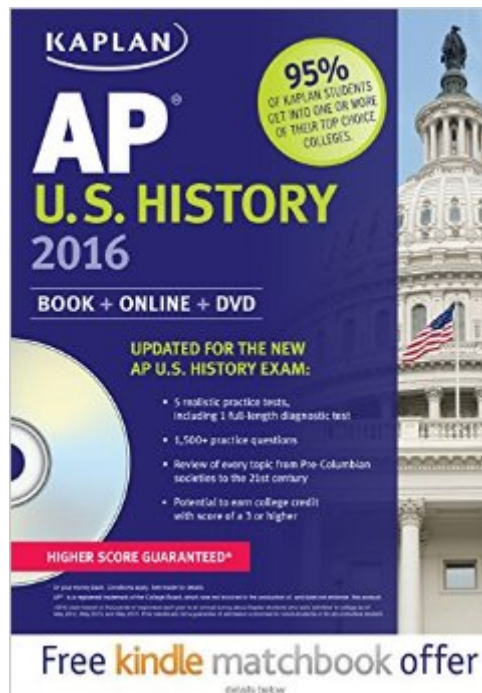


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# Kaplan AP U.S. History 2016: Book + DVD (Kaplan Test Prep)



## Synopsis

The Advanced Placement test preparation guide that delivers 75 years of proven Kaplan experience and features exclusive strategies, practice, and review to help students ace the AP U.S. History exam! Students spend the school year preparing for the AP U.S. History test. Now it's time to reap the rewards: money-saving college credit, advanced placement, or an admissions edge. However, achieving a top score on the AP U.S. History exam requires more than knowing the material—students need to get comfortable with the test format itself, prepare for pitfalls, and arm themselves with foolproof strategies. That's where the Kaplan plan has the clear advantage. Kaplan's AP U.S. History 2016 contains many essential and unique features to help improve test scores, including: Four full-length practice tests and a diagnostic test to target areas for score improvement Detailed answer explanations A two-page, full-color, removable study sheet packed with key dates, terms, and facts Tips and strategies for scoring higher from expert AP U.S. History teachers and students who got a perfect 5 on the exam Targeted review of the most up-to-date content, including any information about test changes and key information that is specific to the AP U.S. History exam A comprehensive index and glossary of key terms and concepts Kaplan's AP U.S. History 2016 authors Krista Dornbush, Steve Mercado, and Diane Vecchio have a combined total of over 40 years of experience teaching U.S. history as well as world and European history. Their expertise has helped make this and other books the best that Kaplan has to offer in AP test prep. Kaplan's AP U.S. History 2016 provides students with everything they need to improve their scores—guaranteed. Kaplan's Higher Score guarantee provides security that no other test preparation guide on the market can match. Kaplan has helped more than three million students to prepare for standardized tests. We invest more than \$4.5 million annually in research and support for our products. We know that our test-taking techniques and strategies work and our materials are completely up-to-date. Kaplan AP U.S. History 2014 is the must-have preparation tool for every student looking to do better on the AP U.S. History test!

## Book Information

Series: Kaplan Test Prep

Paperback: 612 pages

Publisher: Kaplan Publishing; 2nd ed. edition (August 4, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 162523144X

ISBN-13: 978-1625231444

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 1.4 x 10.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviewsÂ (39 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #6,304 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #19 inÂ Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > United States #33 inÂ Books > Teens > Education & Reference > Study Aids > Advanced Placement #38 inÂ Books > Education & Teaching > Studying & Workbooks > Study Guides

