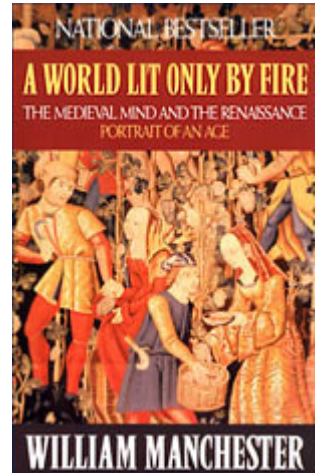


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## AP European History

### Reading Guide for *A World Lit Only by Fire*

**Directions:** Your summer reading assignment is to read William Manchester's *A World Lit Only by Fire: the Medieval Mind and the Renaissance, Portrait of an Age* (New York: Little, Brown and Company, 1992) and to answer the reading guide's questions on a separate piece of paper. This book (written for mass popular appeal rather than for historians) will prepare you for our class by illustrating the differences between the Medieval and Renaissance periods. **This assignment is a summative assessment grade. It is due on the first day of class.**



### Part I: The Medieval Mind (p 3-28)

1. (Answer this question before reading *A World Lit Only by Fire*) What do you know about the Middle Ages and Renaissance?
2. For what reasons did Manchester support using the term “Dark Ages” to describe the historical period between 400 BCE and 1000 BCE (p 3-5)?
3. List the many dangers that European people faced during the Dark Ages (p 5-8).
4. Explain how Augustine’s ideas led to the medieval Church gaining power (p 8-10).
5. Give an example of how medieval people combined paganism with Christianity (p 10-15).
6. Was the medieval world a civilization – why or why not? What were the major political institutions (p 15-18).
7. What was the largest kingdom in Europe circa 1190 (p 17)?
8. Define rule by Divine Right, and explain whether European princes and kings always ruled by it (p 18 -20)
9. Describe the Great Schism – described by Manchester as “the greatest wound to the Vatican’s prestige” (p 19-20)
10. “The Church is the work of an Incarnate God. Like all God’s works, it is perfect. It is, therefore, incapable of reform.” Explain why medieval people could not see the Avignon papacy as a crisis (p 20-22).
11. Give examples of the “lack of ego” during the Middle Ages (p 21-23).
12. Explain *Unam Sanctum* (p24).
13. What “coming storm” did Manchester hint was rapidly approaching medieval Europe (p 24)?
14. Why was knighthood dying – and why would the future belong to Absolut Monarchs (p 24)?
15. Explain how Manchester described the Renaissance spirit, and who arrived at it first (p 25-26).
16. According to Manchester, why could medieval people not imagine a different life (p 26)?
17. Name the “dragons” that lurked beyond the borders of medievalism (p 27-28).

## Part II: The Shattering (p 31-219)

18. Manchester wrote, "Today Lisbon proudly acclaim him... 'He is ours!' – but that is chutzpah. In his lifetime his countrymen treated him as a renegade, calling him *traidor* and *transfuga* – turncoat" (p 31). What does this passage suggest about history versus current events?
19. Why was Magellan's discovery of the Philippines significant – how did he provide a "linchpin" for the Renaissance (p 32-33)?
20. Give examples of how European "life became very cheap" in the late 1400s and early 1500s (p 34-36).
21. Describe the un-Christian acts of the five Popes during Magellan's lifetime (specify who, when, and what happened) (p 37-45).
22. Summarize Girolamo Savonarola's story and explain his significance (p 42-44).
23. Using pages 45-68, describe social conditions in Europe circa 1500.
24. Name the Hapsburg lands in 1519 (p46).
25. Identify and explain the significance of the Fuggers (p 48-50).
26. Describe the reasons for predominant adultery during the Renaissance (p 68-71).
27. Summarize Manchester's ideas related to the quote: "Various reasons have been advanced to explain why, as medieval shadows receded, European morals declined" (p 71-74).
28. Explain what the story of the Borgia family shows about the Church during the early Renaissance (p 74-86).
29. Describe how the arts flourished during the Renaissance (p 86-88). Choose one specific artist and describe his/her achievements.
30. Summarize Kopernik's (Copernicus's) studies and findings (p 88-91).
31. "Leonardo's transgressions were graver than Boticelli's or Cellini's" (p 91). Explain why da Vinci alone fell from papal grace.
32. List da Vinci's discoveries (p 91-94).
33. Compare and contrast who controlled learning before and after the typographical revolution (p95-96).
34. Who were the first readers and what did they read (p 96)?
35. Compare and contrast learning before and after the establishment of universities (p 98-107).
36. Describe who the humanists were as well as their significance (p 106-107).
37. Describe the differences in European opinions about religion circa 1502 (p 110-112).
38. Explain two reasons why humanism would become "the greatest threat the Church had ever faced" (p 112-113).
39. Plato wrote "Man is the measure of all things." Interpret the meaning of this quote for humanists (p 113).
40. According to humanists, what was, and was not, "mankind's highest ethical objective" (p 114)?
41. Explain why St. Peter's Basilica in Rome enraged Michelangelo and Luther (p 115).
42. Describe why the idea of change was deeply disturbing to Catholics (p 116).
43. Based on your knowledge of the Middle Ages, explain your opinion about whether "Faith had literally held Europe together then, giving hope to men who had been without it" (p 117)

