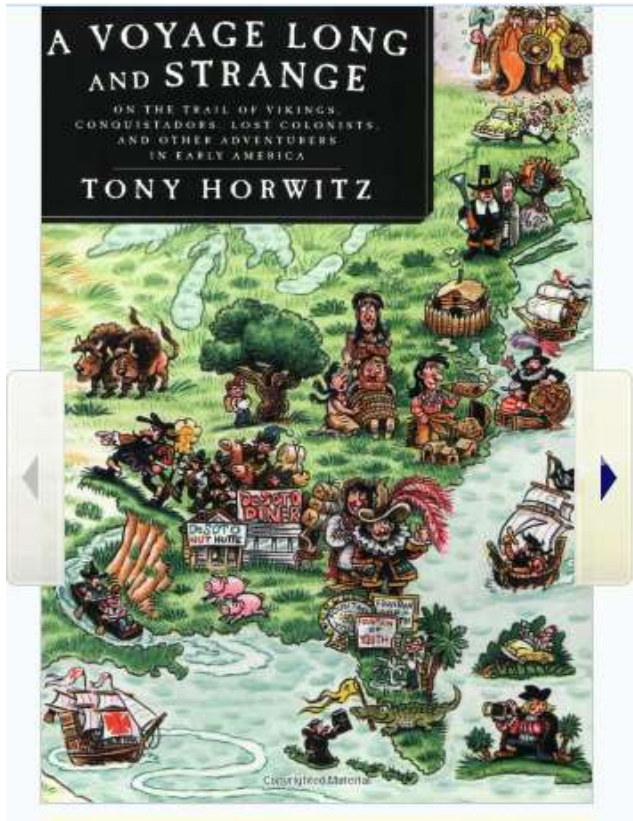


As part of your placement in AP U.S. History, you have been assigned history summer reading. The book is called, *A Voyage Long and Strange: On the Trail of Vikings, Conquistadors, Lost Colonists, and Other Adventurers in Early America* [Hardcover or Paperback], by Tony Horwitz. The ISBN for this book is 978-0312428327. It is available on Amazon. In addition, if you are comfortable doing so, you can purchase this book from a current junior who just took the course. In many cases this is often easier.



I would like to ask you to carefully read the following information about your assignment and share the attached letter with your parents as you prepare to read the junior summer reading text, *A Voyage Long and Strange* by Tony Horwitz.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Tim Skarda
AP US History Instructor


Greetings,

The History department intends to use *A Voyage Long and Strange* by Tony Horwitz to begin our preparation for the Advanced Placement US History class.

It is therefore important that as you read that you make what are called “marginal notes.” These are notes you make in the margins of a book to help you to locate important themes, ideas, or observations about what you read.

If you do not make notes, you will find these tasks slow and cumbersome because you will not have your own notes as “signposts” to help you find your way. At worst, you might even have to re-read sections of the book!

So, please read carefully the first time and do the following:

Underline	Underline the names of key ideas or characters when they first appear in the text and when the author introduces them to the reader.
	Put a star in the margin whenever you think that a key fact, key idea, key quote or thesis statement is made by the author.
?	Use a question mark to indicate topics in the book that you want your teacher to explain/explore in class discussions.
!	Indicate topics in the book that you find particularly important or interesting with an exclamation point.
≠	Whenever the author or someone in the book says something you disagree with, or you think is wrong and false, indicate so with a sign in the margin. Then write a brief note to yourself why in the margin.

Over the course of the summer, we will be asking you to use these marginal notes to complete an online reading reflection. **These reflections should demonstrate your understanding of the subject matter discussed in the reading and make connections to the themes that will be on the APUSH exam. Most answers should be at least a paragraph in length. The reflection sheet may be found as a Google Doc link below:**

<https://forms.gle/2fWVs2UhXwND1Uhs8>

These reflections will be due online by chapters, on the following dates:

- Prologue and Chapters 1 and 2 by July 31st (1-71 Pages)
- Chapters 8 and 9 by August 7th (199-262)
- Chapters 10 and 11 by August 14th (263-325)
- Chapter 12 and 13 by August 21th (326-390)

Finally, we will be asking you to apply the AP US History themes to what you read. The themes are:

- *American and National Identity*
- *Work, Exchange and Technology*
- *Geography and the Environment*
- *Migration and Settlement*
- *Politics and Power*
- *America in the World*
- *American and Regional Culture*
- *Social Structures*

You may find a fuller definition of these themes on pages 19-23 of the AP US History curriculum, which may be found at the AP US History Student Page (which you should begin to explore):

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/ap-us-history-course-and-exam-description.pdf>

We hope that you enjoy the book and its characters and stories.

I look forward to hopefully seeing you in the fall. Enjoy the rest of your summer. Please reach out to me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Mr. Skarda