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**Author's Thesis Paper:** In the author's thesis paper assignment, you will read a primary or secondary source and be asked to answer a few questions on the source.

The Thesis?

- What is the main argument of the author?

The Evidence?

- Looking at the supporting evidence, analyze whether they are logically interpreted by the author. Do they clearly support the thesis?

Critical Analysis?

- What do the sources add to your understanding of the topic? How does the author's ideas fit into other points of view or historical information as you understand it?
- What points are strongly made and well documented?

**Author's Thesis Paper:** Nicholas Kristof, 1492: *The Prequel*

**Thesis:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Evidence** (i.e. what was impressive about Zheng He and why didn't he voyage to Europe or the Americas?)

#1: \_\_\_\_\_

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#2: \_\_\_\_\_

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#3: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Critical Analysis** (explanation of the article that takes into account cultural explanations based on Chinese culture, or discusses the impact of a Chinese discovery of the Americas)

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## Kirkpatrick Sale, The Conquest of Paradise

*Mr. Rhinehart AP World History*

**\*\* Note: When sale refers to Admiral Colon or Colon, he means Christopher Columbus\*\***

1. What does Columbus do when he comes across the many different islands that he lands upon during his first expedition to the Americas? \_\_\_\_\_

2. How does Columbus name the different islands, lands , capes, etc... in the New World? What does he name them after? \_\_\_\_\_

3. According to Sale, why do Columbus and Europeans feel the need to name their discoveries? What does this show about their goals, concerns and worldview? \_\_\_\_\_

4. How does Columbus describe the inhabitants of the New World? What words and descriptions does he use? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Sale argues that when describing the Native peoples, Columbus and other Europeans “[had] no pretense of objectivity, or any sense that these people might be representatives of a culture equal to, or in any way a model for, Europe’s.” Do you agree that Columbus’s descriptions and attitudes towards the Natives are arrogant and self centered? Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

6. What seems to be Columbus's focus as far as the Natives are concerned? What does he believe that the Natives can be utilized for by the Europeans? What does this show about Columbus and Europeans goals?

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7. According to Sale how are Columbus's descriptions of the plant and animal life of the Caribbean flawed?

What problems did he and other Europeans have? \_\_\_\_\_

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8. Overall, Sale presents Columbus as an arrogant adventurer who is woefully undereducated for the task of "discovering" a new continent and is wholly focused, quite sadistically, on hatching plans for exploitation of an extremely kind and generous people that he just met. Do you believe Sale is accurate in his depiction of Columbus? Is he overly critical and biased? Why or why not? Secondly, why do you believe Columbus and other European explorers acted in this manner?

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## The Gunpowder Revolution – Modern Warfare (Bombards, Bells and Buddhas)

1. What were the ingredients necessary for the development & advancement of gunpowder weapons?

#1: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

#2: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

#3: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*\* Why did Europe have an advantage in developing and deploying these weapons? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What were bombards? What were they used for? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. How did cannons advance after bombards? How did cannon change warfare, city design & sea based

shipping? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What did the first handguns look like? What were their limitations? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. How did handguns advance in the design of the arquebus & flintlocks? How did this change warfare?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Vodou & Catholicism – Religious Syncretism

## Questions:

1. Identify the following elements of the vodou religion in the modern day Caribbean and New Orleans:

Bondye: \_\_\_\_\_

Iwa: \_\_\_\_\_

Viloken: \_\_\_\_\_

Veves: \_\_\_\_\_

Pwen: \_\_\_\_\_

2. What is the Cult of the Saints? Why did African slaves begin to combine Catholic saints and gods with their own practices? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. How does vodou represent an example of religious syncretism? What does the Catholic Church think of this syncretism? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Are voodoo dolls mainstream vodou practice? What are they mistaken for and why does the myth exist? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Middle Passage and Slave Trade

### Questions:

1. Looking at the diagram of the slave ship in source #1 how would you describe the conditions on a slave ship during the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries? What problems would this cause?

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2. Looking at source #3, how does Equiano, who experienced the Middle Passage firsthand, describe the voyage? List and describe 2 or 3 things that he describes as the most horrific parts of the journey.

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3. Looking at source #2, what is the number one destination of an African slave exported in the Trans-Atlantic trade? What are number 2&3? Why do you think that is?

#1: \_\_\_\_\_

#2/3: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Cycles of Silver, Dennis O Flynn & Arturo Giraldez**

*Mr. Rhinehart AP World History*

1. How did worldwide silver production during the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries (centered in Latin America and Japan) effectively link worldwide economies and lead to an increase in trade between Europe and Asia?

