



What makes a successful historian?



Thinking like a historian

<p>1. Knowledge Who were the key players? When and where did the event happen? What were the important details vs. the big picture?</p>	<p>2a. Causation What were the long and short term causes of events? How do causes link together? Which causes are most important?</p>	<p>2b. Change and Continuity What has changed? What has remained the same? What causes change? What is the impact of change?</p>
<p>3. Evidence How can we find out about the past? What can we work out from different types of evidence? What makes a piece of evidence useful?</p>	<p>4. Interpretations How have other historians viewed the past? How do historians' opinions differ? Why do historians have different views?</p>	<p>2c. Significance How relevant was an event? How resonant was an event- do people connect with it? How much is revealed by the event? How well remembered is the event? Did the event result in change? How many people did the event reach? How resilient was the event- did it last a long time?</p>
<p>5. Communication How can I link my answer together? Does my answer relate to the question? Have I used accurate SPaG?</p>	<p>6. SMSC Am I aware of different beliefs? Can I give a justified opinion? Can I explain different moral or social issues?</p>	



Reading like a historian

- ✓ Look up the meanings of words- use your keyword list and don't guess!
- ✓ Summarise key ideas in your own words.
- ✓ Look for keywords when answering a question.
- ✓ Write down any new words from a lesson.
- ✓ Read around the topic- more reading= more words!
- ✓ Read aloud to yourself if you are struggling with a text.



Writing like a historian

- ✓ Check your spelling, punctuation and grammar and write in full sentences.
- ✓ Use information/evidence from multiple sources.
- ✓ Coherently organise your ideas into paragraphs.
- ✓ Link your ideas to the question.
- ✓ Use connectives to develop your explanations.
- ✓ Back up your ideas with examples from evidence or your own knowledge.
- ✓ Create balanced arguments which reach a clear conclusion.
- ✓ Acknowledge ideas from other historians