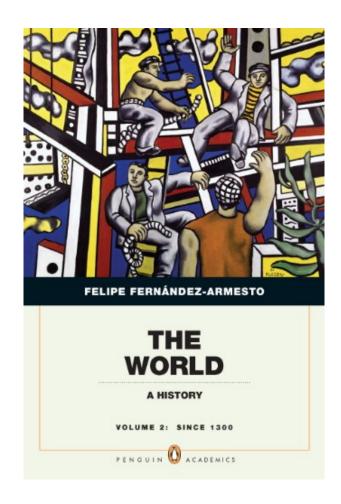
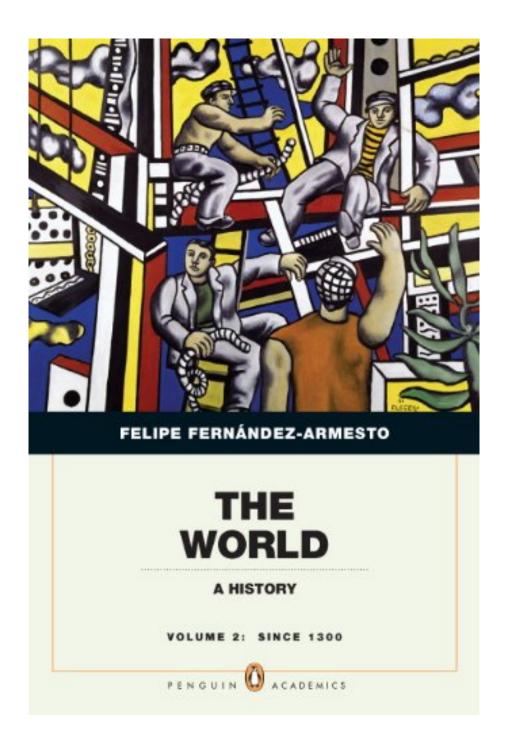
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By Corina Stamm

I bought this textbook for one of my required history courses at my school. I find the author's writing to be overly wordy and confusing. His writing is of someone who is trying to prove he is smart. I have even found a couple incomplete sentences in the book, all for the sake of sounding interesting. I would much prefer a history book that is straight to the point and dull. Here is an excerpt to illustrate my point:

"Above all, the Mongols were exceptionally adaptable warmongers...The mountains of Georgia could not stop them. The Mongols captured the Georgian capital, Tbilisi, in 1234, turning Georgia into a puppet kingdom. Nor, in the long run, could the rice paddies and rivers of southern China where the Mongols destroyed the Song dynasty in the 1270s."

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The only reason it got two stars is because the maps and illustrations are adequate.

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