United States History

Mrs. Stafstrom

***The Strenuous Life* Reading Questions**

Read the text carefully, mark the text as needed, and answer the following questions

(# 1 – 5) using complete sentences and quotations from the reading.

Answer on a separate piece of paper.

1. To whom is Teddy Roosevelt making this speech? Be as detailed as you can in your description.
2. What does TR mean by a “strenuous life”?
3. What does TR tell the men of Chicago to teach their sons?
4. What does TR say about the role of women?
5. In paragraph 4, TR connects his idea of the strenuous life for the individual to the life of the country. Accurately summarize that paragraph using your own words and using not more than four (4) sentences.

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**United States History**

**1st Semester Final Exam Essay Question – The Strenuous Life**

**Exam prompt:** Evaluate Teddy Roosevelt’s claim in his speech *The Strenuous Life* that the practice of a “strenuous life” by citizens is essential for America to be a great and powerful country.

*NOTE: Bring this reading and an outline of your essay to the final. You’ll be able to use these materials as you write the essay* *during the exam period.*

*To evaluate* means you should judge Roosevelt’s position and argue whether it makes sense, is true or accurate and/or is useful.

**A high quality essay will show the following:**

* Clear thesis and a logical organization
* Demonstrate, using evidence from the text and your knowledge of Roosevelt’s life, what he means by the strenuous life and how it connects to the strength of the country
* Present a clear evaluation of his claim; support that claim
* Include quotations from the reading and specific information about the Progressive Era to support your conclusion
* Be a multi-paragraph essay of at least one full page
* Be legible

**Final Exam Scoring**

**Your final exam is 20% of your semester grade and consists of the following:**

Multiple choice 100 points (100 questions)

Essay

Outline 10 points

Writing 30 points

Total 140 points