

Chapter 1 : Ways of The World: Books | eBay

In A Brief History of the World, you'll apprehend "the big picture" of world history from the invention of agriculture in the Neolithic era to the urbanized, technological world of the 21st century.

He is a gifted communicator with unique insight into major trends in human history. This is a General overview of Major historical trends and patterns. Considering the grand scope of things to be covered, a big chunk of details had to be sacrificed for the sake of brevity. I came across quite a few interesting factoids. Here, I list a select few of my favorites. An interesting theory to explain the spread of agriculture is that it allowed the growth of products that could be fermented to create alcohol. Some of the earliest tablets were recipes for brewing beer. Way to go beer! Civilizations generally benefited from surpluses in agricultural production. In fact, some historians would define civilization as agricultural societies that have large surpluses. On the origin of the word "Barbarian". Unlike most early civilizations, Egyptians did not practice infanticide. In its heyday in the 6th and 5th centuries BCE, Persia was far more important than Greece and had established a strong, effective government. The Moroccan explorer Ibn Battuta traveled over 75,000 miles, kilometres throughout the Muslim world and beyond in the 14th century. He probably travelled further than anyone before him, covering most of the known world. China had something of an early industrial revolution in the 11th century. It reached a level of technological sophistication and economic development that Europe would not achieve until the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century. Industrial revolution in Song China 8. The reform period that began in Japan in 645, with rapid changes in politics and in economic and social conditions. The Mayans were one of the few societies to have independently invented the concept of zero. The Mongols expanded to Crimea Peninsular. In 1783, Catherine the Great annexed the last Mongol stronghold in Crimea. Most of the New World silver production over the three centuries from 1492 to eventually wound up in China. It has always been a manufacturing powerhouse. For most of the classical civilizations, direct borders with other large, organized civilizations were the exception rather than the rule. May 09, Vincent rated it liked it This book is the course guide for the Teaching Company course of the same name - it was video not audio CD and I was disappointed in that the utilization of visual support was not good - but I do believe this course was from when they were just upgrading their video presentations. This seems to be an extension of what I think began in the last quarter of the last century to look at history as global more - not to look at Western Civilization for example without somehow linking the times to This book is the course guide for the Teaching Company course of the same name - it was video not audio CD and I was disappointed in that the utilization of visual support was not good - but I do believe this course was from when they were just upgrading their video presentations. This seems to be an extension of what I think began in the last quarter of the last century to look at history as global more - not to look at Western Civilization for example without somehow linking the times to other civilizations in the world at the same time. Also with some of the Teaching Company course I read the book and listen the lectures twice to better understand - the content here did not inspire me to go that route. Also the professor was a bit too polite in mind in his presentation that this might upset peoples previous ways of thinking - It was OK for me and I learned a lot not a big deal from my base sometimes - and I will have to mull on it a bit

Chapter 2 : blog.quintoapp.com: Customer reviews: The World: A Brief History

The use of The World: A Brief History offers added flexibility in teaching World History, allowing instructors to supplement the text with additional readers or other material of their choice. And because the brief text was written by Fernandez-Armesto himself, it continues to offer the holistic, narrative approach to history that has made the.

