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Social Studies Summer Assignment – Incoming 9th Grade Students

For this assignment you will research a world historical event. After you have thoroughly chosen your topic, you must begin to use your imagination. You will write a play, story, or a diary or journal entry based on the premise or the idea that you were around while the historical event occurred. You must personalize the event, describing it as if you were there. You must imagine what people were saying to each other (the dialogue) based on what you learned through your research. You must imagine the physical environment, surroundings (or scenery) of the event based on what you learned through your research. You may include yourself as a participant in the historical situation by asking questions of the major players in the event and furnishing the answers you would expect them to give. Your grade will be a combination of your depth of research and your creativity. *You must include a bibliography with your report.*

Some Possible Topics

1. A Day in Ancient Sumer
2. Mohammed's Flight to Medina
3. A Day in Hammurabi's Babylon
4. A Day in Ancient Egypt
5. A Day in the Empire of Ghana, Mali or Songhai (Africa)
6. Life in the Zulu Tribe
7. Live in the Mayan Civilization
8. Life in the Aztec civilization
9. Life in the Inca Civilization
10. Journey With Alexander the Great
11. A Day With Confucius
12. A Report from the Trojan War
13. A Report from the Peloponnesian War
14. A Day in Ancient Greece
15. A Day in Ancient Rome

Remember:

1. *Your paper should not read like a textbook. It should read like a play or a piece of creative writing.*
2. *Your paper must be typed (double-spaced), 1" margins, a font size of 12, and a minimum of three pages. Include a bibliography.*
3. *You must show as much knowledge as possible of the facts concerning the historical event in the paper. Your paper must reflect the research that you have done.*
4. *The paper is due on Tuesday, September 14, 2010. Late papers will receive 15 points off per day. The last day for a late paper is Friday, September 17, 2010. No paper will be accepted after this date without teacher permission.*
5. *This summer assignment is a requirement for the course. Failure to submit this assignment will affect your first marking period grade, as well as your overall grade for the course.*