

World History Learning Objectives

Historical Thinking and Skills

Students apply skills by utilizing a variety of resources to construct theses and support or refute contentions made by others. Alternative explanations of historical events are analyzed and questions of historical inevitability are explored.

1. Historical events provide opportunities to examine alternative courses of action.
2. The use of primary and secondary sources of information includes an examination of the credibility of each source.
3. Historians develop theses and use evidence to support or refute positions.
4. Historians analyze cause, effect, sequence, and correlation in historical events, including multiple causation and long- and short-term causal relations.

Age of Enlightenment (1600-1800)

The Age of Enlightenment developed from the Scientific Revolution of the 16th and 17th centuries. A new focus on reasoning was used to understand social, political and economic institutions.

5. I can describe how the Scientific Revolution impacted religious, political, and cultural institutions by challenging how people viewed the world.
 - A. Explain how the Scientific Revolution created a shift in thinking from relying on religion and tradition to relying on experience and investigation when searching for truth.
 - B. Explain how the Scientific Revolution inspired and paved the way for the Enlightenment and political revolutions in Western Europe and colonies in the late 18th Century.
 - C. Describe the impact the Scientific Revolution had on educational systems.
 - D. Explain how discoveries made during the Scientific Revolution impacted modern sciences.
6. I can recognize that Enlightenment thinkers applied reason to discover natural laws guiding human nature in social, political and economic systems and institutions.
 - A. Explain how the Enlightenment thinkers were influenced by the idea that humans were naturally good and would act for the common good in society when freed from the restraints of church and government.
 - B. Enlightenment thinkers believed that natural laws guided the universe including political, social, economic, and educational institutions.
7. I can analyze how Enlightenment ideas challenged practices related to religious authority, absolute rule and mercantilism.
 - A. Describe how the philosophy of Enlightenment thinkers rejected traditional Church doctrines and emphasized earthly as well as spiritual welfare.
 - B. Explain the shift from absolutism to representative government based on a social contract between the governed and their government.
 - C. Explain how the new Enlightenment belief in natural laws guiding economic systems caused a shift from mercantilism to free market economics.

Age of Revolutions (1750-1914)

The Age of Revolutions was a period of two world-encompassing and interrelated developments: the democratic revolution and the industrial revolution. Both had political, economic and social consequences on a global scale.

8. I can explain Enlightenment ideas on the relationship of the individual and the government influenced the American Revolution, French Revolution and Latin American wars for independence.
 - A. Identify the political, economic, and social changes developed during the Enlightenment that inspired the American Revolution, French Revolution, and Latin American wars for independence.
 - B. Describe the relationship between governments and the governed according to Enlightenment writers; specifically the ideas of freedom, natural rights, self-determination, limited government, consent of the governed, and the common good.
 - C. Explain how the revolutionary leaders of this time embodied the philosophies of the Enlightenment.
9. I can explain how Industrialization had social, political and economic effects on Western Europe and the world.
 - A. Analyze how the Industrial Revolution created positive and negative effects on class distinction, family life, and daily life of working men, women, and children.
 - B. Analyze how the new industrialized society affected urbanization, migration, and population growth.
 - C. Explain how the Industrial Revolution expanded the world-market economy and led to movements for political and social reform in England, Western Europe, and the United States.

Imperialism (1800-1914)

The industrialized nations embarked upon a competition for overseas empires that had profound implications for the entire world. This “new imperialism” focused on the underdeveloped world and led to the domination and exploitation of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

10. I can analyze and explain the political, economic and social roots of imperialism.
 - A. Explain how European nations and Japan extended their control over other lands and empires.
 - B. Explain how imperialism was caused by political motivations such as nationalism, national rivalry, and a desire for overseas military bases.
 - C. Explain how imperialism was caused by economic motivations such as a desire for raw materials, an outlet for markets, and an outlet for population growth.
 - D. Explain how imperialism was caused by social motivations such as the Europeans’ concept of “The White Man’s Burden,” religious motivations, and humanitarian concerns.
 - E. Explain how Japan confronted Western imperialism by engaging in imperialistic action in Taiwan, China, and Korea.

11. I can explain how Imperialism involved land acquisition, extraction of raw materials, spread of Western values and direct political control.
- Analyze how European nations' desire for raw materials led to expansion in Africa and Asia in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
 - Analyze the spread of western values such as religion, customs, and ways of governing as a result of European imperialism.
 - Explain how some European powers such as France and Belgium preferred **direct** control over the colonies, leading to a paternalistic relationship.
 - Explain how some European powers such as Great Britain and the Netherlands preferred **indirect** control over their colonies, hoping to assimilate western traditions and to lessen revolts.
12. I can explain how the consequences of imperialism were viewed differently by the colonizers and the colonized.
- Identify examples of the spread of Western cultural practices.
 - Identify ways imperialism led to:
 - modernization
 - loss of tradition
 - break-up of past institutions

Achievements and Crises (1900-1945)

The first half of the 20th century was one of rapid technological advances. It was a period when the tensions between industrialized nations resulted in World War I and set the stage for World War II. While World War II transformed the balance of world power, it was the most destructive and costly war in terms of human casualties and material resources expended.