The World is Not Flat
Precis: A big project was started in the post-war world to let countries grow and prosper and compete without using wars to do so. That was the project of globalization. A sub- or lead-project under that was the European Union. However, any keen observer would by now have concluded that the project was riddled with flaws. But that is not to say that the vision itself was flawed. It might be a better argument to say that the flaws are more from the project being not fully carried-through than from the fact of its existence, as Stieglitz had argued eloquently in his critiques. In the video lecture below I use the crisis in the Eurozone to draw out some of the fundamental reasons why globalization has been winding along roads that lead nowhere, for quite some time. The concentrated nature of the Eurozone crisis and the fact that it is a rich-country problem, with all the proportional additional limelight allows us to see in that microcosm what half-baked globalization has done to the haves and have-nots among the nations of the world. And by examining that, it is hoped that we might also see that the solutions to globalization is perhaps not less but more of the dosage, undiluted. Please help me improve by sharing feedback! The rest of this review wont make much sense without first watching the videoâ€¦
Detail: A single global market and complete economic integration would mean that the countries would be too tied in with each other to ever even consider further internecine warfare. Surely no one would be daft enough to compromise their own interest so badly. Solving the problems of a war-ridden world by uniting it through trade. That was right up the alley suggested by Adam Smith in his civilizing process. Maybe trade and interdependence will get the world to behave. That was the hope of the globalizing project that replaced mercantilist philosophy that preceded it. Hence the European Project was to be the front-runner, the trail-blazer, the avant-garde, etc. All this has led to a scenario which could derail not only the micro experiment EU , but the macro experiment Globalization as well. This is also the case with much of the thrust of the globalization project with its emphasis on open trade and liberalizing capital flows across borders. It was understood from the beginning that this was going to be an issue, but it was hoped that it could be worked around. Imposing any sort of fiscal control was too anathema to be considered. It could easily be argued that any move in that direction would nip the project in the bud, with the nationalistic European Governments running away from any suggestion that dilutes sovereignty as much. An Overdose of Fiscal Discipline This meant that a lot of fiscal discipline was attempted, not by direct control but indirectly in the form of membership criteria. The focus on such fiscal rules had been justified by two beliefs: That such a country that got into trouble would not be able to devalue currency or adopt lose money policies, and would also not enjoy the sorts of automatic transfers that operate in federal countries. Plenty of Gaps in Financial Regulation However, some of the gaps as far as Banking and Financial system was concerned was ignored for too long in all this concern for Fiscal discipline. Without these basic functions and powers how can a central bank truly regulate. What mechanism can it have? The German domination over the ECB also meant that loose money policy, especially radical measures like a dose of American-style quantitative easing, was mostly anathema. Then to add on to these problems came laxity in enforcement: However, from the very beginning the rules against excessive deficits and public-debt levels were interpreted flexibly. From then on, so the story goes, all semblance of fiscal discipline was abandoned. All this meant that problems were only waiting to happen. And the relaxed entry of some of the mediterranean countries one does not say no to Plato! The Blame Game It is argued that the blame should be placed on both: Not to mention the fact that the complacent financial markets utterly failed in their allocation of credit and calculations of risk. Getting markets to impose discipline on governments had been one reason for enshrining the no-bail-out rule and forbidding the ECB from monetizing government debt. Greece was plainly bankrupt. Its debt should have been cut early and decisively rather than late and messily, thereby giving private creditors the chance to dump Greek bonds. The losses would thus fall on those that lent the money to uncreditworthy countries. This would have hurt the bad

lenders early and made them more wary of speculation contaminated by plenty of moral hazard! It is important to enforce discipline on the rogue elements of the markets first if you expect markets to enforce discipline on the sovereigns, whether it be in the local pond of the European bond market or the larger international waters where the sharky portfolio investors hunt.

Chapter 3 : The World Is Flat - Wikipedia

I have always hated history, but this book has changed my mind. On a side note: I decided to buy used, from buybackbrothers, because it was the cheapest and also prime eligible. I wasn't expecting much, because it said it was only in good condition.

