prior knowledge...ect).

12. After reading this article, what questions do you need (or want) to ask, and to whom?