US HISTORY

CHAPTER 1 READING

Directions: **READ** pages 4 – 24 in order to gain a better understanding of US History and to assist in answering the following questions.

**Pages 4 – 11:**

1. What bodies of water were formed by and then filled by the large glaciers that covered parts of North America?

2. How was North and South America first peopled?

3. Why is there no proof of a land bridge between North America and Asia?

4. How many people were believed to inhabit North and South America when Europeans arrived in 1492?

5. What were the three sophisticated civilizations that developed in the Americas? Where were they located?

6. What allowed for these civilizations to prosper? What difficulties did they overcome?

7. How did most Native Americans live on the eve of European Colonization?

8. How did the Crusades influence the European discovery of the Americas?

**Pages 11 – 17:**

9. Why were sailors reluctant to sail along the coast of West Africa? What development changed this attitude?

10. What type of trade had already been set up in Africa before the arrival of Europeans? Who was involved?

11. Whose defeat propelled Spain into the race for trade good from the Indies?

12. Why was Christopher Columbus seen as a successful failure?

13. Using the chart on p. 15, what were three things sent from the New World to Europe? What were three things sent from Europe to the New World?

14. What did the Treaty of Tordesillas accomplish?

15. What were the three G’s sought by the Spanish Conquistadors?

**Pages 20 – 24:**

16. Who did Moctezuma believe Cortez was upon his arrival to Tenochtitlan?

17. What aided Cortez in his war against the Aztecs?

18. Who are mestizos?

19. Where is the oldest continually inhabited European Settlement in the US?

20. What was a Kiva? When was it constructed?

21. What was the “Black Legend?”