Summary[edit] In his book *The World Is Flat*, Friedman recounts a journey to Bangalore, India , when he realized globalization has changed core economic concepts. Friedman termed the period Globalization 3. Friedman recounts many examples of companies based in India and China that, by providing labor ranging from that of typists and call center operators to accountants and computer programmers, have become integral parts of complex global supply chains ; such companies are Dell , AOL , and Microsoft. Friedman repeatedly uses lists as organizational devices to communicate key concepts, usually numbered and often with provocative labels. Two example lists are the ten forces that flattened the world, and three points of convergence. Ten flatteners[edit] Friedman defines ten "flatteners" that he sees as leveling the global playing field: Friedman called the flattener "When the walls came down, and the windows came up. At that point, the basic platform for the revolution to follow was created: Netscape and the Web broadened the audience for the Internet from its roots as a communications medium used primarily by "early adopters and geeks" to something that made the Internet accessible to everyone from five-year-olds to ninety-five-year-olds. The digitization that took place meant that everyday occurrences such as words, files, films, music, and pictures could be accessed and manipulated on a computer screen by all people across the world. It is the ability of machines to talk to other machines with no humans involved, as stated by Friedman. Friedman believes those first three forces have become a "crude foundation of a whole new global platform for collaboration". There was an emergence of software protocols SMTP " simple mail transfer protocol; HTML " the language that enabled anyone to design and publish documents that could be transmitted to and read on any computer anywhere Standards on Standards. This is what Friedman called the "Genesis moment of the flat world". The net result "is that people can work with other people on more stuff than ever before". This created a global platform for multiple forms of collaboration. The next six flatteners sprang from that platform. Uploading involves communities that upload and collaborate on online projects. Examples are open source software, blogs, and Wikipedia. Friedman considers the phenomenon "the most disruptive force of all". Friedman argues that outsourcing has enabled companies to split service and manufacturing activities into components that can be subcontracted and performed in the most efficient, most cost-effective way. This process became easier with the mass distribution of fiber-optic cable during introduction of the World Wide Web. Now such countries as Malaysia, Mexico, and Brazil must compete against China and one another to have businesses offshore to them. Friedman compares the modern retail supply chain to a river by pointing to Wal-Mart as the best example of a company that uses technology to streamline item sales, distribution, and shipping. Google and other search engines and Wikipedia are the prime examples. The growth of search engines is tremendous; for example, Friedman states, Google is "now processing roughly one billion searches per day, up from million just three years ago". The steroids are wireless, Voice over IP VoIP , and file sharing and are used on personal digital devices like mobile phones, iPods, and personal digital assistants; on instant messaging; and on VoIP phones. Digital, mobile, personal, and virtual as well as all analog content and processes from entertainment to photography, to word processing can be digitized and therefore shaped, manipulated, and transmitted; and these processes can be done at high speed with total ease; mobile can be done anywhere and anytime by anyone; and can be done by anyone. Proposed remedies[edit] Thomas Friedman believes that to fight the quiet crisis of a flattening world, the US workforce should keep updating its work skills. Making the workforce more adaptable, Friedman argues, will keep it more employable. Friedman also believes there should be more inspiration for youth to become scientists, engineers, and mathematicians because of a decrease in the percentage of those professionals who are American. The Dell Theory stipulates: This is because of the economic interdependence between nations that arises when a large corporation such as Dell has supply chain operations in multiple global locations and when developing nations in which supply chain

operations commonly take place are reluctant to give up their newfound wealth. That is, developing nations do not want to risk the trust of the multinational companies that venture into their markets and include them in the global supply chain. Thomas Friedman also warns that the Dell theory should not be interpreted as a guarantee that nations that are deeply involved in global supply chains will not go to war with each other. It means, rather, that the governments of those nations and their citizens will have very heavy economic costs to consider as they contemplate the possibility of war. This theory relates with how conflict prevention occurred between India and Pakistan in their "nuclear standoff", wherein India was at risk of losing its global partners. Critical reception[edit] The World Is Flat received generally positive popular and critical reception as well as some negative criticism, peppered with doubt. The Washington Post called the book an "engrossing tour" and an "enthraling read". Friedman is right that there have been dramatic changes in the global economy, in the global landscape; in some directions, the world is much flatter than it has ever been, with those in various parts of the world being more connected than they have ever been, but the world is not flat. Not only is the world not flat: Gray also declares, "least of all does it make it flat". The World is Flat 1st ed. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. The World is Flat: Updated and Expanded Release 2. Further Updated and Expanded Release 3.

Chapter 4 : The World Is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-first Century by Thomas L. Friedman

of over 2, results for "a brief history of the world" A Little History of the World (Little Histories) Oct 7, by E. H. Gombrich and Clifford Harper.

