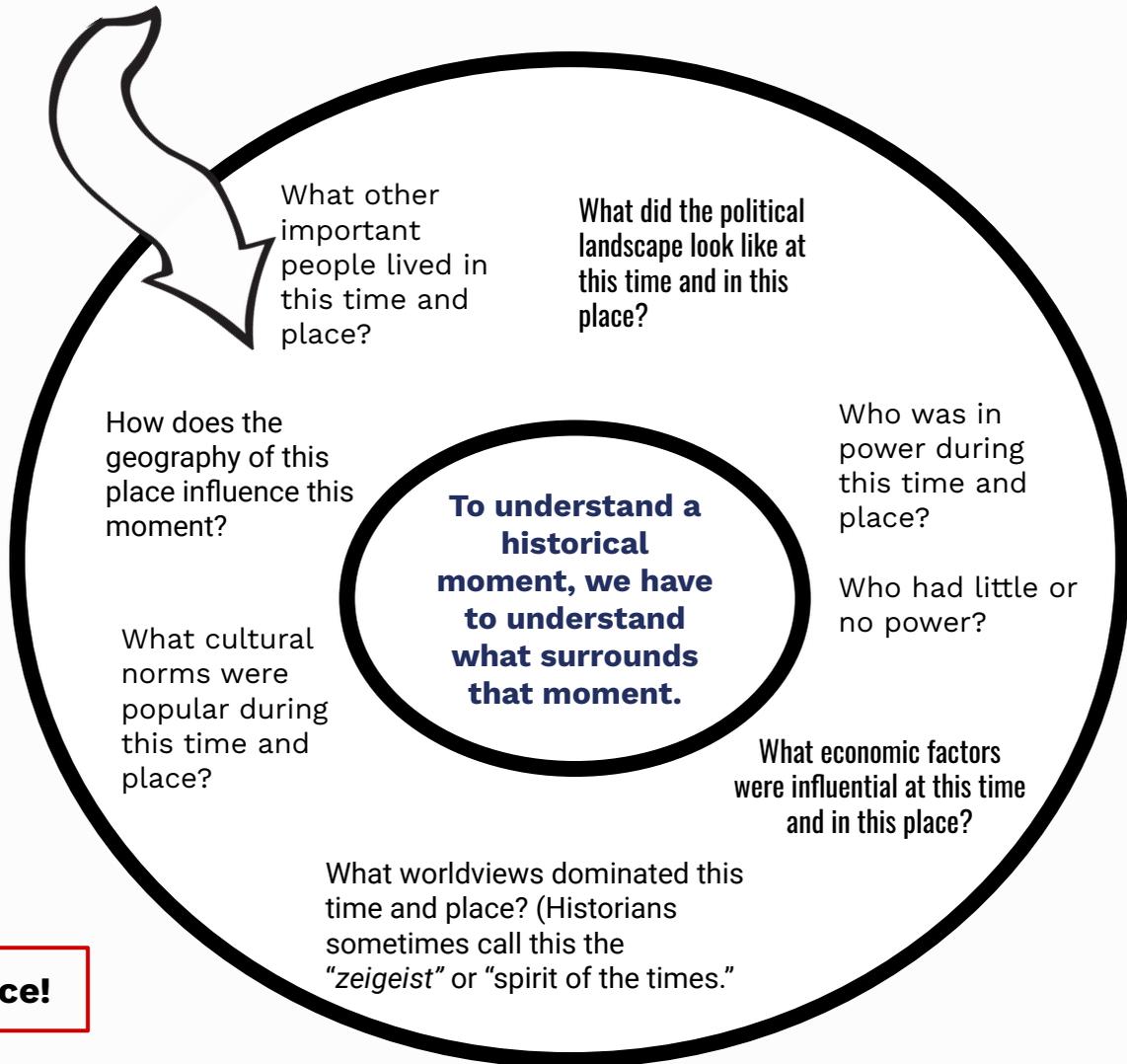


WHAT IS CONTEXTUALIZATION?

Quick Definition: Thinking historically means interpreting historical events, developments, or processes in light of the surrounding historical context.



Practice!

Think of an example when people misunderstood something because they did not know context. Write it below.

If presented with a 1799 Speech by President John Adams, what are three questions you could explore to find out its context?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



WHAT IS CAUSATION?

Quick Definition: Thinking historically means considering why certain things happened and what effects occurred because of an event, development, or process. It also means recognizing that there are multiple causes of and multiple effects from any event, development, or process.

How did we get here?

Historians often identify a primary cause of a historical event. This is never the only cause, but the evidence suggests it is the most significant.

Secondary Causes

To better understand an event it is always helpful to identify smaller causes behind it.

When historians identify multiple causes, they uncover the *complexity* of the past.

Historical Event

Practice!

Think of the last exam you had at school as a historical event. List the primary cause of this exam followed by two secondary causes.

Why is knowing the cause of something helpful for better understanding it?

Primary Cause:

Secondary Cause 1:

Secondary Cause 2:



WHAT IS COMPARISON?

Quick Definition: Thinking historically means identifying both the similarities and the differences between the people, places, events, and ideas studied in history.

Historical Moment 1

Similarities

Historical Moment 2

Even when difficult, historians look for multiple similarities when comparing historical moments.

1.
2.
3.

Different in regards to...

	When identifying differences between historical moments, it is helpful to name the specific factor that makes them different. For instance:	
Abolition Movement from 1830s-1865.	The Abolition and Civil Rights Movements are different in regards to: their time period.	Civil Rights Movement from 1950s-1960s.