13. I can explain how advances in technology, communication and transportation improved lives, but also had negative consequences.
- Explain how advances in technology improved lives through an increase in the availability and variety of consumer goods (appliances, synthetic fabrics, plastics).
 - Analyze the advances in communication and transportation that improved lives (radio, radar, motion pictures, automobiles, airplanes).
 - Describe how certain weapons such as machine guns, poison gas, hand grenades, and tanks had a destructive changed warfare.
 - Describe how certain advances in technology, communication, and transportation negatively impacted societies, specifically
 - Pollution
 - Social stratification
 - Increased war casualties
14. I can analyze how militarism, alliances, imperialism and nationalism caused World War One.
- Explain how military spending and rivalries among the great powers of Europe increased in the years prior to World War I.
 - Analyze how imperialism, and competition for land around the world, was an

important underlying cause of World War I.

- C. Explain how nationalism in Europe as a whole and the Balkans in particular led to animosity between countries and little resistance to war.
 - D. Explain how the system of alliances created among European countries before the war began brought many nations into conflict.
 - Identify the member nations of the Triple Alliance and Triple Entente.
15. I can explain how the consequences of World War I and the worldwide depression set the stage for the Russian Revolution, the rise of totalitarianism, aggressive Axis expansion and the policy of appeasement which in turn led to World War II.
- A. Describe how the toll of World War I on Russia fueled the Bolshevik Revolution and led to the creation of state-sponsored communism.
 - B. Explain the impact of the Treaty of Versailles with a focus on:
 - How the treaty shaped political and social organizations of Europe
 - How its harsh terms led to defeated countries seeking revenge
 - How it led to economic depression in Germany
 - C. Explain how WWI caused the collapse of the German, Austro-Hungarian, Russian, and Ottoman empires and identify the new nations that were formed in their place.
 - D. Explain how WWI led to economic problems for European countries after the war including financial losses, depopulation, and physical destruction.
 - E. Explain how some governments such as Germany, Italy, and Spain opposed democracy and turned to militarism and nationalism to solve economic and political problems.
 - F. Analyze the foreign policy of appeasement practiced in the 1930s by Britain and France towards the expansion of Nazi Germany.
 - G. Explain the acts of aggression taken by the USSR, Germany, Italy, and Japan and analyze the failure of the League of Nations' response.
16. I can describe the oppression and discrimination that resulted in the Armenian Genocide during World War I and the Holocaust, the state-sponsored mass murder of Jews and other groups, during World War II.
- A. Explain how and why the outbreak of WWI and nationalist conflicts between Turks and Armenians led to the Turks committing genocide against the Armenians.
 - B. Analyze steps taken and laws made by Nazi Germany to institutionalize anti-Semitism.
 - C. Identify groups persecuted and murdered by Nazi Germany according to the "Final Solution".
17. I can explain how World War II devastated most of Europe and Asia, led to the occupation of Eastern Europe and Japan, and began the atomic age.
- A. Identify the physical, social, cultural, and economic damage caused by World War II.
 - B. Identify the positions of U.S. and Soviet troops at the end of the war led to zones of occupation and explain how this led to competition for political influence

among the former Allies.

- C. Explain how the use of atomic weapons in WWII set the stage for future political tension between the U.S. and Soviet Union.

The Cold War (1945-1991)

Conflicting political and economic ideologies after World War II resulted in the Cold War. The Cold War overlapped with the era of decolonization and national liberation.