Refined Flour The earliest bread grains would have been ground by hand with rocks. This would have resulted in coarse, whole grain bread—the descendants of which are dark, rustic breads from Europe, like pumpernickel. The Mesopotamians refined this process around B. These stones were continuously rotated by draft animals or slaves. The desire for the whitest, most refined bread continued through the modern era, and later advancements included the sifting of flour to remove the bran and the germ and the bleaching of the flour itself. For hundreds of years, the finest white breads were sold in whole loaves to be cut at home—like a French baguette or Italian ciabatta. For ladies and children, the bread was supposed to be sliced very thinly and the crusts removed. For workers, thick slices with crusts were deemed more appropriate. Progress led us to what was supposed to be the ideal loaf of bread: But modern science has uncovered the nutritional benefit of whole grains, and more and more consumers prefer the toothsome texture and nutty taste of a rustic loaf. Then, visit your local home improvement store, and poke around the slate tiling. You may be able to nab a few pieces of broken tile for free. Or, if you live somewhere they are easily accessible, simply walk outside and pick up a flat rock. Now, you need to build a big fire. Let the flames die down until you have a bed of glowing, hot coals. Set the slate tiles on top of the coals, and wait about 10 minutes. Combine three cups of grain with about a cup of water and mix into a thick, workable paste. Form the dough into one-inch thick patties, and place them on the stones. They may stick, so I recommend greasing your cooking rocks before hand. The outside is crunchy and tastes like popcorn, the inside is moist and dense. We strive for accuracy and fairness. Twice a week we compile our most fascinating features and deliver them straight to you.

Chapter 5 : The World: A Brief History - Felipe Fernandez-Armesto - Google Books

Part of the Explore the Film series. "The Bible lays out what I would call epochs of earth history." - Kurt Wise, Paleontologist at Pocket Wilderness, Dayton, TN. The first epoch was the Creation of the universe in six normal days.

Obelisk of Aksum , Ethiopia There were a number of regional empires during this period. The kingdom of the Medes helped to destroy the Assyrian Empire in tandem with the nomadic Scythians and the Babylonians. Several empires began in modern-day Greece. From the 4th to 6th centuries, northern India was ruled by the Gupta Empire. In southern India, three prominent Dravidian kingdoms emerged: The ensuing stability contributed to heralding in the golden age of Hindu culture in the 4th and 5th centuries. The empire would continue to grow, controlling much of the land from England to Mesopotamia , reaching its greatest extent under the emperor Trajan died CE. In the 3rd century CE, the empire split into western and eastern regions, with usually separate emperors. The eastern empire, now known as the Byzantine Empire , with its capital at Constantinople , would continue for another thousand years, until Constantinople was conquered by the Ottoman Empire in Han China developed advanced cartography, shipbuilding, and navigation. The Chinese invented blast furnaces , and created finely tuned copper instruments. As with other empires during the Classical Period, Han China advanced significantly in the areas of government, education, mathematics, astronomy, technology, and many others. Successful regional empires were also established in the Americas , arising from cultures established as early as BCE. Maya civilization arose as the Olmec mother culture gradually declined. The later empire of the Aztecs was built on neighbouring cultures and was influenced by conquered peoples such as the Toltecs. Some areas experienced slow but steady technological advances, with important developments such as the stirrup and moldboard plough arriving every few centuries. There were, however, in some regions, periods of rapid technological progress. Most important, perhaps, was the Mediterranean area during the Hellenistic period , when hundreds of technologies were invented. Declines, falls, and resurgence The ancient empires faced common problems associated with maintaining huge armies and supporting a central bureaucracy. These costs fell most heavily on the peasantry , while land-owning magnates increasingly evaded centralized control and its costs. Barbarian pressure on the frontiers hastened internal dissolution. The great empires of Eurasia were all located on temperate and subtropical coastal plains. From the Central Asian steppes, horse-based nomads, mainly Mongols and Turks, dominated a large part of the continent. The development of the stirrup and the breeding of horses strong enough to carry a fully armed archer made the nomads a constant threat to the more settled civilizations. The Pantheon in Rome , Italy , now a Catholic church The gradual break-up of the Roman Empire , spanning several centuries after the 2nd century CE, coincided with the spread of Christianity outward from the Middle East. After the fall of the Eastern Han Dynasty [83] and the demise of the Three Kingdoms, nomadic tribes from the north began to invade in the 4th century, eventually conquering areas of northern China and setting up many small kingdoms. Post-classical history University of Timbuktu , Mali The Post-classical Era, though deriving its name from the Eurocentric era of " Classical antiquity ", refers to a broader geographic sweep. The era is commonly dated from the 5th-century fall of the Western Roman Empire , which fragmented into many separate kingdoms, some of which would later be confederated under the Holy Roman Empire. The Post-classical period also encompasses the Early Muslim conquests , the subsequent Islamic Golden Age , and the commencement and expansion of the Arab slave trade , followed by the Mongol invasions in the Middle East and Central Asia,[citation needed] and the founding around of the Ottoman Empire. On the southeast coast of Africa, Arabic ports were established where gold , spices , and other commodities were traded. This allowed Africa to join the Southeast Asia trading system, bringing it contact with Asia; this, along with Muslim culture, resulted in the Swahili culture.