## Customer Reviews

I've taken a LOT of tests from AP through the LSAT and the bar exam. Passed all of them, sometimes with scores in the 99th percentile. I'm not bragging. I'm sharing my experience that practice-practice-practice really works. I have studied from a lot of books from every different publisher I could get them from. I've studied so many that I usually check them out from the library instead of buying them. And I use online resources when they are available. My belief is that you (or at least I) perform best when I've put myself into the miserable situation of having to answer difficult questions under time pressure. So, no matter how much I've hated the preparation and no matter the failings of the materials, the process has been helpful to me. With that in mind, I give this Kaplan volume 3 stars. It is helpful in that it provides a framework for sitting yourself down, setting a timer, and responding to questions. But it is a big, flabby book fraught with errors that are grammatical if not also factual. So, you will want to get your history elsewhere. Unless, of course, you don't mind reading phrases such as "the Indians did not have the same immunological endurance," and "farming activities ... caused the natural soil to dry up and corrode," and "the natives perceived that Europeans had exhausted there intelligence." Yikes! These should be "resistance" "erode" and "their"! I found these three major errors in the span of a mere five pages. Frankly, I had to skim the history portions, they were so badly written. So, if you have no other sources or you want extra practice, this volume will help a bit. But I do not recommend that it be your only preparation tool.

This was useless for me. I purchased this to add to my library of "new" APUSH multiple choice questions (the ones that are used on the current exam). The 2016 version of the book hasn't changed a single one of them; they're the exact same questions as in last year's book. I found the questions very useful in preparing my kids and in helping me design similar types of questions, but I thought they'd at least update the practice questions, exams, short answer questions and DBQs. They didn't.

I just purchased the new 2016 Kaplan version and there is good and bad. Incredibly, there is little if any mention or discussion about historical thinking skills and the numerous learning themes. There is some early clutter about stress management and "Countdown to the Test," but others may find that useful. The breakdown of units do reflect the time period per the College Board. Surprisingly, they still have the wrong times allotted for two sections of the test, plus the M/C questions give two different times on pages 4 and 36. Short Answer should be 50 minutes, not 45. The DBQ should be 55 minutes, not 60. This was updated by the College Board months ago. The book does refer readers to check the College Board's website but still, who is fact-checking these books? On the plus side, they do have questions that reflect the new format after each unit review, including 10-15 MC questions, 2 Short Answer questions, and a DBQ (no Long Essay questions in these sections). Finally, there are 4 end of book exams that reflect the actual AP exam (Long Essay questions are included here). The accompanying DVD I find boring and not very helpful. I can't imagine most students will sit through it. Finally, the questions I've looked at thus far seem to be fine.

I actually bought this book for myself. Listening to current politics on various topics, I tried to remember back to all I learned in History. Unfortunately, my last history class was nearly 30 years ago. Now that I am raising my granddaughter, I wanted to brush up a bit. One thing I expected to find was more answers and study sections to accompany the questions in this book. This is definitely a study guide for taking the test. The guide seems to include everything from A to Z, meaning how to take the test, how the exam is scored, fees associated with the test, what to bring, etc. There are diagnostic tests, history review and several practice tests. At the back of the book is a glossary of terms. After further review, you can find some of the answers at the back of the book along with a removable study sheet. In addition, this study guide comes with a DVD, which is somewhat helpful. Each section has a person giving information like a professor would. This could become a bit boring. I am an editor and was a bit irritated to find this book riddled with spelling and other grammatical errors. Not something you'd expect from a book and publisher of this magnitude. None the less, this study guide is helping me to brush up on my history and even share a bit of knowledge with my granddaughter.

I selected this book from my Vine queue because I wanted to test my own U.S. History knowledge. Turns out I'm not as well-versed on U.S. history as I formerly liked to believe I was. Sigh. That said, this is definitely more of a training manual for taking the actual test with a lot of the mechanics of

that included, such as rules, scoring, fees, and associated details. The book also provides a history review and sample examinations for practice. This particular manual comes with a DVD that reminded me of the boring discs you get from The Learning Company, though they could be helpful to a student. One thing that really turned me off about this is the complete lack of copyediting and quality control. The sheer volume of typos, misspelling, and grammatical issues across the pages of this book are almost shocking. I don't know who wrote this, but certainly, he or she could never have passed middle grade English. I'm not joking. I had to stop reading in many sections. It makes me question the accuracy of the history as well. Since this is a major exam prep book, I'd hate to recommend this with so many errors but this may still be the best one out there. Good luck.

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