



THINK LIKE
A
HISTORIAN

Warm-up: Why is the study of history important?

Essential Question: What are the tools historians use to think about the past?

WHY STUDY HISTORY?



Historical Questions



Who are we and
where do we come
from

Why do people
believe the things

What
how

What
pove
inequ
preju
discr
the success and
failure of nations?

different ways,
and why do they
still?

es
people make?

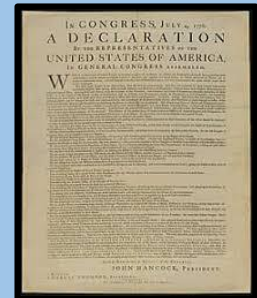
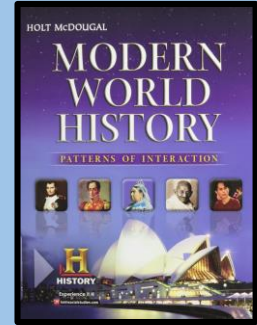
With our....
“THINK LIKE A HISTORIAN” Skills
(TLAH)

Historians.... USE EVIDENCE



Evidence is proof used to support an argument or point-of-view.

- Secondary Source = created after the time period of study (ex. Textbook) →
- Primary Source = from the time period of study →



Historians... USE EVIDENCE

Normative texts	legal texts or codes of law
Journals	personal reflections, diaries
Visuals	maps, photos, art, political cartoons
Public Records	census, birth/death records, city directories
Literature	poems, books
Newspaper	local, state, national
<u>Artifacts</u>	objects made by humans
<u>Oral History</u>	interviews or stories passed down

Historians... USE EVIDENCE

What can that evidence be used for? What can it tell us?

What are some limitations of the source?

TLAH and YOU

Skills Practice

Choose one “life event.”

- What is an example primary source that could tell us about this event? Describe.
- What type of primary source is it?
- What are its limitations?

Your example here.

Historians.... SEE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES

A historical perspective is one that considers the **context** or background information of people and events of the past in their judgement.

Important questions:

- How can we understand the differences between our society and the past?
- Why do people think and act the way they do?
- Why did this event happen the way it did?

TLAH and YOU

Skills Practice

Use the same “life event” and give one piece of background information that helps us to understand the event.

Example: Where did it happen?
When did it happen? What was going on in the world at the time?

Your example here.

Historians.... IDENTIFY CAUSE AND CONSEQUENCES

A cause is the origin of something or reason for action. A consequence is the outcome, either positive or negative.

Important questions:

- What is the cause of an event or decision?
- What is the consequence of an event or decision?

TLAH and YOU

Skills Practice

What caused this event?

What was a consequence of this event?

Your example here.

Historians.... IDENTIFY CHANGE AND CONTINUITY

A change is a new development or shift. Continuity is when conditions stay the same (between time period or geographic locations).

Important questions:

- What changes and why?
- What stays the same and why?

TLAH and YOU

Skills Practice

What changed or
what stayed the
same in this event?

Your example here.

Historians.... ADDRESS ETHICAL ISSUES

Ethics are morals or questions of right and wrong. Ethical issues are ones that have an ethical or a “right choice” and an unethical or “wrong choice”.

Important questions:

- How do we deal with the decisions, good AND bad, made by historical actors?
- How do these decisions affect us today?

TLAH and YOU

Skills Practice

Did this “life event” involve an ethical issue?

***Not everything is an ethical issue. It is important to know how to identify an ethical issue, as well as the moral choices.

Your example here.

Historians.... IDENTIFY SIGNIFICANCE

Significance is the importance of something. A historical event, person, or idea can be significant because of its impact on society.

Important questions:

- Why is this significant or important?
- Who determines significance? ←

TLAH and YOU

Skills Practice

What was the importance or impact of this event?

Your example here.