- 18. I can explain why and how the United States and the Soviet Union became superpowers that competed for global influence.
 - A. Explain the political and economic effects of WWII on the United States and the Soviet Union.
 - B. Compare the differing ideologies of the United States and the Soviet Union following WWII and provide examples of political conflicts between the two that arose during this time.
 - C. Explain how movements of decolonization and nationalism after WWII in Asia, Africa, and the Caribbean affected the U.S-Soviet rivalry.
 - D. Identify the nations in NATO and the Warsaw Pact and explain the significance of those defensive alliances.
- 19. I can explain how treaties and agreements at the end of World War II changed national boundaries and created multinational organizations.
 - A. Explain how the borders of Germany changed as a result of WWII and analyze the reasons why it was divided.
 - B. Explain how the borders of Eastern European countries changed and explain Soviet domination over those nations.
 - C. Explain the purpose of the United Nations, the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund.
- 20. I can explain how religious diversity, the end of colonial rule and rising nationalism have led to regional conflicts in the Middle East.
 - A. Identify the factors that led to conflict in the Middle East during the second half of the 20th century and describe how they reinforced tensions.
 - B. Explain Arab opposition to the creation of Israel.
- 21. I can explain how postwar global politics led to the rise of nationalist movements in Africa and Southeast Asia.
 - A. Account for the collapse of the British and French empires after WWII and how nationalism in Africa and Asia influenced decolonization.
 - B. Explain how nationalism in Africa caused decolonization movements.
 - C. Explain how nationalism in Southeast Asia led to anti-Western and anti-American movements.
- 22. I can explain how political and social struggles have resulted in expanded rights and freedoms for women and indigenous peoples.
 - A. Explain how the rights and treatment of women and indigenous peoples changed over time.

- B. Analyze the challenges women faced in specific cultures and countries as they attempted to gain educational opportunities, the right to vote, and positions in government.
- C. Analyze the policy of apartheid in South Africa and explain how and why it came to an end.

Globalization (1991-Present)

The global balance of power shifted with the end of the Cold War. Wars, territorial disputes, ethnic and cultural conflicts, acts of terrorism, advances in technology, expansion of human rights, and changes in the global economy present new challenges.

- 23. I can explain how the break-up of the Soviet Union ended the Cold War and created challenges for its former allies, the former Soviet republics, Europe, the United States and the non-aligned world.
 - A. Explain how the collapse of the Soviet Union affected U.S.-Russian relations.
 - B. Explain how the collapse of the Soviet Union created new challenges for Russia and its former allies.
 - C. Analyze new ethnic tensions and economic implications for former Soviet republics brought about as a result of the breakup of the Soviet Union.
 - D. Explain challenges Eastern European and former Soviet republics have faced as they transition to free-market economies and institute democratic reforms.
 - E. Explain the national debate surrounding the United States' new role as the world's sole superpower.
 - F. Identify the Non-Aligned Movement and explain how its role has changed since the end of the Cold War.
- 24. I can explain how regional and ethnic conflicts in the post-Cold War era have resulted in acts of terrorism, genocide and ethnic cleansing.
 - A. Identify various terrorist groups and explain their goals.
 - B. Define genocide and provide examples of how groups are targeted.
 - C. Explain the various ways groups of people are persecuted during genocide.
 - D. Explain how nationalism has contributed to genocide.
 - E. Analyze how victims were targeted and genocide was carried out in Yugoslavia, Sudan, Iraq, Cambodia, and Rwanda.
- 25. I can analyze political and cultural groups that have struggled to achieve self-governance and self-determination.
 - A. Identify political and cultural groups that struggled to achieve self-governance and explain the reasons for their struggles.
- 26. I can explain how emerging economic powers and improvements in technology have created a more interdependent global economy.
 - A. Identify emerging economic powers and describe their contributions to a more interdependent global economy.
 - B. Explain the purpose of the European Union.
 - C. Explain how advances in technology have contributed to an interdependent

global economy and changed the nature the workplace.

27. I can explain the proliferation of nuclear weapons that has created a challenge to world peace.
- A. Explain the challenges surrounding the proliferation of nuclear weapons in former Soviet republics.
 - B. Explain how the possibility of terrorists acquiring nuclear weapons poses a threat to world peace.
28. I can explain how the rapid increase of global population, coupled with an increase in life expectancy and mass migrations has created societal and governmental challenges.
- A. Explain how the increase of global population in the 20th and 21st centuries has created societal and governmental challenges regarding pollution and the conservation of resources.
 - B. Explain how mass migrations of people for economic or humanitarian reasons have posed challenges to governments and societies.
29. I can explain how environmental concerns, impacted by population growth and heightened by international competition for the world's energy supplies, have resulted in a new environmental consciousness and a movement for the sustainability of the world's resources.
- A. Describe the reasons for the new environmental consciousness and movement for sustainability and their impact on citizen organizations and government conferences.

Historical Thinking and Skills

Students apply skills by utilizing a variety of resources to construct theses and support or refute contentions made by others. Alternative explanations of historical events are analyzed and questions of historical inevitability are explored.

5. Historical events provide opportunities to examine alternative courses of action.
6. The use of primary and secondary sources of information includes an examination of the credibility of each source.
7. Historians develop theses and use evidence to support or refute positions.
8. Historians analyze cause, effect, sequence, and correlation in historical events, including multiple causation and long- and short-term causal relations.