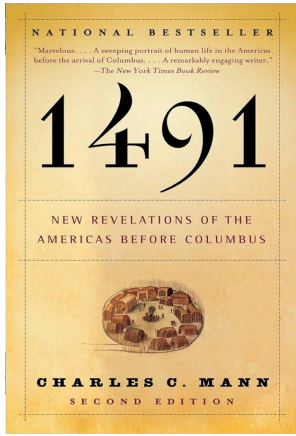


Name: _____

**Rising 10th US History I Summer Reading Assignment:
1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus**



Overview: Many people learn about American history starting with Columbus, but the story of the Americas began long before Europeans arrived. In *1491*, Charles Mann examines what life was like across North and South America before European contact and challenges many common beliefs about Indigenous peoples. Through historical and scientific evidence, he shows that Indigenous societies were diverse, innovative, and highly developed, with complex governments, large cities, trade networks, and deep knowledge of the environment.

Reading *1491* will give you important background knowledge for U.S. History I and help you think critically about the stories we learn in history classes. As we study colonization and the development of the United States, this book will encourage you to consider different perspectives and rethink what you know about America's past.

Note: This will be graded as a TEP and the use of artificial intelligence tools (such as ChatGPT, Claude, or similar platforms) to generate, summarize, or complete any portion of your reading responses is not permitted. Your thinking, your words, and your voice matter — and that is exactly what this assignment is designed to develop.

Part I: Reading and Tracking Evidence

As you read, keep a record of evidence from the text in the evidence tracker below.

Identify:

- One major claim made by Mann
- One piece of evidence he uses to support that claim
- Your explanation of how the evidence supports the claim

Complete at least **eight entries** throughout the book. (you may add additional rows if needed)

Chapter	Mann's Claim	Evidence from the Text	Why This Evidence Matters
Example 1	Native populations were much larger than previously believed.	Archaeological findings suggest millions lived in the Americas before European contact.	This evidence challenges the traditional belief that the Americas were sparsely populated.

Part 2: Claim-Evidence-Reasoning Responses

Directions: Respond to **each** of the following prompts using CER format. Each response should be **one well-developed paragraph (6-8 sentences)** and include:

- A clear claim
- At least one direct quotation or specific piece of evidence from the book
- Reasoning that explains how the evidence supports your claim

Prompts:

1. **To what extent does Mann successfully challenge the traditional image of Native American societies before Columbus?**
2. **Were Native American societies more advanced and complex than most people assume? Explain.**
3. **How does the evidence presented in *1491* change the way Americans should think about the nation's history?**