

Chapter 1 Columbus, the Indians, and Human Progress

by Howard Zinn

TASK: Quick-Write Question (4 points) : If you could write a one-page letter to Mr. Howard Zinn after reading the first chapter, what would you say to him?

Expectation:

Your letter to Mr. Zinn clearly and respectfully states your argument after you have read Chapter 1 of Zinn's book. Your letter describes three specific examples from Chapter 1 to support your argument. Your letter follows the appropriate letter-writing format and style. Your letter demonstrates standard college student writing with appropriate grammar without spelling errors. Your letter uses single space, font 12, and leaves margins of 1 inch on all sides.

Guided Reading Questions for this Chapter

Please consider these questions while reading. Please get prepared to participate in class discussion. We will use these questions to guide our discussion in class.

1. What is the motive of Columbus to travel to East Indies (Asia)? Who sponsored his expedition?
2. Did Columbus discover North America? Please explain.
3. Please describe the Arawak/Taino people.
4. How do we/historians know about them if their history was mostly carried in oral forms?
5. Please use examples from both the 13 English colonies and the Spanish colonies to explain the phrases "Total control led to total cruelty (Zinn, 2003, p. 6)
6. Are there any Taino people today?

<http://www.indigenouspeople.net/taino.htm>

Grading Rubric for Chapter 1

You will be asked to answer two questions selected by the instructor out of these five questions.

	Target 4 points	Acceptable 3-2 points	Unacceptable 1 (point)-0
Performance Indicators	<p>Your letter to Mr. Zinn clearly and respectfully states your argument after you have read Chapter 1 of Zinn's book.</p> <p>Your letter describes three specific examples from Chapter 1 to support your argument.</p> <p>Your letter follows the appropriate letter-writing format and style.</p> <p>Your letter demonstrates standard college student writing with appropriate grammar without spelling errors.</p>	<p>Your letter to Mr. Zinn states your argument, but your tone is not respectful. Your argument is not clearly states.</p> <p>Your letter describes fewer than three specific examples from chapter 1 to support your argument or the examples you select do not support your argument.</p> <p>Your letter demonstrates that you have read the chapter, but not with much reflections. Your letter is not written in standard formal writing style, and it has more than three grammatical and spelling errors.</p>	<p>Your letter to Mr. Zinn demonstrates that you have not read the chapter well or you have not read it at all. Your letter is not written with respect. Your letter does not have a clearly stated argument. Your letter is written in incomplete sentences. It does not use proper letter-writing format and style. Your letter has more than three grammatical and spelling errors.</p>