**AP World History Reading & Thinking Note Sheet**

**\*\*It’s about learning the material not just getting it done for a grade\*\***

Ch.6: Eurasian Social Hierarchies (500 B.C.E.-500 C.E.)

**I. Summarize each topic in as much detail as you feel best summarizes the topic & your understanding of it.**

1. Give your impressions of the visual on page 236.
2. Society and the State in Classical China

* Explain the uniqueness of Chinese society.
  + Chinese state officials
* **An Elite of Officials**
  + 1st professional civil service
  + Imperial Academy
  + Explain the role of wealth
  + Benefits of imperial service
* **The Landlord Class**
  + Explain how landowners grew
  + Benefits of being a landlord
  + Wang Mang
  + “Scholar-gentry” class
* **Peasants**
  + Explain the lives of peasants
  + Yellow Turban Rebellion
* **Merchants**
  + Explain the lives of merchants
  + What were some stereotypes?
  + Explain some discriminations they faced

1. Class and Caste in India
   * Similarities with China
   * Caste system

* **Caste as Varna**
  + Origins of the Caste system
  + *Varna*
  + Explain the caste system pyramid
    - Brahmins
    - Kshatriyas
    - Vaisya
    - Sudras
    - Untouchables
* **Caste of Jati**
  + *Jatis*
  + Explain the divisions within this system
  + Explain the differences between Indian society and China/Grecco-Roman world
  + *Karma*
  + *Dharma*
  + How was India’s social system different from China’s?
* **The Functions of Caste**
  + Explain how caste-based social structure shaped India’s civilization.

1. Slavery in the Classical Era: The Case of the Roman Empire
   * Discuss the comparison between slavery and tamed animals.
   * Explain the earliest records of slavery.

* **Slavery and Civilization**
  + Explain the varieties in slave systems
  + Explain slavery in the classical civilizations
  + Look at the comparisons between Greco-Roman slavery and Slavery in the Americas. (pg. 248)
* **The Making of a Slave Society: The Case of Rome**
  + Explain the notion of slavery in Athens
  + Explain the practice of slavery in Rome
  + What was the makeup of the vast majority of Roman slaves?
  + Impact of Christianity on slavery
  + Role of slavery in Roman economy
* **Resistance and Rebellion**
  + Spartacus
  + Comparison with Haitian Revolution of 1790’s

1. Comparing Patriarchies of the Classical Era
   * Explain how gender inequalities helped shape classical civilizations
   * Provide examples of inequalities

* **A Changing Patriarchy: The Case of China**
  + *Yang*
  + *Yin*
  + “Men go out, women stay in”
  + “Three obediences
  + Ban Zhou
  + Explain women’s roles within the social classes
  + Women during Tang Dynasty
  + Empress Wu
  + Explain how patriarchies weakened in China
* **Contrasting Patriarchies in Athens and Sparta**
  + Explain women’s roles in Athens
  + “Teaching a woman to read and write? What a terrible thing to do! Like feeding a snake on more poison.”
  + Explain their lack of economic power
  + Aspasia
  + Explain women’s roles in Sparta
  + *Helots*
  + Explain Sparta’s militaristic society
  + “Come back with your shield….or on it”
  + Explain some of the freedoms Spartan women had
  + Sum up the differences between patriarchies in Sparta & Athens