History Problem Set

1. I would like to locate archival collections with historical material on trading posts that were established for Native Americans.

2. Where, in Texas, can I find archival material regarding Labor in Texas.

3. Has anyone written a dissertation about Topaz, a Japanese internment camp?

4. What was manumission? How did manumission laws vary regionally?

5. A novelist is writing a book on Ireland's Great Potato Famine. She would like to know how many potatoes were produced in Ireland from 1847-1850.

6. A woman doing genealogical research has found that her cousin (twice removed) was George Ellery Hale who, 50 years ago, invented an instrument called the heliograph. She would like to know his birth and death dates, who he married, and his children's names. Did Hale ever write anything (papers, books)?
7. A student would like some articles on Japanese internment camps in the United states during World War II. Search in three different indexing and/or abstracting services. Note down the subject headings you used and the full citation to one article from each index.

8. A public library is planning a program to celebrate 50 years of operation in its main building. The staff would like to know what was popular in 1951 in the way of books, films, and music.

9. A fraternity is sponsoring a medieval banquet. Can you find some material that describes the types of foods to serve and also some of the traditional customs that may be observed (e.g. wine testing, fanfare)?

10. A patron is a member of the Society of Creative Anachronism. He wants to prepare an outfit suitable for a medieval crossbow man. Help him out.

11. An upper division undergraduate student is writing a paper on the role of culture brokers in Native American societies. Help him find some articles.

12. An undergraduate student is writing a paper on the role of African-American soldiers in the Civil War. Can you locate some information for him?
13. A friend of mine is joining a Civil War reenactment group. He needs pictures of the collar badges used in the Confederate Army.

14. I’m interested in writing about slavery in Native American societies. Can you find any information on the Seminole people and their position on slavery?

15. I am looking for archival material on the Potawatomi. What libraries might have useful information? Is any archival material available over the web?

16. I’m researching the involvement of women’s clubs in the establishment of public libraries in Texas. Can you find out which women’s literary club was the oldest in Texas? How about the oldest women’s literary club in Austin?

17. I’m interested in knowing more about barbed wire. Also, is there an archive for any organization for people who collect barbed wire?

18. Who was Phillis Wheatley? What were Phillis Wheatley Homes?
19. Locate an Internet site on genealogy. Please show your link to the class.

20. I would like a little background on Operation Babylift, an evacuation program during the Vietnam War. When did it begin? When did it end? How many orphans were brought to the U.S.?

21. I am interested in gathering information about Croatia’s involvement in the ethnic cleansing during WW II. Who was responsible for the deaths of Croatian Jews? Who was involved in protecting the Croatian Jews?

22. I would like to celebrate my birthday-June 12—out of town. What sort of festivals or events are scheduled in cities in the United States?

23. I would like a perpetual calendar. My girlfriend was born on September 21, 1975. What day of the week was that?

24. Who was Dickey Chapelle? What did she have to do with the Vietnam War?
25. I’m writing about gender roles and housekeeping. I’ve run across a citation to a publication called “The Politics of Housework.” This has something to do with an organization called the Redstockings. Can you find a copy of the “Redstockings Manifesto” and something about this organization?

26. I am assisting a professor in editing some papers to be published in a special issue of a journal. When was the International Union Against the Venereal Diseases founded?

Questions for all students:

27. Identify an actual reference request related to some aspect of this discipline. How would you answer this question? What resource(s) would you use?

28. Locate an Internet source related to this discipline. This source may be an electronic discussion list, electronic journal or newsletter, or web page. Be prepared to describe, briefly, the content of the source and indicate how you might use it in a reference situation. You may want to demonstrate the site.