

WHAT QUESTIONS DO WE ASK?

THINK LIKE AN HISTORIAN

HOW DO WE DECIDE WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO LEARN?

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Did the consequences affect many people over a long period of time?

Who is this important to (international, national, regional, individual)?

HOW DO WE KNOW WHAT WE KNOW?

EVIDENCE

What is the evidence?

Is it **reliable** or trustworthy (how do we know?)

Is it **relevant** (does it answer the questions we are asking)?

Is the interpretation **reasonable** (does it go beyond the evidence)?

HOW DO WE UNDERSTAND COMPLEXITIES?

CONTINUITY & CHANGE

What has changed?

What has remained the same?

Is the change **substantial, permanent, and /or widespread**?

Is the constant in **significant** aspects of life and/or **widespread**?

HOW DO WE EXPLAIN EFFECTS OF DECISIONS & ACTIONS?

CAUSE & CONSEQUENCE

What were the causes of past events?

Who or what made the change happen?

Depth of impact: How deeply felt or profound was the consequence?

Breadth of impact: How widespread were its impacts?

Duration of impact: How long-lasting was the consequence?

HOW CAN WE BETTER UNDERSTAND PEOPLE?

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

How did people in the past view their world (look for evidence)?

How did their **worldview** affect their choices and actions?

Explore **diverse perspectives** of people involved in an event.

Avoid **presentism** – imposing present ideas on actors of the past

WHAT CAN WE LEARN TO UNDERSTAND THE PRESENT?

ETHICAL DIMENSION

Are the interests and **perspectives of all** key groups are considered?

Are **beliefs** of the **time period** considered?

Has **adequate** relevant evidence been consulted?

Have present values been imposed on judgements of past events (**presentism**)?