



**Due Date: Saturday, August 31, 2019.**

For your summer assignment, and after reading the text *Sapiens* by Yuval Noah Harari, you will write an argumentative essay on the following prompt:

- **What does it mean to be human?**

In this essay, you will propose a thesis that responds to the topic of the prompt where you will evaluate what it means to be human in correlation with each of the following points:

- The historical developments and processes that define what it means to be a modern global citizen.
- The ways in which scientific and technological innovation has shaped humanity and the global society.
- The impact that written text, and humanity's access to written text, have on humanity and society.

As part of your conclusion, write a one page reflection on the afterword, located in back of the book, titled "The Animal that Became a God." You will offer a thoughtful and succinct reflection that articulates what this text, and the afterword, means to you personally, is entirely comprised of your own thoughts, and makes connections between this learning and multiple other facets in your life.

Note the following specifications for your essay:

- Your essay must be properly formatted in either [MLA](#) or [Chicago-Turabian](#) format, complete with appropriate headings/subheadings, cover page (Chicago), and Bibliography/Works Cited page. You will find links for each of the formatting options above.
- There is no page requirement for your essay, but you must thoroughly yet succinctly address all aspects of the prompt.
- Your essay must include an abstract that includes your thesis and the various ways in which you will address the topic of the prompt throughout your essay.
- Your thesis will specifically address the above prompt: **What does it mean to be human?** You will be addressing this prompt with your thesis, but you will discuss your argument in the scope of the three points listed above.
- Your argument in response to the topic of the prompt will be **your** argument. That is, you will be creating a thesis that argues your personal belief together with evidence you find in the text. *This is not a book report!* We would like to hear *your* thoughts!
- Further, you should properly cite any and all information from the text in your paper. The type of citation depends on the format you choose. In-text citation for MLA format and footnotes for Chicago-Turabian format.
- **You do not have to buy the book! There is a PDF copy of the book as a link on Schoology.**