

What Is History

KS2 History · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

What is a 'source' in history?

Step 1 · Think about how we find out about the past

Something from the time that gives us evidence

Answer: A source is a piece of evidence (like a photo, letter, or object) that tells us about the past

Check: Historians use sources to piece together what actually happened.

2. Now try one with the steps

Why might two different sources about the same event disagree?

Step 1 · Think about who created each source and why

Answer:

3. Practice

Have a go at each one. There is space underneath to work it out.

1. What do we call a line showing events in the order they happened?

2. What do we call a piece of evidence from the past, like an old photo?

3. Which happened first: the Titanic sinking (1912) or the first Moon landing (1969)?

4. What does BC mean when used with a date?

5. Why do historians look at more than one source before deciding what really happened?

6. Explain the difference between a primary source (from the actual time) and a secondary source (written later, about the time).

4. Before you hand it in

Assuming every historical source tells the complete, unbiased truth.

Compare multiple sources and think about who created each one and why.

Putting historical events on a timeline in the wrong order by miscounting years, especially around BC/AD.

Remember: bigger BC numbers are actually further in the past, not closer.