

Asking Critical Questions of the Past

	Questions to Ask of the Past	Historical Thinking Concept
<i>Who</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... benefitted from this? ... was harmed by this? ... made the decisions about this? ... was most directly affected? ... reported about this at the time? ... se perspective does the narrative represent? ... se voice was not heard from about this? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significance Significance Cause and Consequence Significance Perspective, Evidence, Ethical Dimension Perspective, Evidence Perspective, Ethical Dimension
<i>What</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... were the causes and consequences of this? ... were the conditions at the time? ... were the obstacles to this? ... was another alternative explanation? ... were arguments for and against this? ... was most significant about this? ... judgements are stated/implied in the narrative? ... language is used to describe this? ... is left out of the narrative? ... assumptions are embedded in the narrative? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cause and Consequence Cause/Con, Perspective, Ethical Dimension Cause/Con, Perspective, Ethical Dimension Cause/Con, Perspective, Ethical Dimension Perspective, Ethical Dimension Significance Ethical Dimension Perspective, Ethical Dimension Significance, Perspective, Ethical Dimension Ethical Dimension
<i>Where</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... did this take place? ... were similar situations or events? ... can we find more information/corroboation? ... was this narrative about it developed? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence Significance Evidence Evidence, Perspective, Ethical Dimension
<i>When</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... did this occur? ... was it reported? ... was the narrative developed? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence Evidence Perspective, Ethical Dimension
<i>Why</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... was this important? ... is this relevant to us today? ... was it described in this way? ... was this allowed to happen? ... is there a need to re-examine this today? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significance Evidence, Ethical Dimension Perspective, Ethical Dimension Cause and Consequence, Ethical Dimension Ethical Dimension
<i>How</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... did this impact history at the time? ... is this period of time labeled? ... might other people label this period of time? ... did this harm different people? ... did this help people? ... do we know about this? ... does this affect us now? ... can we learn from this? ... can we rectify or address injustices from this? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuity and Change Continuity and Change Continuity and Change, Significance Cause and Consequence Cause and Consequence Evidence Ethical Dimension Ethical Dimension Ethical Dimension

Informed by the "Ultimate Cheatsheet for Critical Thinking," globaldigitalcitizen.org.