Chapter 6 : The World Is Flat, " Thomas L. Friedman

Peter N. Stearns is Provost and Professor of History at George Mason University, where he annually teaches a world history course for undergraduates.

The Democratic Republic of Congo: A brief history The Democratic Republic of Congo: Nov 21, 9: He commissions former journalist Henry Morton Stanley to ink treaties with local chiefs. Congolese are pressed into forced labour to harvest rubber and ivory and to build transportation and other infrastructure. It is renamed Belgian Congo. June 30, The Republic of the Congo gains independence from Belgium. Displaced people wait for their names to be called at a Red Cross aid distribution point in a camp in Kibati, just north of Goma. In the years immediately following independence, a number of secessionists including foreigners and Congolese nationals clash with the provisional UN forces for control. November Mobutu installs himself as president. November Mobutu officially elected president in national elections. Foreign interests are nationalized. December Mobutu re-elected. They are repelled with the help of French and Belgian troops. It is his 20th year in office. Canada is among a number of countries that cut off aid to Zaire after a group of protesting students are killed by government fighters. Western nations react by cutting off all ties with Zaire and pulling their citizens out of the country. With the help of Rwanda, they take the capital. The following year, troops from Rwanda and Uganda invade in hopes of removing Kabila from power. They are halted by Angolan, Namibian and Zimbabwean troops allied with Kabila. July After more than two years of fighting, the countries involved sign the Lusaka peace accord. But the fighting continues, even despite the presence of a contingent of more than 5, UN peacekeepers sent to monitor the ceasefire. January Laurent Kabila killed by a bodyguard and succeeded by son Joseph. Later that year, Joseph Kabila reaches an agreement for Rwandan- and Ugandan-backed troops to pull back and for the withdrawal of UN troops. By this point, an estimated 2. Most pull out, but pockets of soldiers remain in the country, virtually unchecked by opposition. April New constitution signed, providing for the installation of a provisional government agreed upon by rival factions. France leads a force into the Bunia region with instructions to take all necessary means to gain control. Since the pullout of Ugandan troops earlier in the month, Bunia had been racked by violence between warring tribal groups. June 6, Residents of the Congolese town of Bunia cheer as French troops begin to arrive in the region. As many as people had been killed in the eastern province of Ituri in the past month. More than French troops are scheduled to arrive in Bunia within a week. July 13, More than a month after French troops first arrived to demilitarize Bunia, the crackle of gunfire continues to break the night time silence. People have started to trickle back after a spike in fighting in May sent many streaming out. But there are still skirmishes on the outskirts of the city. Earlier in the week, the UN-mandated force was showing off how safe Bunia was; now it refuses to take journalists along on night-time patrols. The development is viewed as a major step toward ending a bloody civil war, but it comes amid renewed violence in the expansive African country. Jean-Pierre Bemba and Azarias Ruberwa were sworn in at a ceremony attended by thousands in the capital, Kinshasa. Also sworn in as vice-presidents were a member of the political opposition and an ally of standing president Joseph Kabila. UN special envoy Olusegun Obasanjo, right, is greeted by Rwandan-backed rebel leader Laurent Nkunda in rebel-held town of Jomba, near the Uganda border. Jules Mutebutsi is a former officer with the Rally for Congolese Democracy, a Rwanda-backed rebel group that joined the power-sharing government. June 2, Two groups of renegade soldiers seize Bukavu despite the presence of several hundred UN peacekeepers. June 9, Government forces retake Bukavu without firing a shot, marching into the centre of the city as residents sing, beat drums and honk horns. Troops loyal to Col. Mutebutsi fled the city the previous night. A mob attacks and kills a soldier who reportedly fired into a crowd at a campaign rally. The UN says two police officers were killed, and officials for candidate Jean-Pierre Bemba say three civilians died. July 30, Millions cast ballots in the first multi-party parliamentary and presidential elections since DR Congo won independence from Belgium. About 25 million people are registered to cast ballots for 33 presidential, 9, national legislative and 10, provincial assembly candidates. About 60, Congolese police, 17, UN peacekeepers and 1, soldiers from Europe provided security for the vote. October-November Fighting continues between