44. Describe Erasmus, his religious views and how and why he attacked the Church (p 117-122).
45. According to Manchester, which people led the “coming religious revolution” (p 121)?
46. Identify the two main arguments of Erasmus’s *In Praise of Folly* (p122-123).
47. How and why did Erasmus criticize Pope Julius II (p 123-127)?
48. List the forces that Manchester argued “fractured the unity of Christendom” (p127-128).
49. “The public perception of the priesthood was in fact appalling” (p 129). Give evidence to support this claim (p 128-131).
50. What event sparked the ruin of the Church (p 131)?
51. Explain how and why 16<sup>th</sup> century people across Europe despised Church taxation (p 131-132).
52. Describe Tetzel’s methods for selling indulgences (p 134-136).
53. Explain how parts of Luther’s youth led to him becoming a monk – and to him not being intimidated by Tetzel (p 136-140).
54. Why did Luther choose 10/31/1517 to post his *95 Theses* (p 140)?
55. Describe how Luther was seen as both divine and satanic (p 141-144).
56. How many days did it take to travel from Nuremberg to Rome (p 142)?
57. Explain how various socioeconomic classes reacted to Luther and why (p 143-144).
58. Describe how people “suffer[ed] doubly from Renaissance popes” (p 144-145).
59. How did Pope Leo X react to Luther’s calls against selling indulgences (p 145-148)?
60. Describe Jan Hus and his significance (p 151-152).
61. What was *Exsurge Domine* and what led Pope Leo X to issue it against Luther (p 156-159)?
62. Explain Luther’s decision to write in the vernacular (p 164-166).
63. Using the information on p 166-174, explain the meaning and significance of Luther ending his trial at Worms with the German words “Here I stand. I can do no other” (p 173).
64. Which European people converted to Protestantism and why (p 174-176)?
65. Make an argument agreeing/disagreeing with the statement: Early Protestantism was tolerant of other religions (p 176-178).
66. Using Muntzer as an example, describe the radicalization of the Reformation (p 178-180).
67. Explain how many humanists came to be alienated by Luther (p 180-183).
68. Describe how the Reformation victimized humanist intellectuals (p 186-189).
69. Describe early Calvinism (p 190-193).
70. Describe the Roman Inquisition’s goals and practices (p 200-202).
71. How did Luther and Henry VIII of England view each other (p 202-206)?
72. Summarize why Henry VIII left the Catholic Church (p 206-215).
73. Explain the downfall of Thomas More and its significance (p 213-215).
74. Compare and contrast “Bloody” Mary I and her half-sister Elizabeth I’s achievements as Queens of England (p 217-219).

### Part III: One Man Alone (p 223-296)

75. List the factors that destroyed the Renaissance (p 228-230).
76. Compare and contrast the geographical ideas of *Topographia Christiana*, Aristotle, Ptolemy, and average European people (p 230-233).
77. Summarize the discoveries of early European explorers (p 233-245).
78. Describe Magellan's background (p 245-249).
79. Describe the early stages of Magellan's voyage, up to his discovery of the *pacífico* (p 249-264).
80. Describe Magellan's route (p 265).
81. Explain the significance of Magellan's voyage – what did it prove (p 264-269)?
82. Describe the events in the Philippines that led to Magellan's downfall (p 269-282).
83. Whose shipboard diary preserved Magellan's true story (p 282-286)?
84. According to Manchester, what made Magellan the hero of the Renaissance (p 286-290)?
85. In Manchester's view, what was the most appropriate tribute to Magellan (p 286-290)?
86. Describe the tripartite universe and other superstitions of medieval people (p 290-291).
87. Identify Kepler's significance (p 291-294).
88. Define heliocentrism (p 292).
89. Explain Ptolemy's idea of geocentrism (p 292).
90. Summarize the Copernican Revolution and its significance (p 292).
91. Describe how Europeans' view of the significance of Magellan's voyage changed in the centuries after his death (p 293).
92. List some of the questions that Magellan's voyage led European people to ask (p 293).
93. Identify Galileo and his significance (p 294).
94. According to Manchester, what idea was "one of the greatest paradigm changes in all of science" and "the crowning triumph" of the Renaissance (p 294)?
95. How did the Pope react to the heliocentric system (p 294-295)?
96. Name the five factors that challenged and overcame the medieval mindset (p 295).
97. Interpret Voltaire's quote: "If God did not exist, it would be necessary to invent him" (p 295).
98. According to Manchester, what are the legacies of the end of the medieval mind and the Renaissance (p 295-296)?
99. On p 113 Manchester wrote, "Humanism, by its very character, implied a revolt against all religious authority. It still does; the evangelists who denounce "secular humanism" five centuries later recognize the true adversity of fundamentalism". Give an example of how secular humanism and religious fundamentalism remain in conflict today.
100. What did you learn about the Middle Ages and Renaissance from *A World Lit Only by Fire*?