**Reading Questions for Sept. 10-12**

These questions are intended to orient you in the reading for this week. You do not need to have definite answers to them, but you should think about them.

Note: some of the questions are focused on specific passages from the readings. You should still do the rest of the reading!

**Tuesday, Sept. 10**

Read: Boorstin, 574-624 (chapters 71-76). If you have time, read pp. 558-574 first. Don’t worry if some of the allusions that Boorstin uses are unfamiliar. Concentrate on the main ideas.

1. Read chapter 71 (pp. 574-580). Why did Petrarch, Valla, and Mabillon devote their intellectual energy to studying old documents? Why would some kings or princes be suspicious of historical research?

2. Why did Heinrich Schliemann think that the ancient city of Troy was located at Hissarlik? Why did he think that the second and third layers of the mound contained relics of Homer’s Troy?

3. Read chapter 75 (pp. 603-612). How old was the Earth according to pious Christians in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries? Was there room for “prehistory” in their view of history?

4. How do archaeologists who study prehistory know what they have found? How do they figure out how old it is? How have they organized their knowledge?

**Thursday, Sept. 12**

Read: McClellan/Dorn, 1-30 (introduction, chapters 1 & 2).

1. Read pp. 12-16. Why did Paleolithic society come to an end?

2. Why do McClellan and Dorn claim that Paleolithic people did not have “science”? How do they define science?

3. Read chapter 2 (pp. 17-30). How were hunting and gathering transformed in the Neolithic Revolution?

4. What tools and artifacts were associated with the Neolithic Revolution? Why did Paleolithic societies lack these artifacts?

5. Why did Neolithic societies need more abstract knowledge of nature than Paleolithic societies?