



# Honors World History

Ms. Owen

HOME :: May 25, 2010

## Summer Reading Assignment

Select and read one book from the fiction list and one from the non-fiction list during the summer. You will be required to do a short writing assignment on the two books when you return in August.

### Non-Fiction

Diamond, Jared. *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies*. Offers up some biological theories of world history.

Friedman, Tom. *The World is Flat*. Globalization.

Hersey, John. *Hiroshima*. Events of the August 6, 1945 atomic bombing of Hiroshima as told by the survivors.

Hochschild, Adam. *King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror, and Heroism in Colonial Africa*.

Pomeranz, Kenneth. *The World that Trade Created*. Short stories about economics, trade, and history.

Standage, Tom. *The World in Six Glasses*. Entertaining history of the world focusing on six beverages.

Stearns, Peter. *Cultures in Motion*. Cross-cultural interactions in the world. Lots of maps.

Tuchman, Barbara. *The Guns of August*. History of the first month of World War I.

Yergin, Daniel. *Prize, The Epic Quest for Oil, Money and Power*. History of oil.

### Fiction

Achebe, Chinua. *Things Fall Apart*. Late 19th century Africa and the effects of imperialism and missionaries.

Allende, Isabel. *House of Spirits*. Life in Chile from the beginning of the 20th century through the assassination of President Allende in 1973.

Buck, Pearl S., *The Good Earth*. A Chinese peasant rises from poverty in the 1920s.

Conrad, Joseph. *Heart of Darkness*. Novella about imperialism on the Congo.

de Bernieres, Louis. *Birds Without Wings*. Decline of the Ottoman Empire and the life of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk.

Dickens, Charles. *Hard Times*. England during the Industrial Revolution.

Koestler, Arthur. *Darkness at Noon*. A man's interrogation during the Moscow show trials of the 1930s.

Mathabane, Mark. *Kaffir Boy*. Apartheid in South Africa.

Orwell, George. *Animal Farm*. Allegorical fable about communism.

Singh, Khushwant. *Train to Pakistan*. Story of a village on the frontier between India and Pakistan in 1947, and the relation of the Muslims and Sikhs who live there.