Practice!

When things look very different from each other, why is it still important to find similarities?

How can comparing historical moments help us better understand them?



WHAT IS CONTINUITY AND CHANGE OVER TIME?

Quick Definition: Thinking historically means identifying and exploring the reasons behind both what has changed and what has stayed the same within a given time period or around a specific historical event.

Continuities in _____

Whether within one era or across historical eras, historians detect patterns, or **continuities**.

What stayed the same?

Sometimes, history looks so different to us in the present, that it's important to look for continuities.



Changes in _____

Things change. People change. Countries change. Cultures change. History tries to uncover how these things change over time.

What changed?

Before we draw comparisons to the past, we have to seek out the way things have changed over time.

Practice!

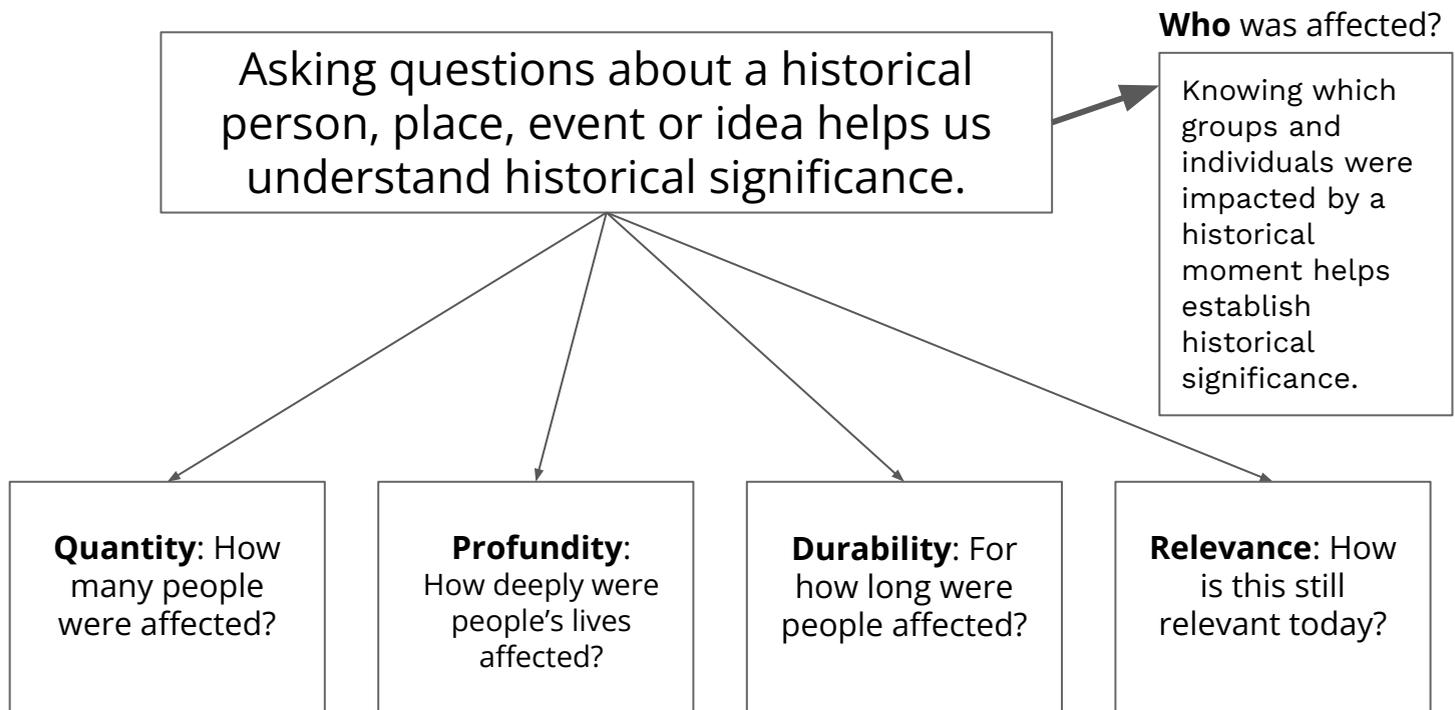
Apply the thinking skill of Continuity and Change over Time to yourself. How are you the same as you were 10 years ago? How are you different?

Would maps from 1776, 1863, and 1975 tell the same story about America? Explain using the concept of Continuity and Change over Time.



WHAT IS HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE?

Quick Definition: Thinking historically means identifying and exploring the reasons why historical people, places, events, or ideas are worth remembering; that is, their historical significance.



Understanding something's historical significance gives it meaning. In uncovering something's historical significance we gain purpose in our study of the past.

Practice!

Write an event in your life or the world around you: _____ Using the above questions, what makes that event historically significant?

Does something have to be significant for everyone for it to be historically significant? Explain.

HOW CAN I PROMOTE JUSTICE?

In 1884, the great abolitionist and social justice advocate, Frederick Douglass, said: “It is not well to forget the past. Memory was given to man for some wise purpose. The past is in some sense, the mirror in which we may discern the dim outlines of the future.”

With this quote in mind, reflect on the history that you learned in this assignment and use that learning to inspire how you can promote justice in our world today.

What historical injustice was revealed in this assignment?



How did people in the past confront this injustice?

What is a modern injustice that has similarities to this historical injustice?



How can people today confront this modern injustice?

In what specific ways can I directly contribute to the end of this particular modern injustice?

