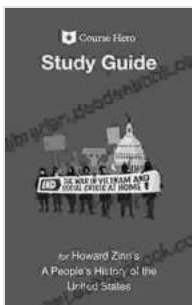


Study Guide For Howard Zinn People History Of The United States Course Hero

Howard Zinn's A People's History of the United States is a groundbreaking work that challenges the traditional narrative of American history. Zinn tells the story of the United States from the perspective of the people who have been marginalized and excluded from the official record. His book is a powerful indictment of American racism, imperialism, and class inequality.

This study guide will help you understand the key concepts in Zinn's book. It includes chapter summaries, analysis questions, and discussion questions.

Chapter 1: Columbus, the Indians, and the Creation of the American Empire



Study Guide for Howard Zinn's A People's History of the United States (Course Hero Study Guides)

by Course Hero

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Zinn begins his book with the arrival of Christopher Columbus in the Americas in 1492. He argues that Columbus's voyage was not a heroic

adventure, but rather the beginning of a long and bloody process of European colonization. Zinn describes the devastating impact that European diseases, slavery, and warfare had on the indigenous peoples of the Americas.

Chapter 2: The Colonial Era

Zinn continues his narrative with the colonial era in North America. He argues that the colonists were not primarily motivated by religious freedom or economic opportunity, but rather by a desire for land and power. Zinn describes the brutal treatment of Native Americans by the colonists, as well as the growth of slavery in the Southern colonies.

Chapter 3: The Revolution and the New Nation

The American Revolution was a watershed moment in American history. Zinn argues that the Revolution was not simply a war for independence, but also a class struggle between the wealthy elite and the ordinary people. Zinn describes the many ways in which the Revolution failed to live up to its promise of equality and justice.

Chapter 4: The Rise of Industrial Capitalism

The 19th century was a time of great economic growth and industrial expansion in the United States. Zinn argues that this growth came at a great cost to the working class. He describes the appalling working conditions in factories and mines, as well as the rise of child labor. Zinn also discusses the growth of the labor movement and the struggle for workers' rights.

Chapter 5: The Imperial Age

In the late 19th century, the United States emerged as a global power. Zinn argues that American imperialism was driven by a desire for markets, resources, and political control. Zinn describes the Spanish-American War, the annexation of Hawaii, and the acquisition of the Philippines.

Chapter 6: The Progressive Era and World War I

The Progressive Era was a time of reform in the United States. Zinn argues that these reforms were largely superficial and did not address the underlying problems of American society. Zinn also discusses the United States' entry into World War I and the impact of the war on American society.

Chapter 7: The Great Depression and the New Deal

The Great Depression was the worst economic crisis in American history. Zinn argues that the Depression was caused by the inherent contradictions of capitalism. Zinn describes the suffering of the American people during the Depression and the New Deal programs that were implemented to address the crisis.

Chapter 8: World War II and the Cold War

World War II was a turning point in American history. Zinn argues that the war led to the rise of the United States as a global superpower. Zinn also discusses the Cold War and the impact of the arms race on American society.

Chapter 9: The Civil Rights Movement

The Civil Rights Movement was a major turning point in American history. Zinn argues that the Movement was a victory for the forces of justice and equality. Zinn describes the key events of the Movement, including the Montgomery Bus Boycott, the March on Washington, and the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Chapter 10: The Vietnam War

The Vietnam War was a major turning point in American history. Zinn argues that the war was a failure and that it had a devastating impact on the United States. Zinn describes the key events of the war, including the Tonkin Gulf incident, the Tet Offensive, and the My Lai massacre.

Chapter 11: The Nixon Years and the Watergate Scandal

The Nixon years were a time of great political turmoil in the United States. Zinn argues that Nixon was a corrupt and authoritarian president. Zinn describes the key events of the Nixon years, including the Watergate scandal and the impeachment proceedings against Nixon.

Chapter 12: The Reagan Years

The Reagan years were a time of great economic and political change in the United States. Zinn argues that Reagan was a conservative president who promoted policies that benefited the wealthy at the expense of the poor. Zinn describes the key events of the Reagan years, including the tax cuts, the deregulation of the economy, and the rise of the Religious Right.

Chapter 13: The Clinton Years

The Clinton years were a time of relative prosperity in the United States. Zinn argues that Clinton was a moderate president who failed to address the underlying problems of American society. Zinn describes the key events of the Clinton years, including the impeachment proceedings against Clinton and the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

Chapter 14: The Bush Years

The Bush years were a time of great political turmoil in the United States. Zinn argues that Bush was a dangerous and incompetent president. Zinn describes the key events of the Bush years, including the September 11th attacks, the invasion of Iraq, and the Hurricane Katrina disaster.

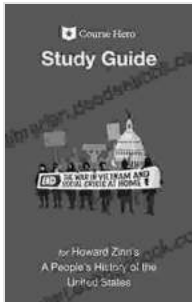
Chapter 15: The Obama Years

The Obama years were a time of great hope and change in the United States. Zinn argues that Obama was a progressive president who made significant progress on a number of important issues. Zinn describes the key events of the Obama years, including the passage of the Affordable Care Act and the end of the Iraq War.

Chapter 16: The Trump Years

The Trump years were a time of great political turmoil in the United States. Zinn argues that Trump was a dangerous and divisive president. Zinn describes the key events of the Trump years, including the impeachment proceedings against Trump and the COVID-19 pandemic.

1. What are the main themes of Howard Zinn's A People's History of the United States?
2. How does Zinn challenge the traditional narrative of American history?
3. What are the strengths and weaknesses of Zinn's



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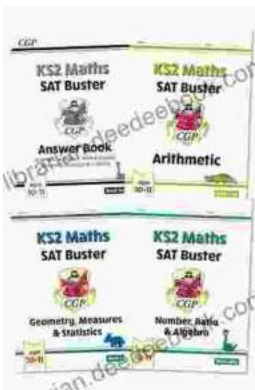
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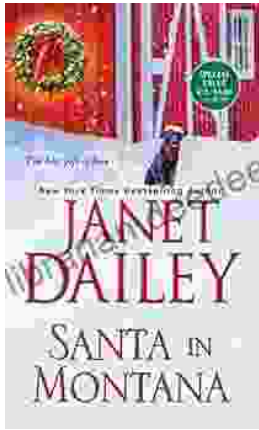
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