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2. What impact did Latin American silver production and the resulting increase in the European ability to trade on a global scale have on West Africa? (consider both selections A & B) \_\_\_\_\_

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3. According to selection C, what impact did the silver trade have on Chinese economic development? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. How did the silver trade effect the lower classes in China and SE Asia? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Overall, according to Flynn & Giraldez, was the shift to the use of silver based currency in the Chinese economy good for China economically? Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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6. Who benefitted the most from the silver trade of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

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## Bartolome Las Casas: Devastation of the Indies

*Mr. Rhinehart AP World History*

**Identify** (i.e. What is the source? Where and when was it created? What does it say?) \_\_\_\_\_

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**Analyze** (i.e. consider TWO of the following => Historical context, Purpose and intended audience, author's point of view, Type of Source, Argument & Tone) For this source, take into account also what sort of evidence he uses to support the POV . . .

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**Evaluate** (i.e. How did the source impact historical events or processes? Make a judgement about the position and ideas of the source relative to the time period or relate it to another source from the time period)

I.E. Do you believe Las Casas's numbers? What impact does Las Casas's description have on the traditional narrative of Europeans as 'civilized' and Natives as 'savage'?

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# The Witches Hammer (Malleus Maleficia)

*Mr. Rhinehart World History*

1. What was the purpose of the Witch's Hammer? How did it say that witchcraft started?

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2. What type of people were most often accused of witchcraft? Why?

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3. What were some ways to protect yourself from a witch?

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4. How do you try and convict a witch according to the book? What are two different methods?

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5. How were witch hunting and the accusing of people as witches used by the church for social and economic reasons? Why would they do this?

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## **Johannes Gutenberg & the Printing Press**

*AP World History Mr. Rhinehart*

1. Who was Johan Gutenberg? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. How did Gutenberg's printing press function? How was it different from Chinese presses? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. How many pages/day could a 16<sup>th</sup> century Gutenberg press create? How does this compare to the book scribes of the Catholic Church? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What effect did the Gutenberg press have on the price, number and distribution of books and knowledge? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What was one of the first books printed by the Gutenberg press? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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## Peter The Great – Russia’s Enlightened Monarch

*Mr. Rhinehart AP World History*

1. What did Peter want for Russia when he became its ruler? How did he gain the knowledge to do this?

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2. List at least 2 positive reforms Peter initiated as Tsar of Russia. Why are they positive in your mind?

A. \_\_\_\_\_

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B. \_\_\_\_\_

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3. How does Bishop Burnett portray Peter in a negative way? What negative qualities does he focus on?

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4. Peter the Great is sometimes portrayed as an “enlightened absolute monarch” => meaning he used absolute authority in a positive way. Do you agree with this assessment of Peter? Why or why not?

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**Nicolo Machiavelli – *The Prince***

*Mr. Rhinehart AP World History*

1. Who was Nicolo Machiavelli? What was the subject of his book, *The Prince*? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. According to Machiavelli is it better to be loved or to be feared? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. According to Machiavelli should a prince rule by faith (i.e. honesty) or by craft (i.e. deceit and trickery)?  
Why? Why must a ruler be both a fox and a lion? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Machiavelli lists five qualities that the public desire to see in a prince – mercy, faith, humanity,  
upright/honest living and religious piety. According to Machiavelli must a ruler have these? How should a  
ruler behave with respect to these qualities? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Do you agree with Machiavelli assessment of the manner in which a prince should rule (i.e. fake positive qualities, be feared rather than loved, do anything to gain and maintain political power)? Are these ideas suited to the running of a nation's government or better suited as Bertrand Russell says to "gangsters"?

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6. How would Machiavelli's treatise change the way that European rulers engaged in the governance of their countries? What used to guide their decisions prior to 1500? \_\_\_\_\_

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## Nicholas Copernicus and Galileo Galilei reading

### Questions

1. How did Copernicus make his astrological observations? Why?

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2. How did Copernicus change the way scientists viewed the solar system and universe? What was the Ptolemaic hypothesis that had dominated scientific thought up to that point?

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3. What did Galileo add to the Copernican hypothesis? How did the church view his achievements and what did they do to Galileo?

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4. What was the significance of the work and theories of Copernicus and Galileo? What was the impact of Copernicus and Galileo's discoveries?

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### **Samurai Culture and Bushido Questions**

1. Describe the following elements of samurai armament (i.e. what was it? How was it designed to work?)

Armor: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mask: \_\_\_\_\_

Sword: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

One additional weapon: \_\_\_\_\_ => \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What was the samurai code known as? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What 4 things were expected of all samurai? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What was considered to be the ultimate dishonor for a samurai? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. How could you correct a severe dishonor in samurai culture and return honor to your family?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. What hairstyle was a mature and respected samurai required to wear? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Why did the Japanese shoguns and daimyo not adopt western style firearms? What result did this have on

samurai power? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_