



How important is History?

How important is History to you?

very - fairly - not at all

Bamberg (2010): "Who are you?"

- 2. Gender / Age 3. Age / Gender 4. Nationality



How important is History to you?

very - fairly - not at all



Bamberg (2010): "Who are you?"

- 1. Name
- 2. Gender / Age
- 3. Age / Gender
- 4. Nationality



Nationality: Historical Concept





History in ToK



or

Herstory

or

Ourstory

or

Who's-story?

or just

Story







"How could people live here before the invention of air-conditioning? it must have been so uncomfortable!"



Historical Fallacy

An outcome is described as a set of causes or conditions which led to that outcome.



Agree or Disagree?

The best
historical
account is a
factual account
of the past





"The study of history is the best guarantee against repeating it" John Buchan



"We learn from History that we do not learn from History". J.F. Hegel



"History is more or less bunk. It's tradition. We don't want tradition. We want to live in the present and the only history that is worth a tinker's dam is the history we made today."

Henry J. Ford.

Founder of the Ford Motor Co.



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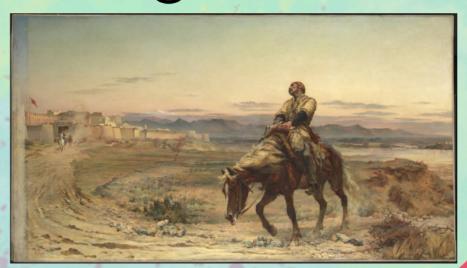
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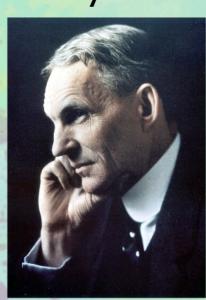




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Is there one history?





How do we best establish what happened on 11th Sept 01 in USA?



Which gives us the best historical truth of 9/11?

A) Bush Govt / CIA Official Account.

B) 9/11 Commission Report.

C) Conspiracy Theory Website.

D) Personal Eye Witness Accounts







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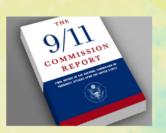




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IS THERE A SINGLE
HISTORICAL TRUTH
OR ARE THERE
"HISTORIES"

Some Knowledge Questions which come from History as AoK

How can we establish better versions of the truth from multiple eye witness accounts?

Is it possible to know whether there is a single historical truth?





HISTORIES:

NATIONAL HISTORIES

GULTURAL HISTORIES INSTITUTIONAL HISTORIES

PERSONAL HISTORIES

etc etc





De ja vu



a feeling of having already experienced the present situation.

Does De ja vu really exist? Have you ever experienced it?

What explanations do you have for de ja vu?

can you use other WoKs, or AoKs?



You have come into possession of the Tardis:)

You now have an opportunity to improve the historical record.

In 2-3's decide which historical time period / event you would travel back to in order to clarify / improve the historical record.

Why would you choose that particular time period / event ?

What is the competing evidence that needs clarifying?



Best Job Ever!

You are now in charge of the Official Record of The World thenceforth.

Work in pairs.

Devise a set of criteria by which you will judge which accounts of life (from 2015 onwards) are the most objective, and therefore will be placed into the historical record.





History in ToK: 3 KQ's from today's lesson:

- 1. Could we develop an understanding of the past without making the Historical Fallacy?
- 2. If there are multiple versions of the past is it possible to establish a hierarchy of better versions?
- 3. How does Imagination help us to understand our knowledge of the past?







Aim of History:

to understand the historical causes of human behaviour?

or

to help us to understand the present by studying the past?

or

to help us to predict the future by studying the past?

