

## Section from the Syllabus on the 30-Point Assignments

### Self-Management as a Prerequisite for Success in Participation and Written Work:

Factual accuracy is a key to success with any written assignment that is based on evidence, not opinion. Participations focused on factual accuracy mean you have these basic habits: a) You read carefully (whether InQuizitive, the textbook, the course sources, or your colleague's posts). b) You do not guess or use information other than from the textbook or sources within the course. c) Your questions and your answers to another student's question are on topic.

The Students Helping Students with History forums are a way to apply these basic habits online and with a group. Focused participations asking and answering questions can help you—and the group.

You also have an alternative way to show focused participation because both InQuizitive and the textbook are new. New software, new textbooks, new products, and even a new set of instructions from an organization or company that you may go to work for will probably have problems like those I have found in InQuizitive and our textbook.

These are examples:

- Errors in facts where InQuizitive makes statements contrary to the *Essentials* edition.
- Errors in coding, such as a question asks you to make 4 matches but the software only allows 3.
- Incorrect page reference, such as the prior page number has that information
- Omissions of information needed to answer an InQuizitive question or find something specifically referred to in the textbook. (The *Essentials* edition is abridged and does not have all content in the current 9<sup>th</sup> edition.)

In other words, InQuizitive and your textbook will be a lot like the information you will see for the rest of your life (including with information that can hurt your finances for decades or get you fired). If you use any source (especially a new one) and just repeat or click passively, you are not reading well—and you need to learn to do this. To use a word frequently in the research about our nations' reading problems, you need to “engage” the content. Engaging the content means you:

- Not only will learn so that you know the words and can make your own sentences with them
- But also will simultaneously spot the types of problems listed above - **Caution:** If you aren't seeing the problems listed above, you may just be clicking instead of reading and, to be practical, are not “engaging” enough to learn and to do well on the two parts of the Unit Exam.

Given that InQuizitive and the *Essentials* edition are new, another way to demonstrate your focused participation is to help others. When you find a problem, make a screen print (instructions available) of the problem and try to include the date (frequently at the bottom of the screen). Then post it in Students Helping Students with History so others can learn without the frustration you faced. Be sure to place in your subject line the

Chapter # and the first words of the screen and to attach a screen print. You may add more details in the body of the messages if needed. Instructions are in the forum.

Examples of how the 30 points work for throughout each Unit:

<b>Points</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>What Do You Do to Earn It?</b>	<b>Quantity Required</b>
23.9	A C++ that averages as a B-	Watches for postings and reads them. Replies to show that you are reading the posts, with a phrase such as "I will use this information" (and do use it)	A least 3 replies showing you are reading the posts
25.5	Averages as a mid-B	Does focused participations either following the instructions for posting a question or answering another student's question or by the alternative of providing information as explained above this table	At least 1 focused participation
27.0	Averages as an A-	Does focused participations as described above	At least 2
30	100%	Does focused participations as described above	At least 3