

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

Quaestio \_\_\_\_\_

# DIFFERENT CONTINENTS *Different Histories*

## DISCUSSION ORGANIZER

**Group Directions:** Working in your groups of four, you will spend five minutes discussing each of the following questions pertaining to the Jared Diamond article that you have read and annotated. Each member of the group will speak for one minute, during which time the other group members must listen carefully, without interrupting, and take notes in the appropriate section of the organizer. Then in the final minute, you may discuss freely as a group and record your final answer combining ideas from all group members. At the end, we will discuss the Quaestio and respond individually in writing.

Discussion Question #1
What were the “proximate factors” that allowed Europe colonize the New World (aka the Americas) AND what deeper questions is Jared Diamond trying to answer in relation to these factors?
Group Note Taking (Bullet Points)
Final Composite Response (Full Sentences)

Discussion Question #2
When Europeans arrived in the Americas, they spread many terrible diseases that killed off much of the native population. Why was it that Eurasia developed so many nasty germs, while the Americas did not?
Group Note Taking (Bullet Points)
Final Composite Response (Full Sentences)

**Discussion Question #3**

How did the axis orientation of Eurasia and the axis orientation of the Americas influence the ability of the inhabitants to develop and spread domesticated plants and animals?

**Group Note Taking (Bullet Points)**

**Final Composite Response (Full Sentences)**

**Discussion Question #4**

How did the relative lack of domesticated animals and plants impede civilizational development in the Americas relative to Eurasia?

**Group Note Taking (Bullet Points)**

**Final Composite Response (Full Sentences)**

**Discussion Question #5**

How well did we work as a microlab group? What could we have done to learn more from this experience? How could this activity be improved further to gain a deeper understanding?

**Group Note Taking (Bullet Points)**