fighters loyal to Tutsi warlord Laurent Nkunda, militia groups and the army. A total of between 1. Violence continues despite the talks and ceasefires, with reports of drunk Congo army soldiers pillaging and raping in Goma and renegade government forces looting and burning refugee camps.

Chapter 7 : A Brief History of the World | Board Game | BoardGameGeek

The World Is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-first Century is an international best-selling book by Thomas L. Friedman that analyzes globalization, primarily in the early 21st century.

It can also be read about in the press release FIFA issued in , after unveiling the logo with a light projection splashed across the entire facade of the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow. As is a single page about the physical, gold-plated trophy that World Cup winners compete for: And of course it is: FIFA earns most of its revenue from broadcast deals. With each broadcast and ticket sale, the logo appears. The brand is an expensive one. Usually, a slightly abstracted soccer ball graphic would run along with that text. Some of these rose to icon status: Through massive sponsorships, they dressed entire teams and their logos decorated stadiums. Milligan says many viewers at the time assumed that Nike or Adidas, or both, had an official hand in throwing the World Cup. The second force was Michael Jordan. Technically, it was American basketball as a whole. But from a branding perspective, can one really separate the two? But after it did, in the form of a protectable icon that could be reinterpreted to show off characteristics of new host countries while still retaining its shape as a copyright asset. Under Whitestone, Lightfoot and his team created the branding for World Cup in Germany, with an exceedingly goofy design: Lightfoot says Franz Beckenbauer, the soccer legend and German coach at the time, wanted something radical. For the World Cup in South Africa, Switch branding agency created a brushstroke-like figure gearing up for a bicycle kick. Shards of orange, red, green, and black, loosely forming the shape of the African continent, are behind him. The little swooped man doing a throw-in appears again, in the corner. The classic five rings aside, the Olympics these days are branded with loud, cartoonish icons. Everything feels like a play off Keith Haring. Same goes for the colorful, comic-strip-like World Cup designs. But he watches closely what FIFA presents every four years. Unselfconscious logos are part of that tightly coordinated branding effort. It feels true today, too. Speaking generally, Viana says that working on identities for sporting events means emitting a positive message. They try to resonate on a global level, but at the same time can promote and identify the location. For a few very exciting weeks, everyone will be watching the same thing “ brought to you by FIFA.

Chapter 8 : A Brief History of the World by Peter N. Stearns

As the container shipping industry continues to boom, companies are adopting new technologies to move cargo faster and shifting to crewless ships. But it's not all been smooth sailing and the.

Chapter 9 : A Brief History of Bread - HISTORY

A Brief History Of The World is just that: a sweeping ride through the history of mankind in the space of just a few hours. The game features fifty of the mightiest Empires ever known, from the dawn of Civilisation through to the Twentieth Century - Egypt, Assyria, Persia, Greece and Imperial Rome, the Huns and Mongols, the Arabs and the Ottoman Turks, the dynasties of China and kingdoms of.