



World History Honors: Summer Assignment 2022

Welcome to World History Honors! Over the course of the year we will be tracing how power and authority, economics, ideology, geography, and technology have changed over time and place beginning in the Middle Ages and concluding with the present day. In order to build a strong foundation for the year, you will be asked to investigate two historic empires and compare and contrast them.

Due Date: Sunday, August 21st at 11:59 PM to your teachers Google Classroom or Canvas account. If you choose to do the assignment on paper, upload a picture(s) of your work. You will gain access to these accounts the first day of school.

Questions about the assignment? Email Ms.Ferrara: elizabeth_ferrara@charleston.k12.sc.us

Directions:

1. Choose **TWO** empires each **FROM DIFFERENT CONTINENTS** from the list below to investigate. For example, you should not investigate both the Holy Roman Empire and the Russian Empire because they are both European. You may investigate the Holy Roman Empire and the Mughal Empire because they are from different continents.

Asia

- [Tang/Song Dynasty](#)
- [Feudal Japan](#)
- [Mughal Empire](#)

Africa

- [Empire of Aksum](#)
- [Empire of Ghana](#)
- [Empire of Zimbabwe](#)

South/Central America

- [Aztec Empire](#)
- [Mayan Empire](#)
- [Incan Empire](#)

Europe

- [The Holy Roman Empire](#)
- [The Russian Empire](#)
- [The Byzantine Empire](#)

Middle East/Northern Africa

- [The Turkish Empire \(Seljuks\)](#)
- [The Ottoman Empire](#)

Students of history will recognize that some of these empires span more than one continent. Don't overthink this, just go by the list above and we will discuss later.

2. **Investigate your chosen empires** using the links above and through your own research. Compare and contrast their empires governments, economic systems, social structures and ethical and religious belief systems.
3. **Record your findings in the following chart.** You need to show a detailed knowledge of the empire in each category on the left, but the questions are for guidance and you don't need to answer every single one.

	Empire 1:	Similarities	Empire 2:
Political/Government 1. What type of government does this society have? 2. Who has the authority to lead and how much authority do they have? 3. Where does this authority to lead come from? 4. What title do they give their leaders? 5. How does this society settle internal disputes? 6. How does it settle disputes with its neighbors?			

<p>Economics/Trade: How did this society gain wealth?</p> <p>Who was wealthy, who was not? Why?</p> <p>What types of natural resources do they have access to?</p> <p>With whom do they trade? What do they trade?</p>			
<p>Social/Cultural: What cultural or ethnic groups live in this empire?</p> <p>Do they have a social hierarchy?</p> <p>If so, who has the most and least power? Why?</p>			
<p>Ethical & Religious: What are the primary philosophical/belief system(s) that this country adheres to?</p> <p>Does their philosophy shape how leaders behave?</p> <p>How does their philosophy shape how their citizens behave?</p> <p>How does this society's philosophy shape how they treat their neighbors?</p>			

4. **Create an infographic** displaying the information from the chart above. Infographics are primarily composed of pictures, images and symbols with some accompanying text. Their organization, colors, graphics etc are used to help the viewer better understand the content. **Remember** your goal is to compare and contrast information. This should be reflected in your design choices.

5. Here are some optional templates for making infographics.

- [Canva](#) [Piktochart](#)
- [Venngage](#) [Easel](#)
- [Postermywall](#)



Here is an example infographic →

Grading Rubric

	4	3	2	1
Completion (50%)	<p>Student provided specific evidence for each of the themes below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Political ● Economic ● Social ● Religious 	<p>Student provided specific evidence for 3 of the themes below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Political ● Economic ● Social ● Religious 	<p>Student provided specific evidence for 2 of the themes below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Political ● Economic ● Social ● Religious 	<p>Student provided specific evidence for 1 or 0 of the themes below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Political ● Economic ● Social ● Religious
Comparison (30%)	<p>This assignment compares and contrasts items clearly.</p> <p>Cites specific examples to illustrate the comparison.</p> <p>Includes only information relevant to the comparison.</p>	<p>The assignment compares and contrasts items clearly, but the supporting information is very general.</p> <p>(ex. They both have governments)</p>	<p>The assignment only contrasts features, but the similarities are incomplete.</p> <p>Students simply take notes on each empire in the left and right boxes rather than listing differences.</p>	<p>The assignment compares or contrasts, but does not include both.</p> <p>There is no supporting information or support is incomplete</p>
Conventions: Spelling & Grammar (10%)	<p>Writer makes no errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content.</p>	<p>Writer makes 1-2 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content.</p>	<p>Writer makes 3-4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content.</p>	<p>Writer makes more than 4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content.</p>
Infographic (10%)	<p>The organization and display of information furthers the goal of comparing and contrasting.</p> <p>Information relies mostly on visuals and less on text</p>	<p>The organization and display of information attempts to compare and contrast, but doesn't do so effectively.</p> <p>Information relies mostly on visuals and less on text</p>	<p>The organization and display of information is not used to compare and contrast.</p> <p>Infographic is too heavily reliant on text and looks more like a powerpoint slide.</p>	<p>Infographic is missing or incomplete.</p>