

Incoming 10th Grade Honors History Summer Reading and Writing Assignment

As you read *A Problem from Hell: America and the Age of Genocide* by Samantha Powers, annotate and complete the following.

1. Many genocides from before 2013 are brought up in the book. Pick two of them you had NOT heard of and write in 8-10 sentences for each genocide what you learned about each one.
2. There have been genocides since 2013, sadly. Conduct independent research about a genocide that has been conducted since then. In 8-10 sentences, write about what you learned about a recent one.
3. The book really puts America under the spotlight. Name two criticisms that Powers offers and two things that America does well.
4. Ultimately, this book is about the world responding to genocide. Name three strategies the world community should adopt to address and possibly stop genocide.

The book *Machete Season* is thought-provoking and shocking, looking at perpetrators of the Rwanda Genocide see their actions.

1. Several perpetrators reveal no remorse for their actions. What surprises you about these reactions? 8-10 sentences.
2. Several perpetrators express incredible remorse. What is the root of their remorse? Do you believe it? 8-10 sentences.
3. This book reveals the extent that 'ordinary' people can become killers. What factors might be in play that might turn someone into a killer? Be specific. 8-10 sentences.

Email your responses in a Google Doc by August 30, 2026 to Beth Krasemann (bkrasemann@crms.org)